

CAMPBELL  
RIVER 

# VISITOR GUIDE



CAMPBELLRIVER.TRAVEL

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## A City Nestled In Nature

Campbell River	4
Indigenous Culture	6
Responsible Travel	8
Landmarks & Attractions	10
Top 10 Experiences	11
Explore the Town	15

## Explore The Region

Meet Our Neighbours	16
---------------------	----

## Beautifully Wild

Wildlife Watching	19
-------------------	----

## On The Water

Fishing	22
Water Sports	24
Diving	28

## Amazing Bird's-Eye Views

Air Activities	30
----------------	----

## Outdoor Recreation

Biking	31
Golfing	34
Beaches & Parks	36
Camping	38
Hiking Trails	40
Dog Friendly	43

## Arts, Culture & Cuisine

Arts & Culture	44
Shopping	47
Heritage	48
Dining & Cuisine	49
Craft Beverages & Local Libations	50
Family Day Out	51
Community Events	54

## Your Home Away From Home

Accommodations	56
----------------	----

## Getting Here

Plan Your Journey	58
Campbell River Airport	60
Maps	63

# A CITY NESTLED IN NATURE

**Campbell River is a destination nestled in nature, welcome to the wild.**

Destination Campbell River respectfully acknowledges the Territory of the Liḡʷildaxʷ in which we reside. We carry deep gratitude to the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum and Kwiakah for their continued stewardship of these territories in which ʔəmataxʷ, Campbell River, has prospered. We also want to acknowledge the nations that operate within this rich region, Homalco and Tlowitsis. Campbell River is a place embedded in the wild, where eagles soar overhead, bears roam the surrounding forests and whales breach in plain view, often visible from shore. It's where artisans and brewers perfect their craft with views of the towering Coastal Mountain ranges. It's where visitors sip coffee on the Discovery Passage shores before hiking to the crest of colossal waterfalls. It's where residents are more than just the people.

Yet, the city also has its modern comforts. Whether you prefer the charm of a local inn, the sleekness of a modern hotel, or the indulgence of an elevated resort, you'll find stays defined by exceptional comfort. Seaside restaurants and thriving culture make this slice of Vancouver Island more than an outpost. Campbell River embraces a laid back city vibe with a welcoming urban feel. You'll notice the strong sense of community while visiting local one-of-a-kind shops as well as familiar name stores and restaurants. Local restaurants incorporate the freshest ingredients from the area while the flourishing artisan arts and craft scene is inspired and perfected by industrious craftspeople.

A trip to this temperate coastal city is an enriching and inspiring experience unparalleled on Vancouver Island. Located mid-Island, just an hour and a half north of Nanaimo, ʔəmataxʷ, Campbell River, is a destination nestled in nature. Welcome to the wild.



# INDIGENOUS CULTURE

Image Credit: Jarrod Evans Photography

## Deep Roots & Living Traditions

For centuries, Liǵw̓ildax̓ peoples have stewarded the region now known as Campbell River. Today, the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, and Kwiakah—three recognized First Nations within the larger Liǵw̓ildax̓ peoples—continue to be vital stewards, and their enduring living culture is part of the dynamic fabric of Campbell River.

Several other First Nations, including the Homalco, Klahoose, Tla'amin, Tlowitsis, and K'ómoks, have also been custodians of the fjord-like inlets, islands, and waterways within and bordering the region for centuries. They continue to call the area home and collaborate with the Liǵw̓ildax̓ toward a vibrant, equitable community for all.

Inform yourself about the region's storied past on arrival at the Campbell River Museum. Step outside and be

immersed in the intersection of Indigenous culture and place through interpretive signage along scenic walking routes such as The Raven's Trail, the Campbellton Loop, and the Tyee Spit.

Appreciate the artistic traditions of carving through the Campbell River Totem Pole Tour, each laden with symbolism and story. Pick up the Liǵw̓ildax̓ First Nations Guide to Campbell River to locate each stop, as well as other Indigenous experiences across the city. The guide also highlights place names in Likw̓ala (the Liǵw̓ildax̓ language) and shares vital visitation etiquette, ensuring respect in places of cultural and historical significance.

First Nation ceremonies and the Kwanwatsi Big House are closed to visitors, so please do not try to enter them. National Indigenous Peoples Day events take place each year on June 21 in Campbell River—an invitation to bear witness to, celebrate, and connect with Indigenous perspectives.

Take your learning beyond the city's limits with Homalco Cultural and Wildlife Tours. Travel across the Salish Sea and into the Nation's traditional territory at Bute Inlet, marvel at wildlife like bears and whales, and visit the uninhabited village site of Aupe to experience working with cedar.

Other Indigenous-owned businesses include Westcoast Wildflowers, Raven Song Soap & Candle, Standing Spruce

Apothecary, Fork and Arrow, Wei Wai Kum House of Treasures, and Thunderbird RV Park and Campground. Experience Indigenous hospitality, pick up candles, skincare, and wellness offerings imbued with traditional plant medicine and transporative, local scents, and uncover both traditional and contemporary Indigenous artworks to remind you of your time on the coast.

Tiičma Enterprises, headquartered in Campbell River, puts the prosperity and well-being of the Ka:yu:k't'h'/Che:k'les7et'h' First Nations at the forefront of its businesses—from tourism and hospitality to forestry and fishing.

# RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

Remarkable wildlife encounters, unforgettable coastal mountain vistas, and our community's warm spirit swiftly leave their mark on visitors—sparking a natural pull toward environmental stewardship and authentic connections with locals.

Visitors are invited to share the responsibility of protecting the abundance, beauty, and complex ecosystems of the coast for generations to come. Tread lightly in outdoor spaces, staying on trails and following Leave No Trace principles. Be inspired by residents who weave such commitments into their daily lives, community celebrations, and business operations.

## Sustainable Businesses: Travelling with Purpose

Our local business owners are eager to meet you in independently-owned stores, venues, and eateries. Frequently, visitors find themselves tapped into these businesses' interconnectedness—many make up each other's supply chains or stock local artisan goods, rooted in a shared enthusiasm to co-create a thriving local economy. Beyond authentic connections with proprietors, organizations like BC Green Business, Living Wage Employers, and Biosphere Sustainable are helpful ways to verify what responsible and sustainable principles businesses are committed to.

When it comes to experiencing Campbell River's spectacular outdoor spaces, choose from wildlife and wilderness tour operators who are purposeful leaders in sustainable and ethical practices. Certifications from and membership in organizations like the North Island Marine Mammal Stewardship Association (NIMMSA) and the Commercial Bear Viewing Association of BC (CBVA) help visitors confidently choose businesses that abide by wildlife watching best practices, as well as other markers of environmental stewardship.

Image Credit: Lexa Bergen



## Inclusivity and Accessibility: A Place for Everyone

Campbell River is a destination that warmly welcomes everyone, championing unhindered access to our breathtaking landscapes and safe participation in community spaces, activities, and events.

Accessible viewing platforms, ramps, and gravel pathways in parks and outdoor spaces like Dick Murphy Park, the Seawalk, and Spruce Street Park, ensure that the outdoors can be enjoyed by all.

Initiatives like accessible bathrooms and specialized recreation programs, equitable library services and accessible cultural hubs like the Campbell River Art Gallery are just some of the steps we are consistently working on to elevate the inclusivity of our coastal city; part of the wider Strathcona Regional District (SRD) Accessibility plan.

In June, the Campbell River Pride Festival fills downtown with family-friendly activities, street celebrations, and ticketed performances at The Tidemark Theatre. Year-round, Queers and Beers activates several venues with events that centre on connection for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and its allies.

Many businesses, like West Coast Wildflowers and Campbell River Whale Watching and Adventure Tours, also showcase their own commitments to an inclusive, accessible community. Campbell River Whale Watching and Adventure Tours was the first whale-watching company in Canada to receive Rainbow Registered accreditation through the Canadian Queer Chamber of Commerce.

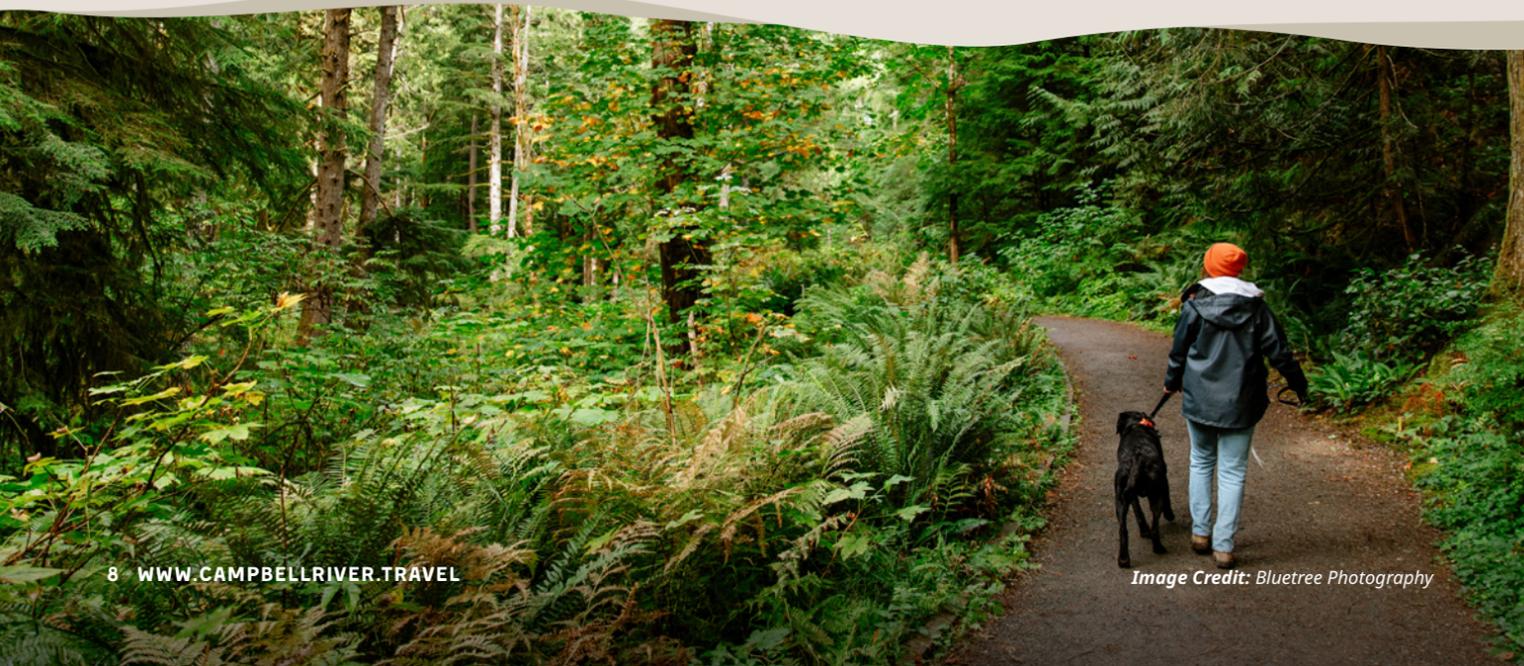


Image Credit: Bluetree Photography

# LANDMARKS & ATTRACTIONS

Image Credit: Tyler Cave

## The Wild Nature of Campbell River

With breathtaking waterfalls and endless ocean vistas, a visit to Campbell River is a quintessentially Canadian experience. Whether you are taking in the sight of Elk Falls from the massive suspension bridge or enjoying calming walks through the rainforest, a view of pristine nature can be seen at every turn.

The wild is everywhere here—from the snowy horizons of Strathcona Park to the breaching whales of Discovery Passage. Whether you spot eagles soaring over the canopy or sea lions perched on the shoreline rocks, you'll find yourself immersed in the magnificent natural surroundings of this wild part of Vancouver Island.



## Campbell River Region Waterfalls

The Campbell River Region, including Strathcona Provincial Park, is home to a wide array of waterfalls, shaped by coastal rainforests, alpine snowmelt, and river systems. From easily accessible roadside falls to more wilderness settings, these landscapes offer year round opportunities to experience the power and scale of the region's waterways.

