

PRESENTED BY
THE BIKE TO WORK SOCIETY



VIEW ROYAL/ ESQUIMALT



GO BY BIKE WEEK

SEPT. 28 - OCT. 4 2020



GREATER VICTORIA
BIKE to WORK
SOCIETY

<https://gobybikebc.ca/greater-victoria>

GO BY BIKE WEEK

Discovery
RIDES



Sept. 28 - Oct. 4, 2020



Welcome All Discovery Riders!

Whether you have lived in the Greater Victoria region your entire life or you just recently moved here, these Discovery Rides are designed for you! Each ride is geared towards getting you outside and exploring some of the local art, culture, and natural features of this region in a fun and engaging new way during Go by Bike Week! Unlike the Scavenger Hunt challenge, the Discovery Ride packages include photos and 'points of interest' along a pre-determined cycling route. These rides are curated much like a self-guided tour and tell a story about a neighbourhood to encourage riders to dive into the history of a place in a thoughtful way.

How to participate in the challenge and win prizes:

1. Browse the neighbourhood ride packages posted on the 'community resource' section of the Go by Bike BC Greater Victoria webpage.
2. Select a ride, then Download the PDF of the ride you want to take, along with the Google Maps link on your phone, or printed off the computer.
3. Create a free account on the Go by Bike BC website, and get ready to log your ride kilometres.
4. Go for a bike ride and explore the 'points of interest!'
5. Submit your kms on your new Go by Bike BC account, or team page.
6. Submit a photo, story, or video to us about your experience or something you discovered on this Discovery Ride challenge. **Submissions can be sent to us by tagging #GobyBikeWeek on Instagram or Facebook, or emailed to admin@biketowork.ca.**

With every submission, you will be entered into a draw for a chance to win a gift card to a local restaurant or shop. Prize winners for this challenge will be drawn after October 4th.

Neighbourhood Discovery Rides available:

- Oak Bay Archives
- North Saanich
- Victoria/Downtown
- View Royal/Esquimalt

Activities are designed with adult supervision in mind. Before undertaking any outdoor activities, please be sure to follow the latest COVID-19 Provincial Support and Information.

View Royal Esquimalt

Points of Interest

Explore the 'points of interest' outlined in each ride package and send us a photo, story, or video telling us about your experience or something you discovered on your Discovery Ride. Tag us at #GobyBikeWeek to be entered to win prizes!

[Click for Google Maps link View Royal Esquimalt.](#)

1. **Background:**

Built in 1903 by the Canadian National Railway, the Selkirk Trestle is a 300-metre long fir and hemlock trestle that spans the Selkirk Waters, a narrow saltwater inlet. When the Selkirk Trestle opened to pedestrians and cyclists in 1996, an important milestone was achieved in the history of the Galloping Goose Regional Trail: a continuous multi-use trail now linking the communities of Victoria West and Saanich. In 1995, the trestle was severely damaged in a fire and rebuilt with a draw bridge function in its center to allow boats with tall masts to navigate the inner waters.



Photo of Selkirk Trestle by John Holland.

Action Item: Ride across this old trestle and take a photo of it from either end on the Galloping Goose Regional Trail. Be sure to pull off the trail completely when stopped to allow others to pass you safely.

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

- 2. Background:** Hidden away along the E&N Rail Trail are a series of different, colourful, and some political, graffiti murals painted on the backs of buildings located between Fairview Rd and Hereward Rd. Over the years, these walls have become canvases for many local graffiti artists in the community.



Photo of murals on E&N Trail by John Holland.

Action Item: Ride over to these murals and take a photo of your favourite design.

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

3. **Background:**

Navigating the windy intersection at Admirals Road can be utterly confusing and convoluted for cars and cyclists alike. However, if we roll back in time, this intersection becomes a living artifact of transportation history in the Esquimalt area.



Action Item: Continue riding along the E&N Rail Trail to the intersection at Admirals and Colville Road. Once arriving, take a look at the old train station shelter on the corner of Colville Road and discover something new about this place. When crossing this intersection, be sure to walk your bicycle when using the crosswalks.

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

- 4. Background:** “The Songhees Wellness Centre is a LEED Silver rated building with geothermal heating and cooling and a rooftop solar array for hot water. The Lək̓wəŋən Recreation Centre Committee envisioned this building to symbolize the Nation’s pride of place, serve as an economic generator, welcome visitors, and consolidate programs and services for members” (Songhees Nation website). This building is situated on the unceded ancestral lands of the Lək̓wəŋən Nations.



Photo of from Vic News, courtesy of Camosun AV Services.

Action Item: Ride over to this building, just slightly off the E&N Rail Trail, and take a moment to observe and listen to the sounds in this place. What sounds can you hear here?

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

- 5. Background:** “The Kosampson people, whose descendants are part of the Esquimalt Nation, lived in a village on the east bank of the Gorge, near Portage Inlet. Shell middens near Gorge Bridge confirm the area has been used for over 4,000 years. Portage Inlet and the Gorge Waterway continue to be culturally significant areas for the Esquimalt and Songhees peoples” (History of Portage Inlet, CRD Website).



Photo of Postcard: Craigflower Schoolhouse & Bridge, c.1910. Published by T.N. Hibben & Co, Victoria B.C. Printed in Germany

Action Item: Ride over to Portage Park and visit the Historic Craigflower Schoolhouse and Manor, which was built on the former Kosampson village site in 1854. Can you see bits of white shell remnants in the sands along the shoreline here?

