

Victoria to Port Renfrew



① Victoria to Sooke

🕒 1 hour 3 minutes 📍 39.9 km

Before venturing to the west coast, take in the sights and sounds of the capital city by walking along the Inner Harbour and Parliament Buildings. Enjoy breakfast at one of the many downtown restaurants. Leaving Victoria, you will travel through the City of Langford to the Sooke Highway.

Take a stretch break to check out the unique geological formations at Sooke Potholes Provincial Park. The river is also a nice spot for swim on a warm day. The Sooke Regional District Museum & Visitor Centre is another worthwhile stop. Explore the indoor and outdoor exhibits, as well as the gift shop. For the adrenaline seekers, visit Adrena LINE Zipline Adventure Tours to soar above the trees. Grab some snacks at the Village Food Market and continue on your way to Jordan River.

Victoria Charging Stations

📍 Numerous locations

Sooke Charging Stations

- 📍 Seaparc Leisure Complex
- 📍 Evergreen Centre
- 📍 Village Food Market
- 📍 Vancouver Island Public Library

② Sooke to Jordan River

🕒 29 minutes 📍 29.4 km

While passing through Shirley, be sure to include a stop at Shirley Delicious, the cafe nestled in the woods, for fresh baked goods and a warm drink. A little further down the road, French Beach Provincial Park offers year-round camping, hiking trails and a sandy beach just minutes from the campground.

There is an emergency short-charge station located at Cedar Coast Retreat, and further up the road you will reach Sandcut Beach where you will find sandstone formations and beautiful waterfalls cascading into the ocean. From the parking lot, the beach is a short 400 m hike through coastal rainforest.

Shirley Charging Stations

- 📍 Cedar Coast Retreat (Emergency Short-Charge)
- 📍 Fossil Bay Resort



③ Jordan River to Port Renfrew

🕒 46 minutes 📍 41.5 km

Continue driving until you reach Sombrio Beach. Stop here to watch the surfers, hike along the beach, and enjoy a picnic lunch. While visiting, be sure to look for the hidden waterfall! The beach is only a 15-minute hike from the parking lot.

Soon you will arrive to the small coastal community of Port Renfrew. Head to Botanical Beach, a spectacular destination known for its rugged coastline, shoreline trails, and tidal pools full of marine life. Search the pools at low tide for starfish, sea urchins, barnacles, and sea anemones while taking in the stunning ocean views. Be sure not to touch the marine life.

After your hike, enjoy a cozy dinner at the inviting Renfrew Pub, a favourite gathering place for locals and visitors alike. Stay overnight in one of the charming seaside cottages at Wild Renfrew or Handsome Dan's. Widely known as a sport fishing mecca, consider booking a fishing charter for the following day with one of the many providers in Port Renfrew. Or enjoy a leisurely breakfast at Coastal Kitchen Cafe and visit Avatar Grove before leaving town. Hike amongst one of the island's oldest old-growth forests and find Canada's Gnarliest Tree!

Port Renfrew Charging Stations

- 📍 Port Renfrew Community Centre

Victoria to Nanaimo



① Victoria to Shawnigan Lake (via Mill Bay)

🕒 43 minutes 📍 49.8km

Take a morning stroll at Beacon Hill Park or explore the fascinating exhibits at the Royal BC Museum. Enjoy breakfast at one of the many renowned downtown restaurants to fuel your day. Leaving Victoria, you will travel north on Highway 1 heading to Nanaimo.

Be sure to stop at the Malahat Skywalk for a spectacular lookout, 250m above sea level, offering views of Finlayson Arm, Saanich Peninsula, Mount Baker and the distant Coast Mountains. Come down from the tower by enjoying a fun ride on the spiral slide!

Once you arrive to Mill Bay, grab a beverage at Rusticana Coffee or Bru-Go's Coffee and then take a short detour off the highway to experience the historic Kinsol Trestle in Shawnigan Lake, one of the tallest free-standing wooden rail trestles in the world. The trestle is an easy 1.2km walk from the parking lot.

Victoria Charging Stations

📍 Numerous locations

Malahat Charging Stations

📍 Malahat Chalet

Mill Bay/Shawnigan Lake Charging Stations

📍 Mill Bay Shopping Centre

📍 Kerry Park Recreation Centre

📍 Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

② Shawnigan Lake to Duncan

🕒 23 minutes 📍 20.4 km

Travel along Shawnigan Lake Road through the picturesque countryside of Cobble Hill to reconnect with Highway 1. Stop and enjoy a delicious farm-to-table lunch on the patio at Merridale Cidery & Distillery in Cobble Hill.

