

# Nanaimo

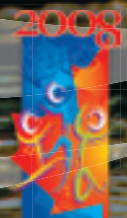
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# Visitor Centre

## First Stop: Tourism Nanaimo Visitor Centre

Located at 300 Terminal Ave, downtown the Visitor Centre is the best place to start your visit to Nanaimo and the central Vancouver Island region. Our helpful and knowledgeable staff and volunteers will assist you with all your planning needs in the city and beyond.

Whether you need directions, a map of Nanaimo, brochures on the best local attractions, or restaurant suggestions – we can help. We'll even help you reserve your accommodations.

### Find more online

Tourism Nanaimo's website, [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com), provides comprehensive information on traveling to and around Nanaimo. You'll find:

- A free downloadable interactive version of this Visitor's Guide
- Official Nanaimo Restaurant Guide (also downloadable)
- Video footage and info on top attractions and activities
- Complete events calendar
- Traveling tips – weather forecasts, what to pack, a distance chart and more
- Detailed maps of Nanaimo



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[www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)

- A 'My Trip' planning tool where you can save pages of attractions and activities
- Tourism Nanaimo member business profiles and links
- Hundreds of links to accommodations, transportation services and tour operators
- Links to local services (real estate, banking, etc.) helpful for relocation

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**RE/MAX** OF NANAIMO

\*RE/MAX of Western Canada 1997 • 2008 "Conde Nast" Traveler Readers

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# Welcome to Nanaimo

## It's amazing what you can do here

It's amazing how your whole perspective on life changes when you get island time. Sometimes all it takes is a little sand between your toes. Or a long walk in the forest.

Then something deep within you exhales. Every pore opens. Life seems to sparkle.

You feel it kayaking under the moonlight. See it in a playful harbour seal. Hear it in the whisper of Douglas fir trees towering overhead. Around every corner is another spontaneous moment.

Come and find out for yourself why readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* and *Travel + Leisure* magazines consistently rank Vancouver Island among the best island destinations in the world.

Yes, it's amazing what you can do here.

### Head to the harbour

The Harbourfront Walkway is Nanaimo's #1 attraction. Explore tidepools, a sandy lagoon beach, a fishing pier and more.

### Catch an event

Where else can you watch bathtubs with 8-horsepower engines race across the harbour?

### Take a culinary tour.

Taste just-off-the-boat seafood or find more than 20 types of ethnic cuisine downtown.

### Shop quaint boutiques

Forget cliché souvenirs; find unique hand-crafted treasures made by the culturally diverse residents of Nanaimo.

### Sample the arts scene

Nanaimo has become known for home-grown artistic talent, including jazz greats Diana Krall and Ingrid Jensen.

### Relive history

Early residents left behind countless reminders of Nanaimo's coal mining heyday that you'll see at the museum or on a historic walking tour.

### Get outside

Golf year-round in one of the top undiscovered golf destinations in the world, or dive the world's largest artificial upright reef.

## Fast Facts

- The only remaining original Hudson's Bay Company Bastion in North America is in downtown Nanaimo.
- One of the quickest places to catch a crab for supper is the harbourfront fishing pier. Knife-carved grooves in the side of the pier mark the regulation width of keepers.



Visitor Centre	2
Welcome to Nanaimo	3
Message from the Mayor	4
Getting Here	5
Outdoor Adventures	10
Scuba Diving	11
On the Water	12
Festivals & Events	16
Golfing	20
Downtown Nanaimo	22
Shopping	24
The Original Nanaimo Bar	27
Nanaimo Map	28
Arts & Entertainment	30
Parks & Trails	32
Dining	34
Local History	37
Accommodations	38
Hotels & Motels	39
Bed & Breakfasts	41
Camping & RVing	43
Education	44
Meetings & Conferences	46
Doing Business in Nanaimo	48
7 Great Day Trips	49
Listings	52
Kid's Picks	55

## Message from the Mayor

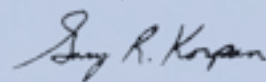
It is my pleasure to welcome you to the City of Nanaimo!

Our City has one of the most beautiful harbourfronts on the West Coast. Explore the natural highlights and scenic beauty of our mountain and oceanside setting or some of the finer qualities of our urban amenities. Enjoy a taste of the refreshing and relaxed atmosphere that fuels the imagination and fires the spirit of our residents and tourists.

We have a vibrant social and cultural life in Nanaimo. We host an 800-seat Performing Arts Theatre in the downtown core, a large, inviting Regional Library, and we are known as the Island's "shopping mecca" since we offer not only name-brand stores but also one-of-a-kind art and clothing galleries, pottery and hand-made jewellery.

Our central location makes Nanaimo the perfect home base for visits anywhere on the Island. In driving distances, we are 90 minutes north of the capital city of Victoria, three hours from Tofino, and 45 minutes south of Parksville.

Sincerely,



Gary Korpan  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo



### For further information please contact:

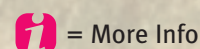
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## Getting Here



BC Ferries vessel glides into Departure Bay.

It doesn't matter where you come from or how you get here, you'll never forget the scenic journey to Nanaimo. From the top deck of a ferry you might see seals, bald eagles or Orcas. If you're traveling by turboprop or seaplane, watch islands and commercial crabbing boats pass beneath you. By car or bus, you'll ramble along the rugged coastline, traverse mountains and lush rainforests, and pass through charming seaside communities.

**Getting here is easy.** Here's a quick look at the various transportation options to Nanaimo.

### By land

#### From Victoria

Drive north on Hwy. 1 to Nanaimo. Rental cars, coach bus routes, train service and tour companies are available. Travel time: 1 ¾ hrs.

#### From Comox Airport

Drive south on Hwy. 19A/Hwy. 19 to Nanaimo. Rental cars, shuttle services, coach bus routes and train service are available. Travel time: 1 ½ hrs.

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## By ferry

### From Vancouver

BC Ferries (vehicle/passenger ferry) run from two Vancouver area terminals, Horseshoe Bay and Tsawwassen, to two Nanaimo terminals, Departure Bay and Duke Point. Crossing time: 1 ½ - 2 hrs.

## By plane

### From Vancouver

To Nanaimo Airport – Several direct flights daily from Vancouver (and cities throughout B.C.). Flight time: 25 min.

To Nanaimo Harbour – Various seaplane companies offer regular daily flights from downtown Vancouver to downtown Nanaimo. Flight time: 20-30 min.

### From Seattle

To Nanaimo Harbour – Kenmore Air seaplanes fly (summer only) from various Seattle locations to downtown Nanaimo. Flight time: 75 min.

## Insider's Tip

During summer weekends, waits are possible on BC Ferries Vancouver-Nanaimo routes. Guarantee your spot by making a reservation in advance.



*See British Columbia from our point of view.*



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Scenic flights

Float plane tours, from 30 minutes to three hours, take visitors and islanders to some of the most stunning and remote areas around Vancouver Island. Tours depart from downtown Nanaimo, giving passengers a bird's eye view of the Nanaimo Harbour, majestic coastal islands and, occasionally, sea lions or whales.

Longer tours lead to glacier and alpine lakes, including the picturesque Phantom Lake. See spectacular views of the Coast Mountain Range and the fjords of the Sunshine Coast before landing in the Princess Louisa Inlet. The inlet, accessible only by boat or plane, is home to Chatterbox Falls, a breathtaking 40-meter (130-foot) waterfall.

Some tours include short hikes, a picnic lunch, or time to browse local shops and artists' studios.

Plan Ahead

BC Ferries	(888) 223-3779
Big Boy's Toys (RVs)	(800) 492-2869
Budget Car Rental	(888) 368-7368
Enterprise	(800) RENT A CAR
Grayline West	(800) 663-8390
Harbour Air	(800) 665-0212
Island RV Rentals	(866) 390-3994
Kenmore Air	(800) 543-9595
Nanaimo Airport	(250) 245-2157
National Car Rental	(800) 227-7368
Pacific Coach Lines	(800) 661-1725
Rent-A-Wreck	(888) 296-8888
Seair Seaplanes	(800) 447-3247
Smith Transportation	(877) 756-2544
Tofino Bus	(866) 986-3466
West Coast Air	(800) 661-5599
VIA Rail Canada	(888) 842-7245

Insider's Tip

Pack a waterproof jacket if you're visiting during the rainy season, generally November through February. The calmest waters for kayaking are often during a light rain, and the best time for beachcombing is after a storm.

Getting Around

Once you're here, there are lots of ways to explore – by public transit, car or RV rental, bus service, train service, rent a bike, or on a tour. Tour packages give visitors first-hand experiences of the area by float plane, sailboat or passenger van.



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# Outdoor Adventures



Amazing views inspire outdoor adventurers.

## Get Out

Nanaimo's natural grandeur lures even the most dedicated couch potatoes outside to play. Literally, hundreds of outdoor pursuits lie somewhere between the deep waters of our harbour and the summit of our Mt. Benson.

There's so much green space here, you don't have to go far to be completely surrounded by wilderness. Hit the trails in Nanaimo's 200+ parks or the Trans Canada Trail. Watch several bird species at Buttertubs Marsh and sea lions offshore along the Cable Bay Trail. You'll even see loads of wildlife on Nanaimo's lush golf courses and green spaces.

Westwood Lake is best known for its swimming beach, jogging paths circling the lake and mountain biking trails traversing the ridges above it. Rock climbers often head to Nanaimo River to scale sections of the river's tall rocky banks or Pipers Lagoon's natural amphitheatre. For waterskiing and wakeboarding, Brannen Lake is the local hot spot.

## Fast Facts

- In spring and summer, kayak tour companies lead paddlers out to sea under the light of each month's full moon.
- North America's first legal bungee jumping bridge is 44 m (143 ft) above the Nanaimo River.
- Guides lead hikers to the 914 m (3,000 ft) summit of Nanaimo's Mt. Benson, where spectacular views await.

If you're looking for the ultimate adrenalin rush, you'll find it at WildPlay at the Bungy Zone. Bungee jump from North America's first legal custom-made bungee jumping bridge (over the Nanaimo River). You can cross the river on the Canyon Zip, negotiate your way through the TreeGO aerial obstacle course in the forest, or feel serious g-force on the King Swing.

**i** Pick up a copy of the free Vancouver Island Outdoor Guide or Cycle Map & Guide at the Visitor Centre. Go to page 54 or [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for tour operators and more info.

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- Dinghy Dock Pub
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[www.sailnanaimo.com](http://www.sailnanaimo.com)

## Scuba Diving

### Underwater Treasures

Some of the best scuba diving in North America, drawing divers from all over the world, is right here along our coastline. In these waters, seals take curious glances at divers, wolf eels come out of their dens to play, and sunken ships teem with life.

Readers of *Scuba Diving* magazine consistently rate British Columbia among North America's top five spots for healthiest marine environment, small animal encounters, wall diving and more.

Nanaimo's dive scene started making headlines 11 years ago, when the late Jacques Cousteau publicly supported the creation of Nanaimo's first artificial reef: the sinking of the *HMCS Saskatchewan*. Since then, two more ships have been sunk here, the *HMCS Cape Breton* and *Rivtow Lion*, making ours the largest artificial upright reef in the world.

**i** Get additional information on diving at the Visitor Centre. Go to page 54 or [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for tour operators.

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The HMCS Saskatchewan, sunk in 1997.  
(Brandon Cole Marine Photography)

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# On the Water



The scenic Harbourfront Walkway spans 5 kilometers (3 miles).

## Marine Activities

At the top of every Nanaimo visitor's must-see list is the Harbourfront Walkway. And with good reason. From here you can stroll hand-in-hand and catch stunning views of nearby islands, snow-capped mountains and a busy harbour. So inspiring are the views that they'll entice you off the path and onto the ocean.

Any day April through mid-October you can hop on a 'pickle' boat (named for their colour) for a 45-minute narrated tour of the harbour. The skippers point out intriguing creatures and captivating seascapes as they share interesting bits of harbour history.

Three artificial shipwreck reefs just outside the harbour draw divers from around the world. Our

sheltered waters also make the perfect starting point for kayaking excursions with up-close views of seals and sandstone formations. See the city and nearby islands on a sailing charter, or hire a guide to take you where the fish are biting.

## Fast Facts

- Every fall salmon swim under the Harbourfront Walkway bridge and wiggle their way up the Millstone River.
- The closest place to take a whale watching tour and see orcas (killer whales), humpback whales, gray whales, or Minke whales is in Cowichan Bay, a one-hour drive south.
- Jacques Cousteau proclaimed the spectacular coastal waters of British Columbia 'the best temperate water diving in the world, second only to the Red Sea.'

## Newcastle Island

A quick ferryride from Nanaimo, Historical Newcastle Island offers visitors hiking, biking, and camping. Bring the family over for a picnic trip or plan an overnight adventure. Escape into nature and discover the wildlife that is Newcastle.

[WWW.NEWCASTLEISLAND.CA](http://WWW.NEWCASTLEISLAND.CA)



## Newcastle Island

Perhaps the most memorable place to experience Nanaimo's beauty, history and culture all in one shot is on Newcastle Island. A 10-minute boat ride to this intriguing provincial park in the harbour transports visitors to another time and space.

The first sign that things are different here: there aren't any cars. The entire island is protected land traversed only by hikers and bikers. Trails lead to breathtaking beaches, through grassy meadows, and along shorelines dominated by steep sandstone cliffs and rocky caverns.

### A Storied Past

Every inch of the island has a story to tell. Along hiking trails, interpretive signs and actual remnants of the past will give you a glimpse into the daily lives of Newcastle's early residents.

