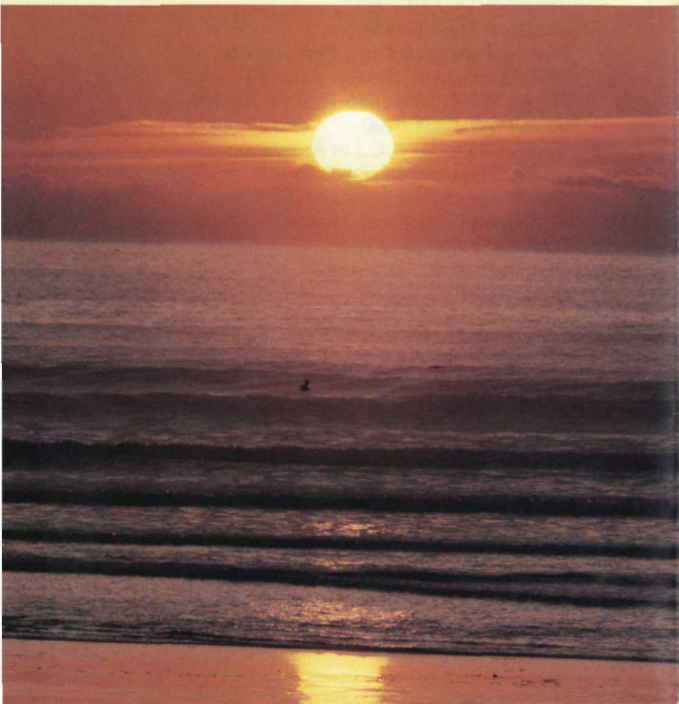


Pacific Rim National Park

British Columbia



Kayaking in Broken Group Islands

The Pacific Ocean, named for its peaceful appearance the day that the Spanish explorer Balboa set eyes on it in 1513, not only gives this national park its name but is one of the major reasons for its existence. Contrary to Balboa's first impression, the Pacific is an immense and unpredictable force that dominates this landscape totally – harsh and brutal as often as it is at peace.

From each of the three areas of land and sea comprising Pacific Rim National Park visitors can experience the influence of the ocean for themselves. These units are called Long Beach, the Broken Group Islands and the West Coast Trail. Each is separated from the others by expanses of land and water and are reached by visitors in different ways.

The Long Beach Unit is accessible by car from Port Alberni along a winding mountain highway. The unit is named for Long Beach, an 11 kilometre stretch of surf-swept sand between rocky headlands. The beach itself is not open to vehicle traffic.

Quisitis Point



West Coast Trail

The Broken Group Islands Unit, made up of more than 100 islands and islets, is found centered in Barkley Sound and is reached by boat.

The West Coast Trail lies between Bamfield and Port Renfrew, a distance of 77 kilometres. At the turn of the century a lifesaving trail was constructed for shipwrecked mariners. This trail can only be travelled on foot and demands much strength and stamina from hikers. Rugged and often rain-soaked, the West Coast Trail also requires preparation for total self-sufficiency along its route.

What to do in the park

Facilities for visitors vary in each area of the park. Activities depend on the maritime climate which may change suddenly from warm and clear to cool and wet. Wind and fog are also common on the coast.

West Coast Trail



Sea lions

The West Coast Trail is designed for backpackers. Visitors seeking campgrounds with complete facilities and short hiking trails, should visit the Long Beach Unit of the park.

PARK ENVIRONMENT

Two hundred million years ago, a chain of volcanic islands, destined to become Vancouver Island, lay somewhere off the present-day coast of South America. Over millions of years this mountainous chain drifted northeast and eventually collided with ancestral North America

Normally, five or six days are required to hike the entire trail. A more leisurely journey would take eight days. Hikers should plan their expedition to allow for time to deal with unforeseen difficulties as well as to enjoy opportunities for exploration.

LONG BEACH

CAMPING is available on a first-come, first served basis in a semi-serviced campground at Green Point. A daily fee is charged. The maximum stay during busy periods is seven days.

A primitive walk-in campground is located at the north end of Long Beach. Campers must pack their equipment one kilometre along Schooner Trail to this spot on the beach.

FIRES may be lit in fireplaces provided or outdoor portable stoves may be used. Small fires are also permitted below the high tide mark on the beaches.

FISHING from boats and surf-fishing are allowed in the park. Launching ramps are located at Grice Bay, Tofino and Ucluelet. Sport fishing licences are required and may be purchased in Ucluelet or Tofino.

