

OECC FATHER'S DAY DRIVE  
JUNE 20, 2021

TURN LEFT upon leaving the Hamsterly Beach parking lot and proceed on Brookleigh Road until you can go no further. Watch for horses (hopefully with riders) and bikes on this narrow road.

TURN LEFT at the stop sign on to Oldfield Road (going south) for just over 1 km.

TURN RIGHT onto Sparton Road and follow the road for just over 1.5 km until you arrive at West Saanich Road.

TURN RIGHT onto West Saanich Road (heading north) and stay on West Saanich.

You will pass a number of stands with eggs, flowers and produce, including Bright Greens (6346 West Saanich), Country Bee Honey Farm (6440 West Saanich) and flowers and eggs at 6375 West Saanich (on the right hand side).

Continue north on West Saanich Road until you enter Brentwood Bay.

*While you drive along West Saanich Road, here is a little background about farming on the Saanich peninsula. The peninsula itself is made up of the the municipalities of Saanich, Central Saanich (which includes Brentwood Bay and Saanichton), North Saanich, Sidney and the Highlands. While Saanich is thought of as well developed, about 21% of the land within the Municipality of Saanich is farmed. A total of 18% of the land is included in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) - which means that an additional 3% is used for farming.*

*The Coast Salish people inhabited the peninsula for thousands of years prior to the arrival of James Douglas and other colonial settlers. Archaeological evidence can be found of food processing on the peninsula, in addition to shell remains and ash deposits from fires.*

*By the mid-1895s the employees of the Hudson Bay Company and other colonial settlers changed the nature of farming and the district of Saanich became renowned for the cultivation of fruit and flowers.*

*To help farmers, the Island Vegetable Cooperative Association (IVCA) was formed in 1952 to assist in the marketing and sales of...vegetables. And fruits. Five growers on the Island are members, including Michell's, Gobind and Galey Farms on the peninsula.*

TURN RIGHT on to Wallace Drive at the lights in Brentwood Bay.

Continue on Wallace Drive past the climbing wall (on your left) and through the 4-way stop (but do stop). Just past the 4-way stop on your right is Marsh Farm, with produce on offer.

Continue on Wallace Drive across Mt Newton Cross Road until you reach another 4-way stop at East Saanich Road.

TURN LEFT on to East Saanich Road and then take the first RIGHT on to Wallace Drive. Enjoy the drive across the ridge with an expansive view to the east. Keep your eyes open for a Jaguar on your left up ahead - no need to roll the windows up.

TURN LEFT at Amity Drive and stay on the main road (bear right on to Moxon Terrace, which becomes Emard Terrace until it ends).

TURN LEFT on to Lowe Road, then TURN RIGHT on to East Saanich Road. Continue until the 4-way stop at McTavish Road.

TURN LEFT on to McTavish Road and continue until the stop sign at West Saanich Road

TURN RIGHT on to West Saanich Road. Follow the road around Patricia Bay for about 6 km.

***There is time for some facts about farming in British Columbia:***

- 1. BC tops the list for female farm operators, with over 37% of all farms led by women. The national average is just under 29%.***
- 2. Although there are fewer farms (17,500) than in past years, they are increasing in size to an average of 365 acres.***
- 3. BC farms collectively produce over 200 commodities - including eggs, poultry, beef, pork, dairy, tree and other fruit, grain and vegetables in abundance.***
- 4. BC ranks first in Canada in the sales of blueberries, cherries, raspberries, garlic, apricots and leeks.***
- 5. The number of young farmers is increasing, with over 1800 farmers under 35 years old.***

TURN RIGHT on to Wain Road. About 1km down will be Russell Nursery on your left (at 1370 Wain Road).

Continue East on Wain Road, going past Tatlow Road and Littlewood Road (on your left). Follow the directions to Hwy 17/Pat Bay Highway SOUTH (towards Victoria). Merge onto the highway and let 'er rip...

TURN RIGHT on to McDonald Park Road (just before the pedestrian overpass) and continue past Canadian Tire to the 4-way stop at Mills Road. Carry on straight (after clearing the intersection) as Mill Road becomes Beacon Avenue. Just before the lights at the Pat Bay Hwy, TURN RIGHT on to Stirling Way to go around the airport.

TURN LEFT at the stop sign at Ocean Avenue and Canora Road. Continue on Canora Road .4 km to Mary's Bleue Moon Cafe - parking on the right hand side, eating on the left.