- |                          |                      |                      |                        |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>1</b> 3 SISTERS FALLS | <b>3</b> LADY FALLS  | <b>5</b> KARST CREEK | <b>7</b> DELLA FALLS*  |
| <b>2</b> ELK FALLS       | <b>4</b> LUPIN FALLS | <b>6</b> MYRA FALLS  | <b>8</b> CASSEL FALLS* |

\*Della Falls is located in Strathcona Provincial Park but is NOT accessible from Campbell River. Access Della Falls via Highway 4 to Port Alberni, and then boat across Great Central Lake to the trailhead. Cassel Falls is located in Teakerne Arm and is accessible by boat only.

 **SHARE ALL YOUR WATERFALL CHASING WITH US ON INSTAGRAM BY TAGGING @DISCOVERCAMPBELLRIVER**

# TOP 10 EXPERIENCES

Image Credit: Tyler Cave



Tyler Cave

## Elk Falls Provincial Park

Experience the breathtaking power of the Campbell River while crossing this world-class suspension bridge. High above the canyon, you will feel the river's strength through all your senses as the mist from Elk Falls embraces you. Complete your visit at the John Hart Interpretive Centre to learn about the history and future of the local hydro dam project.



Bluetree Photography

## Discovery Pier & Aquarium

Experience living history at Canada's first saltwater fishing pier. The Discovery Pier juts out 150 feet from the shore and is an easy-to-access spot for memorable recreational fishing. The pier is wheelchair accessible, and well lit for evening strolls. There's never a bad time to fish, so bring a rod, your fishing license and enjoy one of the city's most iconic places. Be sure to stop by the Discovery Passage Aquarium which is located at the entrance to the Pier and meet the incredible marine animals that live around the pier.



Bluetree Photography

## Museum at Campbell River

Learn about the living history of Indigenous people or explore the area's rich connection to the salmon industry and logging. Guests are immersed in history through Indigenous Nations' and Tye Pool stories, and experience a journey through early logging equipment evolution. Campbell River's history is fundamentally tied to the land and allows visitors to hear and feel the past and the present.



Tyler Cave

## Maritime Heritage Centre

Located on the oceanfront overlooking the Discovery Passage, this facility famously houses the BCP45 salmon fishing boat that once graced the back of the Canadian five dollar bill. See the city's fishing history up close at this Campbell River staple.



Tyler Cave

## Tyee Spit

The Tyee Spit borders Discovery Passage and the Campbell River estuary. Walkers are rewarded with great views of Quadra Island, wildlife and during the summer months, majestic lit-up cruise ships steward their way through the tide-driven waterway. From July 15th to September 15th, witness a historic Campbell River tradition: the Tyee Club rowers and anglers trying to catch salmon over 30lbs.



@tsporfishing

## Quinsam Fish Hatchery

To truly understand Campbell River's deep-rooted connection to the salmon industry, a visit to the Quinsam Salmon Hatchery is essential. Built in 1974, this facility is one of Canada's largest and most successful rearing operations.

You will marvel at the salmon's life cycle as they return "home" to spawn from late July through mid-November, with juveniles visible year-round. This is a unique opportunity to view salmon in their natural habitat while observing the inner workings of a facility that has sustained the region's rivers for decades.



Bluetree Photography

## Ripple Rock Trail

This popular hiking trail overlooks the site of the famous 1958 Ripple Rock blast, which was the largest non-nuclear explosion in the world at the time. While the detonation was dangerous, the trail is the opposite. At four kilometres long, this moderate trail provides scenic viewpoints overlooking Menzies Bay and the Seymour Narrows. A favourite of locals, historians and visitors, this trail is one of the must-do-hikes on Vancouver Island.



Bluetree Photography

## Rotary Seawalk

Tracing the shoreline of the Salish Sea, this paved pathway offers flat, accessible views of Discovery Passage and Quadra Island. It is a favorite for walkers, cyclists, and families, winding past iconic landmarks like the 50th Parallel marker, Rotary Beach Park, and local cafés.

Keep your eyes on the horizon, as you can often spot whales breaching directly from the Seawalk. A highlight for photographers is Big Rock—a massive, legendary boulder sitting in the chilly waters just steps from the path.



Bluetree Photography

## Public Art

Immerse yourself in Campbell River's vibrant and growing art scene. Beyond the expanding collection of murals downtown and the contemporary exhibits at the Campbell River Art Gallery, the city's Indigenous heritage is told through totem poles and intricate carvings that stand as powerful symbols of the region's First Nations culture.

As you explore, look for driftwood sculptures scattered along the shoreline and unique local carvings throughout the city. If you're seeking a bit of theatrics, complete your cultural tour by catching a performance at the historic Tidemark Theatre or with the Rivercity Players.



Image Credit: Bluetree Photography

## Big Rock

Big Rock is found just south of the 50th parallel along the Rotary Seawalk in Campbell River. There are three different recorded origin stories relating to Big Rock, below is a summary from the Museum at Campbell River:

### THE LEGENDS OF BIG ROCK

#### Liǵwǵdaxw

The Liǵwǵdaxw legend tells of a Grizzly Bear who terrorized the people of Cape Mudge on Quadra Island. The Bear was tricked into jumping across the water to Vancouver Island. The people knew that if he didn't make it and touched the water he would turn to stone. If he did make it to Vancouver Island he would stay because the food sources were more abundant. The Grizzly almost made the jump across but touched the water's edge and was turned to stone. This legend also explains why there are no Grizzly Bears on Vancouver Island.

#### K'ómoks/Pentlach

The K'ómoks/Pentlach legend tells the story of Kumsno'otl, the Transformer. Kumsno'otl travelled about the land. One day he went to a place where an octopus-shaped monster lived in a lake and devoured people who went near the water. Kumsno'otl decided to destroy the monster when he noticed the misery it was causing the villagers. When Kumsno'otl killed the octopus-shaped monster he cut up the monster and threw the stomach on the ocean's beach where it was transformed into stone.

#### Tla'amin

The Tla'amin legend tells a story of Mink and the Whale. Mink, a small boy, was swallowed by the Whale during a fishing trip near Mitlenatch Island. In order to free himself Mink cut through the stomach and killed the Whale. The Whale beached on Vancouver Island and transformed into an enormous rock.



# Experience QUADRA ISLAND



Unwind and Reconnect with Nature at Our Stunning Quadra Island Campground and RV Park



## We Wai Kai Campground

Bordering the Rebecca Spit Provincial Park on Quadra Island, each campsite at the We Wai Kai Campground is natural and set amongst trees. With beaches on both sides of the campground, mere steps away from Drew Harbour for a swim, launch a kayak, paddleboard for a little exploration, or watch the sunset.

- 164 Sites, some with full hookups
- 61 Waterfront sites
- Kayak and paddleboard rentals
- 147 Power hookups

[wewaikaicampsite.com](http://wewaikaicampsite.com)

## Cape Mudge RV Park

The RV Park is situated at the south end of Quadra Island, beside the lighthouse and at the water's edge of an 1,100 acre forest where bald eagles soar and orcas pass by. Each full-service site has a picnic table, campfire pit, and complete hookup facilities.

- 10 Beachfront sites
- 2-bed beachfront cottage
- 15 Oceanview sites
- Free WiFi and showers

[capemudgeresort.com](http://capemudgeresort.com)

## Visit QUINSAM CROSSING

Owned and operated by We Wai Kai Nation, Quinsam Crossing is a convenient stop for travellers preparing to explore Campbell River and the surrounding region.

Home to Quinsam Shell, it offers a range of services for those on the road, including the only sani-dump in the Campbell River area, and the last available option when travelling north. Visitors will also find bulk ice, fast EV chargers, a drive-through car wash, and self-serve wash bays, making it easy to stock up, refresh, and get adventure-ready before heading out.

### BUSINESSES:



# EXPLORE THE TOWN

## Downtown



Nowhere is Campbell River's urban-to-ocean connection more visible than the downtown area. Known as the city's cultural hub, it's home to craft breweries, the art gallery, specialty shops and a thriving theatre. CR Live Streets boasts free community events throughout summer, and the Railyard Market offers an imaginative space where entrepreneurs and artisans showcase their products and services. Visitors can also explore the historic centre of Campbell River, Pier Street. Often referred to as "The Soul of Campbell River," Pier Street is lined with shops, a marina and the Discovery Pier. In the summer, downtown streets come alive with music in the Spirit Square, farmers' markets, and various city-hosted events hosted along Shopper's Row.

## Campbellton River Village



The Campbellton River Village, located northwest of downtown, was once a hub for the fishing and logging industries, and is now a popular destination for sport and leisure, with outdoor opportunities around every corner. From fishing and paddling in the Campbell River to biking and hiking the forest trails - adventures await. Explore the 7-km River Route that connects seven Campbellton trails, guiding cyclists by small parkettes along the river. Discover sculptures and local lore on Quinny's Quest—this family-friendly art trail along the Campbellton Loop is ideal for a walk or bike ride through nature.

For a peaceful escape, visit Baikie Island Nature Reserve, a restored industrial site turned lush sanctuary. Its accessible trails and viewing platforms offer prime spots for birdwatching and observing salmon in the heart of the estuary. The Campbellton River Village is also home to classic cafés and diners, the historic Haig-Brown House nestled on the bank of the river, and is known for hosting the annual Salmon Festival and Logger Sports.

## Willow Point



Located in the southern part of town, Willow Point stretches along the shores of Island Highway 19A and is home to the annual Transformations on the Shore carving festival. Featuring locally-owned bakeries and funky restaurants, this newer neighbourhood has grown in recent years and is a popular destination for families looking for easily accessible beaches and shopping.

# MEET OUR NEIGHBOURS

Image Credit: Michael Hack

## 1 Black Creek

Just 20 km south of Campbell River on Highway 19A, this historic agricultural hub is home to some of the region's finest crops and livestock. Families can enjoy interactive farm tours, while wine enthusiasts can sample local labels from Black Creek's renowned wineries. As you explore, keep an eye out for quaint, roadside farm stands; these local gems offer everything from fresh produce and eggs to handmade jams and flowers. Many operate on a traditional honor system, so be sure to bring cash to pick up a few farm-fresh treats along the way.

## 2 Gold River

Located in North Central Vancouver Island at the end of Highway 28, Gold River is the gateway to Nootka Sound and epic wilderness. The town provides easy access to Strathcona Provincial Park, where adventurers can trek the Elk Lake trail or summit the Golden Hinde, Vancouver Island's highest peak. For even more remote expeditions, Air Nootka offers floatplane flights to the geothermal pools of Hot Springs Cove and the legendary Nootka Trail, connecting travellers to the rugged west coast beyond the road's end.

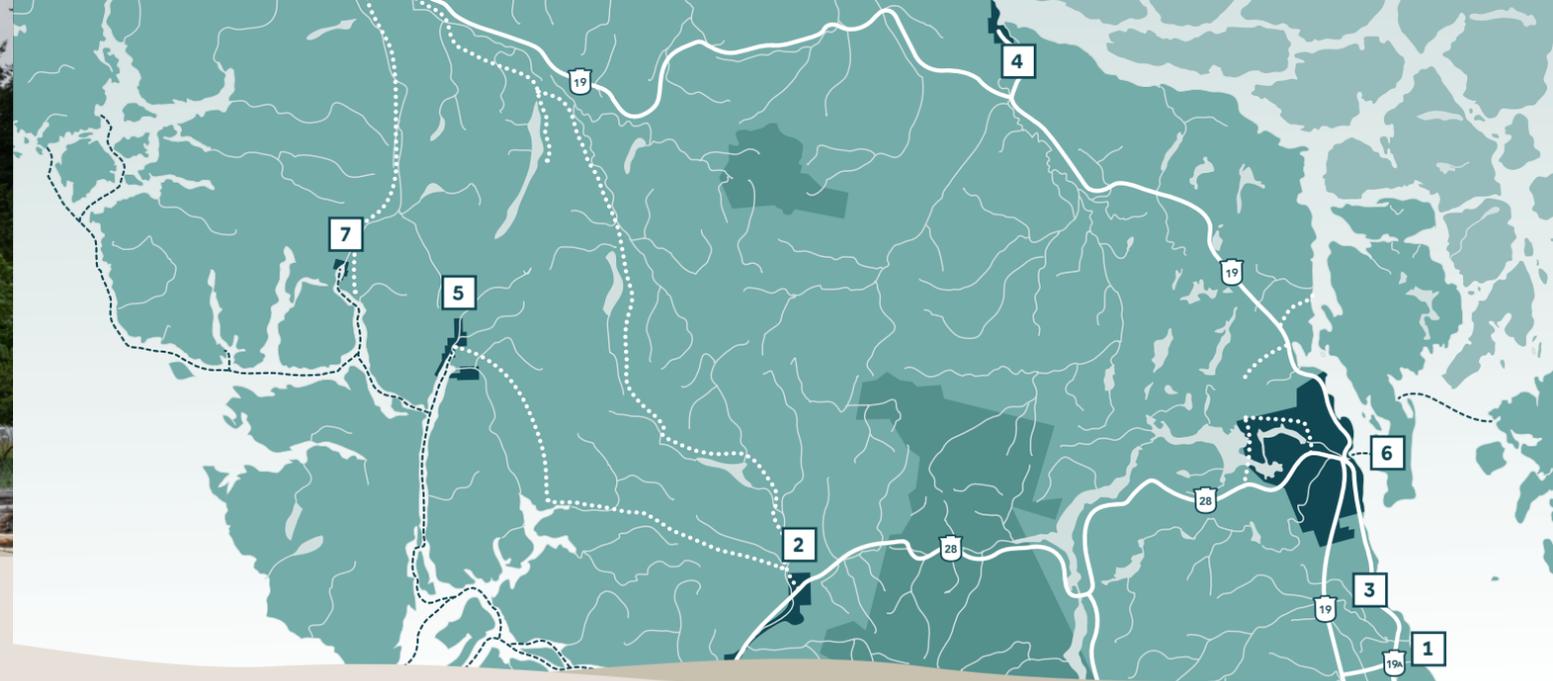
## 3 Oyster River

This small community south of Campbell River on the ocean side route Highway 19A is known for its campgrounds and resorts. The downtown is charming and tiny, while Salmon Point Resort and Pacific Playgrounds are the go-to spots on the River.

