



WEST COAST WONDERS

Before You Go

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline. The ocean is a deep blue-grey, with white foam from waves crashing against a dark, rocky shore. A wide, sandy beach curves along the coast, bordered by a dense, green forest. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

“

This route was the perfect mix of waterfalls, castles, quirky roadside gems, and delicious local bites...an unforgettable west coast adventure!

-GUESS WHERE TRIPPER

How does a surprise road trip work?



Pick a Date

We recommend doing the trip within **6 months** of receiving this road trip. Pay close attention to the 'When To Go' within the 'Navigating the Road' section of this booklet.



Get Ready

The only requirement is having a vehicle, GPS and a driver. The trip is completely **self-guided**, so nothing needs to be booked in advance.



Check Updates

Before leaving, please check **travel updates** on our website. This will provide you with any major changes to the itinerary.



Pack Your Bag

Please refer to the '**What to Pack**' list in this booklet for items we recommend bringing with you.

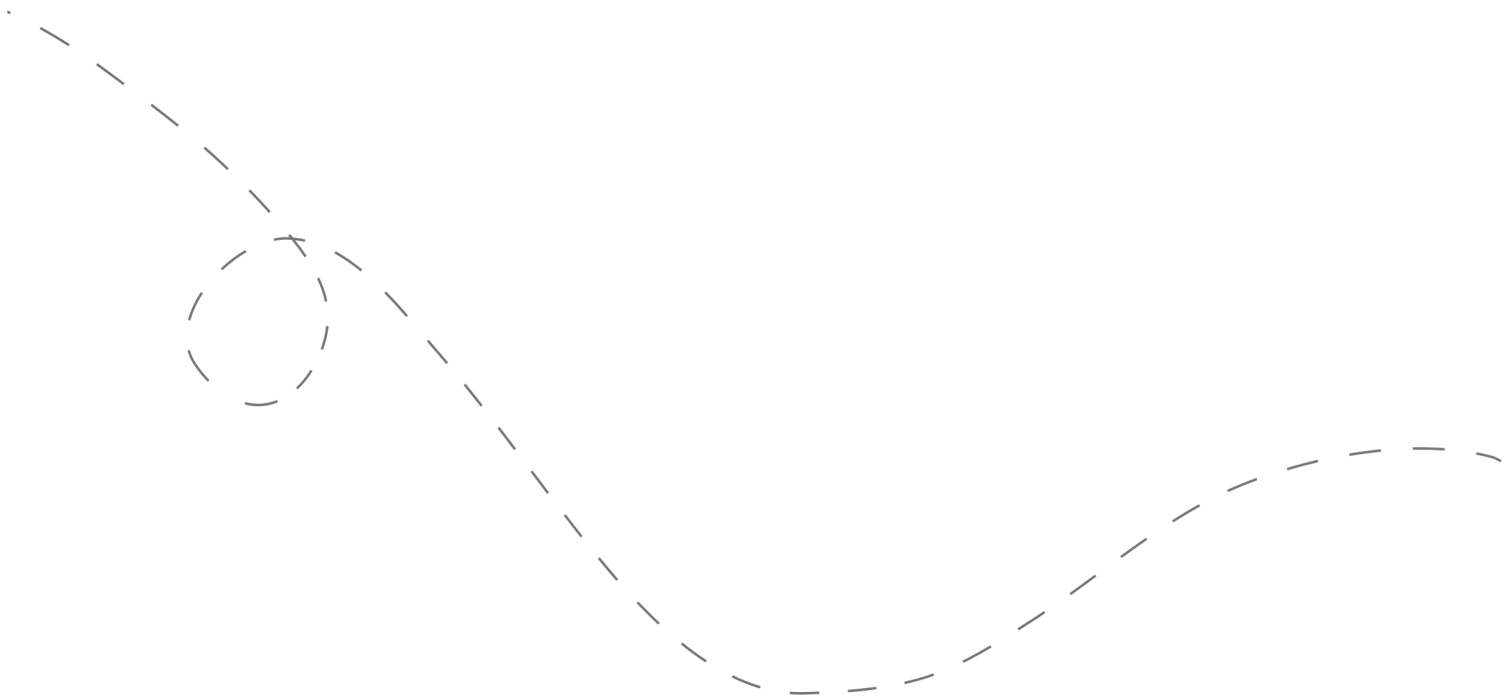


Hit the Road!

Don't open the first envelope until you're ready to leave. Once you're finished at the first stop, you can open the second envelope. Four stops are included within your road trip.

Your day ahead! Without giving away too many details.

We often include a variety of recommendations at each stop. You do not have to go to all of them, pick and choose what works best for you and your travel mates. If you can't get through all of the stops during the day - come back and explore them at a later date!



DETAILED ITINERARY



Time to Depart!

We recommend departing **between 9:00 - 9:30 am** if you're coming from Victoria, or earlier if you're coming from Duncan/Port Renfrew.

1

Castles or Coastlines?

Recommended duration: 45 minutes - 1 hour

Drive time to second stop: 15 minutes

**One on-the-way cafe option is available on this stop.*

2

Falls or a Farm?

