



NATES NETS TREEWORKS

A Tree, Rope & Nature Retreat

September 19-23, 2026 • 5 Days / 4 Nights • Entelechy, Salt Spring Island, BC

"Working with trees. Working with your hands. Working together."

OVERVIEW

TREEWORKS is an immersive outdoor experience combining trees and forest ecology, ropework and TreeNet construction, hands-on craftsmanship, regenerative land practices, Salt Spring Island exploration, campfires, music, communal meals, and personal connection.

However, this is **NOT primarily a wellness or yoga retreat**. The main point of TREEWORKS is learning a practical craft and actually making something tangible. The collaborative TreeNet build serves as the central narrative and heartbeat of the entire five-day experience.

The Emotional Progression: We arrive as strangers. We learn the craft. We build together. → We explore together. We create something real. We leave something behind.

THE SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE: THE TREENET BUILD

Every participant has a meaningful, active role in building a full-scale TreeNet together. Over the course of the retreat, the group progressively masters:

- **Rope Handling & Care:** Understanding core materials, strength ratings, and proper maintenance.
- **Knots & Rigging Principles:** Essential working knots, friction, mechanical advantage, and load distribution.
- **Netting Techniques & Pattern:** Hand-weaving methods, maintaining consistent tension, and geometric design.
- **Tree Awareness & Safety:** Safe working practices around trees, bark protection, and structural assessment.
- **Team Construction:** Collaborative problem-solving and shared craftsmanship.

TREWORKS features approximately 25-30 hours of hands-on TreeNet construction structured into robust morning, afternoon, and optional evening building sessions. This is a rigorous construction course fused with outdoor adventure and community life. Subject to site assessment, safety requirements, and Entelechy approval, the finished net will be installed on the property as a permanent community installation.

ACCOMMODATION & PROVISIONS

- **Camping Encouraged:** Camping is the primary and heavily encouraged option for the gathering.
- **Limited Alternatives:** There are a few alternative accommodation options available for those who prefer not to camp, though these come with an added fee.
- **Early Action Required:** Space is strictly limited, so please inquire as soon as possible if you require non-camping accommodation.
- **Food & Drinks:** Main meals will be provided for everyone, but please remember to bring your own (BYO) snacks and drinks.

DETAILED MASTER ITINERARY

Day 1 (September 19): Arrive & Connect

- **2:00 pm:** Arrival & check-in, settle into accommodation, welcome drink/tea, orientation, tour of Entelechy, and introductions.
- **4:00 pm:** What is TREWORKS? Introduction to the retreat philosophy, the TreeNet project, weekly schedule, group expectations, safety, and our shared goal.
- **5:00 pm:** Tree & Forest Introduction: Property walk introducing local trees, forest ecosystems, responsible interaction, and Entelechy land stewardship.
- **6:00 pm:** Introduction to the Net: Hands-on introduction to rope, materials, tools, basic knots, and netting principles (1.5 hours).
- **7:30 pm:** Welcome Dinner.
- **9:00 pm:** Opening Campfire (Music, drinks, conversation). Theme: *Leave the outside world behind.*

Day 2 (September 20): Learn & Build

- **8:00 am:** Morning movement, stretching, and gentle breathwork.
- **8:30 am:** Breakfast.
- **9:30 am:** Morning TreeWorks Build Session: 3 hours of intensive hands-on construction covering rope types, knots, rigging principles, tensioning, and core net weaving.
- **12:30 pm:** Lunch.
- **2:00 pm - 5:30 pm:** Afternoon TreeWorks Build Session: 3.5 hours of dedicated construction focusing on pattern continuity, edge connections, and team problem-solving.