- See evidence of the two Salish First Nations villages.
- Imagine underground workers in the 1850s coal mine at Shaft Point.
- Stop by the old site of an early 1900s Japanese herring saltery.
- Visit the island's huge sandstone and pulp stone quarries that were active for more than 60 years.

Even Newcastle's visitor center and gift shop are historic. They're housed in a 1930s dance pavilion, originally built by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company when it purchased the island and re-introduced it as a pleasure resort destination. Here you'll find more artifacts and historic photographs.



Forested campsites are only a five-minute walk from the dock.

### Insider's Tip

Look for the rare blonde raccoon on the beach in the early morning or near campsites late night. Find purple martins atop the boat dock pilings.

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For more info, check out  
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Newcastle Island is part of Snuneymuxw First Nation Traditional Territory.

## Wildlife Watching

Follow Newcastle Island's 7.5-km (4.5-mi) loop trail (about a 2 ½-3 hour hike) and you'll likely encounter exotic plants or rare animals. Newcastle Island is one of the few places where you can spot blonde raccoons and a purple martin colony. Also watch for the island's resident bald eagles, coastal black-tailed deer, great blue herons and harbour seals.

## Just for Fun

Newcastle's beaches are a popular spot for swimming, beachcombing and snapping photos of downtown Nanaimo. Pack a picnic or grab a snack in the pavilion and stay for the day. Or unroll your sleeping bag at the campground and spend the night in the forest.

## Getting Here

A passenger ferry leaves from Maffeo Sutton Park every 20 minutes and runs May through Thanksgiving weekend (October). The fare is about \$8/person. Private boat owners can moor at the docks or anchor in Mark Bay. In the off-season, arrangements can be made with the Protection Connection ferry service to access Newcastle Island.



For a ferry schedule or more information, call (250) 754-7893 or visit [www.newcastleisland.ca](http://www.newcastleisland.ca) or [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com).

## Fast Facts

- The sandstone columns of the U.S. Mint in San Francisco were quarried and shaped on Newcastle Island.
- Newcastle's most popular and most spectacular viewpoint is the Giovando Lookout at the island's northwest tip.



Catch a Nanaimo Harbour Ferry tour from Maffeo Sutton Park, Fisherman's Wharf Pier or Newcastle Island.

# WHALE WATCHING

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Toll free - 1.866.748.5333



# Festivals & Events

## All-Out Celebrations

It's safe to say this town gears up for any kind of celebration. We cheer on bathtubs (yes, bathtubs) zipping across the harbour. We fire cannons outside the historic Bastion. And we oooh and aaah at high-flying acrobats from around the world. Year-round, there's always something going.

### Sports & adventure

Nanaimo is most famous for bathtub races, of all things. Each year since 1967, tubbers from as far away as Australia have come to bounce their way through the Georgia Strait in a grueling 58-km (36-mi.) competition. In summer you can also see the 2,400-year-old Chinese tradition of dragon boat racing or watch one leg of a biennial yacht race that encircles the island. For hometown excitement, join locals in cheering on their hockey, football and lacrosse teams.

### Food & culture

You can literally taste your way through the culture and traditions of Nanaimo. Try maple toffee on snow and other French Canadian customs at the Maple Sugar Festival. Cast your vote for the best clam concoction at Chowder Fest, or sample local gourmet dishes at Bite of Nanaimo.

### Especially for kids

There's also plenty of family fun here. Daring and hilarious performers come from faraway countries to delight audiences at the Vancouver Island International Children's Festival. In summer, stop by the Vancouver Island Exhibition for an old-fashioned country fair with 4-H animal shows, carnival rides, and live music. Head downtown in October for a big Halloween party, or hear a choir sing your favourite carols at Christmastime.

Annual Bathtub Race and Marine Festival.

**i** For a listing of Nanaimo's major festivals and events, check out the calendar on the pages that follow or for a more complete list go online at [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com).

## Fast Facts

- Before the race, Dragon Boat Festival paddlers paint the eyes of the dragon head on their boat, an ancient Chinese tradition that rouses the dragons to life.
- In the 2006 season Nanaimo's Vancouver Island Raiders Junior Football team went undefeated and won the national title.
- Throughout July and August free outdoor concerts run in Maffeo Sutton Park every Sunday evening and in Harbourfront Plaza every Saturday afternoon.

## Insider's Tip

Each year Nanaimo's best and brightest fireworks display happens in the harbour the eve of the Great International World Championship Bathtub Race.

### Vancouver Island Exhibition

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## Cultural Capital of Canada Events

Come celebrate Nanaimo's cultural diversity and enjoy local talent at a festival, concert or other special event commemorating the city's Cultural Capital designation. Events run throughout the year, showcasing Nanaimo's energetic and creative people.

### Alive with the Arts of Many Cultures

June 21 – July 1 (Aboriginal Day to Canada Day)

This vibrant 11-day multicultural arts festival celebrates Nanaimo's rich cultural diversity with music, dance, storytelling, theatre, film, art displays and demonstrations, traditional wear and foods. There will be something for the entire family.

### Summer Street Theatre Festival: From Coal Mines to Bathtub Races

August, various dates

Experience Nanaimo's rich and fascinating history during this street theatre festival. Watch as actors take the sights and sounds of the city's most interesting historical events and characters to the streets.

### Capturing the Music

Beginning in January and running throughout the year, plan to attend various music performances. Keep an eye on the on-line calendar of events for complete details:

- Free Nanaimo Concert Band performances and an exhibit of the band's 136-year history
- Concerto competition – Nanaimo Chamber Orchestra
- Drumming extravaganza – Nanaimo Conservatory of Music
- School jazz programs – music teachers of School District #68
- "Sidewalk All-Stars" Summertime Blues – Nanaimo Blues Festival Society and Nanaimo Youth Services Association
- Port Theatre 10th Anniversary Celebrations – The Port Theatre Society

### Spring Break Youth Festival

Competitions- January/February. Festival- March 17-22

Nanaimo is the place to be during Spring Break. Students from all over Vancouver Island will take part in this arts festival. If you are a youth, plan to participate in interactive workshops and a competition in literary arts, fine arts, music, song writing, video production and photography.

### The Arts of Momentum

October 30 - November 17

Don't miss this collaborative exhibition by professional artists from the Chinese Artists Association and Nanaimo. The works will reveal the diversity of approaches to art and the momentum it creates.

2008



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### Portals to our Heritage

July – December

In partnership with the Snuneymuxw First Nation, three 'portals' along the shores of Nanaimo – at Departure Bay, Newcastle Island and Jack Point will be open to the public. Plan to visit all three by canoe, kayak or by walking trails.

### Giving Voice to our Diverse History

Fall 2008

Nanaimo's new and expanded museum opens this summer with a First Nations gallery as a new permanent exhibit. To enhance your experience, schedule your visit during one of the many special events that will be announced. Regardless of when you visit be sure to leave time to view the two new temporary displays. The first reveals the contributions of various cultures in Nanaimo's coal mining, fishing, logging and mining industries. The second depicts the Snuneymuxw culture and traditional knowledge.

### Building Momentum

July 4-6

Are you interested in the arts? If so then plan to attend the "Building Momentum" trade show for the arts and cultural sector. This one-stop arts and cultural fair will bring together organizations and artists from all artistic disciplines from the mid-island region.

### Community Plan for Public Art

March – July

To enhance the city and its ongoing major revitalization of the downtown core, the municipality is developing a 10-year community plan. The plan will identify sites designated for public art and outline development of resources.

### For more information, contact:

Bob Kuhn

Tel: (250) 716-7877 Email: [info@nanaimoculturalcapital.ca](mailto:info@nanaimoculturalcapital.ca)



[www.nanaimoculturalcapital.ca](http://www.nanaimoculturalcapital.ca)



Canadian  
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Patrimoine  
canadien

[www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)



# 2008 Calendar of Events

For more events and information visit: [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)

## February

20-24

### Maple Sugar Festival

Celebrate the culture and traditions of eastern Canada's maple syrup harvest. Exhibits, music, ice carving demonstrations, a lumberjack breakfast, family activities and, of course, maple taffy on snow. Beban Park.

[www.franophonennanaimo.org](http://www.franophonennanaimo.org)

(250) 729-2776

## May

11-13

### International Children's Festival

International touring performers bring drama, dance, circus and music to this 9th annual festival for the young and young at heart. Port Theatre, Harbourfront Plaza, various downtown venues.

[www.childrensfestival.com](http://www.childrensfestival.com)

(250) 754-3378

16-19

### Empire Days Celebration

Nanaimo's Empire Days celebration of Queen Victoria's birthday on Victoria Day is one of the longest-running (since 1837) in Canada. You can join in the fun at the parade, children's activities, live entertainment and fireworks. Various downtown venues.

[www.nanaimoempiredays.com](http://www.nanaimoempiredays.com)

(250) 754-8141

## July

1

### Canada Day Celebration

(A 2008 Cultural Capital of Canada event\*)

Celebrate Canadian heritage at the parade of flags and opening ceremonies, followed by a rousing rendition of 'O Canada' and the official cake cutting. Experience music, dance, storytelling, theatre, displays, demonstrations, traditional wear and multicultural foods. Maffeo Sutton Park.

[www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)

(250) 756-5200

11-13

### Dragon Boat Festival

A popular stop on the dragon boat summer racing circuit, this annual festival in the harbour is a fundraiser for breast cancer research. Opening ceremonies include the traditional Chinese 'Dotting of the Eye' event. Swy-a-Lana Lagoon and waterfront.

[www.nanaimodragonboat.com](http://www.nanaimodragonboat.com)

20

### Silly Boat Regatta

Participants build rafts out of scrap materials on the beach and race across the lagoon. A fun fundraiser for the Nanaimo Child Development Centre, which supports children with developmental needs and their families. Swy-a-Lana Lagoon and waterfront.

[www.nanaimodowntown.com](http://www.nanaimodowntown.com)

(250) 741-8141

## July

24-27

### Great International World Championship Bathtub Race & Nanaimo Marine Festival

Modified bathtub boats race a 58-km (36-mi) course in this 42nd annual competition on Sunday. The marine festival features several children's activities, a sail-past parade, fireworks, street fair and parade. Waterfront and Departure Bay beach.

[www.bathtubbing.com](http://www.bathtubbing.com)

(250) 753-7223

## August

9

### Symphony in the Harbour

Bring a blanket or lawn chair to this free annual performance by the Vancouver Island Symphony. In the Musical Instrument Zoo Tent, kids create instruments from recycled materials and play them under the direction of the conductor. Maffeo Sutton Park.

[www.viso.bc.ca](http://www.viso.bc.ca)

(250) 754-0177

15-17

### Vancouver Island Exhibition

Started more than 100 years ago, this country fair continues each year with animal demonstrations and exhibitions, a carnival, haunted house, live music, arts and crafts and food vendors. Beban Park.

[www.viex.ca](http://www.viex.ca)

(250) 758-3247

## September

26

### Bite of Nanaimo

Nanaimo's annual gourmet food festival. Tempt your palette with bite-size samples from more than 20 top local restaurants at this annual fundraising event for TheatreOne. Beban Park.

[www.theatreone.org](http://www.theatreone.org)

(250) 754-7587

## October

18-19

### Pumpkin Festival

See enormous pumpkins at the weigh-off contest (with cash prizes!), try pumpkin bowling or pumpkin decorating, visit the petting farm or bounce around the farm on a hayride. Shady Mile Farm.

[www.nanaimopumpkinfestival.com](http://www.nanaimopumpkinfestival.com)

(250) 729-3801

## November

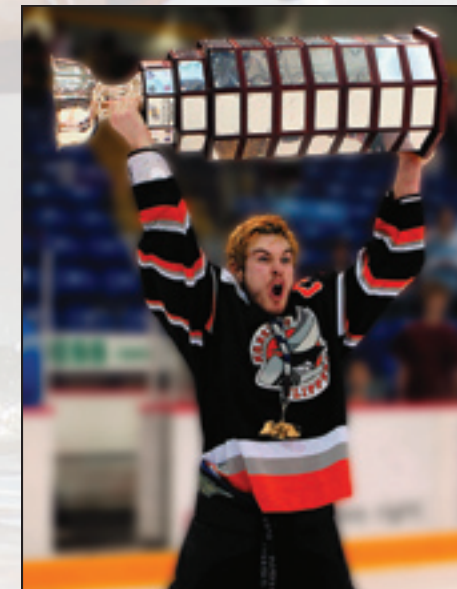
21-30

### Festival of Trees

The campus of Malaspina University-College celebrates the holiday season with a gorgeous display of lighted trees outside and theme-decorated trees inside. Family Days are November 22-23. Public/Seniors Days are November 29-30.

[www.mala.ca/foundation/festivaloftrees.asp](http://www.mala.ca/foundation/festivaloftrees.asp)

(250) 740-6212



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[www.nanaimoclippers.com](http://www.nanaimoclippers.com)

## Ongoing Events

- Farmer's Market
- Nanaimo Art Gallery exhibits
- Nanaimo Clippers Junior A Hockey
- Nanaimo Museum exhibits
- Port Theatre performances
- Vancouver Island Raiders Junior Football
- Vancouver Island Symphony

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# Golfing

All of Nanaimo's golf courses are open to the public.

## Off the Tee

Nanaimo is a golfer's dream come true. The game goes year-round here, thanks to our mild Pacific climate – one of the most temperate in Canada. We're the envy of golfers around the country who reluctantly pack away their clubs each winter.

In 2004 the International Association of Golf Tour Operators selected British Columbia as the top undiscovered golf destination in the world. Every year courses in and around Nanaimo rank among the best in B.C. and gain international recognition.