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

- 6. Background:** These two murals on the side of the View Royal Elementary School, located off of the E&N Rail Trail, are unique in their design and style. The lower mural was designed by Misha Smart, who also designed the James Bay Community School mural.



Action Item: Ride over to these murals and check out all the natural features woven within each of these paintings.

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

7.

Background:

Situated between View Royal Elementary School and Adam's Storage, is the historic Fort Victoria RV Park, located along the E&N Rail Trail. Can you spot this old Fort Bastion replica along the trail? This replica was built in the early 1960's by the family who established the Fort RV Park & Campground.



Image of Watercolor painting of the southwest bastion of Fort Victoria with harbour to the left by Sarah Crease (wife of Henry), 8 September 1860.



Action Item: Find this old Fort Victoria Bastion replica and take a photo of it. From how many metres away (approximately) can you spot this building along the Galloping Goose Trail?

View Royal/ Esquimalt *Discovery RIDES*

Points of Interest

8.

Background:

The Nest Café is the Go-to café for cyclists and Galloping Goose Commuters. This café is nestled on a hill along Watkiss Way and offers a rest stop on route to Thetis Lake. This café even has a bike maintenance station, including a wide variety of tools and air pumps.

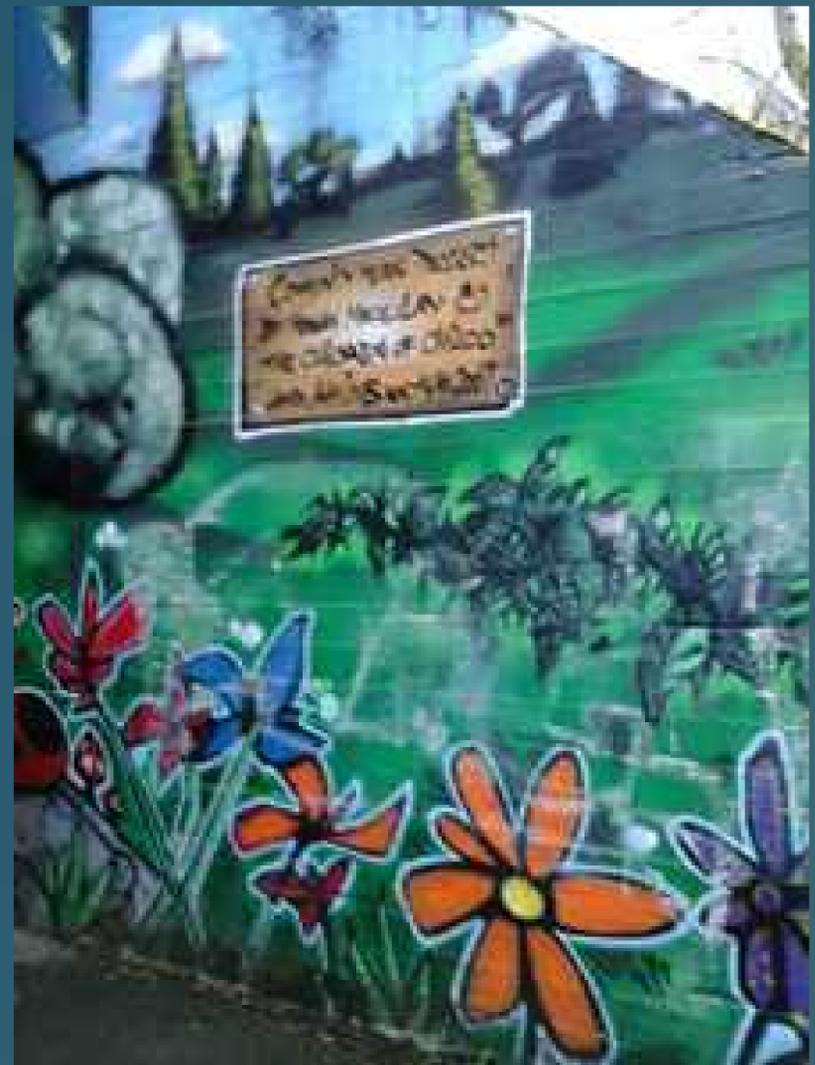


Action Item: This café offers a wonderful seating space. What tree species can you identify here? For help identifying plant species, download the free iNaturalist app on your phone, take a photo of the plant, and upload it for identifying.

View Royal/ Esquimalt

Points of Interest

9. **Background:** A community mural project by Morgan MacCaulay and the Children of Chico and Atkins in August 2007, lines the Atkins Chilco Pedestrian Pathway under the Via Rail track in View Royal. Decorated with elaborate painted flowers and nature images, this 1916 tunnel connects Atkins Road with Chilco Road near Thetis Vale Green Space. The Via Rail, which once traveled above this pathway, began operating a Victoria- Courtney passenger train in 1979, and transported passengers between Victoria, Nanaimo and Courtney. This train service was suspended indefinitely in March 2011, due to track replacement work and subsequent lack of funds.



Action Item: Ride over to this tunnel and take a peek at this beautiful colourful mural! You can also find more of Morgan MacCaulay's art on Instagram at @Macaulayart.