Visitors blend right in with the locals during the summer months by flocking to the numerous swimming spots in this cozy slice of Vancouver Island, including the renowned Oyster River Potholes and Saratoga Beach.

## 4 Sayward

With a population of less than 400, Sayward, located on Highway 19 North, is remote but infinitely rewarding for eco-minded travellers. Originally named H'Kusam by the Indigenous people and set on the picturesque shores of Northern Vancouver Island, this harbour town is embedded in nature. Popular activities include immersive outdoor experiences such as kayaking on the estuary and hiking the many trails. Whales, eagles, and bears frequent this outpost and share the woods and waters with this town's small population.



## 5 Tahsis, Nootka Sound, and Kyuquot Sound

Ecotourism is the specialty of Tahsis, where the best of British Columbia can be accessed. Caves, forests, diving locations and fishing spots are all frequented by guests and residents. Nestled in the beautiful Nootka Sound and situated within the traditional territory of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nations, this area has thrived for generations beyond recorded history. To visit Tahsis follow Highway 28 to Gold River, about three kilometers past the Travel Info Centre, the "Tree to Sea" drive to Tahsis begins.

## 6 Quadra, Cortes, and the Discovery Islands

Pristine and full of distinct nature, these islands are an explorer's dream. The archipelago is famous worldwide, even being named by National Geographic as one of "Canada's Places of a Lifetime." Kayaking is the most popular activity in the waters around the islands and camping is a favourite amongst visitors. The islands aren't very populated, but the few local residents are known for their warmth and friendliness. To access Quadra and or Cortes, the BC Ferry terminal is downtown Campbell River on Highway 19A.

## 7 Zeballos

Steeped in history, Zeballos was transformed in the 1920s when a gold rush brought miners and adventurers to the traditional home of the Ehattesaht people. Today, while historic frontier buildings still line the streets, the town's charm draws a new generation of explorers for world-class kayaking, sport fishing, and wilderness hiking. Located 42 km down the Zeballos Forest Service Road off Highway 19, this remote outpost offers cozy cafes and bed-and-breakfasts for those seeking a comfortable stay on Vancouver Island's wilder side.



IT'S AS MUCH ABOUT WHERE YOU ARE. AS WHO YOU'RE WITH. VENTURE THROUGHOUT THE REGION AND #MEETOURNEIGHBOURS TO EXPERIENCE THE VAST NATURAL SPACES AND WELCOMING LOCALS.

# Whale, Grizzly, & Wildlife Adventure Tours

Coastal Marina, 1003 Island Highway, Unit D  
Campbell River



**CALL TODAY FOR AN  
ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME**  
**(250) 286-0809**  
[www.eagleyeadventures.com](http://www.eagleyeadventures.com)



**f**  
Eagleyeadventures  
**Instagram**  
Eagle\_Eye\_Adventures

# WILDLIFE WATCHING

As a leading wildlife viewing destination, Campbell River offers immersive encounters with iconic Canadian species across the land, sea, and sky. Whether it's a whale breaching in the passage, a bear along the riverbank, or an eagle soaring overhead, every season brings awe-inspiring photographic moments. Whether you're a professional behind the lens or an enthusiast with a smartphone, have your camera and your checklist ready—nature is always putting on a show here.



## Dolphins

These special mammals can be spotted cruising and playing in the waters off the shores of the city. Sightings are unpredictable but are often seen from a boat in the summer months.



## Whales

The most awe-inspiring encounters with these majestic mammals is on a guided boat tour. During the warmer months, explore our waters for orcas, humpbacks, and perhaps even a minke whale.



**LET US GUIDE YOU  
THROUGH OUR WATERS,  
AND SHARE WITH YOU  
OUR LEGENDS**



Campbell River, BC | [homalcotours.com](http://homalcotours.com)  
1-250-923-0602 | [info@homalcotours.com](mailto:info@homalcotours.com)



## WHALE WATCHING TOURS & WATER TAXI SERVICE

Discovery Harbour Marina Hwy 19A  
Campbell River, Vancouver Island, BC



[ADVENTUREQUESTCANADA.CA](http://ADVENTUREQUESTCANADA.CA)  
778-346-0021 | 1-855-659-2327



Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



Amanda Brown

## Sea Lions

North of town, along the rocky and wild coasts of Discovery Passage, you'll often find sea lions lounging on the shoreline to stay safe from hunting pods of orcas.

### FUN FACT:

You are likely looking at two different species here: the massive, lighter-colored Steller sea lion and the smaller, darker California sea lion. While they both love a good nap, you can tell them apart by their "voices"—Stellers emit a deep, guttural growl, while California sea lions are famous for their loud, frantic barking!



Tyler Cave

## Seals

Where there is a harbour, there is often a seal. These curious "sausages of the sea" can frequently be spotted bobbing in the water from the Seawalk, but for the best vantage point, jump on a boat to see them resting on the rocky outcrops.

### FUN FACT:

Unlike their sea lion cousins, Harbour seals are "true seals," meaning they have no external ear flaps and can't use their back flippers to walk on land. Because of this, they move with a funny, belly-flopping motion called galumphing! You can also tell them apart by their quiet nature; while sea lions bark and growl, seals are relatively silent.



Moira Le Patourel

## Eagles & Other Birds

The shores and skies of Campbell River are home to a wide variety of birds. Including one of our most distinctive residents, the bald eagle. You can spot these guys perched high in the trees along the seawalk or scouring the beaches for a snack. In addition to the eagles, it is also common to sight great blue herons, oystercatchers and cormorants (this is just a small sampling; our region is home to 250 different species of birds).



Bri Hamlyn

## River Otters

While these creatures have a small population around the city, they can occasionally be spotted along the Seawalk or Spit Road. If you're lucky, they'll playfully turn on their back for you.



Adam Nagy

## Deer

Fondly referred to as "locals" themselves, deer are a common sight throughout the region's forests and quiet neighborhoods. While they are easy to spot, remember to tread lightly and keep a respectful distance to avoid startling them.

As you explore, please drive with extra caution, as these timid animals frequently cross local roads. If you are visiting in the spring, you can marvel at the sight of newborn fawns as they tentatively follow their mothers through the tall grass—a truly heart-melting reminder of the island's wild rhythm.



Katherine Blake

## Elk

Less commonly seen, Roosevelt elk — the largest of the four surviving subspecies in North America — call Campbell River and the surrounding region home. These amazing animals can be spotted throughout the region when travelling to rec sites, within Strathcona Park and in and around Tahsis, Gold River, Sayward and Zeballos.



Cindy Malette

## Black Bears & Grizzlies

The forests surrounding Campbell River are home to black bears, which are generally reclusive but still require a "bear-aware" mindset. When camping or hiking, it is essential to be prepared and responsible: always carry bear spray in an accessible spot and familiarize yourself with how to use it. Knowing how to react during an encounter—such as staying calm, making yourself look large, and never running—is vital for both your safety and the well-being of the bears.

To minimize risk, take necessary precautions like making noise on trails and properly securing all attractants. During the fall, black bears venture down to the rivers to feast on returning salmon. While sightings are more frequent then, it is crucial to give them plenty of space and marvel from a distance.

For the most immersive and secure experience, the safest way to view these animals is through a tour with an experienced local operator. From August through October, specialized companies also offer boat trips to remote mainland inlets, providing a rare opportunity to observe grizzly bears in their natural habitats.



Tyler Cave



Klahoose Coastal Adventures

## Wildlife Safety

In Campbell River, residents and visitors alike share the land and waterways with spectacular wild residents, including bears and cougars. While witnessing these animals in their natural habitat is an awe-inspiring experience, it is important to remember that they can be unpredictable and dangerous.

The region's wildlife is best appreciated through mindful viewing that honours both the animals and their environment. Please exercise caution when hiking or camping, and always respect their space. For the most secure experience, it is safest to view these animals while on a professional wildlife tour. To ensure a responsible visit, please check WildSafeBC.com for essential safety information and tips on how to co-exist with our local predators.

# ON THE WATER FISHING

Image Credit: Tyler Cave



## What You Need to Know About Salmon Fishing

Fishing is a way of life in Campbell River and you can't visit the Salmon Fishing Capital of the world without getting out on the water! Whether you're a seasoned angler or trying for the first time there's something for everyone, you just need to know where to go.

### SALTWATER FISHING

Campbell River is home to experienced guides who have been taking visitors out into Discovery Passage and beyond for decades. These passionate locals have knowledge of the weather conditions, fishing regulations, and navigation routes to help you make it to your big catch. Plus, you'll have a great day filled with stories and humour on the way.

### FRESH WATER FISHING

Close to town, the Quinsam River and the Campbell River run with many types of fish including four of the five species of Pacific salmon. To the delight of many visitors, there are exclusive fly-fishing zones located above the pump house on the 4 km (2.5 mile) long Campbell River, but fly-fishing is also allowed everywhere on the river.

## Learn More About Salmon

Visit the Quinsam River Fish Hatchery to learn about the Department of Fishery and Oceans salmon enhancement activities. View adult salmon returning to the hatchery and learn more about their life cycles at their visitor centre. A major highlight? Its glass floor river diorama, where visitors can see various marine life "swimming" right below them. Call ahead to inquire about tours.

## Fishing Around Town

Head to Discovery Pier, the public boardwalk just a five-minute drive or 15-minute walk from downtown Campbell River and enjoy the relaxed community vibe. In the summer when the pier is open, you can rent rods and take advantage of the built-in rod holders and weigh scales available for public use. Benches and wheelchair accessibility make this a great venue for all ages and abilities. The seasonal concession stand is open May-October, with additional food vendors nearby.

Before you cast your line, ensure you are fishing responsibly by checking the current Pacific Region tidal water regulations. All anglers are required to possess a valid BC Tidal Waters Sport Fishing License, which can be easily acquired online through the National Recreational Licensing System or at a local independent vendor.

# Top Fishing Locations

## 1 The Campbell River

**BEST TIME: LATE JULY-OCTOBER**

Catching salmon is an essential fishing experience in the area and this river features up to four different species of the fish. This is the spot for Chinook, Chum, Coho, and Pink salmon.

## 2 Quinsam River

**BEST TIME: NOVEMBER-MARCH**

A tributary of the Campbell River, the Quinsam has a smaller and more intimate setting for catching salmon. Remote-feeling, but still close to the city, it's both scenic and convenient.

## 3 Oyster River

**BEST TIME: JANUARY-APRIL**

South by 10 minutes, Oyster River catches include various salmon species. Sea run cutthroat run both spring and fall. Whether you're just starting out or a seasoned angler, the river welcomes you.

