



CRAFT CULTURE: WINERIES, BREWPUBS, CIDERIES & DISTILLERIES

Two Day Sample Itinerary

Culinary tourism has taken root in Victoria and on Vancouver Island. Visit acclaimed wineries, cideries and farms. Sample the region's organic produce, artisan cheeses and locally-produced gourmet fare. Explore these on your own or join a tour for a behind-the-scenes experience.

Day One

Begin your day at Victoria's only "gastro" brewpub, **Spinnakers Gastro Brewpub**, which defines the art of combining regional cuisine with hand-crafted beer. A fresh, local inspired breakfast at Canada's oldest licensed brewpub is sure to kick off a day of craft sampling the right way. Ardent support of Vancouver Island's farmers is reflected in Spinnakers menu which uses almost 100% local product.

Spinnakers is a pioneer of the North American micro-brewing renaissance. As a local legend, this brewpub is loved by both resident and visiting beer aficionados and is a favourite stop on Victoria's self-guided Ale Trail. Another distinctive aspect of Spinnakers is the on premise shop where malt vinegar, baked goods, and chocolate – all made inhouse – can be purchased to take home or on the road to your next stop.

<http://www.spinnakers.com/>

After breakfast, venture westward to the rural seaside town, Sooke. Sooke is well known for its scenic regional parks, hiking trails, and beaches, but has recently been noted on a global level thanks to the amazing **Sheringham Distillery**. In February 2019, Sheringham Distillery's Seaside Gin was named Best Contemporary Gin in the World at the 2019 World Gin Awards. Gin is not the only spirit on the menu at this thirst quenching spot. While visiting the distillery, do not miss the opportunity to sample their range of products including Akavit, Vodka, and the recently introduced Kazuki Gin, made with Japanese cherry blossoms, and green tea leaves.

www.sheringhamdistillery.com

Once you have had your fill of westcoast forests and gin, return to downtown Victoria to enjoy dinner at this "must experience" 1894 heritage building on Victoria's downtown waterfront, the **Canoe Brewpub**



Marina and Restaurant. Their brewmaster and his award-winning, handcrafted beers are renowned in the Pacific Northwest. Their food runs the scope from pure comfort to globally inspired cuisine. Canoe's soaring timber frame interior structure and rustic red brick 19th century architecture create a stunning and vibrant backdrop for gatherings, large and small. Canoe's multi-level facility has a unique layout, thus allowing for a distinctive personality and ambience in the brewpub, restaurant, lounge and patio areas.

www.canoebrewpub.com



Day Two

Begin this day with a journey through the Saanich Peninsula. Just 20 minutes north of Victoria you will find yourself among rolling hills, scenic farms, and seaside communities. Make your first stop **Victoria Caledonian Distillery & Twa Dogs Brewery** where experts will guide you through the art of creating beers and whiskies. Starting with raw grains following the process all the way through to the finished product with plenty of opportunities for tasting along the way.

www.victoriacaledonian.com

Next, arrive at **Sea Cider Farm & Ciderhouse** and enjoy the view overlooking the orchard across the Haro Straight to James Island. Sip some cider and savour a tasty Artisan lunch platter. Take a tour and browse their pantry for unique gifts. Sea Cider offers a relaxing and unique experience best shared with friends and family (children welcome).

www.seacider.ca



When you're on the Saanich Peninsula, be sure to enjoy **Church & State Wines** in Brentwood Bay; the perfect spot for almost any special occasion. Join them for a wine tasting at their wrap around bar, peruse the gift shop for great wine accessories, cheese plates and logo wear, or enjoy a fabulous lunch on the patio prepared from fresh local ingredients by gourmet chefs. Located 20 minutes from downtown Victoria, 20 minutes from the BC Ferries terminal, and only two minutes from the renowned Butchart Gardens, this winery must be seen to be fully appreciated.

www.churchandstatewines.com

Finish the afternoon at **Victoria Distillers**, the first artisan gin distillery in British Columbia. Hand made in small batches from a wood-fired still. Find a complete array of spirits including their flagship Victoria Gin, Oaken Gin, Left Coast Hemp Vodka, Sidney Spiced Rum, Chocolate Liqueur, and the iconic, colour changing Empress Gin. Enjoy a tasting flight, or expertly mixed cocktails while nibbling charcuterie in their inviting tasting lounge.

www.victoriadistillers.com





Victoria also has a variety of guided culinary tours for those looking to get an in depth and behind the scenes look at some of the city's finest and most unique culinary delights. For more information on guided culinary tours please follow the links below:

Feast: With a sub-mediterranean climate and vibrant rural and urban communities surrounded by pristine ocean waters, Vancouver Island offers fresh, diverse culinary experiences with endless possibilities. And there is a story behind every bite! <http://www.feastconciierge.ca/>

Off the Eaten Track: These tours truly take you off the beaten path and into some of the city's most delicious hidden gems. All of the stops on their tours are small, Victoria-based businesses serving amazing food and beverages. <http://www.offtheeatentracktours.ca/victoria/>

West Coast Brewery Tours: Experience craft beer at its very best! Join West Coast Brewery Tours for a unique behind the scenes look into Victoria's finest craft breweries. Enjoy full transportation while touring 3 breweries in 3 hours, with plenty of delicious craft beer samples at each brewery! <http://www.westcoastbrewerytours.ca/>

The Pedaler: Discover Victoria's culinary scene by bicycle! Guided bicycle tours showcase the local food and drink culture, the regional Galloping Goose and Lochside trails, favourite scenic vistas, and the distinctive neighbourhoods that make cycling in Victoria so enjoyable. Their menu of fun culinary tours has something for everyone! <http://thepedaler.ca/>



Contact Us

For more information on this and other itinerary suggestions, contact the Travel Trade team at Destination Greater Victoria.

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