Soon you will arrive to Duncan, famously known as the “City of Totems.” Embark on a self-guided walking tour throughout the downtown to see 44 totem poles handcrafted by Indigenous carvers. While exploring on foot, be sure to visit the many unique boutiques and shops scattered throughout downtown Duncan. If you are in town on a Saturday, the year-round outdoor Duncan Farmers’ Market is a must-see! Spend some time at the Cowichan Valley Museum and BC Forest Discovery Centre to learn about Cowichan’s rich history and forestry industry. For the foodies, Cowichan has no shortage of renowned culinary experiences. Stay overnight and spend a full day exploring the wineries, cideries, distilleries and farms throughout the region known as “The Warm Land.”

Cobble Hill Charging Stations

📍 Valleyview Centre

Duncan Charging Stations

📍 Duncan Street Parking (330 Duncan Street)

📍 Duncan Coronation Mall

📍 Duncan Train Station (Canada Avenue)

📍 Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre

📍 Cowichan Green Community

📍 49th Parallel Grocery

Victoria to Nanaimo



③ Duncan to Ladysmith

🕒 23 minutes 📍 28.5 km

Continue your journey to the quaint seaside town of Chemainus to meander among their world famous murals. There are over 60 outdoor murals and various sculptures, each depicting the town's unique heritage story. Enjoy the ambiance of Willow Street Cafe or try the delicious wood-fired pizza at the Sawmill Taphouse. To satisfy your sweet tooth, Hansel and Gretel's Candy Company is the place to go.

A little further down the road, you will come to the historic town of Ladysmith. Stroll down First Avenue which was named one of "Canada's Greatest Streets" by the Canadian Institute of Planners. Try a famous cinnamon bun at Old Town Bakery and look for treasures in the numerous antique shops. If you have more time, put on your hiking boots and make the trek up to Heart Lake! A steep climb provides rewarding ocean views and ends at a serene lake nestled in the forest.

Chemainus Charging Stations

- 📍 Chemainus Visitor Centre
- 📍 Best Western Plus Chemainus
- 📍 Fuller Lake Motel

Ladysmith Charging Stations

- 📍 Ladysmith Museum
- 📍 Yellowpoint Lodge



④ Ladysmith to Nanaimo

🕒 21 minutes 📍 23.1 km

Welcome to Nanaimo, the final destination of your trip! Stroll the Harbourfront Walkway and be sure to sample a Nanaimo Bar dessert from one of the many cafes. Take a 10-minute passenger ferry to Saisutshun to explore the tranquil coastal trails and learn about the culture and history of the Snuneymuxw Peoples. Additional marine adventures include a whale watching tour with Vancouver Island Whale Watch or an evening catamaran excursion with Island Marine Adventures. After an adventure filled day, put your feet up at the Best Western Dorchester Hotel or Coast Bastion Hotel, both conveniently located downtown across from the harbour.

Nanaimo Charging Stations (Selection)

- 📍 Maffeo Sutton Park
- 📍 100 Museum Way Public Parking Lot
- 📍 Port of Nanaimo Centre (101 Gordon Street)
- 📍 Bowen Park
- 📍 Woodgrove Centre

Nanaimo to Tofino/Ucluelet



1 Nanaimo to Port Alberni

🕒 1 hour 9 minutes 📍 82.9 km

Enjoy breakfast at one of the many downtown restaurants such as Gabriel's Cafe or Mon Petit Choux. Take in the sights and sounds of the Harbourfront Walkway before making your way to the west coast. Leaving Nanaimo, you will travel north on the Highway 1.

Take the exit onto Highway 4A towards Coombs to visit the Goats on the Roof Old Country Market - a local favourite! The indoor market is open daily from March to December with lots to explore. Wave to the goats who live on the grassy roof during the summer months.

Next up, Cathedral Grove in MacMillan Provincial Park is the perfect place to stretch your legs. Short loop trails on either side of the highway lead to some of the oldest and largest Douglas fir trees on the island - some more than 800 years old. Stroll under the canopy of these ancient and magnificent trees before continuing on your way.

As you enter Port Alberni, pull over at Coomb's Country Candy to pick out a sweet snack for the road. Stop for lunch at Bare Bones Fish House & Smokery or Wildflower Bakeshop & Cafe. Take a self-guided or guided tour at the McLean Mill National Historic Site to learn about logging history of the area. The Alberni Valley Museum is another point of interest for history lovers. Keep in mind - Port Alberni is the last stop to eat and fill up your gas tank before continuing on to Tofino and Ucluelet.