## 4 Tyee Pool

**BEST TIME: JULY 15-SEPTEMBER 15**

World renowned fishing brings anglers to test their skills. Non-motorized wooden row boats carry fishers as they aspire to hook 30+ pound Chinook and earn membership in the prestigious Tyee Club.

## 5 Discovery Fishing Pier

**BEST TIME: MAY-AUGUST**

Cast off of Canada's first and oldest saltwater fishing pier; Chinook salmon frequent this passage all year, and Coho are best mid-July through August. The lucky angler may even catch the odd halibut or ling cod. Accessibility attributes make this an inclusive stop for the whole family.

## 6 Browns Bay Resort

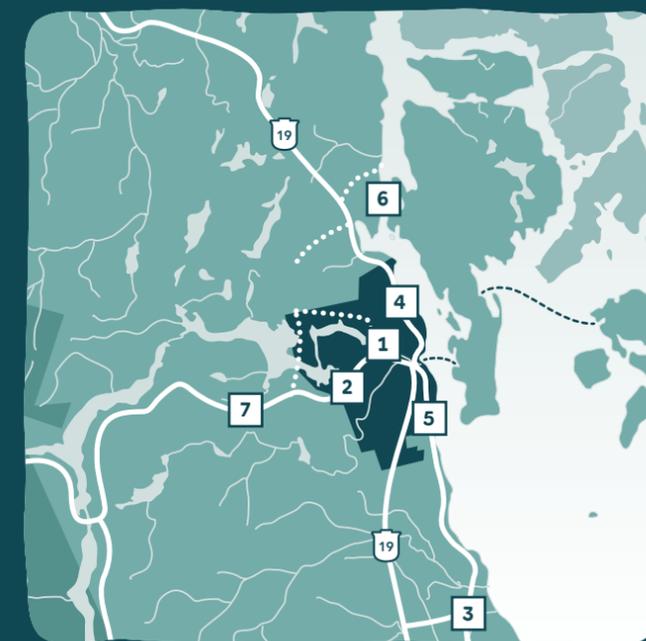
**BEST TIME: JULY-OCTOBER**

Just 20 minutes north of Campbell River on Highway 19, launch a boat from the marina at Brown's Bay and fish for all 5 species of Salmon during the summer months. Gorgeous views of Quadra Island coupled with a perfect place to relax "apres-fish" at the Narrow's Floating Restaurant make this spot one of the most relaxing fishing places on the island.

## 7 Echo Lake

**BEST TIME: YEAR-ROUND**

West on Highway 28 to Gold River, Echo Lake is stocked with trout year round. Just a short drive from Campbell River, perfect for a daytrip, it offers a still freshwater lake for those who want to try their hand at catching something other than salmon.



ON THE WATER

# WATER SPORTS

Image Credit: Tyler Cave

## Paddle, Sail, Dive and Snorkel the Campbell River Region.

Campbell River is your exploration hub. The magnificent Discovery Islands archipelago, including Quadra, Cortes, and the outer Discovery islands, offer a mix of beaches, coves, rocky headlands and numerous areas that are best experienced by kayak or canoe.

Paddleboarding on lakes and calm ocean shores is also popular. If you're a seasoned kayaker or canoe enthusiast there are plenty of areas in which you can self-guide with ease. If you're a beginner there are several kayaking outfitters in Campbell River that make it easy for you to explore and get out on the water with a professional and experienced guide. There are no kayak or canoe rental companies in Campbell River. For those looking to do a self guided tour visitors must have their own equipment.

If a canoe trip is what you're after, there is no better place to go than Strathcona Provincial Park, where you can explore on your own or hire a guide for a truly unique fresh water canoe excursion.



## Kayaking

The maze of islands accessed from Campbell River is truly a kayaker's paradise, but it demands great caution. These islands experience rapid tidal changes as high volumes of water surge through narrow passages, creating powerful standing waves and whirlpools. Treacherous areas such as Surge Narrows, Okisollo Channel, and Seymour Narrows should only be navigated by the most seasoned paddlers.

If you are heading out, please plan ahead with the proper equipment and up-to-date information. Always let someone know your itinerary and check in regularly. For those seeking a gentler experience, the quieter, more protected waters of Rebecca Spit Provincial Marine Park and the Breton Islands offer beautiful scenery that can be safely enjoyed by paddlers of all levels.



## Canoeing

From the bragging rights of completing the Sayward Forest Canoe Route to more relaxed afternoon paddles, Campbell River offers a diverse range of canoeing experiences. The legendary Sayward Forest route is a premier multi-day challenge, covering a 48 km loop through 12 lakes with several portages along the way. It is truly a trip of a lifetime for the adventurous navigator.

For those seeking scenic day trips, there are plenty of freshwater and saltwater routes to explore. Launch your canoe at Upper Campbell Lake or McIvor Lake, or head into Strathcona Provincial Park to explore the expansive waters of Buttle Lake. A full day trip to Main Lake Provincial Park (also known as the Village Bay Lake routes) on Quadra Island is a stunning option that won't disappoint.

## Water Safety

Safety and responsibility are paramount when exploring the rugged beauty of Campbell River and the Discovery Islands. Before launching, ensure you are properly equipped and have thoroughly researched local conditions. Always file a float plan with a trusted contact on shore and check in regularly to ensure a secure return. With so many exploration options available, planning ahead is essential. For the most current information on kayaking, paddleboarding, and local tours, reach out to our Visitor Information Centre located at the Maritime Heritage Centre.

## Ocean Boating

Truly a boater's paradise, Campbell River is front and centre to the Discovery Passage, located at the northern end of the Salish Sea. With sheltered coves and land always just a few minutes away, the opportunities for adventure are endless.

Whether you are cruising to destination restaurants to feast on local seafood, searching for the perfect swimming hole, or beachcombing on a remote island, there is always something to discover. You can spend your days prawning, fishing, or hiking from your anchorage, rounding out the experience with magnificent sunrises and sunsets. To help you prepare for your voyage, use the following list of helpful amenities and services located within Campbell River to start planning your next maritime adventure.

# Public Marinas

Private boats and yachts are welcomed at the many local marinas located in the Campbell River area. For those who would like to visit the city by water, there are three marinas within walking distance to the downtown core:



Adam Nagy

## Fisherman's Wharf

Located near the Discovery Fishing Pier and Maritime Heritage Centre, offering secure moorage, power, water, washroom and showers.

## Coast Marina

Situated by the BC Ferries terminal, providing moorage for vessels up to 170 feet, airport pickup/drop off, and grocery delivery services.

## Discovery Harbour Marina

A full-service facility near shopping and restaurants, offering marine fuel, laundry, and proximity to boat repair services.

# Boat Launches



Tyler Cave

## Big Rock Boat Launch

Located on Highway 19A across from the Big Rock Motel, the Big Rock Boat Launch is free to use and has a lot for vehicle and trailer parking.

## Brown's Bay Resort

Brown's Bay Resort is located 19 kilometres north of Campbell River on Highway 19. They have a pay to use boat ramp and access to moorage, fuel and fish clean stations.

## Salmon Point Resort

Located on Salmon Point road off Highway 19A approximately 20 minutes south of Campbell River, the boat launch at Salmon Point Resort is pay to use and requires a six foot tide to launch.

## Pacific Playgrounds

Located on Clarkson Ave off of Highway 19A approximately 20 minutes south of Campbell River, the boat launch is pay to use and the marina has 140 slips. Pacific Playgrounds has cottages, RV rentals, RV sites, a heated pool, and general store.

**WHALE WATCHING & WILDLIFE ADVENTURES**

DISCOVERY WEST ADVENTURES  
WE LIVE FOR ADVENTURE

SPECIALIZING IN  
SMALL GROUPS  
& PRIVATE ADVENTURES

f c o b 5.0 ★★★★★

(250) 228 1307  
WWW.DISCOVERYWEST.CA

Discovery Harbour Marina, 1374 Island Hwy, Campbell River, BC

**MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE**

A MUSEUM AND EVENTS CENTRE  
THAT IS HOME TO THE NATIONAL  
HISTORIC VESSEL BCP 45

621 ISLAND HWY CAMPBELL RIVER  
(250) 286-3161  
maritimeheritagecentre.ca



**STRATHCONA PARK LODGE  
& OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE**

**Connect With  
The Natural World**

41040 Gold River Hwy  
Campbell River, BC

(250) 286-3122

www.strathconaparklodge.com

Chateau Riverside | T. 250 702 3180 / www.chateauriverside.com  
frontdesk@chateauriverside.com

*Tranquility at a home away from home*

**Relax & Unwind**

*With glistening Campbell River Right. At. Your. Fingertips.*



# ON THE WATER DIVING

Image Credit: Maxwel Hohn



**WHILE THERE IS MUCH TO BE SEEN ON LAND, THERE'S A WHOLE NEW LAYER TO CAMPBELL RIVER UNDERWATER.**

The waters around the city teem with marine life due to the large nutrient tidal exchanges. The fast-moving waters provide a home to a massive amount of colourful life that blanket the shoreline below the surface. Many of our popular dive sites are just a short distance from the marinas in the downtown area. In a matter of minutes, you can be diving in a world that seems so far away but yet is so close below the surface. Here are the top places to explore the underwater ecosystems surrounding Campbell River.

## Steep Island

Steep is one of the most distinctive diving sites in British Columbia. Cascading walls down to over 100' (30M) with a large wall of tube worms. The kelp greenling fish here are so tame that they will follow divers around the dive site. This is just one example of why British Columbia waters have been rated as the top temperate diving in the world.

## Copper Cliffs

Cliffs drop to over 100' below the surface of Discovery Passage. This site has been written about in dozens of scuba magazines around the world due to the dramatic drops, massive boulders and colourful soft sponges and corals. Here you will also see huge lingcod and rockfish, and the occasional wolf eel or giant Pacific octopus.

## HMCS Columbia

Scuttled in 1996 as an artificial reef, the former 366' long Navel Destroyer Escort HMCS Columbia now lies on the bottom of Maude Bay, attracting a wide array of interesting marine life that now call her home. The decks are adorned with brittle starfish and swimming scallops, while inside you might catch a glimpse of the large cabezon that call this ship home.

## Argonaut Wharf

A very popular shore diving site with local divers, the pilings of this coal loading facility are encrusted with barnacles and huge plumose anemones from the bottom at 65' all the way back to the surface. At night you are almost guaranteed to see more than one Giant Pacific octopus. These nocturnal hunters are often sighted perched on a piling waiting for an unsuspecting crab to happen by.

## Whiskey Point

One of the most well known shore diving sites in British Columbia, fields upon fields of small strawberry anemones cover the floor of this dive site. Any exposed rock that isn't covered in bright red has one of a plethora of other soft coral or sponge. Make sure to check the currents and only dive at slack tide as this site is quite close to the Quadra Island ferry terminal.

## Snorkelling with the Salmon

The Campbell River is the ideal location to get up close and personal with the salmon for a river adventure. Prime snorkelling season begins in August. Be sure to check in with a local dive shop to get professionally suited up with a high-quality thick wetsuit, hood, gloves, and booties.



Image Credit: Maxwel Hohn

# AIR ACTIVITIES

Image Credit: Tom Parker



## Flightseeing

While we might be best known for what you can see (and catch!) from the water, the beauty of Campbell River can be witnessed from all angles; from spectacular underwater views on a dive, and sweeping vistas at the pinnacle of a hike. To really comprehend and appreciate the region's sheer scale of wilderness and beauty one must embrace the bird's eye views from above.

The options for flightseeing are endless. Take a helicopter tour of the Discovery Passage with 49 North Helicopters and see iconic landmarks like Rebecca Spit on Quadra Island and the Elk Falls Suspension bridge or, for thrill seekers and hopeless romantics, book a flight to the Comox Glacier and land on a remote mountain top. Alternatively, create your custom tour with BC Air to visit the spots you've dreamt of! See the city from a different view, see the glacier from the North or land on the beach for a picnic. A once in a lifetime experience, these adventures are sure to take your breath away.

Head to the Tye Spit and hop aboard a float plane for a truly west coast way of travel. Corilair's historic mail flight gives visitors the opportunity to some of the more remote communities throughout Desolation Sound. A true Canadian experience, mail delivery and remote island visits provide unparalleled and accessible opportunities to see how folks live in these areas in addition to the breathtaking views.