Recommended duration: 1 hour

Drive time to third stop: 23 minutes

**One restaurant/bakery is available on this stop.*

3

Seaside Strolls

Recommended duration: 1 hour

Drive time to fourth stop: 10 - 35 minutes

**One cafe and one brewery option are available on this stop.*

4

Choose Your Own Ending

Recommended duration: 1 - 2 hours

**One food option and one brewery are available on this stop.*

Navigating the Road



When to Go

- ✓ This itinerary is **best done from Tuesday - Sunday anytime throughout the year.**
- ✓ We do not recommend travelling on Mondays or statutory holidays. One option on stop #1 is open daily from May - Oct., but only on weekends from Nov. - Apr. Year-round alternatives are provided.



Stay Overnight

Head to the following link for a list of recommended accommodations close to the last stop.

guesswheretrips.com/pages/hotels

**The link above will only reveal the general area where your trip will end.*



Itinerary Changes

Descriptions, dates and hours may have changed since publishing the itinerary. Find out if changes have been made to your trip by heading to:

guesswheretrips.com/updates

Tip: scan below for the most updated trip!



Get the Digital Version

Every road trip package includes a QR code that you can scan to get the full digital version of the trip. This is a great option if you are traveling with a group of people in multiple cars!





What to Pack:

- ☐ A vehicle with a full tank of gas
- ☐ Comfortable walking footwear
- ☐ Weather appropriate clothing
- ☐ **Road trip snacks**
- ☐ Bathing suit & towel (optional)
- ☐ Hiking essentials (see next page)
- ☐ Some form of GPS device
(ie. Google Maps)
- ☐ Cell phone charging cables
- ☐ **Cash & coins for parking fees**
- ☐ **Painted rock**, to leave at stop #2!
- ☐ Guess Where Trips package
- ☐ Don't forget road trip music!
Head to GWT's road trip playlist
on Spotify here:



About the Trip Collaborator

Dylan is a Vancouver Island-based adventurer capturing the magic of the West Coast through stunning photography and local hidden gems. He's all about turning road trips into unforgettable escapes-think scenic hikes, must-see stops, and fun facts that bring every destination to life.

Follow him at @betterwithadventure for more road trip inspo!



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land you will be travelling on is the traditional and unceded territory of the lək̓ʷəŋən speaking peoples, today known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke, W̱SÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum) peoples, the K'ómoks First Nation, including Sathlout, Sasitla, leeksun, Puledge, Cha'chae, and Tat'poos Peoples, Snuneymuxw, Snaw-naw-as, Quw'utsun, and Tla'amin First Nations.

Guess Where Trips believes land acknowledgments are an important way of recognizing and expressing gratitude to the First Nations, Inuit and Métis whose that was stolen from them. Please respect this land.

Frequently Asked Questions

How much will the stops cost?

First Stop: Two suggestions have small parking fees (\$) per vehicle. One free alternative is provided.

Second Stop: No fee

Third Stop: No fee

Fourth Stop: One park option has a small parking fee (\$), and another photo op has an optional cash donation. Free alternatives are provided.

**Please note: gas, tolls, and food may be additional costs.*

When should we leave?

We recommend departing **between 9 - 9:30 am if you're coming from Victoria**, or about 30 minutes earlier if you're coming from Duncan or Port Renfrew.

Can I bring my dog?

This trip is **somewhat dog friendly!** There is at least one dog friendly option on every stop; however, most options are outdoor suggestions, so please keep in mind the weather. Some of our eat/drink suggestions offer dog friendly patios.

Hiking safety & what to pack:

There is one trail and two beaches on stop #4 that lie within bear country. Should you choose to visit these spots, we recommend packing the **"eleven essentials for hiking"** when venturing into the wilderness:

- Bear spray, flashlight/headlamp with extra batteries, signaling device, fire starter, warm clothes, pocketknife, shelter (large plastic bag or tarp), water & snacks, first aid kit, navigation (map/GPS), and communications/cellphone.

How long will the total trip take?

See the approximate round-trip driving distances/times below. These are **driving distances only** and do not factor in time spent at stops.

From **Victoria:**

2 hours and 57 minutes / 153 km

From **Duncan:**

3 hours and 48 minutes / 234 km

From **Port Renfrew:**

3 hours and 55 minutes / 212 km

From **Nanaimo*:**

5 hours and 8 minutes / 334 km

**We recommend making this into an overnight getaway if your drive time exceeds 4 hours round-trip.*

How many people can I bring with me?

We recommended **bringing up to 5 people** on your surprise road trip.

If you're bringing a larger group, we highly recommend having one person in charge of booking reservations at restaurants and attractions in advance. Please see the previous page for a copy of the digital itinerary.

Is this wheelchair or stroller accessible?

First Stop: There are multiple accessible options at this stop.

Second Stop: One farm suggestion is accessible, while our waterfall suggestion is not accessible.

Third Stop: There are multiple accessible options at this stop.

Fourth Stop: There is an accessible brewery on this stop. Our alternative outdoor options are not accessible.

Risk

Get out on the road and have fun, but please be careful. Obey all road signs, never drink and drive, and use caution and common sense at all times. The risk of injury can be significant, including the potential for permanent disability and death. While particular precautions and personal discipline will minimize this risk, the risk of personal and emotional injury, illness, physical disability, or death does exist. Guess Where Trips Inc., its owners, officers, publishers, and agents assume NO liability for your actions or activities as a result of recommendations within this guide. You agree and acknowledge that you will do some, or all, of the recommendations suggested in this book with full and complete knowledge of the risk and dangers involved, and you agree to accept and assume any and all risks of any nature whatsoever.

More information is available on our website at www.guesswheretrips.com.

The Guess Where Trips Team



Have fun, and be safe!

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Redefining Road Trips

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