## Lay of the land

Nanaimo's courses have been carved into some of the area's most spectacular settings. One is perched on a ridge above an ocean bay. One is nestled beside a quiet river another lies in a valley with majestic mountain views at every turn. No matter where you play, you'll find beautiful, rugged terrain paired with meticulously groomed fairways and greens.

## Abundant wildlife

Don't be surprised if your foursome gets held up by a family of deer crossing the fairway. Many area courses were built specifically with wildlife in mind. Bald eagles nest in towering evergreens. Songbirds flutter about old oak and maple trees. And bunnies scamper below weeping willows. Listen closely and you may even hear a sea lion barking in the distance.

## Ultimate golf vacation

Can't get enough golf? Try a Vancouver Island golf vacation package. Golfers can choose from three distinct regions on the island or the internationally renowned Vancouver Island Golf Trail, whose courses have attracted the likes of Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods. Packages include airfare, ferry reservations, tee times, accommodations and après golf activities.

## Fun for non-golfers

For those less serious about the game, there's miniature golf and pitch 'n putt. Both are family favourites in Nanaimo. At the wide-open, par-three pitch 'n putt course in Beban Park you need only a putter, an iron and a good sense of humour.



Pick up a copy of the free Vancouver Island Golf Vacations Guide at the Visitor Centre, or call (250) 754-3500 or e-mail [golf@islands.bc.ca](mailto:golf@islands.bc.ca). Go to page 54 or [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for course listings and more info.

## Fast Facts

- Nineteen lush courses are within an hour drive of Nanaimo.
- During winter months (generally Oct./Nov. through Feb.) greens fees are discounted 25-40%.

## Insider's Tip

The greens can be deceptive here, but as a general rule they break toward the ocean.



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# Downtown Nanaimo



Church Street in the Arts District

## A Revitalized Core

Hard hats and steel-toed boots have become a mainstay in downtown Nanaimo over the past few years. Revitalization is sweeping the city's core and shows no signs of slowing.

Just steps from the waterfront, the new 38,000-square-foot conference centre will draw thousands of event attendees each year. The state-of-the-art building houses the Nanaimo District Museum, which relocated from down the street and will include revamped exhibits. It's also home to an auditorium and hotel.

Three major condominium developments are also going up in the area, bringing even more foot traffic

to downtown's restaurants, boutiques and scenic Harbourfront Walkway. A walking tour of downtown reveals a charming blend of well-preserved heritage buildings, quirky cafes and modern performance halls.

## Always something going on

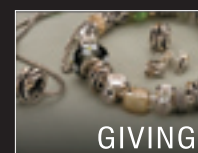
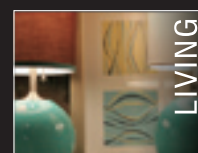
The Harbourfront Walkway takes you past quaint shops, floating restaurants, a seaplane and fishing boat hub, a calm lagoon and giant grassy parks. The Old City Quarter is the place for international cuisine and specialty shopping. And along the Arts District's winding old world streets you'll find art galleries with exhibits featuring local, international and First Nations artists.

## Insider's Tip

Uncover interesting tales of Nanaimo's history on a Heritage Walk downtown. Guided tours leave from the Bastion daily May - October. Or, pick up a self-guided tour brochure at the Visitor Centre.



fly  
fish



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## Explore it all!

- Tour the city's most notable landmark, the Bastion.
- Stroll the Harbourfront Walkway and stop to see the tidepools
- Catch the symphony or a dance or theatre performance
- Sip a martini or dance the night away
- Try one of the 20 types of ethnic fare downtown
- Pick up today's catch at Fisherman's Wharf
- Buy a unique hand-crafted souvenir
- Watch the bathtub race or join in another downtown festival
- Find homegrown produce at the Farmer's Market
- Charter a scenic sea plane flight
- Go crabbing at the fishing pier
- Browse an art gallery
- Stretch out on a blanket in a waterfront park
- Take a 'pickle' boat harbour tour



Fitzwilliam Street in Old City Quarter

# "IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN DO DOWNTOWN"

Arts District Old City Quarter Waterfront

shop dine play shop dine play shop dine play shop dine play shop play shop dine play shop



[www.nanaimodowntown.com](http://www.nanaimodowntown.com)



[www.nanaimodowntown.com](http://www.nanaimodowntown.com)



[www.nanaimodowntown.com](http://www.nanaimodowntown.com)



# Shopping



Find 150+ shops and services at Woodgrove Centre

## Retail Therapy

Shopping – even window shopping – can give you a real sense of what a town is all about. Peek in display windows around Nanaimo and you'll see everything from marine navigational charts to Native masks, imported cheeses to surf and skate wear.

It doesn't take long to realize that, in spite of our small size, this city draws residents (and their specialty goods and fashions) from many cultures and backgrounds. No wonder it's easy to find the perfect souvenir or unique treasure here. Here's a rundown of what to expect in each of Nanaimo's shopping districts.

### The Waterfront

Nanaimo's Harbourfront Walkway is meant to be strolled. Boutiques and souvenir stores are nestled between ice cream shops and outdoor cafes. On weekends in summer, artists sell their pieces in the park.

And, from mid-April through early October, the Farmer's Market runs every Friday near the Bastion. Here you'll find fresh local produce and handmade gifts.

### The Arts District

Just a block up from the harbour is the Arts District, whose galleries and shops cluster around Commercial, Church and Bastion streets. This is the best place to browse Native carvings and jewellery or seascape paintings. Grab a coffee or lunch then look for funky clothing, rare books and music, fun housewares, specialty teas, and gardening gifts.

### Old City Quarter

Within walking distance of the Waterfront and Arts District is the well-loved Old City Quarter. Locals love it so much, many have moved to this magical district around Wesley and Fitzwilliam streets.

The Old City Quarter is home to specialty food shops, coffee and ice cream shops, art galleries, day spas, and clothing and gift boutiques galore. Some of Nanaimo's top-rated restaurants and cafes line Wesley Street.

## Indoor & outdoor centres

If mall shopping is more your thing, you'll be happy to hear Nanaimo is home to Vancouver Island's largest shopping centre. But it's not our only one. Several outdoor malls and our four major indoor shopping centres are easy to get to. These, along with most other retail outlets, sit along the old Island Highway 19A and Bowen Road.

**i** Go to page 53 or [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for shopping listings and more info.

## Fast Facts

- Nanaimo is home to Vancouver Island's largest shopping centre.
- The Nanaimo Coal Mining Atlas (at the museum and various local bookstores) shows every underground mining site in town.
- Commercial fishermen sell their fresh catch of the day every afternoon at the Fisherman's Wharf dock in the harbour.

# Stocking Up

Forgot your toothbrush? Want to pick up snacks for the kids? Need to replace a hose on the boat before cruising home?

We've got it covered. There are gas stations and grocery stores in every area of town. You'll find shopping malls, health and specialty food shops, and even a cannery that will smoke and package that big fish you're going to catch.

**Boaters:** Take advantage of the Nanaimo Harbour boat basin gas bar, eco-barge waste dump, showers, restrooms, laundry facilities, shore power, and fresh water hook-ups. Replenishing supplies and making boat repairs is easy. Grocery stores and marine supply stores are within walking distance.

Pick up a Come Ashore Package at the boat basin's wharfinger office or at most any other Nanaimo marina. It's filled with coupons, restaurant menus and brochures on local attractions. (Available May-September)

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P: (250) 390-1119

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Sun 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

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[www.countryclubcentre.com](http://www.countryclubcentre.com)

**DISCOVER WHAT'S INSIDE**



## Insider's Tip

You don't have to be a sport fishing fanatic to bring home a B.C. salmon. St. Jean's Cannery & Smokehouse ships Vancouver Island lox, candied salmon and smoked salmon all over the world.

## Did you know...

Local growers sell their fantastic fruit and veggies, but they also entertain. Yellow Point Cranberries offers farm tours and events. Shady Mile Farm hosts a pumpkin festival and has a petting zoo. McNab's Farm runs seasonal hayrides and a corn maze.



The Harbourfront Walkway in Maffeo Sutton Park



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[ndfms@shav.ca](mailto:ndfms@shav.ca)

**We Make It, Bake It or Grow It**

# Nanaimo Bar

## Ultimate Nanaimo Bar Recipe

-- by Joyce Hardcastle

### Bottom Layer

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter (Euro-style cultured)
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 5 tbsp. cocoa
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 3/4 cups graham wafer crumbs
- 1/2 cup finely chopped almonds
- 1 cup coconut

Melt first three ingredients in top of a double boiler. Add egg and stir to cook and thicken. Remove from heat. Stir in crumbs, coconut and nuts. Press firmly into an ungreased 8"x8" pan.

### Middle Layer

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 2 tbsp. + 2 tsp. cream
- 2 tbsp. vanilla custard powder
- 2 cups icing sugar

Cream butter, cream, custard powder and icing sugar together well. Beat until light. Spread over bottom layer.

### Top Layer

- 4 squares semi-sweet chocolate (1 oz. each)
- 2 tbsp. unsalted butter

Melt chocolate and butter over low heat. Cool. When cool, but still liquid, pour over second layer and chill in refrigerator.

The Nanaimo Bar may be known internationally, but its origins remain a mystery.

Some legends trace its roots to Nanaimo's coal mining days when families of miners sent care packages that often included the rich custard treat. Other accounts say Dutch settlers brought the recipe over in the early 1900s. Local historians figure the Nanaimo Bar was most likely inspired by a recipe in a 1952 Woman's Auxiliary to the Nanaimo Hospital Cookbook.

Try the variations of this popular Nanaimo tradition in many of our restaurants and bakeries.



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# Nanaimo Map

### Accommodations/Camping

- 1

A-Mays-Inn Lakeside B&B

2662 Lambert Road

(250) 722-4627

2

Beach Estates & Guesthouse

800 Beach Drive

(250) 753-3597

3

Best Western Dorchester Hotel

70 Church Street

(250) 754-6835

4

Best Western Northgate Inn

6450 Metral Drive

(250) 390-2222

5

Bluebird Motel

995 Terminal Avenue N

(250) 753-4151

6

Buccaneer Inn

1577 Stewart Avenue

(250) 753-1246

7

Cable Bay Golf Resort & Spa

Off Duke Point Hwy.

(250) 755-1700

8

Casa Del Dream

3500 Berton Road

(250) 758-0615

9

Coast Bastion Inn

11 Bastion Street

(250) 753-6601

10

Copper Kettle B&B

465 Stewart Avenue

(250) 740-3977

11

Days Inn Nanaimo Harbourview

809 S. Island Hwy.

(250) 754-8171

12

Departure Bay Motel

2011 Estevan Road

(250) 754-2161

13

Eaglesnest B&B

1602 Vowels Road

(250) 245-2658

14

Ferry Side Bed and Breakfast

629 Beach Drive

(250) 754-6113

15

Golden Divot B&B

6404 Lasalle Road

(250) 390-2181

16

Graycliff Cottage Oceanfront B&B

7550 Lantzville Road

(250) 390-3203

17

Hammond Bay Oceanside B&B

3804 Hammond Bay Road

(250) 751-1409

18

Howard Johnson Harbourside Hotel

1 Terminal Avenue

(250) 753-2241

19

Inn on Long Lake

4700 Island Highway North

(250) 758-1144

20

Island View B&B

5391 Entwistle Drive

(250) 758-5536

21

Jinglepot RV Park & Campground

4012 Jingle Pot Road

(250) 758-1614

22

Kennedy House B&B

305 Kennedy St

(250) 754-3389

23

Kiwi Cove Lodge

5130 Brenton-Page Road

(250) 245-8051

24

Living Forest Oceanside RV & Campground

6 Maki Rd

(250) 755-1755

25

Millstone Manor B&B

2642 Munroe Rd.

(250) 758-5868

26

Pacific Terrace B&B

168 Pacific Terrace

(250) 751-2474

27

Painted Turtle Guesthouse

121 Bastion St

(250) 753-4432

28

Pepper Muffin Country Inn B&B

3718 Jingle Pot Road

(250) 756-0473

29

Ramada

315 Rosehill Road

(250) 716-2009

30

Southwind Retreat & Spa

8150 Southwind Drive

(250) 390-0185

31

The Grand Hotel Nanaimo

4898 Rutherford Rd.

(250) 758-3000

32

Travelodge Nanaimo

96 Terminal Avenue

(250) 754-6355

33

Whitehouse on Long Lake

231 Ferntree Place

(250) 756-1185
- Dining

34

Blue Ginger

1-5769 Turner Road

(250) 751-8238

35

Columbia Bakery

2151 Bowen Road

(250) 758-7219

36

Dinghy Dock Pub

#8 Pirates Lane

(250) 753-2373

37

Gina's Mexican Cafe

47 Skinner Street

(250) 753-5411

38

Longwood Brew Pub

5775 Turner Road

(250) 729-8225

39

Saké House

650 Terminal Avenue

(250) 741-8833

40

Alberni Outpost

2-3200 N Island Highway

(250) 760-0044

41

Costco Wholesale

6700 N Island Highway

(250) 390-1119

42

McLean's Specialty Foods

426 Fitzwilliam Street

(250) 754-0100

43

Port Place Shopping Centre

650 S. Terminal Avenue

(250) 753-3545

44

St. Jean's Cannery

242 Southside Drive

(250) 754-2185

45

Woodgrove Centre

6631 Island Highway North

(250) 390-2721
- Recreation

46

Alberni Outpost Adventure Centre

in Brechin Marina

(250) 754-6626

47

Nanaimo Aquatic Centre

741 Third Street

(250) 756-5200

48

Nanaimo Golf Club

2800 Highland Blvd

(250) 758-6332

49

WildPlay Element Parks

35 Nanaimo River Road

(888) 668-7874

50

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- Other

56

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57

Coast Realty

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(250) 716-7001

58

Malaspina University-College

900 Fifth Street

(250) 753-3245

59

Nanaimo Museum

100 Museum Way

(250) 753-1821

60

Vancouver Island Conference Centre

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Standing Ovarions

No matter what kind of arts and entertainment scene you (or the kids) are into – Mozart or mimes, ballet or basement DJs, paintings or puppet shows – you'll find it in Nanaimo. Each year, we raise the curtain on hundreds of shows that delight and amaze audiences of all ages.