Floatplane tours depart from nearby Gold River, providing a premier gateway to Nootka Sound and Friendly Cove. Experience a more accessible and seamless starting point for Hot Springs Cove compared to busier hubs. This route offers an equally beautiful journey, bypassing traffic for a scenic flight over rugged mountains and pristine coastline directly into the heart of the wild.

## Skydiving

Capture the region's natural grandeur with a skydive over Vancouver Island with the Campbell River Skydive Centre. This experience offers quiet yet exhilarating moments of awe as lush forests, rugged landscapes, and sweeping coastal views stretch out beneath you.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION BIKING

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



## Make Campbell River your high-performance home base for a world-class mountain biking getaway.

Our trails offer some of the best cross-country terrain on Vancouver Island—and arguably all of British Columbia. Use the city as your jumping-off point to explore rolling singletrack or technical traverses featuring rock outcroppings, drops, and steep descents.

With trails suited for every skill level right in our backyard, you can spend days mastering the local dirt before taking short day trips to explore other bike-friendly neighbors. To help plan your extended stay and discover nearby island riding, check out:



## Beaver Lodge Lands

A popular starting point for riders who might not have a lot of experience riding is the Beaver Lodge Lands. These multi-directional, multi-purpose trails provide a scenic meander through the forest, running past Beaver Pond, and then on the banks above a beautiful creek. For those who might want to get a little technical, there is a dirt pump track, log rides and rock rolls in the clear cut. These trails are great for recharging your batteries and connecting with nature. The trails are double-track in width and have a nice dirt surface, making them great for kids, family and riders of all abilities.



Lucas Greenough



Zoya Lynch



Bluetree Photography



Chris Istace

## Pumphouse Trails

For those riders who like to get out in the woods, away from the bustle of people and are looking for more technical riding then the PumpHouse Trails and Snowden Demonstration Forest is where you want to go.

Known as the gateway to the Snowden Demonstration Forest, the Pumphouse Trail offers flowy and technical single track that ranges from intermediate to advanced. Hugging a ridgeline in the rainforest, this fun, flowy trail makes for a great ride in either direction. The trail is primarily an intermediate ride but does offer a few small optional rock slab features to challenge the more technically inclined rider. The trail is 5.3 km in length and can be ridden as an out and back from Campbell River or to connect with other trails in the Pumphouse and Snowden.

## Snowden Demonstration Forest

Snowden Demonstration Forest has everything a rider is looking for; solitude, scenery and over a 100 km of never-ending single track. Riders will find trails such as Grilled Cheese and Ham Sandwich that will provide challenges like peppered with rock outcrops, slabs, and fast, flowy sections. To reach the parking for this mecca of riding you take Highway 28 to the turn for Elk Falls, stay on Brewster Lake road until you see Loveland Bay Main. From here it is about 5 kms on a gravel road.

## Greenways Loop

The newest addition to the Campbell River riding scene is the Greenways Loop. This scenic 28 km loop skirts the perimeter of the city on nature trails, pathways, seawalk, bike lanes, and the road shoulder. It gives riders a glimpse of the ocean views, nature trails and urban life as they traverse around our beautiful city.

## River Route

A new cycling route taking riders between seven nature trails throughout the north of Campbell River. The seven-kilometre 'River Route' connects riders to nature by linking seven trails in the city, plus the Greenways Loop. Each trail opens the door to new and exciting adventures which includes cycling, hiking, fishing and so much more. There are a variety of trails to try based on your skill level.



Jeff Bartlett



Lucas Greenough

## Quinny's Quest

Perfect for families and the young at heart, Quinny's Quest turns a simple bike ride into a magical journey through the heart of Campbellton. This 7.2-km recreational loop follows the curious bear cub, Quinny, as he explores scenic riverfronts, lush forests, and local history. Using a free interactive app, riders can solve clues and collect "golden apples" at themed story stations featuring whimsical public art. The adventure begins and ends at River Village Park, where successful "questers" can unlock a special ending at the Quest Machine. Whether you're looking for an easy morning pedal or a storytelling afternoon with the kids, this loop offers a fun, memorable way to connect with the community's natural beauty.

## Renting a Bike

To help you explore with ease, several local shops offer mountain bike and e-bike rentals. Helmets are included with all rentals for your safety.

### LOCAL TIP:

Availability can be limited, so we highly recommend calling ahead to reserve your gear. Please note that bike racks are not available for rent; when planning your route, consider choosing trails accessible directly from the shop or ensure your vehicle is equipped to transport your bikes.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION & SAFETY

For detailed trail maps, recent user reviews, and real-time conditions, be sure to check AllTrails before you head out.

To ensure a safe and sustainable experience for everyone, please remember to recreate responsibly. Stay on designated paths, pack out everything you pack in, and respect the local wildlife and private property you may pass along the way.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION GOLFING

Image Credit: Tyler Cave



Golfers share a deep connection to nature and the environment while on the green. Wildlife viewing is a common occurrence on our courses, with deer and birds being spotted regularly. Golf facilities are renowned by golf professionals and beginners alike, for offering an exceptional experience no matter your skill level. Golfers can enjoy the captivating, natural settings, with the mild climate of our region, and can round out their itinerary with activities such as whale and bear watching, kayaking, fishing and hiking.



## CR Golf Club at Naturally Pacific Resort

Established as a 5-hole course back in the 1950s, this fully redesigned 18-hole course is a golf gem on Vancouver Island. Adjacent to Campbell River's brand-new luxury boutique hotel, The Naturally Pacific Resort, golfers can finish off their round with a soothing massage at the Immersion Spa or a 5-star dinner at Carve Kitchen + Meatery. The Velocity Lounge offers a more relaxed pre or post-round venue with great food, drink and simulated golf to work out the kinks pre or post round.

Course map available at [naturallypacific.ca/golf](http://naturallypacific.ca/golf).



## Storey Creek Golf Club

Situated just 14 kms south of Campbell River, Storey Creek Golf Club is internationally renowned for its stunningly picturesque and challenging, yet playable Les Furber designed golf course. Wildlife compliments this extraordinary environment with regular sightings of deer, hawks and eagles alongside magnificent beaver ponds and streams. Be wildlife safe as black bears and cougars occasionally can be seen on the course as well.

Course map available at [storeycreek.bc.ca](http://storeycreek.bc.ca).



## Quadra Island Golf Club

Overlooking the Sutil Channel and BC's mainland coastal mountains this golf course provides an enjoyable challenge for beginners and seasoned players alike. The course features a nine hole course, 240-yard driving range, practice putting green, and an 18-hole mini golf course.

Course map available at [quadragolf.com](http://quadragolf.com).

# BEACHES & PARKS



Bluetree Photography

## Miracle Beach Provincial Park

Located South of Campbell River off Highway 19A, as a family holiday destination, few locations can beat popular Miracle Beach Provincial Park. The main attraction is a wide sandy and safe beach complemented by a campground with many amenities. Beachcomb the rich tidal pools at low tide and enjoy a dog walk along the designated trails.



Tyler Cave

## Stories Beach

Stories beach is an excellent day beach, located 15 minutes south of Campbell River with great swimming, kayaking, SUP boarding and windsurfing. When the wind whips up and the surf arrives, this is the beach you find the surfers enjoying the waves.



City of Campbell River

## Willow Point Park & Sportsplex

Located in central Campbell River, the park offers four regulation tennis courts with a practice court, four baseball diamonds, a frisbee golf course, bike park, a children's playground, and a seasonal splash park. Willow Point Park also has squash courts, basketball gym, a universal gym, aerobics, and an outdoor volleyball court.



Bluetree Photography

## Rotary Park

An ideal rest area 5 minutes south of downtown, the park provides picnic tables and washrooms. An isolated rock pool offers marine life viewing while overlooking Discovery Passage.



Kaylee Wallis

## Centennial Park

Located at the corner of Alder and Fourth Avenue, Centennial Park offers a seasonal, well supervised outdoor swimming pool and parent supervised toddlers wading pool. Picnic tables, seasonal washrooms and tennis courts are also available, as well as a deluxe nature playground for kids.



Bluetree Photography

## Dick Murphy Park

Nestled between Discovery Passage and the Campbell River Estuary, Dick Murphy Park offers a flat, paved loop perfect for children on bikes and those with accessibility needs. Watch float planes and helicopters come and go from benches or the nearby playground.



Bluetree Photography

## Robert V. Ostler Park (Foreshore)

The main park in downtown Campbell River, the Foreshore, is a large grassy area with picnic tables and jungle gym that provide an excellent family area. Located in the centre of Campbell River along the shoreline of the Discovery Passage, it is a main attraction for community events and festivities such as the annual Canada Day Festival.



Bluetree Photography

## Ken Forde Park

Gather family and friends around a beach fire and take in the exceptional ocean and mountain views. Time it right and you'll watch grand cruise ships gliding up and down the Strait of Georgia. Also a convenient place to launch your boat and spend the day out on the water.

# OUTDOOR RECREATION CAMPING

Image Credit: Tyler Cave



## A great way to unwind in the wild is to sleep in it.

Camping and Campbell River are synonymous with unlimited options. Everything is on offer, from rustic camping experiences in the wilderness to oceanside glamping, Provincial park camping and private full service RV resorts.

The important thing to note is that the peak season for camping is considered July & August, but when warm weather hits, everyone is inspired to set out and sleep under the stars. Long weekends are ALWAYS busy camping times so if you're planning on travelling on May Long Weekend, Canada Day, BC Day or Labour Day plan ahead and make reservations where possible!



Bluetree Photography

## BC Provincial Parks

British Columbia's provincial parks offer experiences as unforgettable and diverse as the province's natural landscape. Explore sandy beaches and majestic forests; investigate mysterious caves or paddle down peaceful rivers — an adventure awaits every visitor.

Reservations can be made at [discovercamping.ca](http://discovercamping.ca) or by calling 1-800-689-9025.

## Backcountry Camping

Strathcona Park is home to many backcountry campgrounds equipped with bear caches and outhouses. On Forbidden Plateau, Lake Helen Mackenzie, Kwai Lake, Circler Lake, and Croteau Lake (group campground) all have backcountry campsites. There are backcountry sites at Baby Bedwell Lake, Bedwell Lake, Amica Lake (Phillips Ridge Trail), two spots along the Elk River Trail and on the Della Falls Trail. Camping is only allowed in the designated sites and you pay your backcountry camping fees at the trailhead dropbox using cash or on the BC Parks Discover Camping website. Campfires in the Strathcona Park backcountry are strictly prohibited at all times of the year.



Gina Nickoloff



Generic Van Life

## Recreation Sites

Recreation sites are un-maintained and unserviced campsites that are typically free; however, if there is a site host, a small fee (cash only) may be charged. These sites are not reservable, if you are travelling during peak times be prepared to do a bit of driving (aka poking around) before finding an available site. Rec sites take a little bit of extra work to find as they are spread along logging roads (these roads are gravel and can be very rough).

To find out more information on Recreation Sites in the area visit [www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca](http://www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca).



Bluetree Photography

## Private Campgrounds

Campbell River is home to a number of comfortable and convenient private campgrounds that offer full-service RV pads, cozy cabins and glamping experiences. If you're looking to stay close to town Thunderbird RV Park and Driftwood by the Sea are both great options featuring all the amenities for RVs as well as cabins. Or if you're looking to get out of the city to the south is Salmon Point Resort and Pacific Playground and to the north is Browns Bay Resort.



Image Credit: Bluetree Photography

Facebook Instagram @DISCOVERCAMPBELLRIVER 39

# OUTDOOR RECREATION HIKING TRAILS

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



CAMPBELL RIVER IS SURROUNDED BY LOFTY MOUNTAIN PEAKS, TOWERING FORESTS AND WINDSWEPT COASTLINES WHICH PROVIDES THE PERFECT LANDSCAPE FOR A VARIETY OF HIKING OPTIONS.