HIKING the beaches, headlands and woodland trails is the best way to enjoy the Long Beach Unit. The free Hiker's Guide brochure is available at the Information Centre.

THE INFORMATION CENTRE for the Long Beach Unit is located on Highway 4, just inside the park boundary. It is open daily from Easter to mid-October and features exhibits and displays to help visitors plan their stay.

THE PARK INTERPRETATION PROGRAM is a free service provided to help visitors learn about the natural and human history of the park. Exhibits, murals and films allow visitors to learn

about 100 million years ago. Approximately one million years ago, the climate cooled and huge glaciers advanced from mountain tops out to sea. As the climate warmed, the glaciers receded dropping their load of sands, gravels and clays to form a coastal plain in the park area.

Heavy rain, prolonged cloudiness and moderate temperatures have produced the lush forest that dominates the landscape.

Sitka spruce fringe the coast while cedar, hemlock and amabilis fir thrive inland from the spruce. Areas of bog and muskeg support shorepine, Labrador tea and bog laurel. A thick growth of salal, salmonberry and huckleberry may rise two to three metres above the forest floor. Mosses, ferns, lily-of-the-valley, and bunchberries compete for sunlight under the tree and shrub canopy.

Mammals are not abundant in the deep forest although red squirrels, minks, martens and racoons may occasionally be seen. Black-tailed deer frequent glades along the shoreline and logged-over areas. Black bears are often visible and cougars and wolves have been observed crossing roadways more rarely.

Keen observers may spot Pacific gray whales. The best time to view these whales is during their spring migration between mid-March and mid-May. Sea lions frequent offshore rocks while harbour seals are generally seen in sheltered bays. River otter and mink forage for fish and crustaceans on rocky shorelines.

Birds in the park include such forest species as the pileated woodpecker, Stellar's jay, brown

about the open ocean at the Wickaninnish Centre, located on Wickaninnish Beach. Other interpretive programs include self-guiding trails and public programs including audio visual presentations and outdoor events running from about mid-June to

Wickaninnish Beach



BROKEN GROUP ISLANDS

ACCESS to the islands is by boat across open ocean channels whose waves and reefs are at times hazardous. Visitors should use extreme caution, have a marine chart and compass and follow Ministry of Transport small vessel regulations. Most visitors travel to the islands from Bamfield, Toquart Bay, Ucluelet or Port Alberni. In summer, a 100-passenger cargo vessel carries visitors and their canoes or kayaks between Port Alberni, Gibraltar Island and Ucluelet.

BOATING conditions are good in protected waterways in the inner islands. Care is needed as the islands' waters are studded with reefs and are often obscured by heavy morning fog. There are no extensive sand shores or tidal flats for beaching craft but sheltered lagoons do exist at Gibraltar, Jacques and Hand islands.

sea worms. Shore birds search among the seaweed along the tide line for food.

Offshore, halibut, sole, cod and schools of salmon feed on small fish, shrimp, plankton and other organisms.

A special note about wildlife

Most problems that arise between visitors and animals in national parks are caused by food. Feeding wildlife endangers both animal and man. Animals attracted to populated areas by frequent feeding or improperly stored food or garbage often become ill.

All wild animals are unpredictable and approaching them is dangerous. It is illegal to feed, entice or molest any animal in a national park. For information about bears, please obtain a copy of You Are in Bear Country from information centres.

All resources in national parks are protected. Collecting marine life such as shells and starfish, flowers and plant life is prohibited.

Driving

Many highways on Vancouver Island, because of the terrain, snake through mountain passes. Drivers should be prepared and take extra caution.

B.C. Buckles Up

The law requires that drivers and passengers must use installed seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle.

MARINE CHART 3670 is the first hydrographic chart in Canada to feature navigation information on one side and national park information on the other. The chart provides the detailed information necessary for all boaters in the Broken Group Islands. The reverse side of the chart contains information about the islands' flora and fauna, marine life, fisheries regulations, native history and a description of the campsite facilities. The text is enhanced by illustrations of the animals and plants of the islands. Chart 3670 is available for purchase for \$8 (plus 6% B.C. sales tax on orders originating in British Columbia only) from: Canadian Hydrographic Service, Chart Sales and Distribution Office, Institute of Ocean Sciences, 9860 West Saanich Rd., Box 6000, Sidney B.C., V8L 4B2.