### On stage

For large-scale productions, head to the 804-seat Port Theatre on the waterfront. It's home to the Vancouver Island Symphony and is a frequent stop for nationally touring ballet, music, and theatre companies. Several of the city's smaller venues, which are also well-loved by locals, put on professional live drama, dance, comedy, kids' shows, satires and spoofs.

### All that jazz (blues, rock and ...)

Nanaimo has become well-known for its music and its musicians. In fact, the national media have often said that jazz is to Nanaimo what fiddle music is to Cape Breton Island. But live rock, folk, blues, and, yes, even DJs spinning, are also a big draw in our clubs, lounges and martini bars.

## 2008 Cultural Capital of Canada

Nanaimo is one of only four Canadian cities chosen as a Cultural Capital in 2008, recognizing Nanaimo's ongoing commitment to the arts and culture. We're celebrating with music, dance, storytelling, theatre, art displays and demonstrations, and more, showcasing the diversity and creative talent of our residents. See a listing of these events on page 17.

### Galleries galore

Several art galleries, all within easy walking distance of each other, have made their home downtown in the Arts District. Watch local artists at work every weekend in summer when they create and display their pieces at Maffeo Sutton Park. Find even more galleries and studios at local shopping centres and along the winding country roads of Cedar in south Nanaimo.



Check out the calendar on page 18 or online at [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for a rundown of Nanaimo's biggest cultural events. See entertainment listings on page 53.

The Concubine's Children world premiere at the Port Theatre



1



### The Port Theatre 250 754 8550 (Ticket Centre)

125 Front St. (on Nanaimo's waterfront)  
[admin@porttheatre.com](mailto:admin@porttheatre.com) • [www.porttheatre.com](http://www.porttheatre.com)

The Port Theatre hosts over 270 performances a year including professional and nationally touring theatre, dance and music companies; Vancouver Island Symphony; and countless community events including a wide variety of performance groups, dance recitals, graduation ceremonies, and school shows. Call today for all the exciting details!

2



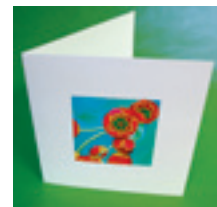
E.J. Hugues - Prospect Point | Permanent Collection of the Nanaimo Art Gallery.

### Nanaimo Art Gallery 250 754 1750 • 250 740 6350

150 Commercial St. & 900 Fifth St.  
[scottm@nanaimogallery.ca](mailto:scottm@nanaimogallery.ca) • [www.nanaimogallery.ca](http://www.nanaimogallery.ca)

The Nanaimo Art Gallery is committed to making the visual arts more accessible and promoting the diversity of visual artists. The downtown Gallery is located on 150 Commercial Street. The Campus located at 900 Fifth Street at Malaspina University-College.

3



### Capewell Design & Art Studios 250 758 6505

5732 Hammond Bay Rd.  
[info@capewelldesign.com](mailto:info@capewelldesign.com) • [www.capewelldesign.com](http://www.capewelldesign.com)

Valerie Capewell works in acrylic on canvas. Current colourful themes are of architecture and nature. Conveniently located in North Nanaimo. Open 7 Days, by appointment. Visit [www.squareartcards.com](http://www.squareartcards.com) for beautifully designed art cards.

4



### Barton & Leier Gallery 250 722 7140

3140 DeCourcy Drive, Ladysmith  
[bartonleiergallery@shaw.ca](mailto:bartonleiergallery@shaw.ca)  
[www.bartonandleiergallery.com](http://www.bartonandleiergallery.com)

A magical garden and gallery full of original paintings by Nixie Barton & Grant Leier, and a great selection of unique gift items. Open everyday in July & August, April 1<sup>st</sup>–Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, Thurs–Sun from 11am–5pm.

5



### Art 10 Gallery 250 753 4009

Port Place Shopping Centre  
[art10gallery@shaw.ca](mailto:art10gallery@shaw.ca)  
[www.myartclub.com/art.10.gallery](http://www.myartclub.com/art.10.gallery)

An artist-run gallery, Art 10 is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and continues to offer unique original work by local painters and potters. Monthly feature shows spotlight gallery artists.

6

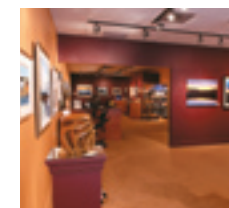


### Artisans' Studio 250 753 6151

70 Bastion St.  
[waldemar@nanaimo.ark.com](mailto:waldemar@nanaimo.ark.com)

Established 1975, this local cooperative features quality arts and crafts from Vancouver Island. Pottery, woodwork, leather, knitting, weaving, bags, wallhangings, silk scarves, stained glass, original prints, paintings, and jewellery.

7



### Gallery 223 250 741 1188

223 Commercial St.  
[gallery@gallery223.ca](mailto:gallery@gallery223.ca)

Gallery 223 features a fresh approach to enjoying the visual arts. The 10,000 sq. ft. facility features the works of local artists in an inspirational setting of a renovated heritage building. Artworks of local artists and artisans are featured in routinely changing exhibits.



Symphony in the Harbour at Maffeo Sutton Park.



# Parks & Trails

## Green Spaces

Explore tidepools. Play sand volleyball. Pedal up a mountain trail. Slip down a waterslide. You'll find countless adventures in Nanaimo's 200+ parks and protected green spaces.

### 1. Beban Park

Beban is best known for its tropical-themed indoor pool with a lazy river and waterslide. It's also home to two ice arenas, an 18-hole pitch 'n putt golf course, tennis courts, playgrounds, basketball courts, fitness and walking trails, an equestrian area, BMX track, a dog off-leash area and an all-weather bowling green.

### 2. Bowen Park

Bowen Park's enchanted forest trails meander along the Millstone River and waterfall, weaving through giant stands of trees and around colourful Rhododendron groves. The sand volleyball courts, tennis courts and disc golf course are popular spots, as are the seasonal petting zoo, outdoor swimming pool, curling club and skate bowl.

### 3. Cable Bay Trail & Park

This 2-km (1-mi) trail is one of Nanaimo's best-kept secrets. A 30-minute walk through a serene forest leads to Cable Bay Bridge where hikers can beachcomb or observe migrating sea lions (Oct.-Apr.). The trail, an off-leash area, is a canine favourite.

### 4. Colliery Dam Park

The lakes here are especially popular summer swimming holes. Fall and winter are quiet with only the sounds of waterfalls, songbirds, crickets and frogs. Circle both lakes on easy hiking trails in about an hour and watch for deer, grouse, pheasant and raccoon in the thick forests. Bald eagles and kingfishers are regular visitors.

### 5. Jack Point/Biggs Park

This park near the Duke Point ferry terminal offers pristine beaches, forests and excellent views of the Nanaimo River Estuary, Protection Island, Gabriola Island and Northumberland Channel. Wildlife abounds on this natural, undeveloped peninsula.

### 6. Neck Point Park

Neck Point's vast trail system traverses diverse terrain and leads hikers to lookouts with spectacular ocean and mountain views. Bald eagles often perch in tall trees overlooking the park's ocean bays.

### 7. Pipers Lagoon Park

Pipers is a popular spot to see sunrises and sunsets, fly kites, swim and beachcomb. Built on an isthmus that extends out to a rocky headland, this park features twisting trails that lead to seaside lookouts. The natural amphitheatre is popular among rock climbers. Bird watchers: See sandpipers, horned grebes, loons, kingfishers, oyster catchers and great blue herons.

### 8. Parkway Trail

The Parkway Trail, which runs alongside Highway 19, links Aulds Road to Chase River. The 22-km (14-mi) paved and tree-lined span is ideal for long-distance cyclists and joggers. It leads to Buttertubs Marsh, Colliery Dam, Bowen Park and the Harbourfront Walkway (via the Millstone Trail).

Trail in Bowen Park.

### 9. E&N Trail

This 8-km (5-mi) paved trail parallels the E&N railroad tracks and the old Island Highway 19A from Rosehill Avenue to Mostar Road. It is extremely popular with walkers, runners, rollerbladers, bikers and skateboarders.

### 10. Chase River Estuary Park

Located in the south end of Nanaimo, this estuary is one of the city's greatest treasures. Trails, viewing platforms and boardwalks encircle the park, treating visitors to the tranquil setting and spectacular scenery.

### 11. Swy-a-Lana Lagoon Park

With its panoramic views, this harbourfront paradise is one of the busiest parks in Nanaimo. Children love to explore the lagoon's lively tidepools and sandy beach. The park also includes basketball courts, a skateboard park, playground, fishing pier and grassy open spaces.

### 12. Westwood Lake & Park

Each year locals name this one of Nanaimo's best places to swim, walk, jog and mountain bike. A 6-km (4-mi) loop trail passes through a large fir grove and a rocky bluff. Pathways lead to power lines, where dogs can run off-leash and mountain biking trails begin.

### 13. Newcastle Island

Perhaps the most memorable place to experience Nanaimo's beauty, history and culture all in one shot is on Newcastle Island. A 10-minute boat ride to this intriguing provincial park in the harbour transports visitors to another time and space.



For a free Nanaimo Parks & Trails Map, contact (250) 756-5200, [parks@nanaimo.ca](mailto:parks@nanaimo.ca), or stop by the Visitor Centre. Go to [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com) for more info.

## Fast Facts

- Thousands of baby crabs live in the tidepools on Swy-a-Lana Park's ocean lagoon steps.
- In summertime, Nanaimo's 4-H Club runs a petting zoo open daily in Bowen Park.
- Westwood Lake is Nanaimo's only outdoor swimming hole that is staffed with lifeguards in summer.





# Dining



## Incredible Edibles

Plump, wild, just-off-the-boat seafood reigns supreme on Nanaimo's culinary scene. One harbourfront restaurant's menu even boasts: Our fish slept in the sea last night. Throughout the city, nationally acclaimed chefs create the best in west coast cuisine.

Their culinary style is eclectic, enticing, world-class. They combine the freshest seafood (from the fishing boats in the harbour) and locally grown ingredients to craft a taste that is distinctly Nanaimo. They draw from the island's plentiful salmon, cod, halibut, prawns, crab, mussels, oysters, clams, and freshwater fish. Regional organic greens, cheeses and wines complement the meal.

### Insider's Tip

Head to the Fisherman's Wharf harbourfront docks when the commercial fishing boats come in (afternoons) and pick up the fresh catch of the day.

Creative cuisine by nationally acclaimed chefs

### A global mix

If international flavor tempts your palate, head downtown where you'll find more than 20 types of ethnic cuisine – everything from Middle Eastern to Middle European. Such a global mix is rare for a city our size, and we couldn't be more pleased.

### Unforgettable experiences

Nanaimo is a don't-miss stop on any culinary tour. Sure, the food is incredible, but so is the entire dining experience. You can dig into fish and chips on the sunny deck of a floating pub or restaurant. Order from a five-course tasting menu and see exquisite culinary art. Ask which Vancouver Island wine the chef suggests pairing with your meal.



Want to know where to find upscale dining, coffee shops, family restaurants and more? Go to page 53 or check out Tourism Nanaimo's online dining guide at [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)



## Fast Facts

- Canada's only floating pub is in Nanaimo's harbour: The Dinghy Dock. The restaurant supplies kids with bait and poles for its Fishin' Hole.
- Malaspina University-College's Culinary Arts program turns out chefs who've won prestigious awards in restaurants around the world and here in Nanaimo.
- More than 50 vendors sell fresh local produce and handmade gifts at the Farmer's Market (Pioneer Waterfront Plaza) on Fridays mid April through Thanksgiving.



## COLUMBIA BAKERY

**YOUR SPECIALTY BAKERY**

"Wir sprechen deutsch"

**COLUMBIA BAKERY & COFFEE SHOP**

2151 Bowen Road (at Northfield)

Nanaimo, 758-7219

Monday to Saturday 7am–5:30pm

**W**hen visiting Nanaimo, enjoy a 10-minute ride to beautiful Protection Island and visit the Dinghy Dock Pub and family restaurant.

We offer a full seafood menu, good times, entertainment, a fishing hole for the kids, the most spectacular view of Nanaimo and its harbour, and charming Newcastle Island.

The Protection Island Ferry services the Island and the Pub. For information and sailing times, call:

PUB: (250) 753-2373


FERRY: (250) 753-8244




**DINGHY DOCK PUB**  
Canada's Only Floating Pub  
& Family Restaurant







**Voted Best Sushi 2004 & 2005**  
 Serving Nanaimo for the past 14 years  
 Exciting menu at affordable prices  
 New Japanese Tapas Bar  
 All You Can Eat Sushi and Tapas :: Monday & Tuesday Nights  
 Ample Rooftop Parking



**SAKE HOUSE**  
JAPANESE RESTAURANT

**741-8833**  
 Located in Port Place  
 55-650 South Terminal Ave. (next to the Casino)



*specializing in sushi, satay and creative Asian dishes*  
**"Best Asian and Best Sushi Restaurant for 2007"**  
*- People's Choice, News Bulletin*  
**Haute Asian Cuisine in a Chic Atmosphere**  
*Newly opened Tabu Lounge*  
*Open all day serving lunch and dinner Monday-Sunday*  
*Live Music Friday Nights • Large Parties up to 15 People*



Unit 1 - 5769 Turner Road, Longwood Station  
**751-8238**  
 bluegin@telus.net

### Did you know...

Vancouver Island is 32,261 square kilometers (19,356 square miles) with more than 700,000 residents. The distance between Victoria in the south and Port Hardy in the north is 502 km (301 mi).