Bluetree Photography

## Canyon View Trail & the Millennium Trail

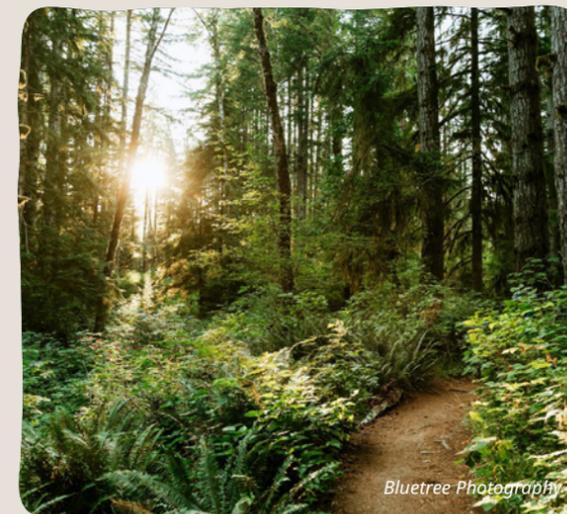
The Canyon View Trail is a 4 km loop trail that can be accessed across from the Ouinsam Campground, along Highway 28, or by parking at the BC Hydro public parking area at John Hart. The river side loop trail features an impressive bridge crossing the lower canyon and several viewing platforms. This is a very popular walking, jogging and anglers access trail. The 2.5 km Millennium Trail runs between Canyon View Loop Trail and Elk Falls Upper day-use area trail network and it parallels the Campbell River along the canyon route through a mature forest, containing some old-growth Douglas fir. Dogs must be kept on leashes always and in all seasons.



Bluetree Photography

## Elk Falls

Lose yourself in nature and the overwhelming power of the Elk Falls from the suspension bridge above (2km return). After the waterfall, wander the Old Growth Loop trail to observe massive Douglas fir and cedar trees or the Riverside Loop trail (4km return) to view Moose Falls, Deer Falls, and the Dolphin Pool. Dogs must be kept on leashes always and in all seasons. Follow Highway 28 until you reach the top of General Hill, there you will turn on to Brewster Lake road and it is an immediate right into the parking lot which does accommodate RV's and Trailers.



Bluetree Photography

## Beaver Lodge Lands

This extensive network of trails provide opportunities for mountain biking, horseback riding, walking, jogging, wildlife viewing and nature appreciation. There are wheelchair accessible trails from Trask Road and South McPhedran Road parking lots. This is a popular area for dog walking and leashes are strongly recommended as this is a multi-use trail network. To get started, we suggest the Rail Trail, which is roughly 3 km long and takes approximately 40 minutes to walk one way. This trail was developed on an old logging road, which created a path that is fairly wide and level.

## Rotary Seawalk

This wheelchair accessible paved lane runs alongside the shoreline offering a flat and convenient access to stunning views of the Discovery Passage and Ouadra Island. It is a popular place to walk your dog and gives lots of opportunity for a quick detour down to the ocean. Stop by the Simms Creek Pump Station to let your dog have a drink of fresh water at the dog-friendly fountain and please have your dogs on leash while enjoying this walk. Highlights for photographers are the Big Rock a massive, painted rock with many legends to its origin and Peabody the Raccoon a driftwood creation made by local artist Alex Whitcombe, that "greet" people as they walk along the seawalk. In addition to the drifted creation, view impressive wood carvings scattered along the Seawalk, which are created during the annual Transformations on the Shore chainsaw carving competition.



Bluetree Photography



Bluetree Photography

## Ripple Rock

This popular hiking trail 16 km north of Campbell River on Highway 19, overlooks the site of the famous 1958 Ripple Rock blast, which was the largest non-nuclear explosion in the world at the time. While the detonation was dangerous, the trail is the opposite. At about 4 kms long in each direction, this moderate hiking trail provides scenic viewpoints overlooking Menzies Bay and the Seymour Narrows. Dogs must be kept on leashes always and in all seasons.



Erin Wallis Photography

## Strathcona Provincial Park

Strathcona Provincial Park is the oldest provincial park in British Columbia and the largest provincial park on Vancouver Island. Founded in 1911, this awe-inspiring 250,000-hectare park stretches from the glaciers of Forbidden Plateau up to the northern peaks beyond Buttle Lake, offering recreational activities for all tastes and abilities. Strathcona has it all, mountain peaks, lakes, and alpine tarns dotting a landscape laced with rivers, creeks, streams, waterfalls, and an extensive network of trails. Strathcona Provincial Park offers hiking for all skill levels, everything from serene nature walks to multi-day Alpine treks. The Park is located along Highway 28, the entrance to the park is marked by the Elk Portal.



**TREAD LIGHTLY AND AS ALWAYS, FOLLOW THE LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES WHILE OUT HIKING: PLAN AHEAD, PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN, LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND, AND DO NOT FEED WILDLIFE.**



Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



# OUTDOOR RECREATION DOG FRIENDLY

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography

## Campbell River is an active town on the edge of the wilderness.

Friendly laidback locals and visitors enjoy the close proximity of hiking trails and oceanfront walking paths. People travelling with dogs can find plenty of beautiful locations to stretch their legs and enjoy the fresh air with their animal companion in tow. From beaches to off-leash dog parks to hiking trails, Campbell River has options for every dog and their human.

Trail etiquette and wilderness safety: please pick up after your dog and keep your dog under control around other dogs and humans. This helps everyone respect the environment and share the trails. Leashes are necessary to protect your dog from bears or cougars and to avoid trail erosion. When in doubt, stay on a leash!

If you're heading out for the day on activities like whale watching, consider a local doggy daycare or pack walk group so they're safely cared for and entertained while you're away.

## Saratoga Beach

A popular family beach, located 20 minutes south of Campbell River off of Saratoga Road with a beautiful white sandy beach and an excellent view of the mainland mountains.

This is a dog friendly, leashes optional beach. There are complimentary doggie bags and garbage cans off of the Seaman Road entrance to help keep the beach clean.

## Penfield West Dog Park

Let your pooch roam free at this off-leash dog park after a long day of travelling. Watch them play and socialize with the neighbourhood pups. There is no shortage of grass to roll on, benches, dog water fountains, and doggie bags. Located south Campbell River on College Drive.

## Dog Agility Course at Willow Point Park

Located on Parkway road, the park features several pieces of agility equipment. There is a ramp/plank, weave poles, tunnel and jump trainers. If you are working with your dog on agility training this is the perfect place to go and do some practice. If you are going to try and teach your dog some new tricks make sure you bring along some treats to entice them through the various pieces of equipment.

# ARTS & CULTURE



## THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT CAMPBELL RIVER THAT INSPIRES THE BEST FROM LOCAL ARTISTS AND ARTISANS.

With a serene coastal setting and a visual creative flare, Campbell River consistently delivers an arts and cultural representation that is distinct. The Campbell River Art gallery exhibits works and art that create dialogue and enrich perspectives and brings forth a sense of curiosity. Located within the city and region it is apparent that it is home to passionate community activists, creative makers, and artisans committed to exploring, playing, and delivering the labour of their love.

The people here care. They are about community. They care about seeing each other thrive. They care about supporting "Island made". Campbell River is a community

of builders, and makers of magic. Rough around the edges, just like our coast, but passionate and true.

Diversity and excellence that can be experienced here in our region; featuring shops with curated collections of locally made products, folks who experiment with recipes to tantalize your taste buds, places steeped in heritage and rich with contemporary art, and makers who continue to grace our world with the magic they create.

The Campbell River Art Gallery, located adjacent to Spirit Square, brings the work of contemporary Canadian artists into the gallery throughout the year, linking many of its

exhibitions to local educational opportunities for youth. In the summer Spirit Square is alive with popular music and theatre programming, activating the central core of our city. Take in a live show at the Tidemark Theatre, an iconic venue for local performing arts (it is advised to buy your tickets in advance). Experience eclectic musical performances, visual arts and media arts at one of the most prominent buildings downtown - as depicted by its bright pink exterior. Other theatre groups such as the Shoreline Musical Theatre Society and Rivercity Players add to the rich and diverse local arts scene.

Liḡw'ildax Nations art and culture is inextricably

connected to, and born from the land. Since time immemorial they have relied on the wealth of the forests for their regalia and sacred cultural items. Art and Culture are personal works of families and generational carvers, weavers and artists that are finding their own ways in representing culture and art to the community and world at large.

Works and projects in progress can be viewed at key locations (House of Treasures, Campbell River Art Gallery, the Museum at Campbell River) throughout the city and or personal contacts to artists can be found through House of Treasures and or the Visitor Centre.

## Experience the Heart of Campbell River

Immerse yourself in the vibrant exhibits of First Nations cultures, sit behind the wheel of an early logging truck, step aboard a float house raft, and learn about early days of recreational and commercial fishing.

**Museum**  
at Campbell River

crmuseum.ca  
470 Island Hwy at 5th Ave.  
250-287-3103



## ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE SHOPPING

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



A visit to Campbell River isn't always about the outdoors, it can be enhanced by the stress-free and low key shopping opportunities throughout the city.

As a city of approximately 38,000 people, Campbell River offers a diverse retail experience from Willow Point to Campbellton, where you'll find unique shops and boutiques stocked with artisan and locally made goods.

When touring the downtown core, you will find yourself doing more than just window shopping. Hours can be spent browsing the many character shops along Pier Street, enjoying a coffee at one of the cafes, or reading one of the many historical plaques which showcase and share local historical nuance and points of interest.

### Seasonal Markets

From mid May through September, be sure to visit the Downtown Farmers' Market every Sunday, in its new location in Spirit Square and along Shoppers Row in front of the Tidemark Theatre. The market is filled with fresh locally farmed products, fabulous food vendors, and a wealth of talented artists and crafters proudly selling their wares.

A short ferry ride lands you over at Quathiaski Cove on Quadra Island. There you'll find the main commercial and residential hub complete with an eclectic collection of cafes, colourful shops, art galleries, and much more. From books to whole foods, to liquor and marine supplies, there's a lot of shopping to be had on Quadra Island. From May until mid September, Quadra Island hosts a Farmers Market & Bazaar every Saturday beside the Credit Union.



### Gallery & Gift Shop

1370 Island Hwy, Campbell River  
(250) 286-1440



Fine Jewellery  
Indigenous Artwork  
Clothing & Accessories  
And More...

**There is something for everyone!**

# ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE

# HERITAGE

Image Credit: Tyler Cave



## Campbell River's Rich Heritage

Long before settlers arrived in what later became known as British Columbia, the land on which the Museum at Campbell River and archives now stand was the traditional territory of the Liḡʷitdax̱ peoples, today represented by the We Wai Kai and Wei Wai Kum Nations.

Among the most historically significant collections of documents in the Museum at Campbell River is the story of Siwidi which was shared by Chief Charlie Williams of Hopetown Village. Guests sit in a darkened theatre and listen to Chief Bob Joseph, a Hereditary Chief of the Gwawaenuk First Nation, tell a story of undersea adventure; as you listen, intricately carved masks light up taking you through the journey as it is shared. The museum is family-friendly, with hands-on elements to keep kids of all ages thoroughly engaged. Take a seat in the vintage Van Isle Theatre and watch the eighteen minute documentary on the history of the Ripple Rock explosion. It is one of the world's largest non-nuclear explosions that took place in the Seymour Narrows, removing the biggest navigational hazard on the west coast of North America.

The Museum offers year-round programming, including historic boat tours in summer months. Learn a little more about the region's history, while taking in endless breathtaking scenery and a gourmet lunch.

Haig-Brown Heritage House is the historic riverfront home of Roderick and Ann Haig-Brown. Both important people in Campbell River's history for their respective contributions to the community, Roderick is also a designated Person of National Historic Significance. Their modest farmhouse now spends its summers as a bed and breakfast, and its winters housing a Writer-In-Residence. The property is open to the public, where you can sit at a picnic table near the vegetable garden and listen to the river flowing by, as the famous author and conservationist once did. There is also a festival every year on World Rivers Day, where you can enter the study that contains over 4000 books and learn about this incredible family.

# ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE

# DINING & CUISINE

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



**With an abundance of local food producers, farmers, and fishermen, Campbell River offers a rich tapestry of culinary experiences ranging from casual dockside bites to refined fine dining.**

The city's dining scene is anchored by its stunning geography, with numerous waterfront patios providing the perfect backdrop for a meal. In the heart of downtown, Quay West Kitchen offers spectacular views of the harbor and the Strait, while Dockside Fish and Chips at the Coast Marina provides a unique floating patio experience where you might even spot "Richard," the local resident seal. For those seeking an upscale evening, the seaside Harbour Grill is known for its unparalleled service, delicious steaks, and fresh seafood. Additionally, many local hotels—such as the oceanside Anchor Inn and the historic Dolphins Resort—host outstanding dining rooms that have become local landmarks.