- **5:30 pm:** Free time and rest.
- **6:30 pm:** Dinner.
- **8:00 pm - 9:00 pm:** Optional Evening Net Building: 1 hour of relaxed fireside or twilight weaving for keen builders.
- **9:00 pm:** Campfire and music. Theme: *Skills. Roots. New perspectives.*

Day 3 (September 21): Explore & Build

- **8:00 am:** Morning movement and stretching.
- **8:30 am:** Breakfast.
- **9:30 am:** Salt Spring Adventure: Guided island exploration (hiking, kayaking, swimming, beaches, local farms, markets, artisan producers, and island culture).
- **1:00 pm:** Picnic lunch in the field.
- **2:00 pm:** Return to Entelechy.
- **2:30 pm - 5:30 pm:** Afternoon TreeWorks Build Session: 3 hours of hands-on net construction, bridging sections together and refining structural integration.
- **5:30 pm:** Free time.
- **6:30 pm:** Dinner.
- **8:00 pm - 9:00 pm:** Optional Evening Net Building: 1 hour of twilight craftsmanship.
- **9:00 pm:** Fire, music, and storytelling. Theme: *Adventure & island living.*

Day 4 (September 22): Create & Connect (The Big Build Day)

- **8:00 am:** Morning movement and stretching.
- **8:30 am:** Breakfast.
- **9:30 am - 12:30 pm:** Morning TreeWorks Build Session: 3 hours of focused net construction. Finishing netting, completing edges, and checking structural tension.
- **12:30 pm:** Lunch.
- **2:00 pm - 4:00 pm:** Authentic relating workshop and personal reflection.
- **4:00 pm - 6:00 pm:** The Installation: Site assessment review, preparing trees, hoisting and installing the TreeNet, tensioning, safety inspection, testing, and adjustments (The emotional centerpiece).
- **6:30 pm:** Final communal dinner.
- **8:00 pm:** Closing ceremony and celebration.
- **8:30 pm - 9:30 pm:** Optional Evening Finishing Touch: Final aesthetic touches on the installation.
- **9:30 pm:** Big final campfire, music, drinks, stories, and celebration. Theme: *Community. Purpose. Leaving a mark.*

Day 5 (September 23): Integrate & Depart

- **8:00 am:** Morning movement and optional silent forest walk.
- **8:30 am:** Breakfast.
- **10:00 am:** Final group circle. Reflection prompts: *What did I learn? What surprised me? What am I taking home? What am I leaving behind?*
- **11:00 am:** Free time and packing.
- **12:00 pm:** Final communal lunch.
- **1:00 pm:** Departure. Theme: *Take it home.*

WHAT PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN & EXPERIENCE

Skills Acquired

- TreeNet construction & design
- Knots & rope handling
- Netting & pattern weaving
- Tensioning & rigging concepts
- Tree awareness & forest ecology
- Regenerative land practices
- Collaborative construction
- Hands-on problem solving
- *No previous experience required. All skill levels are welcome!*

Inclusions & Experiences

- 4 nights accommodation at Entelechy
- Immersive West Coast forest & ocean setting
- Salt Spring Island guided excursions
- All communal meals, snacks & drinks
- Evening campfires, music & storytelling
- Creative workshops & personal reflection
- A finished, shared community installation
- Lifelong community connections

PACKING LIST

- Rugged outdoor clothing (layers)
- Warm fleece or wool layers

- Waterproof rain jacket & pants
- Sturdy hiking boots or work shoes
- Durable work gloves
- Swimwear & quick-dry towel
- Headlamp with extra batteries
- Reusable water bottle
- Personal toiletries & medication
- Notebook & pen

Note: Bring clothing that can get dirty during construction and field sessions. Camping gear required only if specified by personal accommodation tier.

| SAFETY & OPERATIONS

Safety is paramount at TREWORKS. All rope and TreeNet activities are strictly supervised by experienced facilitators. Participants receive comprehensive instruction before handling equipment or tools. Trees and attachment points undergo rigorous assessment prior to any installation.

Participants do not independently climb or rig without oversight. Any permanent installation is subject to full site approval and structural review. All adventure outings depend on weather and conditions, and established emergency and first-aid protocols are maintained on-site at all times.