**Gill Campbell, BSc, CFP** INSURANCE BROKER



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**Insurance...** disability, life, critical illness, group plans, travel, individual health  
**Planning...** personal, estate, charitable giving, business, succession, partnership, key person

**"WHEN YOU FALL FOR OUR LIFESTYLE, IT IS MY JOB TO HELP YOU MAINTAIN IT."**



The Otter in Nanaimo Harbour circa 1890.

Nanaimo's first residents, more than 2,000 years ago, were the Snuneymuxw (Snuh-NAY-moo) Coast Salish people. Along this stretch of sheltered coastline they found natural beauty and abundant resources.

But it was the discovery of rich coal deposits here that would put Nanaimo on the map in the mid 1800s. Drove of workers and their families arrived by steamship to work in the mines and build a new life in this Hudson's Bay Company settlement.

Nanaimo's early residents left behind countless reminders of their daily lives and events. Here's how to explore that fascinating past.

**First Nations life** – See artifacts and crafts at the new Nanaimo Museum or in galleries and shops on Bastion Street. Find petroglyphs on the rocky terrain of Petroglyph Provincial Park.

**Coal mining** – Touch a seam of coal in the exposed rock face on Cavan Street. See mining artifacts at the new Nanaimo Museum.

**Settlement beginnings** – Tour Nanaimo's oldest building, the Bastion, and watch the historic cannons

fire daily at noon in the summer. Learn about early businesses and heritage homes on a walking tour. Self-guided tour brochures are at the Visitor Centre, downtown and various recreational facilities.

**Maritime heritage** – Climb the harbourfront staircase designed as a replica of the 1854 *Princess Royal's* mast, and imagine sailing and steam ships arriving from around the world. Visit Newcastle Island Provincial Park and spot evidence of boat-building and herring salteries.

**Quarrying & forestry** – See the Newcastle Island quarry where 8,000 tons of sandstone were extracted to build the San Francisco Mint. West Coast forestry mills relied on the quarry's stones to grind woodchips into pulp for paper.

### Insider's Tip

The only place to see remains of the coal mining industry on Vancouver Island is at Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park – 7 km (4 mi) south of Nanaimo off Hwy. 1 – where a concrete headframe stands.



**NANAIMO MUSEUM**

**We're Under Construction!**  
 Look for British Columbia's Newest Museum Attraction to Open this Summer in the Port of Nanaimo Centre...  
**Bringing our History into the Future!**

**250-753-1821**  
**www.nanaimomuseum.ca**

### Fast Facts

- Nanaimo has had four Chinatowns since the 1860s.
- Nanaimo's last active coal mine closed in 1987.
- The Nanaimo Museum celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as it relocates to the new Vancouver Island Conference Centre this summer.



# Accommodations

## Rooms with a View

The toughest part of choosing a place to stay in Nanaimo is deciding what kind of view you want to wake up to. Boats bobbing in the harbour. Window shoppers meandering through the Arts District. Ducks gliding across a mountain lake. Petals opening in a colourful English garden.

Whether you're here for a weekend getaway, a family vacation, or a business meeting, you're sure to find the perfect place to relax. Head to the harbour downtown for everything from luxury suites in high-rise hotels to cozy hostels where travellers exchange stories. Family-friendly motels with outdoor pools line the old highway north and south of the city centre. Toward north Nanaimo find lakeside properties and full facility hotels.

Look for lodges and quaint bed-and-breakfasts tucked away in all corners of the city. Some sit oceanside or on the shores of trout-stocked lakes, while others share quiet country space with wild rabbits and deer.

## Insider's Tip

Several Nanaimo hotels and B&Bs are pet friendly, offering beds, bowls and biscuits for furry companions. Ask about these packages when reserving. Also check out [www.petscanstay.com](http://www.petscanstay.com).



Beautiful 2 bedroom cottages offer a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Each cottage has fully equipped kitchen, washer and dryer, all linens, TVs/DVDs, gas fireplaces. Conveniently located within the Resort is an Indoor Pool, Art Gallery, Sushi Café and Day Spa.

1080 Resort Drive, Parksville BC  
Toll Free: 1-877-248-8961  
[www.osvr.ca](http://www.osvr.ca)

- 15 minutes North of Nanaimo
- Miles of sandy beaches
- 5 Championship golf courses

## THE NATURAL CHOICE...

Located on three miles of sandy beaches and 22 acres of Arbutus and fir trees, Tigh-Na-Mara is a unique and truly West Coast all season destination seaside spa resort.



PARKSVILLE BC, VANCOUVER ISLAND  
1-800-663-7373 OR 1-250-248-2072  
[WWW.TIGH-NA-MARA.COM](http://WWW.TIGH-NA-MARA.COM)



## All Lakefront Rooms On Beautiful Long Lake

AIR CONDITIONED ROOMS OVERLOOK LONG LAKE FROM PRIVATE BALCONIES OR PATIOS

- Pet friendly • High speed internet • Whirlpool & sauna •
- In season pedal boat and canoe rentals • Fridge and microwave •
- Kitchenettes available • Deluxe continental breakfast included •

Telephone: (250) 758-1144 • Fax: (250) 758-5832 • Toll Free Reservations 1-800-565-1144  
4700 N. Island Highway (19A), Nanaimo, BC V9T 1W6 • [www.innonlonglake.com](http://www.innonlonglake.com)

## Did you know...

Since outdoor adventures are so popular here, many hotels offer packages for golf, diving, fishing, kayaking and more. A few places even provide dive gear storage lockers, wash stations and after-checkout showers.

## Hotels & Motels



**Travelodge Nanaimo**  
96 Terminal Avenue, Nanaimo  
Toll free: 1-800-667-0598  
Fx: (250) 754-1301  
website: [www.travelodgenanaimo.com](http://www.travelodgenanaimo.com)  
email: [reservations@travelodgenanaimo.com](mailto:reservations@travelodgenanaimo.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$116 - 146  
Value season: \$91 - 114

Number of Rooms: 78

Next to scenic seawall walkway downtown. Easy parking & two restaurants adjacent. Free continental breakfast, free wireless & hard-wired hi-speed internet. Private balconies. Two minutes from ferry for easy morning get-away. Clip this ad for a 10% discount off of regular rates listed on direct bookings.



**Coast Bastion Inn**  
11 Bastion St, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 753-6601  
Fx: (250) 753-4155  
website: [www.coastbastion.com](http://www.coastbastion.com)  
email: [info@coastbastion.com](mailto:info@coastbastion.com)  
Number of Rooms: 177

Overlooking the Nanaimo Harbour, the Coast Bastion Inn is located in the heart of Nanaimo's art, shopping & dining districts. Take in the beautiful ocean view from every guest room while staying at our premier downtown hotel. Our unique level of service and refreshed facilities will guarantee you enjoy your stay with us.





**Ramada**  
315 Rosehill Road, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 716-2009  
Fx: (250) 716-0011  
website: [www.ramada.ca](http://www.ramada.ca)  
email: [ramada@nanaimoinn.com](mailto:ramada@nanaimoinn.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$99 - 113  
Value season: \$84 - 103

Number of Rooms: 65

Newest Hotel in Nanaimo,  
Construction Finished in Early 2008.  
Grand Opening Discount, Best Deal in  
Town. Free Breakfast, Fitness Center,  
Business Center and High Speed  
Internet. Of Course, Free Parking.  
Book Now 250-716-2009



**The Bluebird Motel**  
995 N Terminal Ave., Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 753-4151  
Fx: (250) 753-4114  
website: [www.thebluebirdmotel.com](http://www.thebluebirdmotel.com)  
email: [info@thebluebirdmotel.com](mailto:info@thebluebirdmotel.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$59 - 89  
Value season: \$46 - 76

Number of Rooms: 29

Centrally located on hwy 19A, 2km  
from downtown and ferry terminal.  
We offer spacious suites with your  
choice of kitchen units & family  
suites; all rooms equipped with  
queen beds, complimentary coffee,  
cable TV & free DD local calls. Limited  
smoking rooms available, small dogs  
allowed; family oriented, children  
under 13 free.



**Best Western Dorchester Hotel**  
70 Church Street, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 754-6835  
Fx: (250) 754-2638  
website: [www.dorchesternanaimo.com](http://www.dorchesternanaimo.com)  
email: [info@dorchesternanaimo.com](mailto:info@dorchesternanaimo.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$139 - 209  
Value season: \$115 - 209

Number of Rooms: 70

Located in the inner harbour in  
downtown Nanaimo this historic  
boutique hotel provides all the  
conveniences of today. Wireless High  
Speed Internet, lounge and restaurant,  
spectacular views of the city and  
harbour, standard rooms, suites, and  
pets welcome. Show this ad at check-  
in and receive 10% off your room rate  
(cannot be combined with other offers).



**Inn on Long Lake**  
4700 N. Island Highway (19A)(Mostar/Rutherford)  
Ph: (250) 758-1144  
Fx: (250) 758-5832  
website: [www.innonlonglake.com](http://www.innonlonglake.com)  
email: [frontdesk@innonlonglake.com](mailto:frontdesk@innonlonglake.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$119 - 239  
Value season: \$99 - 199

Number of Rooms: 62

All air conditioned rooms overlook  
Long Lake from private balcony or  
patio. Continental breakfast included  
daily. Complimentary wireless high  
speed internet, local calls, parking  
and use of the oversize whirlpool,  
cedar sauna and fitness equipment.  
Kitchenettes available. Make the Inn on  
Long Lake your home away from home!



**Best Western Northgate Inn**  
6450 Metral Dr., Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 390-2222  
Fx: (250) 390-2412  
website: [www.bestwesternnorthgate.com](http://www.bestwesternnorthgate.com)  
email: [info@bestwesternnorthgate.com](mailto:info@bestwesternnorthgate.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$99 and up  
Value season: \$79 and up

Take advantage of our location on the  
northern edge of Nanaimo. We are  
steps away from some of the island's  
best shopping and surrounded by  
many multicultural dining options.  
Come meet our friendly team in the  
warmth and comfort of our newly  
renovated hotel.



**Painted Turtle Guesthouse**  
121 Bastion Street, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 753-4432  
Fx: (250) 753-4434  
website: [www.paintedturtle.ca](http://www.paintedturtle.ca)  
email: [stay@paintedturtle.ca](mailto:stay@paintedturtle.ca)

Rate: Summer season: \$60 - 90  
Value season: \$45 - 75

Number of Rooms: 20

Most Outstanding Property 2007,  
Hostelling International Canada.  
Hosts Bruce & Angie welcome  
couples, families & travelers of  
all ages. Engaging atmosphere,  
incredibly clean, simple rooms,  
centralized private bathrooms.  
Internet; FREE wireless; kitchen;  
lounge; fireplace; laundry.  
Downtown, ocean 1/2 block.



**Buccaneer Inn**  
1577 Stewart Avenue, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 753-1246  
Toll free: 1-877-282-6337  
website: [www.buccaneerinn.com](http://www.buccaneerinn.com)  
email: [sleepwell@buccaneerinn.com](mailto:sleepwell@buccaneerinn.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$69 - 199  
Value season: \$59 - 149

Number of Rooms: 13

Dave & Marlene welcome you to  
Nanaimo's most popular hotel (tripadvisor.  
com). Spotlessly clean Channelview suites  
& studios, cosy beachhouse theme with  
separate bedroom, full kitchen, down  
duvets, wireless internet. Canada Select  
3.5 Star, AAA 2 Diamond. Non smoking,  
pet-free. Across from Harbourside Walkway  
& waterfront dining. Closest to Departure  
Bay Ferry. Come see our gardens!



**Days Inn Nanaimo**  
809 Island Highway South  
Ph: (250) 754-8171  
Fx: (250) 754-8557  
website: [www.nanaimohotel.com](http://www.nanaimohotel.com)  
email: [info@nanaimohotel.com](mailto:info@nanaimohotel.com)

Rate: Summer season: \$89 - 139  
Value season: \$75 - 99

Number of Rooms: 79

Deluxe ocean view air conditioned  
units. Free high-speed Internet,  
kitchen units and kid-friendly suites  
available. Indoor pool and whirlpool.  
ABC Country Restaurant on-site.  
Banquet and meeting rooms.  
Free local calls and parking. Close  
to downtown and airport.  
Minutes to BC Ferry Terminals.



**Departure Bay Motel**  
2011 Estevan Road & Island Hwy N  
Ph: (250) 754-2161  
Fx: (250) 754-3348  
website: [www.members.shaw.ca/depbaymo](http://www.members.shaw.ca/depbaymo)  
email: [depbaymo@shaw.ca](mailto:depbaymo@shaw.ca)

Rate: Summer season: \$65 - 85  
Value season: \$60 - 75

Number of Rooms: 21

Family Operated; near ferry,  
hospital, beach, golf course and  
malls; 1 & 2 Bedroom kitchenette  
units, combination baths, cable TV,  
complimentary coffee and ice, free  
wireless internet; laundry facilities;  
adjacent to playground & restaurant;  
freezer space available; some  
smoking units; pets welcome  
for additional fee.