Nanaimo Charging Stations (Selection)

- 📍 Maffeo Sutton Park
- 📍 100 Museum Way Public Parking Lot

- 📍 Port of Nanaimo Centre (101 Gordon Street)
- 📍 Bowen Park
- 📍 Woodgrove Centre

2 Port Alberni to Ucluelet

🕒 1 hour 35 minutes 📍 101.4 km

Once you leave Port Alberni, don't be surprised if you lose cell phone service for a while. Take in the beautiful scenery along this winding road. If you find yourself in need of a vehicle charge after leaving Port Alberni, there are two free charging stations at the Taylor River Rest Area.

Once you reach Ucluelet, take time to wander around the quaint seaside town. The Ucluelet Aquarium is a must-see stop to learn about marine life that inhabits the waters of Barkley and Clayoquot Sounds. It is also Canada's first collect-and-release aquarium. The Wild Pacific Trail is also not to be missed! Walk the 2.6km Lighthouse Loop to see stunning ocean viewpoints, rocky coastlines, and the Amphitrite Lighthouse built in 1906. Unwind at the Ucluelet Brewery before tucking in for the night at the Black Rock Oceanfront Resort or Two Beaches Guest Suites - both which have chargers available to guests.

Port Alberni Charging Stations

- 📍 Tyler's No Frills Grocery Store
- 📍 Victoria Quay Parking
- 📍 Harbour Quay (Argyle Street)
- 📍 The Hospitality Inn

Taylor River Charging Stations

- 📍 Taylor River Rest Area

Ucluelet Charging Stations

- 📍 Pacific Rim Visitor Centre
- 📍 Surf Junction Campground
- 📍 Black Rock Oceanfront Resort
- 📍 Ucluelet Community Centre
- 📍 Two Beaches Guest Suites
- 📍 District of Ucluelet (Cedar Rd)



3 Ucluelet to Tofino

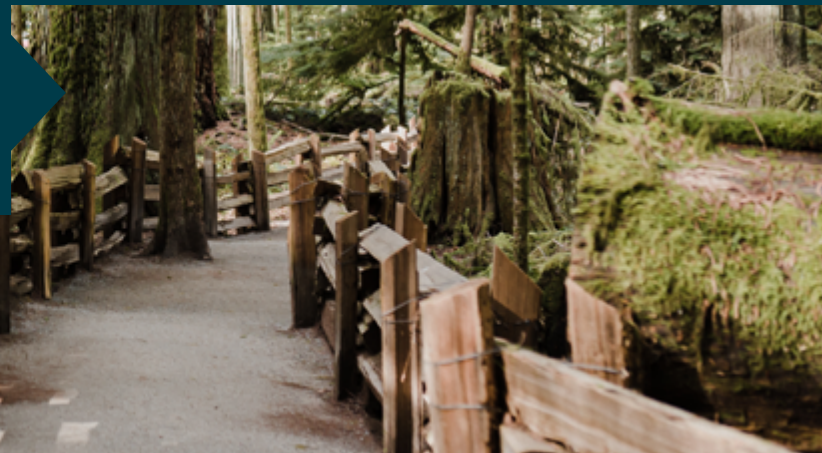
🕒 38 minutes 📍 40.3 km

The last leg of your road trip leads to Tofino. Along the way, stop in at Pacific Rim National Park to explore the Rainforest Trail or at Long Beach to watch the crashing waves. Visit the Naa'Waya'Sum Coastal Indigenous Gardens to walk the enchanting trail system and learn about Nuuchah'nulth art and culture at the welcome centre exhibit. In Tofino, explore the boutique shops, restaurants and galleries while walking around this vibrant coastal town. If you are keen to get out in the water, book a surfing lesson with one of the many local surf shops. Prefer to stay above the water? Book a kayaking tour or wildlife watching tour instead. Spend a few nights in Tofino to relax and soak in the beauty and serenity of the west coast. There are numerous accommodations that offer charging stations on site.