The variety of cuisine in Campbell River ensures something for every palate, from the meat and plant-based options at Sessions Kitchen to the elevated pub classics, like the famous "3ft Yard Dog," found at the Naturally Pacific Golf & Country Club. For a truly authentic coastal experience, visit the family-owned Crabby Bob's Seafood at the Government Wharf to enjoy the catch of the day while watching the fishing fleet in action. If you've had a successful day on the water yourself, you can take advantage of a "hook and cook" culinary experience offered by several local restaurants; simply bring in your fresh catch, and talented local chefs will prepare it family-style with all the fixings for your group.

## ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE

# CRAFT BEVERAGES & LOCAL LIBATIONS



COMPLEMENTING THIS DIVERSE FOOD SCENE IS A THRIVING CRAFT BEVERAGE COMMUNITY.

South of town along Highway 19A is Shelter Point Distillery, where whisky, gin and liqueurs are distilled using a single grain — barley — to create their award winning products. Shelter Point's spirits are distilled in small batches right here on the idyllic shores of Vancouver Island. Their spirits are often featured in custom cocktails at local restaurants.

In the downtown core, Beach Fire Brewing serves as a social hub, offering small-batch craft beers and innovative food in a relaxed, communal environment.

For those who enjoy variety, Sessions Taproom features an ever-changing rotating tap list of regional craft beers and ciders, ensuring there is always a new local brew to discover.

## ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE

# FAMILY DAY OUT



## 7 Family Activities in Campbell River

A Vancouver Island road trip is an essential Canadian family experience. When stopping in Campbell River, there's enough kid-friendly activities to stay for an extended amount of time. Play two types of golf in one day: disc and mini. Or splash around at the state-of-the-art Sportsplex. With all ages museums, plentiful beaches and restaurants ready for the whole family, Campbell River is your Vancouver Island destination for kids and adults. Below are 7 family-friendly activities:



Ange Caporelli

### Cooper's Hawk Disc Golf

Beyond the typical hiking, biking, fishing and golfing that is encouraged on any visit to the area, a round of disc golf at Cooper's Hawk Disc Golf Course is an essential experience. Eighteen holes embedded in the finest nature of Vancouver Island help both beginners and experts connect with the wild, while playing an increasingly popular sport. Even better, the course is free.



Saratoga Racing

### Saratoga Speedway

From Monster Truck rides to watching action packed car racing, this popular Vancouver Island speedway is fun for the whole family.



INFilm

### Sportsplex Splash Park

Located in Willow Point, the Campbell River Sportsplex is one of the biggest summer hot-spots for families. The Splash Park is divided into sections suitable for babies, young kids, and even teenagers. Featuring a fire hydrant/hose element, and the fishing pole and whale tail, these items were chosen to celebrate Campbell River's marine heritage.



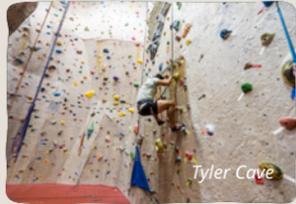
## McIvor Lake

A favourite for local and visiting families, McIvor Lake has long been a destination on sunny summer days. With a variety of beaches and boat launches to choose from, all ages can find their ideal spot to spend an afternoon.



## Discovery Passage Aquarium

The Discovery Passage Aquarium offers fun and unique hands-on educational experiences for people of all ages. Come to see, touch, and feel the incredible local marine species and habitats and discover the rich marine life of Discovery Passage and Islands.



## On The Rocks Climbing Gym

On The Rocks Climbing Gym offers 35ft climbing walls, auto belay stations and a bouldering room. With routes appropriate for both beginners and experienced climbers, this is a great spot for experienced climbers to hone their skills and for parents to introduce their kids to the sport.



## Holly Hill Farm

Holly Hill Farm is an interactive petting farm. Guests can come and explore the grounds, hold chickens, snuggle baby bunnies, brush mini goats, and hand feed a friendly alpaca and horse. Visiting the farm is a unique hands-on experience sure to educate and delight families.

### Fully Equipped 1 & 2 Bed Cottages & Full Service RV Sites

Big rig friendly RV sites • Ocean views • WIFI • 30 & 50 AMP  
10 minute walk to shopping centre, boat launch & marina  
Open all year • Air conditioned waterside cottages with hot tubs

British Columbia Lodging and Campgrounds Association

CAMPBELL RIVER, BC • 250-286-3344 • THUNDERBIRD.RV.PARK.COM



**SPEEDWAY RV WELCOMES YOU!**  
Speedway RV is a family first, full hookup campground nestled in Black Creek BC. We pride ourselves on being the newest campground on Vancouver Island with many FUN amenities and bigger sites than the neighbouring campgrounds for spacious camping

www.SPEEDWAYRV.ca

NOT ONLY FOR RACERS

**Shelter Point**  
INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED WHISKY  
Made in Campbell River  
Tours, Tastings & Cocktails

4650 Regent Rd, Campbell River, V1H1E3  
778-420-2200 shelterpoint.ca

**Bough & Antler**  
Gift Shop & Studio

Voted Campbell River's Best Gift Shop for five years running!

Locally Designed Apparel  
Pottery Made On-site • Art • Jewellery  
Homeware • Toys • Books • Cards

2228 Island Hwy South • Open Daily 10-4

## ARTS, CULTURE & CUISINE

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography  
Indigenous Peoples Day at the Kwanwatsi Big House

MAY - SEPTEMBER

### DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET

The Downtown Farmers Market is a seasonal institution in Campbell River, drawing patrons and vendors from around the Island. The market showcases a variety of homemade wares, arts and crafts, fresh produce and is complemented by live music. It is a "must see" for anyone visiting the area.

JUNE 21

### NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

National Indigenous Peoples Day is celebrated on June 21st in Spirit Square. This day recognizes the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples of Canada. The event features a salmon barbeque, dancing, live music and Indigenous arts and crafts vendors.

JUNE

### TRANSFORMATIONS ON THE SHORE

With a rich history of carving engrained in the traditional territory, this annual summer event produces massive wooden pieces that have decorated the town for decades. "Transformations on the Shore" allows visitors and residents to watch novice and professional chainsaw carvers create majestic sculptures out of wood.

Check [crshorelinearts.ca](http://crshorelinearts.ca) for official dates and event information.

JULY 1

### CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Celebrate our National holiday Campbell River style! Mix and mingle with the locals at the downtown market, take in live music at Spirit square and finish off your day with the firework show on the foreshore. Campbell River puts on one of the largest shows on the Island.

JULY - AUGUST

### CAMPBELL RIVER LIVE STREETS

The Spirit Square in Downtown Campbell River hosts a variety of summertime concerts. Grab a lawn chair or find a spot on the grass and enjoy these free performances featuring local and visiting musicians.

JULY 15 - SEPTEMBER 15

### TYEE CLUB

The Tyee Club was founded in 1925 to celebrate, honour and protect the conservation of salmon. Membership in the Tyee Club is open to anyone willing to test their skill at sport fishing. Following a strict set of rules, one can earn the coveted title when a catch of thirty pounds (or heavier) is successfully caught and recorded from a classic rowboat. The word 'Tyee' is derived from the Nuu-chah-nulth language, meaning a chief, a king, or champion.

AUGUST

### SALMON FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

The Salmon Festival is a logging skills competition that captures the attention of the entire island. For over fifty years, competitors have competed in events like wood splitting, tree climbing, log rolling and even axe throwing. One of the top five largest logging events in North America, Logger's Days are spectator-friendly and incorporate the essence of Campbell River; a city intertwined with its natural surroundings.

SEPTEMBER - FALL

### FESTIVAL AT HAIG BROWN HOUSE

In celebration of Rivers Day and to honour the legacies of Roderick and Ann Haig-Brown, and their contributions in terms of environmental conservation, literature, community service, and fishing the property of Campbell River's Haig-Brown House comes alive with art, music, nature talks and book readings.

SEPTEMBER 30

### NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

The day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. We invite you to wear orange shirts to honor the lives of the children who didn't make it home from residential schools, and for the ones who did. Spirit Square in Campbell River often holds an event on National Truth & Reconciliation Day.

DECEMBER

### FESTIVAL OF TREES

The Annual Festival of Trees at the Museum at Campbell River is an event where the community comes together to create something magical; a winter wonderland! Be sure to check out this free event.

DECEMBER

### THE BIG TRUCK PARADE

The annual holiday parade is unlike anything in Canada. Local businesses wrap their trucks with Christmas lights and parade down the highway when night falls, ending in the heart of the city. This historic event features cement trucks, utility vehicles, buses and Destination Campbell River's Toasty Truck!

For additional sources and information on events visit [campbellriver.travel/events](http://campbellriver.travel/events)

# ACCOMMODATIONS

Image Credit: Naturally Pacific Resort

Campbell River's accommodation selection is as diverse as the wildlife that roams the area. High-end resorts with hot tubs overlooking the ocean are joined by modernized hotels, motels, quaint bed and breakfasts and historic wilderness lodges.

## ABOVE TIDE MOTEL

**Address:** 361 Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.abovetidemotel.ca](http://www.abovetidemotel.ca)  
**Phone:** 1-877-886-6231  
**Amenities:** Oceanfront, Laundry, Kitchenettes

## THE ANCHOR INN & SUITES

**Address:** 261 Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.anchorinn.ca](http://www.anchorinn.ca)  
**Phone:** 1-800-663-7227  
**Amenities:** Themed Rooms, Restaurant, Pool

## BIG ROCK MOTEL

**Address:** 1020 S Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.bigrockmotel.com](http://www.bigrockmotel.com)  
**Phone:** 1-877-923-4211  
**Amenities:** Kitchenettes, Wifi, Boat Parking

## CHÂTEAU RIVERSIDE BOUTIQUE HOTEL

**Address:** 1810, 1820 19th Avenue  
**Website:** [www.chateauriverside.com](http://www.chateauriverside.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-914-2229  
**Amenities:** Riverfront, Kitchen, Sauna

## COAST DISCOVERY INN

**Address:** 975 Shoppers Row  
**Website:** [www.coasthotels.com/coast-discovery-inn](http://www.coasthotels.com/coast-discovery-inn)  
**Phone:** 1-800-716-6199  
**Amenities:** Pet friendly, Restaurant, WiFi

## COMFORT INN & SUITES

**Address:** 1351 Shoppers Row  
**Website:** [www.comfortinncampbellriver.com](http://www.comfortinncampbellriver.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-914-5117  
**Amenities:** Complimentary Breakfast, Wheelchair Accessible Rooms

## DOLPHINS RESORT & ANGLERS DINING

**Address:** 4125 Discovery Drive  
**Website:** [www.dolphinresort.ca](http://www.dolphinresort.ca)  
**Phone:** 1-800-891-0287  
**Amenities:** Cabins, Restaurant, Oceanfront

## DRIFTWOOD BY THE SEA INN AND RV RESORT

**Address:** 170 S Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.driftwoodbythesea.com](http://www.driftwoodbythesea.com)  
**Phone:** 1-888-703-0373  
**Amenities:** Cottages, Oceanview, Laundry

## HERON'S LANDING HOTEL

**Address:** 492 S Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.heronshotel.com](http://www.heronshotel.com)  
**Phone:** 1-888-923-2849  
**Amenities:** Private Balconies, Ocean View, Pet friendly

## NATURALLY PACIFIC RESORT

**Address:** 700 Petersen Rd  
**Website:** [www.naturallypacific.ca](http://www.naturallypacific.ca)  
**Phone:** 1-866-910-4567  
**Amenities:** Boutique Luxury Resort, Spa, Restaurant, Pool, Golf Course, Pet Friendly, Accessible

## PAINTER'S LODGE

**Address:** 1625 McDonald Rd  
**Website:** [www.painterslodge.com](http://www.painterslodge.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-286-1102  
**Amenities:** Oceanfront, Restaurant, Tours, Pub, Event Hall

## PASSAGE VIEW MOTEL

**Address:** 517 Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.passageviewmotel.com](http://www.passageviewmotel.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-286-1156  
**Amenities:** Oceanfront, kitchenettes, WiFi

## RAMADA BY WYNDHAM

**Address:** 462 S Island Highway  
**Phone:** 1-250-923-4231  
**Amenities:** Pet Friendly, Indoor Pool, WIFI

## RIVERFRONT / MAE MAE MOTEL

**Address:** 1891 19th Avenue  
**Website:** [maemaemotel.com](http://maemaemotel.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-287-9147  
**Amenities:** Riverfront, Cabins, wifi, Wheelchair Accessible, Pool, Pet Friendly

## THUNDERBIRD RV PARK & COTTAGE RESORT

**Address:** 2660 Spit Road  
**Website:** [www.thunderbirdrvpark.com](http://www.thunderbirdrvpark.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-286-3344  
**Amenities:** RV Sites, Cottages, Waterfront

## VISTA DEL MAR MOTEL

**Address:** 920 Island Highway  
**Website:** [www.vistadelmarmotel.com](http://www.vistadelmarmotel.com)  
**Phone:** 1-250-923-4271  
**Amenities:** Oceanview, Kitchenettes, WIFI



**IT IS IMPORTANT TO BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS AHEAD OF TIME TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY.**

# PLAN YOUR JOURNEY

Image Credit: Bluetree Photography



Located in the geographic heart of Vancouver Island on the traditional territory of the We Wai Kai and Wei Wai Kum people, Campbell River and region includes the City of Campbell River on the east coast, the Discovery Islands, and vast tracts of wilderness that stretch west through Strathcona Provincial Park to Gold River, Tahsis, and Zeballos on the west coast.