**The Grand Hotel Nanaimo**  
4898 Rutherford Road, Nanaimo  
Ph: (250) 758-3000  
Fx: (250) 729-2808  
website: [www.thegrandhotelnanaimo.ca](http://www.thegrandhotelnanaimo.ca)  
email: [info@thegrandhotelnanaimo.ca](mailto:info@thegrandhotelnanaimo.ca)

Rate: Summer season: \$119 & up  
Value season: \$109 & up

Number of Rooms: 72

Nanaimo's newest full service hotel with  
luxurious accommodations and highspeed  
internet. Suites with fireplaces and double  
jetted tubs. Centrally located, minutes  
to airport, ferry terminals, shopping,  
lakes, and attractions. Indoor heated  
pool & exercise room, Restaurant and  
Lounge, Conference & meeting facilities.  
Gated underground parking. Long term  
accommodations.

## Bed & Breakfasts

**Southwind Retreat & Spa** Toll Free: 1-877-545-4433 • P 250 390 0185  
8150 Southwind Dr., Nanaimo • [southwindretreat@shaw.ca](mailto:southwindretreat@shaw.ca) • [www.southwindretreat.com](http://www.southwindretreat.com)



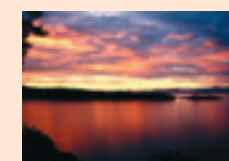
A True West Coast Experience. Intimate retreat  
setting featuring two luxurious rooms with delicious  
breakfast. Enjoy the serene indoor pool. Indulge;  
relax the mind body and soul in the hot tub while  
enjoying the incredible coastal mountain/ocean  
views. Sailing packages and onsite Spa complete  
the experience!

**Pepper Muffin Country Inn** Toll Free: 1 866 956 0473 • P 250 756 0473  
3718 Jingle Pot Road, Nanaimo • [peppermuffin@shaw.ca](mailto:peppermuffin@shaw.ca) • [www.peppermuffin.com](http://www.peppermuffin.com)



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outstanding hospitality. 6 acre estate property; purpose  
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breakfasts. Canada Select 4 Star; featured in Frommer's,  
Wall Street Journal, Reise Know-How. \$89-\$129

**Graycliff Cottage Oceanfront B&B** 1 888 801 1822 • P 250 390 3205  
7550 Lantzville Rd., Lantzville • [info@graycliffcottage.com](mailto:info@graycliffcottage.com) • [www.graycliffcottage.com](http://www.graycliffcottage.com)



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5391 Entwistle Dr., Nanaimo • [islandviewbb@shaw.ca](mailto:islandviewbb@shaw.ca) • [www.bbcana.com/1017.html](http://www.bbcana.com/1017.html)



Private one bedroom apartment, full kitchen, sleeps  
4, Guest Rooms, Twin Beds or king or Queen.  
Private bathrooms, 1/2 block from the ocean. 1/2 acre  
park-like garden & ocean view 15-30 minutes  
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# Bed & Breakfasts

**Copper Kettle B&B** 1 877 740 3977 • 250 740 3977  
465 Stewart Ave • info@copperkettlebc.com • www.copperkettlebc.com



Cosy character home, prime location, 5 min drive from Departure Bay Ferry, English garden, patio, lounge, queen beds, shower ensuite. English or European Breakfast. 15 min walk along seawall to downtown Nanaimo's boutiques and cafes. Wireless highspeed internet available.

**A-Mays-Inn Lakeside B&B** 250 722 4627  
2662 Lambert Rd • info@a-mays-inn.com • www.a-mays-inn.com



An Amazing Place! Luxury Lakeside home on 7 peaceful acres in beautiful Yellowpoint. Private romantic king & queen suites with roman soaker tubs open to the rooms, private entrance, bathrooms & deck. Scrumptious breakfast, hot tub, boating, swimming & fishing. \$85-160

**Beach Estates & Guesthouse** 250 753 3597  
800 Beach Dr.



5 Minutes from Departure Bay ferry terminal, this quiet B&B is beside a park and ocean beach. Full breakfast served in dining room. No pets. Open March through November. Smoking outside only. Weekly special. Rates \$50-70.

**Casa Del Dream** 250 758 0615  
3500 Berton Rd • casadeldream@shaw.ca • www.casadeldream.com



We offer you a unique opportunity to enjoy our charming log home in a rural setting amongst cedar and fir trees. Relax to the quiet ambience of fresh country air. It's more than a hotel stay, but a unique Canadian experience.

**Eaglesnest B&B** 1 800 694 5903 • 250 245 2658  
1602 Vowels Rd • inquiry@eaglesnestbedandbreakfast.ca • www.eaglesnestbedandbreakfast.ca



"Paradise" awaits you, 15 minutes south of Nanaimo to a peaceful escape nestled in the trees. Come stay in our elegant king, queen or twin bedrooms. Listen to the birds and watch the eagles while relaxing in the hot tub/pool. Delicious breakfast served in the dining room overlooking nature's beauty.

**Whitehouse on Longlake** 1 877 956 1185 • 250 756 1185  
231 Ferntree Place • whitehouse@nanaimobandb.com • www.nanaimobandb.com



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**Millstone Manor Bed & Breakfast** 250 758 5868  
2642 Munroe Road • info@millstonemanor.ca • www.millstonemanor.ca



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**Golden Divot Bed & Breakfast** 1 888 834 1682 • 250 390 2181  
6404 Lasalle Rd • goldendivot@shaw.ca • www.goldendivot.com



Modern residential home in quiet neighborhood with panoramic ocean/mountain view. Close to shopping and restaurants. Queen beds, shared or private bath, full breakfast in formal dining room. Private lounge with kitchenette, fireplace, Cable TV/VCR, DVD and free internet. Visa/MC \$70-\$95/night

**Ferry Side Bed and Breakfast** 1 877 662 8242 • 250 754 6113  
629 Beach Dr • info@ferrysidebb.com • www.ferrysidebb.com



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**Hammond Bay Oceanside B&B** P 250 751 1409 • F 250 751 1409  
3804 Hammond Bay Rd • hammondbaybb@shaw.ca • www.hammondbaybb.com



Relax and experience our beachfront location. Oceanside rooms with fireplaces, TV/VCR, queen beds, private bath, internet, private entrances and patios. Close to parks, amenities and ferry. Enjoy beautiful sunrises with your morning coffee. Visa/MC \$100-120 (dbl.) Off season rates available.

**Kiwi Cove Lodge** 1 866 303 5494 • 250 245 8051  
5130 Brenton Page Rd, Ladysmith • info@kiwicovelodge.com • www.kiwicovelodge.com



12 spacious rooms overlooking our kiwi farm, stroll on 10 peaceful acres, build friendships, relax in the hot tub, perfect for a romantic weekend, conveniently located to area amenities and adventures, starting from \$90 per night includes full breakfast. A Great place for groups.

**Pacific Terrace Bed & Breakfast** 250 751 2474  
168 Pacific Terrace • wjheine@nanaimo.ark.com • www.bbcanada.com/8472.html



5 minute drive from Departure Bay ferry. Close to all amenities, Rates \$60.00 single or \$75.00 double. Enjoy a full breakfast overlooking a magnificent ocean view. Full guest kitchen, Laundry and large sitting area. TV/DVD, High speed internet. King and Queen size beds. Close to beach and shopping. German spoken.

**Kennedy House B&B** 250 754 3389  
305 Kennedy St. • kennedyhouse@shaw.ca • www.kennedyhouse.ca



Walking distance to downtown waterfront, art galleries, theatre, restaurants and lounges, this updated 1913 Victorian/Arts and Crafts home will take you to another era. Luxuriously appointed rooms and a sumptuous breakfast await your visit. Rates \$85-125 per room.

**Fiddick's Farm B&B** 250 722 2507  
1431 Ivor Road. • fiddick@island.net • www.island.net/~fiddick



Private entrance, lounge, queen and twin rooms. We have a lovely location at Cedar-by-the-Sea overlooking the ocean and the Gulf Islands. There are fabulous views from every room. There is an indoor pool and spa. Breakfast includes farm fresh eggs and the specialty of the house is Belgian waffles with berries grown here on the farm.

# Camping & RVing

## Starry Nights & Sleeping Bags

You never forget that first time you camp at the edge of the ocean or in the shadow of a mountain. Nature's grandeur is indeed humbling. There's no shortage of that natural splendor in Nanaimo's campgrounds. Our sites – more than 1,000 in all – overlook the ocean, quiet lakes, salmon spawning creeks and majestic Mt. Benson. You're surrounded by wilderness yet only a 10-minute drive from the city core. And, if you're headed out and around the island for other adventures, Nanaimo's central location makes it an ideal place to overnight while you daytrip to other destinations around the island.

## Insider's Tip

Lock food in your vehicle at night to avoid potential problems with bears & raccoons.

## Fast Facts

- You'll find hayrides, a petting zoo, a trout pond, and lake swimming at various campgrounds in Nanaimo.
- Dry weather in summer often leads to campfire bans at campgrounds on the island. Check with the local Visitor Centre.



Find camping listings and more info on page 54 or at [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com). Pick up a free B.C. Super Camping Guide and B.C. Provincial Parks Guide at the Visitor Centre. Provincial parks passes are also available at the Visitor Centre.

## Living Forest Oceanside Campground

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## Malaspina University-College offers impressive views and hidden treasures

Overlooking Nanaimo's beautiful cityscape and waterfront is Malaspina University-College, a 44.5 hectare (110 acre) campus on the slopes of Mount Benson, which serves more than 20,000 full-time, part-time and continuing studies students.

Malaspina's main campus is just a short bus ride or drive from downtown Nanaimo. Malaspina offers many opportunities – it's the perfect place for photographs, picnics, reading or taking a walk. In the new state-of-the-art library, visitors can catch up on e-mails or browse through the books in a quiet, serene setting overlooking the city. Gourmet dining can be found in the Discovery Room, which showcases the skills of students in Malaspina's renowned Culinary Arts program.

Malaspina's landscape is incredibly scenic with many beautiful spots to visit, including Okayama Garden, a Japanese garden designed and constructed by students in the Horticulture program. Tucked between two

buildings, this garden features a waterfall and a pond bordered by a stone walkway, a bridge and relaxing green space. Here and elsewhere on campus, there are benches conveniently placed for reading or conversation. Picnic tables also dot the campus, making it easy to take a break while enjoying the spectacular view.

Another hidden treasure at Malaspina is Tamagawa Gardens, which is comprised of beautiful flowering trees, shrubs and lawn, with an arched bridge over a Japanese koi-filled fishpond and a miniature teahouse.

For Vancouver Island students, Malaspina offers a highly affordable, quality education close to home, either in Nanaimo or at the regional Cowichan, Parksville-Qualicum and Powell River campuses.

Malaspina offers a variety of bachelor's degrees, several diploma and certificate programs, continuing education courses and an excellent trades training program. Malaspina also offers a dual Masters degree with the

University of Hertfordshire, one of the top business schools in the United Kingdom. This dual degree grants students a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science in International Business.

Malaspina is a popular choice for international students, with more than 1,100 students from more than 50 countries attending Malaspina each year.

### Fine dining and amazing views

Malaspina's Culinary Arts program offers visitors a memorable dining experience in the Discovery Room (Bldg. 300), where gourmet meals are offered at surprisingly affordable prices. Supervised by experienced professionals, student chefs create outstanding lunch and dinner menus, served in a setting that includes breathtaking views of Nanaimo, the Pacific Ocean and the coastal mountains. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 250-740-6338.

### Campus tours

Between April and September, free campus tours are offered every Friday starting at 1pm from the campus Welcome Centre (the lobby of building 300). For information or to arrange a group tour, please call 250-740-6414.

Highlights of any tour include the Centre for International Education (Bldg. 255), the Centre for Shellfish Research (Bldg. 373), our many trades training buildings and the spectacular \$14-million library (Bldg. 305), which overlooks the city, the harbour and the surrounding islands.

The Malaspina bookstore is on the bottom floor of the library and sells books, art supplies, stationery, Malaspina souvenirs and Malaspina clothing.

The campus also hosts the Nanaimo Art Gallery (Bldg. 330), which holds regular art shows and performances on campus. There is also a booming theatre and music program, with a 300-seat theatre (Bldg. 310) and an ongoing series of student and community events throughout the year.

The student pub (Bldg. 193) is a popular spot, with a pub-style menu, a pool table and a relaxed atmosphere well-suited to student life. Bands regularly perform on weekends in front of a packed crowd.

Malaspina also operates the 28-hectare (70 acre) Milner Gardens and Woodland in nearby Qualicum Beach. This extensive, English-style garden features plants from around the world.

Afternoon tea is served at the gardens during the summer season. For directions to the gardens or information on operating hours, call 250-752-8573 or e-mail [milnergardens@shaw.ca](mailto:milnergardens@shaw.ca) or visit the website at [www.mala.ca/MilnerGardens](http://www.mala.ca/MilnerGardens)



For more information about Malaspina University-College, visit the website at [www.mala.ca](http://www.mala.ca), e-mail [info@mala.ca](mailto:info@mala.ca), or visit the campus at 900 Fifth Street, Nanaimo, B.C.



**MALASPINA**  
UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE





# Meetings & Conferences

## Why bring your event to Nanaimo?

Designated one of the arts and cultural capitals of Canada, Nanaimo is the ideal place for exceptional meetings and events. The spectacular harbour and magnificent mountains that emerge overhead have inspired meeting attendees from around the globe. In fact, the name 'Nanaimo' literally means 'the gathering place,' as dubbed by Nanaimo's first residents, the Snuneymuxw First Nations people.