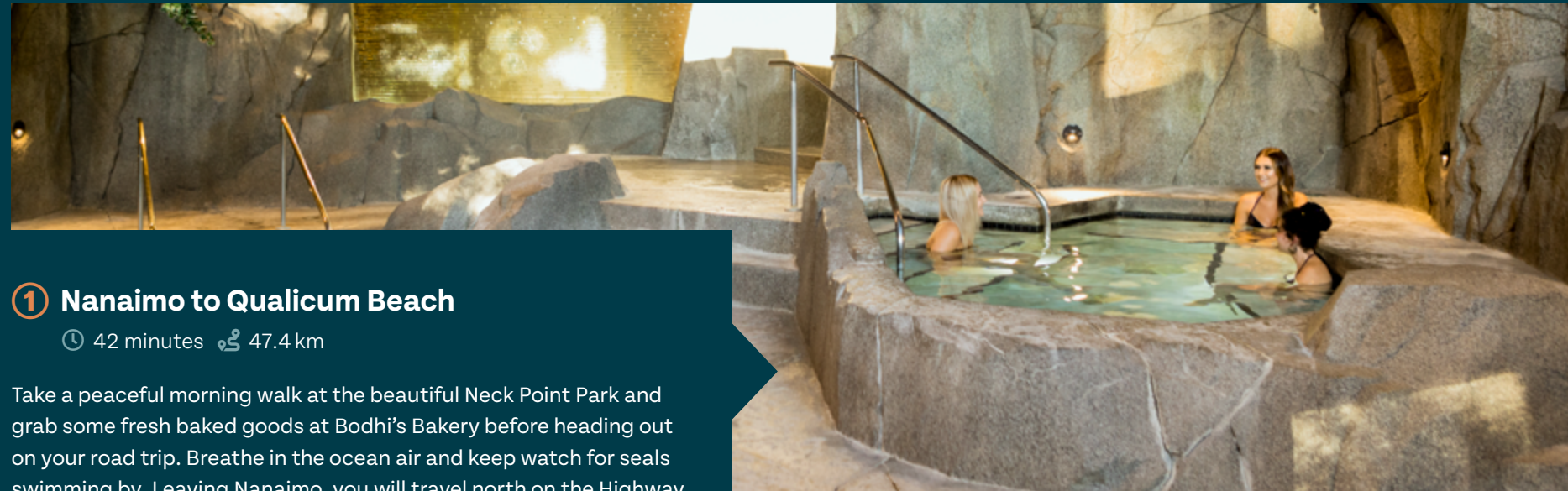
Tofino Charging Stations

- 📍 Tofino Visitor Centre
- 📍 Long Beach Lodge Resort
- 📍 Pacific Sands Beach Resort
- 📍 Wickaninnish Inn
- 📍 Dolphin Motel
- 📍 Crystal Cove Beach Resort

- 📍 Ocean Village Beach Resort
- 📍 Best Western Tin Wis Resort
- 📍 Bella Pacifica Campground
- 📍 Middle Beach Lodge
- 📍 Tofino Botanical Gardens
- 📍 Tofino Marina & Resort
- 📍 Dist. of Tofino Munic. Office



Nanaimo to Campbell River (Oceanside Route)



1 Nanaimo to Qualicum Beach

🕒 42 minutes 📍 47.4 km

Take a peaceful morning walk at the beautiful Neck Point Park and grab some fresh baked goods at Bodhi's Bakery before heading out on your road trip. Breathe in the ocean air and keep watch for seals swimming by. Leaving Nanaimo, you will travel north on the Highway 1. Take the first exit on Highway 19A towards Parksville. For a scenic oceanside route, it is recommended to stay on the Highway 19A all the way to Campbell River.

Shortly after leaving Nanaimo, you will arrive in Parksville - a charming oceanside town and popular summer destination. The Community Park features a large sandy beach, waterfront boardwalk, playground, and beach volleyball nets. During July and August, be sure to check out the Parksville Beach Festival. A sand sculpting competition brings in artists from around the world! Stop by Little Qualicum Cheeseworks to taste their artisan cheese and visit with the farm animals. If you are looking for some rest and relaxation, spend an afternoon getting pampered at the Grotto Spa at Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort.

Nanaimo Charging Stations (Selection)

- 🚗 Maffeo Sutton Park
- 🚗 100 Museum Way Public Parking Lot
- 🚗 Port of Nanaimo Centre (101 Gordon Street)
- 🚗 Bowen Park
- 🚗 Woodgrove Centre

Parksville Charging Stations (Selection)

- 🚗 Parksville Community Park
- 🚗 Parksville Public Library
- 🚗 Quality Foods
- 🚗 Tigh Na Mara Seaside Spa Resort
- 🚗 Parksville Public Library

2 Qualicum Beach to Cumberland

🕒 1 hour 📍 63.5 km

Continue driving along the Highway 19A until you reach Qualicum Beach. Visit the beautiful garden oasis and woodlands at Milner Gardens. At the end of your walk, enjoy freshly baked pastries and tea at the Camellia Tearoom in the historic Milner House. If you are visiting on a Saturday morning, it is highly recommended to stop in at the year-round Qualicum Beach Farmers Market.

