

SALT SPRING ACCOMMODATIONS GROUP



Spring is here.

It's a new season, and a time of hope.

It feels like congratulations should be in order for everyone for making it through the pandemic winter here on the island.

Now spring is in the air, the flowers are blooming, and the dark snowy days of the previous months are a thing of the past.

SSAG is excited to tell you about some new events and activities happening this month and share some new information and updates.

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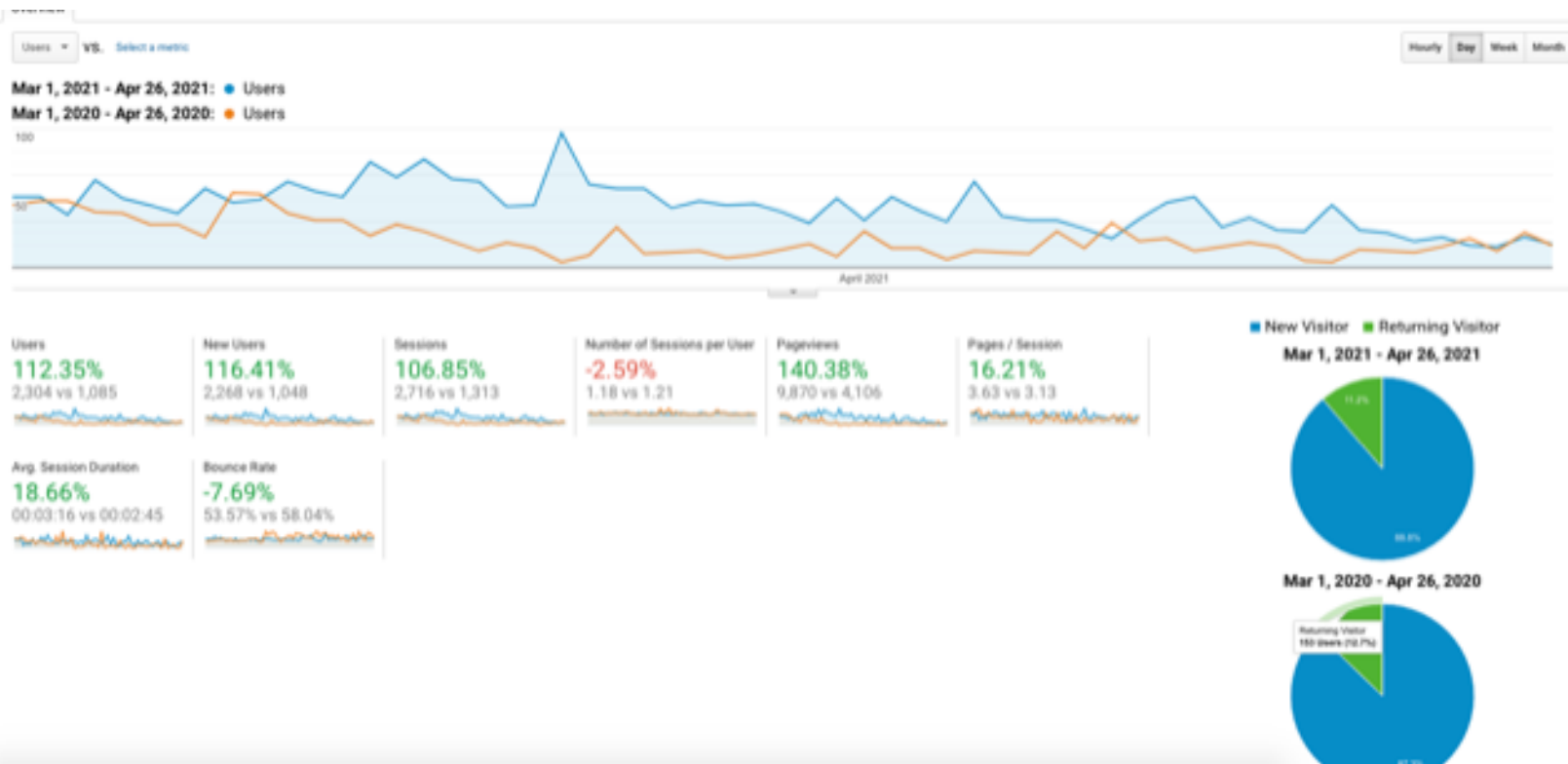
MEMBER PROFILE



Farewell to Joe!

SSAG bids a fond farewell to Joe Seewald. Joe has been a member of the board since 2018 and has handled our membership and been the recording secretary. While he will still be a member, he is stepping down from his position on the board. He'll be missed!