West Coast Trail



Common purple sea stars

WHERE TO GET INFORMATION

More detailed information may be obtained at the park information centres listed below or by writing:

Superintendent
Pacific Rim National Park
Box 280
Ucluelet, British Columbia
V0R 3A0

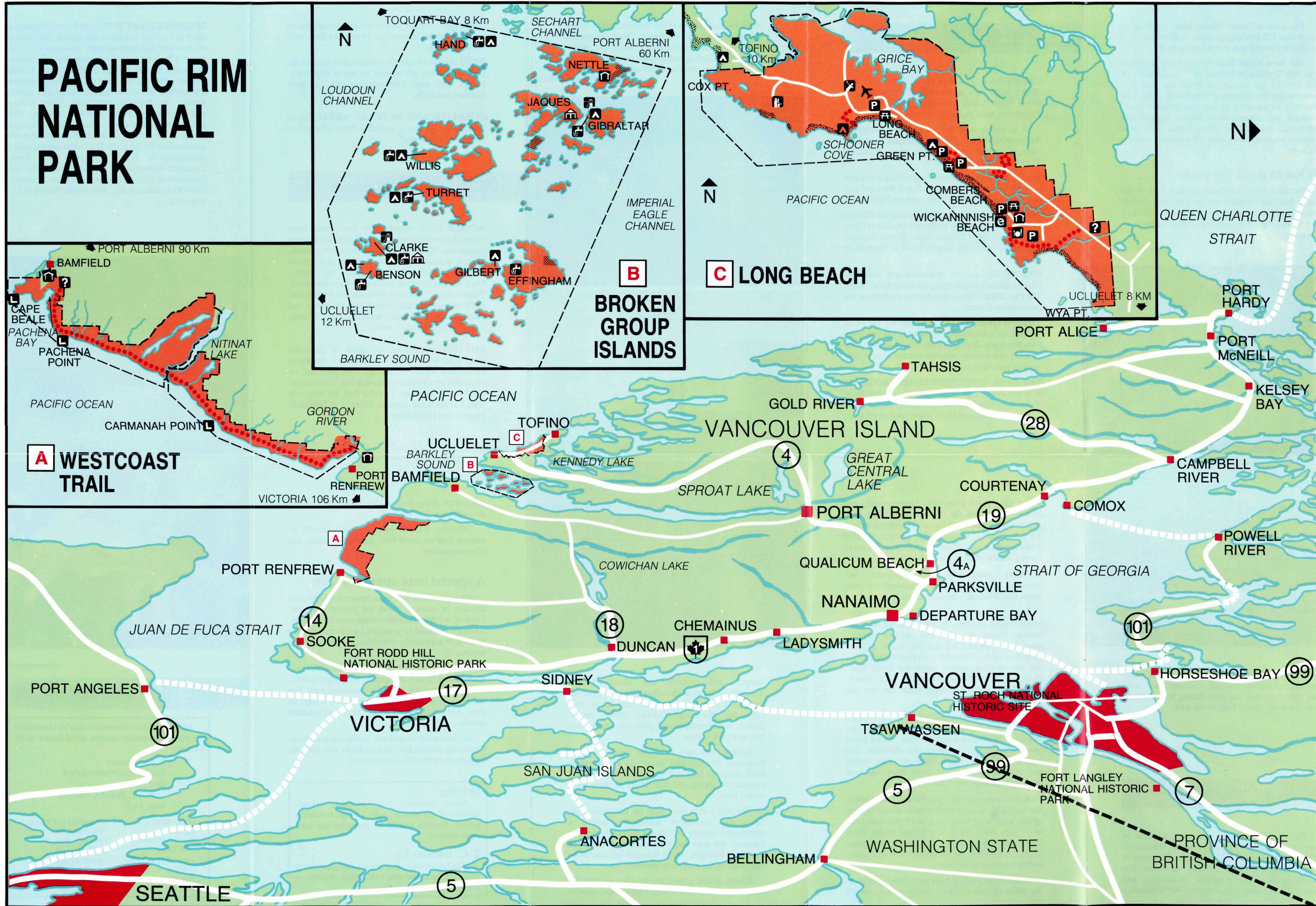
LONG BEACH
Highway 4
Easter – mid-October
(604) 726-4212

WEST COAST TRAIL
PACHENA BAY
mid-May – Sept. 30
(604) 728-3234

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
Year-round
(604) 726-7721

WEST COAST TRAIL
PORT RENFREW
mid-May – Sept. 30
(604) 647-5434

PACIFIC RIM NATIONAL PARK



How to reach Vancouver Island and Pacific Rim National Park

Once on Vancouver Island, the Long Beach and West Coast Trail units are accessible by road from any of the points on the island served by the ferries listed in this section.

All three units of the park are accessible by private boat or through the scheduled summer service of Alberni Marine Transportation as shown.