After leaving Qualicum Beach, visit the touch tanks and exhibits at the Deep Bay Marine Field Station for a fun experience learning about local marine life and shellfish aquaculture. Turn up your best road trip playlist and continue along the oceanside route towards the Comox Valley. Before entering Courtenay, take a detour at Royston Road towards Cumberland.

Port Alberni Charging Stations

- 🚗 Qualicum Beach Vis. Centre
- 🚗 Qualicum Foods
- 🚗 Qualicum Beach Town Hall
- 🚗 Qualicum Beach Inn
- 🚗 Cedar Grove RV Park & Campground

- 🚗 Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
- 🚗 The Old School House Arts Centre

Deep Bay Charging Stations

- 🚗 Deep Bay Marine Field Station

Nanaimo to Campbell River (Oceanside Route)



③ Cumberland to Courtenay/Comox

🕒 17 minutes 📍 14.9 km

Cumberland is a funky and friendly town, also home to world-class outdoor recreation opportunities. Visit the Cumberland Museum and Archives to learn about the town’s coal mining past. Taste artisan chocolates at Dark Side Chocolates and explore the eclectic shops in the downtown core. Downtown Cumberland offers a selection of restaurants where you can enjoy lunch.

Head back along the Comox Valley Parkway and stop in at the Comox Valley Visitor Centre to discover all the region has to offer. Explore the downtown areas of Courtenay and Comox to find a variety of unique boutiques and flavourful restaurants. View the work of local artists at the Comox Valley Art Gallery as well as local Indigenous artwork at I-Hos Gallery. Head to Seal Beach Nature Park to walk the vast network of forest trails leading to a rocky beach. If you have some extra time, drive up the Strathcona Parkway to visit Mount Washington Alpine Resort for skiing and snow-shoeing in the winter or hiking and mountain biking in the summer.

Cumberland Charging Stations

📍 Pharmasave

📍 Cumberland Fire Hall

📍 England Ave/6th Street

📍 Wayward Distillery

📍 Thrifty Foods

📍 Comox Centre Mall

Courtenay/Comox Charging Stations (Selected)

📍 Comox Valley Visitor Centre

📍 Comox Town Hall

📍 The Westerly Hotel



④ Courtenay to Campbell River

🕒 45 minutes 📍 48.8 km

Once you reach the small community of Oyster Bay, sample handcrafted spirits at Shelter Point Distillery during a tour and tasting. Learn about the process of mashing, fermenting, distilling, barreling and bottling. Take a seat on the outdoor patio during the warm months, or relax in the tasting room and cozy up by the fireplace in the winter.

Shortly after you will reach Campbell River, also known as the Salmon Capital of the world. During the summer months, visit the Discovery Passage Aquarium to learn about the diverse marine life that live off the shores of Campbell River. Or spend the day on the water by taking a whale watching or grizzly bear watching tour with one of the many tour operators in Campbell River. Take a self-guided tour at the Quinsam River Hatchery to observe juvenile salmon all-year or returning salmon from the end of July to mid-November. There are also many walking trails to enjoy branching off along the river.

Campbell River Charging Stations (Selected)

📍 Shelter Point Distillery

📍 Campbell River Visitor Centre

(first 30 minutes of charging is free)

📍 Discovery Harbour Centre

📍 Comfort Inn & Suites

📍 Campbell River City Hall

📍 Campbell River Comm. Centre

⑤ Campbell River to Quadra Island

🕒 10 minute ferry ride

To add to your adventure, take the 10-minute ferry from Campbell River to Quadra Island. Walk the trails and explore the beaches at Rebecca Spit Marine Provincial Park on the east side of the island. Spend the night at the oceanfront Tsa Kwa Luten Lodge for a secluded getaway. Charging stations are also available for guests. Start your next morning on the water during a guided kayak tour with Quadra Island Kayaks.

Quadra Island Charging Stations

📍 Tsa Kwa Luten Lodge



Campbell River to Port Hardy



① Campbell River to Telegraph Cove

🕒 2 hours 11 minutes 📍 201 km

Before starting your trip to the North Island, enjoy a fresh baked croissant at Freyja, a Scandinavian style bakery and coffee shop. Visit the Discovery Passage Aquarium during the summer months to learn about the diverse marine life that call the Discovery Passage home. On your way out of town, enjoy a gentle walk at Elk Falls Provincial Park to discover the waterfall, canyon, and suspension bridge. At the head of the trail, be sure to stop into BC Hydro's interpretive centre.