Website Updates



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Have you thought of volunteering for SSAG? There are many roles that fit a variety of skill sets. As SSAG stewards the accommodations group through this critical period, we welcome those with enthusiasm and a can-do attitude. At a time when members can find themselves under threat from the Trust's long arm, or working through the uncertainty that the COVID restrictions bring, SSAG is here to advocate for accommodation members. Our small but dedicated board works together with suppliers and advertisers on the Island Directory. Bring your ideas, your skills in marketing, your creativity, or simply your commitment to give back to the accommodations community. If you are able to give back please contact Peter Lloyd-Jones at peter@hedgerowhouse.ca

SSAG MEMBER PROFILE

Peter Lloyd-Jones, President

From the age of eight when he guided his first tour around the lakes of Austria, Peter was hooked on the travel industry. Growing up in a hotel near Salzburg, where he learned the finer points of hospitality from his parents, he went on to make a career out of travel. Recruited as a tour director while at university, he took American high school students around Europe, and got to know just about every corner of the continent and beyond. He can tell you stories that make your hair stand on end. After making Overseas Director of the US educational travel company, next he took on the European Union as a lobbyist for tour operators. Then he was headhunted to run a large international tour company in Greece before he and his family emigrated to Canada in 1992 in search of new horizons.

Peter made his mark in Whistler as a 'notable', owning the village's most successful coffee shop, while still clocking 200 days a year on the slopes. The next stop was West Vancouver where he and his wife Jayne ran a successful PR and Marketing agency for 20 years, specializing in tourism. Looking for a more 'hands-on' experience, Peter and his partner have run Hedgerow House for the last seven years on Salt Spring, garnering reviews from guests who enjoy not only his hair-raising stories but also their delectable waffles and to-die-for risottos as well as luxurious accommodations. Peter has been involved in SSAG since 2015 and president for the past 3 years.



UPDATES

BC LOCKDOWN UPDATE

As many of you have heard, BC has gone into lockdown recently. That means travel restrictions are in place until May 25, 2021. Fines will be given for those attempting non-essential travel.

You can find information from BC Tourism in their [Know Before You Go](#) guide. Read more about restrictions from the BC government [here](#). SSAG recognizes that these restrictions impact many of our members. Please feel free to write in and share your stories and concerns. We'd love to hear from you!

BC FERRIES NOTICE

For those needing to travel off-island, BC Ferries has also posted a new notice about inessential travel. Masks are mandatory. This applies to these routes:

- Vancouver (Tsawwassen) – Victoria (Swartz Bay)
- Vancouver (Tsawwassen) – Nanaimo (Duke Point)
- Vancouver (Tsawwassen) – Southern Gulf Islands
- Vancouver (Horseshoe Bay) – Nanaimo (Departure Bay)
- Comox (Little River) – Powell River (Westview)
- Port Hardy (Bear Cove) – Prince Rupert

For more information, head over to the BC Ferries website [here](#).

SUPPORT LOCAL RESTAURANTS

During these challenging times, it's important we continue to support our local businesses that help make our community the wonderful place that it is. Check out this piece on the [Salt Spring Exchange](#) by one of our SSAG Board members. Tourism BC also has a support local dining guide for residents only. You can read more about it [here](#).



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

ArtSpring

There are lots of events starting in April, so go check it out on their [website](#). From theater shows to the Makana Youth Choir, concerts, and even a book of Pandemic Limericks, there's something for everyone.

StoryWalks in Mouat Park

StoryWalks will be appearing again starting this Friday, March 13. For March Break, we will leave up to one story per week. Then in April, they will appear on weekends all Spring and through Summer. Have a good StoryWalk book suggestion? If it has nice pictures, large easy-to-see print, and a small amount of text per page, we'd love to add it to our StoryWalk collection. Email your suggestions to jwagner@saltspringlibrary.com

Saturday Market

At long last, the Saturday Market is back! The opening of SSI Outdoor Market was on April 3, 2021 and will run on Saturdays from 9 am-4 pm. The market is a great way to go out and show your support for local farmers and artisans! For more information, head over to the website [here](#).



MEMBER PROFILE

Duck Creek Farm

Duck Creek Farm is a family farm that specializes in growing a wide variety of fruits and vegetables for our local market, restaurants, caterers, and our weekly CSA box program. We won the Salty award for the best market vendor in 2019. You can find our food through our pre-paid weekly box program, or at Natureworks, Country Grocer, Tuesday market (June-October 2-6 pm), or direct from the farm Fridays from 4-6 pm.

Sue Earle operates the farm with her kids, Eland and Ella, and Ella's partner Chris Blaszk. We strive to provide our community with healthy, nutrient-rich food and use permaculture practices. We operate a non-chemical farm, favouring no-till methods whenever possible. We are passionate about growing food, sustainability, and living mindfully.

Our orchard includes over 70 apple trees, which make delicious juice in the fall. We also offer a tasty selection of homemade/grown products including smoked chipotle, hot sauce, garlic salt, pickled beets, and bread and butter pickles.

Though we are not currently hosting due to COVID-19, our farm also hosts weddings, farm-to-table dinners, concerts, yoga classes, and retreats. We have a tipi available for rent and aim to create a beautiful oasis for people to connect with nature, food, and themselves.

