

**1. Willows Beach**  
Located on Beach Drive at the end of Dalhousie Street, Oak Bay. Willows is one of the most popular swimming beaches. It boasts shallow, protected waters and plenty of soft sand perfect for a stroll.

**2. Walbran Park (aka Gonzales Hill)**  
141 Denison Road, Oak Bay.  
Don't miss the breathtaking views out to the Straits and the Gulf Islands from the location of this Second World War observation post. One of four in the fortress system network, joining others at Mt. Tolmie, Mary Hill (William Head) and Church Hill (Smythe Head), with only Gonzales and Mt. Tolmie remaining.

**3. Government House**  
1401 Rockland Avenue, Victoria.  
The official residence of the Lieutenant Governor and a National Historic Site. The house is set on 36 acres of formal and informal gardens. Bring your picnic blanket and grab some scones from Rudi's Tea Room.

**4. Spiral Beach**  
Dallas Road near Cook Street.  
Also known as Kite Beach, this strip of beach is a favourite among kite boarders and parasailing enthusiasts. The cliff face protects sunbathers and creates a great environment for enjoying a picnic, while watching the action on the water.

**5. Beacon Hill Park**  
Along Dallas Road to the South and Southgate Street to the North between Cook and Douglas Streets.  
This 200-acre park offers numerous locations to enjoy a picnic. Two of our favourite locations are the top of Beacon Hill or "the lookout" where you can enjoy fabulous views including Mt. Rainer on a clear day. Another favourite spot to picnic is at the bandstand during one of the summer concerts or take in a free film during the B Film festival.

**6. On the lawn of the BC Parliament Buildings**  
501 Belleville Street, Victoria.  
The site of numerous events, ranging from Canada Day to the Victoria Symphony Splash, the front grounds of the Parliament buildings are a lovely place for a picnic. Offering one-of-a-kind views of Victoria's Inner Harbour, it is great for people watching.

**7. Peter Pollen Waterfront Park**  
On the water side of 680 Montreal Street or on the harbour side of the Laurel Point Hotel. This large grassy area looking towards Songhees Point offers a great location to picnic. Enjoy watching the harbour planes, water ferries and kayakers.

**8. Saxe Point Park**  
390 Fraser Street, Victoria.  
A popular spot for wedding photos. Enjoy manicured lawns, flowers, ancient firs and a beach access.

**9. Highrock (Cairn) Park**  
Access from Cairn Road off of Old Esquimalt Road or Highrock Place off of Rockheights Avenue.  
Ideal for a backpack picnic, enjoy 360-degree views and take in Ship's Point, Mt. Baker, Gorge Vale Golf Course, and more.

**10. Esquimalt Gorge Park**  
1070 Tillicum Road, Esquimalt.  
Located along the Gorge Waterway off of Tillicum Road. Grassy areas, lovely trails along the waterway, a playground and Japanese gardens that date to 1907, make this a scenic destination for a relaxing picnic.

**11. Fort Rodd Hill**  
503 Fort Rodd Hill Road, Victoria.  
This National Historic Site provides an opportunity to tour the secret bunkers and original 19th century buildings. Fort Rodd Hill was an active artillery fortress from 1895 to 1956. Enjoy a 10-minute walk to the Fisgard Lighthouse before finding a spot for a picnic on the waterfront.

**12. Esquimalt Lagoon**  
903 Ocean Boulevard, Esquimalt.  
This thin 2-kilometre length of beach along the Coburg Peninsula is a great place for beachcombing and walking. But is probably most known for the 20 or so driftwood sculptures by local artist Paul Lewis, whose life was captured in the documentary, Bark Birds.

**13. Mill Hill Regional Park**  
Atkins Avenue, Langford.  
With exquisite views overlooking Esquimalt Harbour from the summit, Mill Hill also offers numerous easy trails and connects to Thetis Lake Regional Park. An information kiosk with trail maps, bathrooms, ample parking and accessible grassy areas make it an easy picnic destination.

**14. Thetis Lake Park**  
End of Six Mile Road, View Royal.  
A popular destination for swimmers and paddle boarders. The main beach area can get busy so take the trail around the lake and set up a private picnic oasis on a grassy knoll by the water. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a lightweight floaty device to truly enjoy the lake.

**15. Lone Tree Hill Regional Park**  
1462 Millstream Road, Victoria.  
With moderate to challenging trails, this backpack-worthy picnic park features a brilliant show of native wildflowers in the spring. Climb to the summit for views across to the Malahat.

**16. Gowlland Tod Provincial Park**  
Wallace Drive between West Saanich Road and Benvenuto Avenue.  
Stretching along the Saanich Inlet from Goldstream to Brentwood Bay, Gowlland Tod Park provides numerous trails ranging from easy to challenging. We recommend the grassy area by the Tod Inlet Boathouse and Dock, which you can access from Wallace Drive.

**17. Bear Hill Regional Park**  
Bear Hill Road, Victoria.  
Known for its woodland trails that are popular with hikers and horseback riders. Consider hiking to the summit for some impressive views and a nice spot for a relaxing picnic.

**18. Island View Beach**  
3215 Island View Road, Saanichton.  
Island View's long sandy beach is perfect for birdwatching, exploring, picnicking and swimming and features a fragile sand dune area that is home to rare and beautiful plants. A boat launch and bathrooms are available.

**19. Beacon Park**  
At the foot of Beacon Avenue, Sidney.  
Not to be confused with Beacon Hill Park, Beacon Park is a charming little gem in Sidney. Visit on a Sunday in July or August and you are likely to catch a band playing during the Summer Sounds Concert Series. From May to October, visit on a Thursday after 4p.m. and take in the Farmers' Market.

**20. Horth Hill in North Saanich**  
Willow Road, North Saanich.  
This 36-hectare park has a robust network of trails, from easy to challenging. If you are up for the climb, bring your lunch in a day pack and enjoy the shady trails to the summit for some beautiful views.

**21. Playfair Park**  
1198 Rock Street, Victoria.  
Home to an impressive collection of Rhododendrons and Azaleas. Playfair Park is best enjoyed in May when the flowers are their showiest. The park also offers walking trails, a playground, plenty of open green space to toss a Frisbee, picnic tables and washrooms.

**22. Summit Park**  
1245 Summit Avenue, Victoria.  
This 11-acre park is known for its impressive Garry Oak meadows that are accented by wildflowers and granite outcroppings near the summit. There are lots of spots to picnic while enjoying the views of Saanich, Oak Bay, Victoria and distant views of Haro Strait and the Cascade Mountains.

**23. Mount Tolmie Park**  
3492 Mayfair Drive, Victoria.  
Considered one of the best places to view the city. From the top of Mt. Tolmie you can see Mt. Douglas, the Olympic Mountains, Race Rocks and the light house, the San Juan Islands and Mount Baker. For easy access, you can drive to the summit, or if you prefer, take a backpack picnic and meander along some of the more than 1500 metres of trails and find a meadow or perch to lay out your blanket.

**24. Phyllis Park**  
2805 Arbutus Road, Victoria.  
This lesser-known pint-sized park, features a viewing deck with amazing outlooks to the San Juan Islands, Mt. Baker and the Cascade Mountains. Choose one of the shorter trails that lead through the forest or down to the water to find a private little spot to enjoy nature and a picnic.