Follow the Highway 1 towards Port Hardy. Be prepared to lose cell phone service along the drive. If you are in need of a vehicle charge after leaving Campbell River, a charging station is available at the Woss Regional District of Mount Waddington. Shortly after passing Woss, drive 20 minutes off of the highway to explore Little Huson Cave Park where you will find stunning limestone and rock arch formations.

Campbell River Charging Stations (Selected)

- 📍 Shelter Point Distillery
- 📍 Campbell River Visitor Centre
(first 30 minutes of charging is free)
- 📍 Discovery Harbour Centre
- 📍 Comfort Inn & Suites

- 📍 Campbell River City Hall
- 📍 Campbell River Comm. Centre

Woss Charging Stations

- 📍 Woss Regional District of Mount Waddington

② Telegraph Cove to Port McNeill

🕒 27 minutes 📍 26 km

Take a short detour to stroll the boardwalks of the small, picturesque town of Telegraph Cove. Enjoy west coast cuisine at The Killer Whale Cafe or Old Saltery Pub (open seasonally May-September) while overlooking the harbour. After a hearty meal, visit the Whale Interpretive Centre and Telegraph Cove Art Gallery, two local treasures! Head back to Highway 1 to continue towards Port McNeill.

Once you arrive in Port McNeill, end your day with dinner and a craft beer at Devil's Bath Brewing. Spend the night in Port McNeill at one of the many accommodation options including hotels, B&B's, cottages, and campgrounds. Start your next morning by experiencing a wildlife tour with one of the many friendly local operators.

Telegraph Cove Charging Stations

- 📍 Telegraph Cove Marina

Port McNeill Charging Stations

- 📍 Port McNeill Mall
- 📍 Mount Waddington Regional District Office



Campbell River to Port Hardy



3 Port McNeill to Alert Bay/Sointula

🕒 40 minute ferry (Alert Bay) 🕒 25 minute ferry (Sointula)

Hop aboard the ferry leaving from Port McNeill to visit the historic villages of Sointula and Alert Bay. On Malcolm Island, Sointula is a seaside community first established as a utopian Finnish settlement. Visit the Sointula Museum to learn about the history of the community and explore popular spots such as Bere Point, Mitchell Bay, or the Pulteney Point Lighthouse.

On Cormorant Island, Alert Bay is home to the world-renowned U'mista Cultural Centre where visitors can learn about local First Nations culture and view the Potlatch Collection - ceremonial regalia taken by Canadian authorities in 1922 during the potlatch ban era and finally returned in 1980. Extend your visit by staying overnight with an oceanfront view at Seine Boat Inn or Nimpkish Hotel.

Alert Bay Charging Stations

📍 Fir Street (Beside Government Dock)

Sointula Charging Stations

📍 Sointula Fire Hall

4 Port McNeill to Port Alice

🕒 27 minutes 📏 26 km

Before heading to Port Hardy, take a scenic detour to visit the quaint town of Port Alice, known as the Sea Otter Capital of the World. Grab a coffee at Foggy Mountain Coffee Co and watch for wildlife while wandering the Seawalk pathway. Stay longer and rent a kayak or paddleboard from Frigon Paddling to explore the beautiful Neroutsos Inlet.

Port Alice Charging Stations

📍 Port Alice Community Centre



5 Port Alice to Port Hardy

🕒 43 minutes 📏 58.1 km 📍 Port Alice to Port Hardy

🕒 1 hour 35 minutes 📏 69.8 km 📍 Port Hardy to Cape Scott

Breathe in the fresh air of the North Island and allow yourself to fully disconnect. Explore the Hardy Bay Seawall and Carrot Park, followed by a warm drink and good book at Cafe Guido - a favourite local gathering place. Stay overnight in the Indigenous-owned Kwa'ililas Hotel and enjoy dinner at the nax'id' Pub. End your journey here or continue heading northwest on a gravel road to take in the rugged coastal wilderness of Cape Scott Provincial Park. Take a 45-minute walk to San Josef Bay to explore the breathtaking scenery, including a white sand beach, sea stacks, caves, and tidal pools.

Port Alice Charging Stations

📍 Port Hardy Visitor Centre

📍 Orange Tabby Bed & Breakfast

📍 North Coast Hostel

📍 Service BC Centre