Whether you're planning an international conference, annual general meeting, gala event or softball tournament, this central island location has a broad range of facilities. From hotel meeting rooms to the full-service Vancouver Island Conference Centre located just steps from the harbourfront, our venues can accommodate groups ranging from 50 to 1,300 people.

### One-stop shop

With our one-stop shop policy, your event will have the care and attention it deserves without taking away from your day-to-day activities. Let us handle all the details. Our consulting and support services for corporations and associations nationwide include:

- Researching the availability of accommodation and facilities to best suit your group's needs
- Coordinating site visits so decision-makers can experience our facilities and destination first-hand
- Assembling bid packages addressing your meeting or event requirements
- Assisting local host committees with presentations to your organization's decision-makers

### Accommodation

With more than 1,200 excellent guest rooms available throughout the city, Nanaimo offers everything from charming bed-and-breakfast accommodation to luxurious harbourside resorts. An additional 800 guest rooms are available within a 30-minute drive of Nanaimo. On your organization's behalf, we will research accommodation availability and negotiate room blocks at your preferred hotels.

### Destination Nanaimo

After a full day of meetings, relax, unwind and enjoy what this charming seaside community has to offer. Delegates, attendees, companions and families will be fascinated with Nanaimo's unique blend of arts and culture, old-city charm and outdoor invigoration.

Melt away at one of our spa facilities, shop in boutiques, indulge in our culinary delights, enjoy a local vineyard tour on beautifully landscaped grounds, spend a day spelunking at Horne Lake Caves, or savor the salty ocean breeze en route to historical Newcastle Island's Provincial Marine Park. Whatever the pleasure, the gracious hosts of Nanaimo are certain to make it happen and ensure you will leave Nanaimo, only to soon return.

The City of Nanaimo and Tourism Nanaimo partner to assist meeting planners, event organizers and local members of regional, provincial and national organizations in hosting a successful event in Nanaimo.



For more information on planning an event in Nanaimo, contact the Vancouver Island Conference Centre at (250) 755-4487, (866) 430-6338 or at [www.viconference.com](http://www.viconference.com).

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Drop in and see us, or call  
for more information

1-866-430-6338

250.755.4487

[meet@viconference.com](mailto:meet@viconference.com)

80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 5G4



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# Doing Business in Nanaimo

- **Population:** 78,692
- **Location:** On east side of Vancouver Island, 48.3 km (30 mi, 26.1 (nautical mi) west of Vancouver and 113 km (70 mi) north of Victoria.
- **Main Industries:** Tourism, advanced manufacturing, technology, business and government services, arts and culture, regional retail, health and education.

Business prospects are brighter than they've ever been in British Columbia – especially in Nanaimo.

The City of Nanaimo has committed to revitalizing downtown by partnering to build the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, which will also house the Nanaimo Museum and a 200-seat state-of-the-art public auditorium. A hotel and condominiums will be created as part of the conference centre project.

## Diverse talent & easy access

The Harbour City is home to a talented workforce, quality education, extraordinary beauty, enviable lifestyle and first-rate infrastructure. Easy access to the mainland enhances Nanaimo's attractiveness as a home and business location. Ferries run to Vancouver, and flights connect to Vancouver International Airport, Vancouver Harbour and Seattle.

Reasonable housing prices attract families from all parts of Canada and the world. A quality

of life beyond compare makes Nanaimo a favourable investment opportunity, affirming that 'Nanaimo is one of the most desirable, livable small communities in North America.'



For more information on doing business in Nanaimo, please contact:

Marilyn Hutchinson  
Economic Development Officer  
Phone: (250) 755-4466  
Fax: (250) 755-4404  
Marilyn.hutchinson@nanaimo.ca  
www.nanaimo.ca

# 7 Great Day Trips

## Beyond Nanaimo

Nanaimo's central location on the island makes it the perfect starting point for adventure in every direction. Here are seven favourite island day trips.

### 1. Fantastic Flora & Fauna [1 Day]

Head up-island to the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre in Errington for an up-close look at injured wildlife on the mend: black bears, eagles, swans and more. Stop at the Coombs Old Country Market for fresh produce and a glimpse of goats grazing on the roof. Just up the road is Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park, where a loop trail leads you through lush forest around upper and lower falls that are spectacular during fall and spring rains. End the day at Cathedral Grove, a woodland of towering Douglas Fir trees – some more than 800 years old.

- **Drive time:** 45 min. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 19 north to Hwy. 4 west toward Port Alberni
- **Contact:** Oceanside Tourism  
1-888-799-3222 [www.visitparksvillequalicumbeach.com](http://www.visitparksvillequalicumbeach.com)

### 2. Wine & Culture [1 Day]

Pack a picnic lunch and set out on a self-guided winery tour through Cowichan Valley's (Duncan/Cobble Hill area) rolling hills and serene countryside. Every vintner in this valley offers tours, tastings and on-site sales. In summer, some feature live jazz and classical music on their estates. Drive through Duncan to see totem poles carved by the local First Nations people. Head to Chemainus for a walking tour of downtown building murals, then catch a live show at the Chemainus Theatre.

- **Drive time:** 1 hr. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 1 south to Duncan; Follow roadside signs with grapes symbol
- **Contact:** Tourism Cowichan  
1-888-303-3337 [www.cowichan.bc.ca](http://www.cowichan.bc.ca)

Cowichan Valley Wine Country.



LOCATION  
Downtown  
#101-235 Bastion Street

LOCATION  
Woodgrove Mall  
6631 Island Hwy North

LOCATION  
North  
#1-5140 Metral Drive

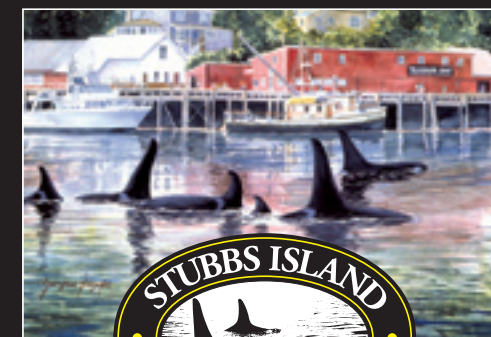
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## 7 Great Day Trips cont'd...

### 3. Artist Studio Tour [1 Day]

Hop a 20-minute ferry from downtown Nanaimo to Gabriola Island, a quiet rural setting where countless artists have taken up residence. Drive the loop around the island and look for roadside signs that point to studios and galleries of all kinds: pottery, stained glass, oil and watercolor painting, and more. It's a treat to watch these artists at work in their own unique studio spaces.

- **Drive time:** 40 minutes around loop
- **Route:** South Rd. – North Rd. loop. (Get free map at ferry toll booth.)
- **Contact:** Gabriola Island Chamber of Commerce  
250-247-9332  
www.gabriolaisland.org

### 4. Shopper's Paradise [1 Day]

Head south over Malahat Mountain to Victoria, where you can easily spend an entire day either browsing or power shopping. Start at the Inner Harbour and walk up Government St. for Native art and souvenirs galore. Here you can also pick up a piece of Victoria's British heritage – woolens and bone china from England or tartans from Scotland. Find Asian wares in Chinatown on Fisgard St., and browse antiques and collectibles on Fort St. Diversions: Afternoon tea at the Empress Hotel, Fisherman's Wharf fish and chips, Butchart Gardens tours, Orca whale watching tours in summer.

- **Drive time:** 1 ¾ hrs. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 1 south to Victoria
- **Contact:** Tourism Victoria  
1-800-663-3883  
www.tourismvictoria.com

### 5. Extreme Sports [1-2 Days]

Gear up and get north for extreme outdoor adventure. Drive an hour to Mt. Washington Alpine Resort in the Courtenay/Comox area. Depending on the season, you can ski, board or mountain bike the slopes here. Next, head to the town of Campbell River to snorkel with the spawning salmon

or fish for one (only in the fall). Dive with the elusive six-gill sharks off Hornby Island. Go spelunking at Horne Lake Caves, then finish the day at Parksville's enormous beach, where you can stretch out on a towel or hit the skate park ramps.

- **Drive time:** 2 hrs. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 19 north to Campbell River
- **Contact:** Comox Valley Tourism  
1-888-357-4471 www.discovercomoxvalley.com

### 5 SEASONS TO ENJOY



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Greater Victoria 652-4422  
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www.campbellriver.travel
- Oceanside Tourism  
1-888-799-3222  
www.visitparksvillequalicumbeach.com

### 6. Rugged West Coast [2 Days]

Traverse narrow mountain passes and stop for scenic photo ops on the drive to the island's west coast. Here, the wild Pacific Ocean is the main attraction. On salmon fishing charters out of Ucluelet it's not uncommon to reel in a 30-pounder during the fall. Ride an inflatable Zodiac out to sea from Tofino and spot bald eagles, sea lions, and grey whales. Local surf schools offer lessons and camps for riding waves at the well-known Long Beach. Hikers love Ucluelet's Wild Pacific Trail, an inspiring route that winds through old-growth forests and skirts the rugged shoreline.

- **Drive time:** 2 ½ hrs. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 19 north, Hwy. 4 west to Ucluelet/Tofino
- **Contact:** Pacific Rim Visitor Centre  
250-726-4600 www.pacificrimvisitor.ca

### 7. Whale Songs & Solitude [2 Days]

The population thins as you drive toward Telegraph Cove, a tiny community near the remote north edge of the island. The town itself is no more than a few buildings perched on stilts above the ocean. Former saltery and sawmill workers' cottages, connected by a boardwalk, are now charming guest houses. This is the starting point for some of the island's best kayaking, whale watching (Orcas), and bear watching.

- **Drive time:** 4 ½ hrs. each way
- **Route:** Hwy. 19 north to Telegraph Cove
- **Contact:** Port McNeill & District Chamber of Commerce  
250-956-3131 www.portmcneill.net



Accommodations

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<b>Buccaneer Inn</b> 1577 Stewart Ave, Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 877 282 6337 Ph: (250) 753 1246	70-199	60-149	●	●			●	●	●						●			●	●	13	41
<b>Coast Bastion Inn</b> 11 Bastion St, Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 800 663 1144 Ph: (250) 753 6601	99-189	99-189	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●		●	177	39
<b>Colonial Motel</b> 950 Terminal Ave, Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 866 475 3466 Ph: (250) 754 4415	70-90	50-70		●			●	●	●	●								●	●	9	
<b>Departure Bay Motel</b> 2011 Estevan Rd, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 754 2161	65-80	60-75		●			●	●	●								●		●	21	41
<b>Schooner Cove Hotel &amp; Marina</b> 3521 Dolphin Drive, Nanoose Bay	Toll Free: 1 888 663 7060 Ph: (250) 468 7691	99-189	79-149	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	32	
<b>Howard Johnson Harbourside Hotel</b> #1 Terminal Ave, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 753 2241	99-149	79-129	●		●		●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	●			101	52
<b>Inn on Long Lake</b> 4700 N. Island Hwy (19a), Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 800 565 1144 Ph: (250) 758 1144	169-229	99-199	●	●			●	●	●	●		●		●	●		●	●	●	62	39
<b>Ramada</b> 315 Rosehill Road, Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 866 925 2009 Ph: (250) 716 2009	99-113	84-103	●				●	●	●	●		●			●	●			●	65	40
<b>Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort</b> 1155 Resort Drive, Parksville	1 800 663 7373 Ph: (250) 248 2072	129-339	99-299	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	192	38
<b>Travelodge Nanaimo</b> 96 N. Terminal Ave, Nanaimo	Toll Free: 1 800 667 0598 Ph: (250) 754 6355	116-146	91-114		●			●	●	●					●	●		●	●	●	78	39

Business Services

	Description	Hours/ Other Info	Ad Pages
<b>Coast Realty Group Ltd.</b> 4200 N Island Hwy, Nanaimo 17 Church St.	Toll Free: 1 800 779 4966 Ph: (250) 758 7653 Ph: (250) 716-7001	Real Estate Brokerage Property management and Insurance. Two offices and 80 salespeople to serve Nanaimo and surrounding area.	inside back cover
<b>Downtown Nanaimo Partnership Society</b> 150 Commercial St, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 754 8141	The Downtown Nanaimo Partnership Society (DNPS) is a not for profit organization created to facilitate revitalization of Downtown Nanaimo.	23
<b>Gill Campbell Financial Services</b>	Cell: (250) 616 6414 Ph: (250) 716 7002	When you fall for our life style, it's my job to help you maintain it. Based in Nanaimo, I work with people north of the Malahat in helping them to maintain the safety net of insurance they have.	36
<b>Malaspina University-College</b> 900 Fifth Street, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 753 3245	Est. in 1969, Malaspina University-College is a degree-granting institution that offers university and college programs to over 10,000 full-time Canadian students and 1,000 international students.	44-45
<b>RE/MAX of Nanaimo</b> www.remoxofnanaimo.com	Toll Free: 1 800 916 9229 Ph: (250) 751 1223	Nanaimo's #1 Real Estate Company. Many Relocation Specialists and Condo Experts. National Network of Trained Experienced Professionals you can Trust.	48

Howard Johnson Harbourside Hotel Nanaimo  
1 Terminal Avenue, Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada V9R 5R4  
Ph: 250.753.2241 Fax: 250.753.6522 E-mail: hojonanaimo@shaw.ca



Adjacent to the harbourside walkway in Central Nanaimo, we offer comfort and convenience with our 101 deluxe rooms, dining room, lounge, banquet facilities & heated seasonal outdoor pool.  
Stroll along the seawall & explore a vibrant waterfront with boutiques, restaurants & parkland.