The villages of Ucluelet and Tofino are served by regularly scheduled bus from Port Alberni and Pacific Rim Airlines operates scheduled flights from Vancouver to Tofino Airport via Port Alberni.

Ferry Services

M.V. Lady Rose
Alberni Marine Transportation Co.
 Box 188, Port Alberni, V9Y 7M7
 Phone: 723-8213
 Port Alberni to Ucluelet
 10 hours (round trip)
 100 passengers
 Seasonal: Mon, Wed, Fri.
 Port Alberni to Bamfield, Waypoint, Koldonan
 9 hours (round trip)
 100 passengers
 Tues, Thurs, Sat.

British Columbia Ferry Corporation
 818 Broughton, Victoria
 Phone: Victoria, 386-3431;
 Vancouver, 669-1211.
 Vancouver (Tsawwassen) to Victoria (Swartz Bay)
 1 hour and 35 minutes
 300 cars, 1,350 passengers
 Vancouver (Horseshoe Bay) to Nanaimo (Departure Bay)
 1 hour and 35 minutes
 362 cars, 1,500 passengers.

British Columbia Steamship Company (1975) Ltd.
 254 Belleville St., Victoria V8V 1W9
 Victoria - Reservations - 386-6731,
 - Information - 386-1124
 Seattle - Reservations - 682-8200,
 - Information - 623-5560

Princess Marguerite
 50 cars, 1,800 passengers
 May-beginning of Oct.
Black Ball Transport Inc.
 430 Belleville St., Victoria V8V 1W9
 Phone: (604) 386-2202;
 Port Angeles (206) 457-4491
 Victoria to Port Angeles
 1 hour and 35 minutes
 100 cars, 800 passengers.

Washington State Ferries - Blaney Terminals Ltd., Port Agents
 2499 Ocean Ave., Sidney V8L 1T3
 Phone: Sidney (604) 656-1531 or 381-1551,
 Seattle (206) 464-6400
 Sidney (Victoria, B.C.) to Anacortes,
 Washington (Mainland)
 with San Juan Island ports of call.
 Approx. crossing time, 3 hours
 160 cars, 2,000 passengers
 Daily departures, year round.

Motor-Coach Services

Island Coach Lines
 710 Douglas St., Victoria V8V 2B3
 Phone: 385-4411
 Victoria, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Campbell River,
 Port Hardy
 with connections to the Queen of the North

Orient Stage Lines Ltd.
 Box 46, R.R. #2, Port Alberni V9Y 7L6
 Phone: 723-6924
 Port Alberni, Ucluelet, Tofino, Pacific Rim
 National Park (Long Beach), Vancouver to
 Harrison Hot Springs, Abbotsford, Langley,
 New Westminster.

Pacific Coachlines (1984) Ltd.
 Head office:
 500 Douglas St., Victoria, B.C. V8V 2B5
 Phone: 385-5731 or 385-4411
 Victoria to Vancouver via Swartz Bay Ferry.
 Direct service from Victoria to Vancouver
 International Airport.
 Vancouver terminal located at
 150 Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, B.C. V6V 1W9
 Phone: 681-1161 or 280-9439
 Vancouver to Tsawwassen Ferry
 Compound for Gulf Island passengers.
 Vancouver to Victoria via Tsawwassen Ferry.

Airline Services

Pacific Rim Airlines
 Box 1196, Port Alberni V9Y 7M1
 Phone: 724-4495
 Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, Bamfield,
 Vancouver, Nanaimo.

Distances to Port Alberni by road

(distances do not include portions over water)

From	km	mi	From	km	mi
Banff	1033	642	Parksville	48	30
Calgary	1164	723	Seattle	340	211
Edmonton	1347	837	Tofino	138	83
Jasper	975	606	Ucluelet	108	67
Kamloops	533	331	Vancouver	108	67
Nanaimo	85	53	Victoria	196	122

Other distances by road

Ucluelet to Tofino	41 km (26 mi)
Port Alberni to Bamfield	104 km (65 mi)
Victoria to Port Renfrew	105 km (66 mi)
Bamfield to Port Renfrew	405 km (253 mi)

LEGEND

- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Ferry Route
- Hiking Trail
- Park Boundary
- Rivers, Lakes
- Indian Reserve
- Beach
- City, Town
- Airstrip
- Campground
- Picnic Site
- Warden Office
- Viewpoint
- Golf Course
- Restaurant
- Floating Dock
- Drinking Water
- Parking Lot
- Lighthouse
- Exhibit
- Information
- Emergency Shelter