

Flavour Trails Itinerary: Fields of Flavour

The Saanich Peninsula, set just 30 minutes north of Victoria, is a rural ramble of rolling hills, wineries, cideries, bakeries, farmstands and much more. This road-tripper's paradise will tie together the pastoral and urban to add another layer to your Island culinary experience. Visit local farms where ingredients are nurtured and foraged before you complete your gastronomic journey in downtown Victoria at one of several farm-to-table restaurants.

Start: Downtown Victoria

Start the day bright and early with a short 20-minute drive from downtown Victoria to your first stop. No need to grab your morning tea or coffee en route; there will be plenty where you're headed.

Stop 1: The Gardens at HCP

Your first stop on your self-guided adventure is The Gardens at HCP, a beautiful botanical garden that you can enjoy year-round. Spend as long as you like here, taking in the seasonal blooms and wandering the garden paths.

Stop 2: Country Bee Honey Farm

Hop back in the car for a quick 9-minute drive to your next stop. Taste the flavours of the Saanich Peninsula in the locally made honey at Country Bee. Sample from dozens of flavours and shop their locally made gifts and products. You'll be sure to find some goodies to bring home.

Stop 3: Church & State

What could be better than a beautiful vineyard on the Peninsula? Two minutes down the road, arrive at Church & State Wines. Ready for an afternoon snack? Their Tasting Bar is the perfect place to linger a while, especially when seated overlooking the vineyard on their expansive patio. Make a note to return soon with your mat for one of their outdoor yoga classes.

Stop 4: Sea Cider Farm & Ciderhouse

12 minutes from Church & State, discover Sea Cider Farm, a beautiful cidery with outstanding views of the orchard and Salish Sea. Sample their dry, sweet and seasonal sips as you nibble on delectable light bites. Sea Cider also boasts a great assortment of local delicacies in their on-site shop, pick up a few of your faves for the drive back.



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Stop 5: 10 Acres at the Pier

Located in sunny Sidney by the Sea, 10 Acres at the Pier is the perfect spot to stop in for a late lunch, or simply post-cider grazing. 10 Acres at the Pier's menu focuses on farm-fresh ingredients from Peninsula-based farms and Ocean Wise sustainably caught seafood.

Stop 6: Victoria Distillers

Leave the car parked for this one. A short two-minute walk away, Victoria Distillers produces some of Canada's finest handmade spirits and award-winning gins. As one of Canada's oldest small-batch spirits companies, the success of Victoria Distillers comes together through the help of talented mixologists, the world's best-tasting water (found here on the Canadian west coast), and only the highest quality of ingredients. The magic happens on a unique waterfront location in Sidney, where copper pot stills produce their wide range of both classic and innovative cocktail spirits. Their central location in Sidney provides a great launchpad for exploring the quaint and quirky shops in the area.

Finish: Return to Victoria | Marilena Café + Raw Bar

With your rural ramble nearly complete, tie your culinary experience on the Peninsula together with a farm-fresh, sustainably sourced meal at Marilena Café + Raw Bar. We recommend indulging in their seafood towers, for a truly line-to-table experience.

