

September 17 – 26, 2025 | 10 Days, 9 Nights

Journey to the breathtaking **West Coast** of **Canada**, where rugged coastlines meet ancient forests, and rich cultural history blends seamlessly with modern charm. This immersive tour will take you through the heart of British Columbia, from the elegant streets of Victoria to the wild beauty of Tofino, offering a perfect balance of exploration, relaxation, and adventure.

Victoria - Chemainus - Nanaimo - Tofino - Sooke

Sightseeing | Cultural Experiences | Exploration & Adventure







Day 1 | TOUR START DATE | Wednesday, September 17: Victoria arrival (-/-/D)

Welcome to **Victoria**, British Columbia's charming capital city! Upon arrival, embark on a *guided walk* through **Sidney**($27 \, km$, $\sim 26 min$), a picturesque coastal town known for its waterfront views, boutique shops, and vibrant art scene.

After the walk, check into your hotel and take some time to settle in.In the evening, gather for a *welcome dinner*, where you will meet your fellow travelers and receive an overview of the adventure ahead.

Day 2 | Thursday, September 18: Victoria (-/-/-)

Begin the day with a *guided historical tour* of Victoria, exploring its rich past and architectural beauty. Visit **Chinatown**, the oldest in Canada, where vibrant streets and historic alleyways tell the story of early settlers. Continue to **Fisherman's Wharf**, a colorful floating village with fresh seafood and local marine life. Stroll through **Bastion Square** and **Market Square**, both significant centers of commerce and culture, offering a blend of history and modern charm. Wander through **Fan Tan Alley**, one of the narrowest streets in Canada, lined with unique shops and hidden gems.



In the evening, enjoy drinks at the iconic **Empress Hotel**, where you can soak in the elegant atmosphere of this historic landmark.

Day 3 | Friday, September 19: Victoria (-/L/D)

Start the morning at your own pace and have some free time to relax or explore more. Continue the day with an authentic Dim Sum lunch, followed by a visit to the renowned **Butchart Gardens**, where stunning floral displays and landscaped beauty create a breathtaking experience. In the afternoon, visit **Thunderbird Park** (20 km, $\sim 30 \text{min}$) to admire indigenous totem poles and learn about First Nations artistry. End the day with a **Special Seafood Dinner**, savoring the region's finest ocean-to-table cuisine.

Day 4 | Saturday, September 20: Victoria - Chemainus - Nanaimo (-/-/D)

Depart Victoria and journey along the stunning **Malahat Highway**, known for its breathtaking coastal views. On our way, we can't miss the opportunity to experience the <u>Malahat SkyWalk</u>. Take a moment to enjoy breathtaking views, high among the trees and surrounded by the sea.

Stop in the town of **Chemainus**, famous for its outdoor murals depicting the history and culture of the region. Continue to the



charming **Goats on the Roof Market**, a unique and lively stop offering artisan goods and local delicacies. Arrive in **Nanaimo**, home of the famous **Nanaimo Bar**, where you will have the chance to sample this sweet Canadian treat. Check into the hotel. Overnight.

Total driving: 113 km, ~ 1h 40min;

Day 5 | Sunday, September 21: Nanaimo - Tofino (-/-/D)

Travel along the rugged coastline to **Tofino** ($207 \, km$, $\sim 2h \, 50 min$), a laid-back town renowned for its surf culture and pristine natural surroundings. On our way, make a stop in <u>Cathedral Grove</u> - MacMillan Provincial park preserving a section of lush old-growth forest unique to Vancouver Island. The park's name will make perfect sense when you see sunlight filtering through the soaring 80-meter-high canopy.

Upon arrival, check into your accommodations and participate in an orientation session to familiarize yourself with the area. Spend the evening unwinding over *dinner*, taking in the relaxed atmosphere and preparing for the adventures ahead.