Campbell River sits approximately 265 km north of BC's provincial capital, Victoria, and 238 km south of Port Hardy at the northwestern end of Vancouver Island. The island itself rests offshore from the southwest coast of Canada, north of Washington State, and across the Salish Sea from Vancouver, BC.

## By Air

From the moment you touch down, the Campbell River Airport (YBL) offers a seamless start to your North Island adventure. Located just one minute off Highway 19, the airport offers unmatched ease of access and ample parking, ensuring your transition from air to road is effortless. The friendly, casual atmosphere is complemented by professional service that reflects the welcoming character of the city.

WestJet offers direct seasonal service to and from Calgary (YYC) from May through October, connecting the region to national and international flight networks. This creates a quicker "wheels down to destination" route to North Island and West Coast communities.

YBL also provides regular daily scheduled flights to Vancouver via Pacific Coastal Airlines. With a 6,500-foot runway, the airport is a vital hub for private jet, charter, and scheduled service along the Pacific coast corridor. YBL also serves as a Canada Customs-authorized Airport of Entry (AOE) for private and chartered aircraft.

Float plane and helicopter services are available year-round at the Campbell River Tyee Spit and the Campbell River Airport. Seasonal float plane service connects Campbell River with Powell River, Seattle, and Downtown Vancouver, with Harbour Air providing scheduled flights between Downtown Vancouver and the Tyee Spit. The Comox Valley Airport (YQQ) is forty minutes south of Campbell River with daily flights to Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.

## By Road

Travelling north along the smooth four-lane Highway 19 is a breeze. With a speed limit of 110 km/h, it takes ninety minutes to drive from Nanaimo's ferry terminals, or add another two hours if you're travelling north along the Trans-Canada Highway from Victoria. Those who prefer a leisurely route through friendly coastal communities can detour from the fast lane at Parksville, and enjoy the scenic Oceanside Route along Highway 19A.

Regularly scheduled trips north and south through Campbell River and its regions via daily bus service connect with ferry terminals and major Vancouver Island centres, and several car rental and charter bus agencies are located in Campbell River, as is reliable taxi service.

## By Sea

Many visitors enjoy the scenic journey to Vancouver Island by ferry, offering a relaxing start to any Campbell River adventure. BC Ferries provides daily vehicle and foot passenger sailings from the mainland terminals at Tsawwassen and Horseshoe Bay, with those heading directly to Campbell River typically booking passage to Nanaimo's Departure Bay or Duke Point terminals. For travellers looking for a coastal loop, the Sunshine Coast route via Powell River is a fantastic option, allowing you to journey up the coast before taking the ferry across the Salish Sea directly to Comox, just a short drive south of Campbell River.

For foot passengers travelling from downtown Vancouver, the Hullo Ferry offers a fast, high-speed catamaran service directly into downtown Nanaimo, making the island more accessible than ever.

Once you arrive on the island, nautical visitors travelling by private boat or yacht are warmly welcomed at our local marinas. These full-service refuges offer a range of amenities for maritime travellers, including easy access to refueling at Discovery Harbour Fuel Sales in the heart of the city.



**LOCATED ON THE BEAUTIFUL WEST COAST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, CAMPBELL RIVER OFFERS IMMERSIVE ACTIVITIES ALL YEAR ROUND.**

Discovery Passage AQUARIUM

Local marine life collected in the spring and released in the fall.

Open Seasonally at the Discovery Pier!

EXHIBITIONS + GIFT SHOP

CAMPBELL RIVER ART GALLERY

Gift Shop Featuring 88+ Local Artists Downtown Campbell River

Haig-Brown HERITAGE HOUSE

Bed & Breakfast

Open May to October

Stay in the historic home of Roderick Haig-Brown on the banks of the Campbell River.

HAIG-BROWN.BC.CA

# WHERE THE COAST CONNECTS



## Direct Flights & Global Connections

Campbell River Airport (YBL) serves as a convenient aviation hub for travellers seeking efficient access to Central and North Vancouver Island. With daily service to Vancouver’s South Terminal (YVR) via Pacific Coastal Airlines, connecting with the mainland has never been easier.

WestJet’s seasonal service to Campbell River (YBL) provides a seamless, one-stop connection to the world. By flying via WestJet’s global hub in Calgary (YYC), international travellers can bypass long drives and ferry transfers, arriving directly in the heart of Vancouver Island.

## Parking Made Simple

With ample parking stalls in immediate proximity to the terminal, passengers can avoid the delays of distant overflow lots and transit shuttles, ensuring a stress-free start to their journey. Drop-off and pick-up is free for the first 90 minutes. Further parking fees are as shown:

PARKING	COST
Daytime Parking (up to 12 hours)	\$6
Overnight Parking (up to 24 hours)	\$9
Weekly Parking	\$45
Monthly Parking	\$115
Annual Parking	\$700

## Terminal Services

YBL terminal is equipped with essential services designed for the coastal traveller. The Fuel Up Cafe is a central feature, open early to provide hot meals and fresh-baked selections.

For onward travel, National and Budget Car Rentals maintain full-service desks on-site, complemented by the CR Shuttle Service for scheduled ground transportation across the region.

## The Observation Deck

The YBL Observation Deck provides a unique unobstructed vantage point of our runway and taxiways as well as the mountains of Strathcona Park. Watch diverse aircraft arrive and depart, including corporate jets, turboprops, and helicopters. It is a scenic space for passengers and visitors to observe the daily operations that power the North Island’s connectivity.

## Distance From Urban Centres

YBL Airport is centrally located among many Vancouver Island communities, providing an accessible gateway for visitors travelling throughout the region.

URBAN AREA	DRIVING TIME
Campbell River	10 Minutes
Comox Valley	30 Minutes
Qualicum Beach	1 Hour
Parksville	1 Hour 5 Minutes
Tofino/Ucluelet	2 Hour 50 Minutes
North & West Vancouver Island	Varies

OUR PROUD PARTNERS



## MEMORIES SHAPED BY THE WILD

Whale watching and grizzly bear viewing from Campbell River, one of Canada's premier wildlife destinations.

Ethical, small-group boat tours rooted in conservation, respect, and meaningful wildlife observation.

[campbellriverwhalewatching.com](http://campbellriverwhalewatching.com)  
[info@campbellriverwhalewatching.com](mailto:info@campbellriverwhalewatching.com)  
 (250) 287-2667



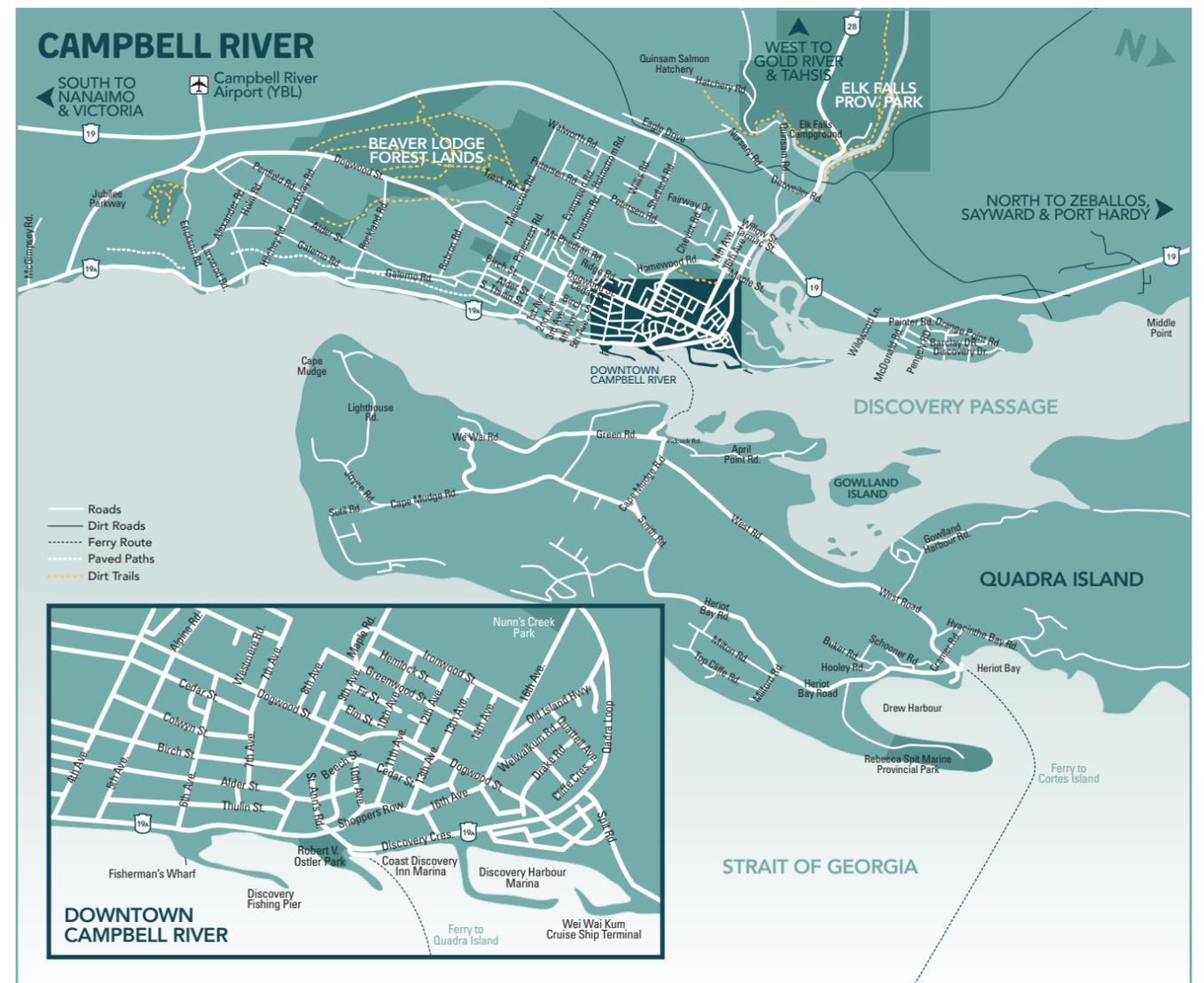
**WILDCOAST**  
*escape, explore, discover.*

## STORIES YOU CARRY HOME

Multi-day sea kayaking journeys into British Columbia's wild coast.

From Orca Camp glamping to nomadic wilderness expeditions.

[wildcoastadventures.com](http://wildcoastadventures.com)  
[hello@wildcoastadventures.com](mailto:hello@wildcoastadventures.com)  
 (250) 285-9453



A large sculpture of a dinosaur, possibly a T-Rex, is constructed from weathered driftwood. The sculpture is positioned on a large, light-colored rock in the foreground. The background features a calm lake reflecting the sunset sky, with distant mountains visible on the horizon. The sky is a mix of soft oranges, pinks, and blues, with some clouds. The overall mood is serene and natural.

CAMP  
BELL  
RIVER