For reservations call 1-800-I-GO-HOJO www.hojonanaimo.com



Restaurants & Coffee Houses

	Description	Average Meal Cost (\$)	Take-out	Licensed	Kids Menu	Reservations Recommended	Parking	Credit/Debit Cards	Catering	Meeting/Party Rooms	Outdoor Dining	Non-Smoking	Wheelchair Access	Hours	Ad Pages
<b>Blue Ginger Sushi Bar Asian Grill</b> #1 – 5769 Turner Rd, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 751 8238 Asian fusion cuisine. Japanese, Chinese & Thai Great martini list	15-20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	M-F 11am-2:30pm/4:30-10pm Sat 12-11pm, Sun 4:30-10pm	36
<b>Columbia Bakery Ltd.</b> 2151 Bowen Rd, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 758 7219 Bakery & Coffee shop	n/a	●				●	●	●				●	Mon-Sat 7am-5:30pm	35
<b>Dinghy Dock Pub</b> 8 Pirates Lane, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 753 2373 Pub & Bistro Floating Pub & Restaurant	8-20	●	●	●		●	●			●	●		Daily 12pm - 10pm	35
<b>Gina's Mexican Restaurant</b> 47 Skinner St, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 753 5411 Festive family 20 years of hospitality	15	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	Mon-Thur 11am-9pm Fri-Sat 11am-10pm Sun 11am-8pm	35
<b>Longwood Brew Pub &amp; Restaurant</b> 5775 Turner Rd, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 729 8225 Casually elegant 90 seat w/ 30 seat private dining room and 150 seat pub	12-14	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	R – Mon-Sat 11am-11pm Sunday 10am-10pm Pub – 11am-Midnight daily	inside back cover
<b>Saké House Japanese Restaurant</b> #55 – 650 S. Terminal Ave, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 741 8833 Japanese cuisine, creative sushi as well as traditional fare	15-20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	M-F 11am-2:30pm/4:30-10pm Sat 12-11pm/Sun 4:30-10pm	36

Shopping

	Number of stores	Bank Machines/Interac	Services	Free Stroller/Scooter/Wheelchairs	Gift Wrap Services	Food Court	Licensed Restaurant(s)	Groceries	Hours	Ad Pages
<b>Port Place Shopping Centre</b> 650 S. Terminal Ave, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 753 3545 40	●	●	●		●	●	●	Mon-Wed & Sat 9:30am-5:30pm / Thur-Fri 9:30am-9pm Sat 9:30am-5:30pm/Sun 11am-5pm	27
<b>Woodgrove Centre</b> 6631 Island Hwy N, Unit 102, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 390 2721 155	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Mon-Tue-Sat 9:30am-6pm / Wed-Fri 9:30am-9pm Sun 11am-6pm	inside front cover
<b>Downtown Shopping District</b>										
<b>McLean's Specialty Foods</b> 426 Fitzwilliam St, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 754 0100 1	●						●	Mon-Fri 9:30am-5:30pm / Sat 10am-5pm / Sun 11am-4pm	24

Entertainment

	Description	Kids Welcome	Non-Smoking	Meals Served	Licensed	Hours	Ad Pages
<b>Harbour City Bingo</b> 501-530 5th St, Nanaimo	Ph: (250) 754 1421		●	●			19
<b>Nanaimo Clippers Junior A Hockey</b> Frank Crane Arena, Beban Park	Ph: (250) 751 0593 Welcome to the home of the BCHL and Doyle Cup Champions. Catch the action of the Nanaimo Clippers at Frank Crane Arena in the Beban Park Complex.	●	●		●	Check game schedule at www.nanaimoclippers.com	19
<b>Nanaimo Museum</b> 100 Museum Way	Ph: (250) 753 1821 The colourful history of Nanaimo is brought to life through permanent & feature exhibits, and educational programming.	●	●			Visit our website for updated information regarding our Grand Opening in 2008: www.nanaimomuseum.ca	37



Sports, Recreation & Tours	Description	Kids Welcome	Hours/ other info	Ad Pages
<b>Alberni Outpost</b> (Country Club Mall) 2-3200 N Island Hwy, Nanaimo 1 866 760 0011 Ph: 250 760 0044	Nanaimo's premier outdoor centre for all your paddle/outdoor needs. 2 Locations in Nanaimo.	●	Open year round, 7 days a week. Kayak and bike rentals and tours.	13
<b>The Dive Outfitters Ltd</b> 2205 Northfield Road, Nanaimo Ph: 250 756 1863	Scuba diving & snorkeling! Training and equipment sales/ rentals. Air & Nitrox fills. Local shore & boat charters. Check us out at <a href="http://www.thediveoutfitters.ca">www.thediveoutfitters.ca</a>	●	Mon-Wed: 10am-6pm/Thur-Fri: 9am-6pm/ Sat: 9am-5pm	
<b>Jamie's Whaling Station</b> Tofino - 606 Campbell St. Ucluelet - 168 Fraser Lane T/F: 1 800 667 9913 Ph: (250) 725 3919	Whale or Bear watch - GUARANTEED SIGHTINGS, zodiacs to 65' cruisers, Hot Springs, Kayak, Meares Island, Scenic Flights. 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary!	●	Hours/Other Info: Tofino - Daily mid February thru October Ucluelet - Daily mid-March thru September <a href="http://www.jamies.com">www.jamies.com</a>	50
<b>Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture</b> 500 Bowen Rd., Nanaimo Ph: 250 756 5200	City of Nanaimo offers a full range of activities including arenas, aquatics, parks and trails, and multi sport venues.	●	Hours vary. For general info: call 250-756-5200. For event/facility info email <a href="mailto:elizabeth.williams@nanaimo.ca">elizabeth.williams@nanaimo.ca</a>	55
<b>WildPlay Element Parks</b> 35 Nanaimo River Rd, Nanaimo Toll Free: 1 888 668 7874 Ph: 250 716 7874	This popular outdoor adventure park is situated on 17-acres of lush Douglas Fir Forest. Activities include: Bungy Jump, Canyon Zip, King Swing and TreeGO (aerial obstacle courses). Appropriate for ages 7 and up.	●	Hours/Other Info: Please check our website or call us for current hours: <a href="http://www.wildplayparks.com">www.wildplayparks.com</a>	11

Golfing	Par	Holes	Clubhouse / Pro Shop	Licensed Facilities	Driving Range	Practice Green	Lessons	Golf School	Reserved Tee Times	Ad Pages
<b>Cottonwood Golf Course</b> 1975 Haslam Rd, Nanaimo Ph: (250) 245 5157	72	18	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	21
<b>Fairwinds Golf Club</b> 3730 Fairwinds Drive, Nanoose Bay Toll Free: 1 888 781 2777 Ph: (250) 468 7666	71	18	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	21
<b>Nanaimo Golf Club</b> 2800 Highland Blvd, Nanaimo Ph: (250) 758 6332	72	18	●	●	●	●	●		●	21

Camping & RV	Site rate (\$)	Additional Persons (\$)	Children (\$)	Inserviced / Sani-station	Full / Partial Hookups	Cabins / Units	Washrooms / Showers	Fire Pits / BBQ	Playground	Boat Launch / Boat Rental	Store	Pets Welcome	Laundry Facilities	Number of Sites	Extras / Close to	Ad Pages
<b>Jinglepot RV Park</b> 4012 Jinglepot Rd, Nanaimo Ph: (250) 758 1614	18-29	1.50	1.50	●	●		●	●	●			●	●	120	Serene & peaceful garden setting with fountains, flower fragrance, rocks & birds' song.	43
<b>Living Forest RV Park</b> 6 Maki Rd, Nanaimo Ph: (250) 755 1755	17-33	1	.50	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	250	Close to: Downtown, pool, ferries, bus route, walk to supermarket, restaurants. Extras: Oceanviews, large well spaced sites, cable.	43
<b>Westwood Lake RV Cabins &amp; Camping</b> 380 Westwood Rd, Nanaimo Ph: (250) 753 3922	18-24	1.50	1.50	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	66	Cabins \$50-\$120. Close to ferries, city centre, bus route, golf, bowling, bike trails. Extras: Games room, lake fishing or swimming, nature trails.	

An Islander enjoys the spectacular view from Neck Point Park.



# Kids' Picks

Here they are – kids’ favourite spots in Nanaimo. They’re slimy, cool, furry, loud, wet, yummy and wild. Absolutely the opposite of boring. Family bonding has never been so much fun.



**Bastion cannon firings**  
Cover your ears – the boom is big when costumed interpreters fire downtown’s historic Bastion cannons at noon every day in summer.

## Harbourfront walkway ice cream

Work your way through an ice cream cone at the harbourfront as you watch seaplanes take off and land or see boats of all sizes putter about.

## Rock climbing walls

Get vertical! Burn off that extra energy as you scramble up an indoor climbing wall. Romper Room has special kids’ programs and encouraging staff.

## Lagoon tidepools

Get your toes wet on the steps of Swy-a-Lana Park’s ocean lagoon, where critters of all kinds live. Count the thousands of baby crabs and touch slimy kelp.



**i** For more information, go to [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com).

## Spectator sports

Grab a seat up close to the action Nanaimo Clippers Hockey (Sept. – Mar.), Vancouver Island Raiders Football (Jul. – Sept.) or Nanaimo Timbermen Lacrosse (May – Aug.).

## Indoor playlands

Gear up for laser tag or paintball, then hit tunnel town or the arcade at Cyber City. (Save the go-karts and mini golf for a sunny day.) At Jumping Jiminy’s, scale the enormous climbing structure while Mom and Dad sip lattes and watch.

## Aquatic Centre waterslides

On the side-by-side waterslides at the indoor Nanaimo Aquatic Centre you can actually race your big brother or sister to the finish. Then float in the wave pool and lazy river.



## Adrenalin fix

Bungee jump, get serious speed on the King Swing, cross the river on the Canyon Zip, or navigate TreeGO aerial obstacle courses at WildPlay Element Parks.

## Petting zoos

Get licked or nibbled on when you make friends of the furry kind at the Shady Mile Farm Market (year-round) or the 4-H Club barn (seasonal) in Bowen Park.

## The fishing pier

Help locals hoist up their crab traps at the end of the long fishing pier in the harbour, or, put down your own trap (wire in raw chicken as bait) and catch your supper.

The **LARGEST** wave pool in BC!

**NANAIMO AQUATIC CENTRE**  
741 Third Street \* 756-5200 \* [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)

**An Aquatic Adventure Awaits!**





If you think this is an amazing  
place to visit, imagine living here.

*There are plenty of reasons to visit Nanaimo. Now there's no reason to leave.*

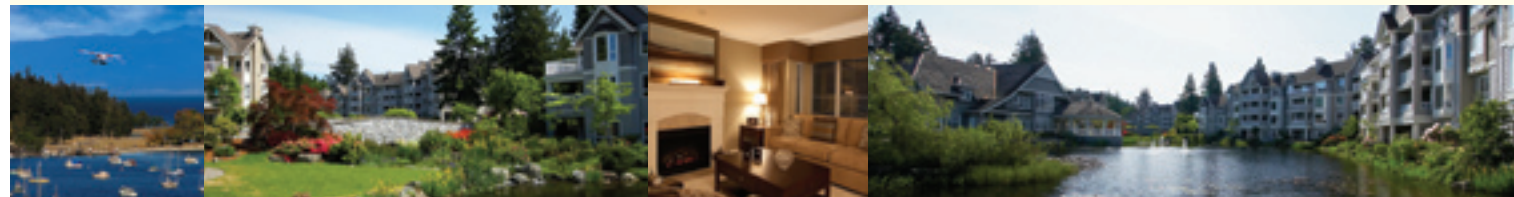
Beautiful oceanfront. Miles of rugged beaches. Lush forests. Unspoiled countryside. As a home, Nanaimo has so much to offer. And for the last thirteen years, InSight Developments has been quietly creating communities and homes here, widely recognized among the best in Canada.



For more InSight into Nanaimo, please visit us at  
[www.insightdevelopments.ca](http://www.insightdevelopments.ca)  
Or talk to us in person at 250.756.0119

The 50-acre English country village and garden community of Longwood has won the Canadian Homebuilders' SAM Award for Best Multi-Family Development in BC. The newer community of Hawthorne is a single-family neighbourhood with a variety of home lots available. As well, Hawthorne Corner offers contemporary one bedroom and loft style residences in a trendy village setting. Another InSight project in the planning stages is a stunning 24 storey waterfront tower with remarkable harbour views from every suite.

If you've felt your soul stir during your visit, you owe it to yourself to explore what it would be like to live here. With InSight, you'll discover why Nanaimo is the perfect place to call home.



Coming Soon - Waterfront Tower  
*24 storey boutique glass tower with unobstructed water views from every suite.*

*The Spirit of the Island*



*An Elegant & Pleasurable  
Dining Atmosphere*

**LONGWOOD BREWPUB**  
NANAIMO'S ONLY IN-HOUSE BREW PUB AND RESTAURANT

*Tour & Experience  
Our Brewmaster's Craft*  
*Brewery tours available upon request.*

**HAND-CRAFTED  
ALES & LAGERS  
SERVED IN-HOUSE**

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**Restaurant:**  
Mon - Sat 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM  
Sunday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM  
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Offering "classic" breakfast fare

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People. Above all.

Nanaimo Golf and Country Club

Photo by David Hayward



# *Nanaimo... from our point of view.*



We're fortunate to live in a community that enjoys such a special relationship with its natural surroundings – the islands, mountains, forests and the ocean. Our unique location offers visitors so much to enjoy, especially with the sea right at our doorstep!

Beautiful views, one of Canada's mildest climates, great resources for recreation and sports, a developed waterfront that makes the most of its natural assets – we're lucky to call this very special place home and hope you enjoy your visit and... our point of view.