Day 6 | Monday, September 22: Tofino (-/-/-)

Today, explore the unique ecosystem of **Clayoquot Sound** on a guided nature walk, where you will learn about local flora, traditional foraging techniques, and the deep cultural connections of the First Nations to the land. Visit **Mears Island**, home to some of the world's oldest red cedar trees, and gain insight into its significance to the Nuu-chah-nulth people.

Day 7 | Tuesday, September 23: Tofino (-/-/-)

Take the day at your own pace, embracing the *West Coast lifestyle*. Enjoy a surfing lesson on Tofino's renowned waves, hike through the lush coastal trails for breathtaking ocean views, or simply relax on the beach and soak in the fresh sea air. For those looking to explore the town's creative spirit, visit Tofino's unique craft shops and artisan boutiques, where local artists showcase handmade jewelry, pottery, and coastal-inspired artwork. Wander through the galleries and studios to discover one-of-a-kind souvenirs that capture the essence of this vibrant coastal community.



Day 8 | Wednesday, September 24: Tofino - Victoria (-/-/-)

Bid farewell to Tofino and begin the journey back to Victoria. Take in the scenic beauty of Vancouver Island one last time as you travel through its picturesque landscapes. Check in and overnight.

Total driving: 317 km, ~ 4h 20min;

Day 9 | Thursday, September 25: Victoria (-/-/-)

Spend the day exploring at your leisure. *Free day.*

Optional: embark on a *whale-watching tour* for the chance to spot orcas, humpbacks, and other marine life in their natural habitat.

Later that day, visit **Sooke** (39 km, \sim 45min), a charming coastal town known for its rugged coastline, artistic community, and scenic nature trails.



Day 10 | TOUR END DATE | Friday, September 26: Departure & Optional Extension (-/-/-)

As your journey comes to an end, take time to reflect on the incredible experiences of the past days. We'll transfer you to the Victoria airport where, sadly, we will say our goodbyes! Safe travels <u>*</u>

Optional: extend your stay with a *two-day trip* to **Salt Spring Island**, where you can explore artisan markets, organic farms, and serene landscapes.

THANK YOU FOR TRAVELLING WITH COBBLESTONE FREEWAY!

There is so much included:

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Airport Transfers
- Escorted tour with full-time Tour Leader
- Tour in English
- All Events included in the Itinerary
- 9 nights in hand-chosen hotels
- Entrances as per program
- Internet in hotels when possible
- Special events exclusively for Cobblestone travelers

MEALS:

- Breakfasts x1
- Dinner x4

NOT INCLUDED:

- Flights not listed in Itinerary
- Extra days before/after the tour
- Tours and transfers not mentioned as included
- Events and Services not included in the itinerary or marked as *Optional*
- Travel and Medical Insurance
- Alcoholic beverages
- Meals not listed in Itinerary
- Tips for guides/drivers/maids
- Laundry & Telephone Services

TOURS, TRANSPORTATION & GUIDES:

- Tours and Events included in the itinerary
- All land transportation in an air-conditioned coach
- Experienced guides throughout the tour

HOTELS:

City	Hotel	Check-in	Check-out	Nights
	Coast Victoria Hotel & Marina by APA or similar.	Sep 17	Sep 20	3
Nanaimo	Travelodge by Wyndham or similar.	Sep 20	Sep 21	1
Tofino	Tofino Motel Harbourview or similar.	Sep 21	Sep 24	3
Victoria	Coast Victoria Hotel & Marina by APA or similar.	Sep 24	Sep 26	2

PRICE:

Land Package:

\$... CAD

Price based on a group of ... travelers, double occupancy.

Please Note: Any changes in tour contents or the number of travelers may result in a price change.

Cancellation Policy:

Cancellation notice must be in writing to info@cobblestonefreeway.ca

Terms & Conditions are on our website:

https://cobblestonefreeway.ca/contact/terms-and-conditions/

Select your tour type: Custom Group Tour

REGISTRATION

Please fill out the registration form on the link below: Registration Form - 'Vancouver Island Adventure 2025' Tour