



Things to do in Parksville

By www.holidaysfromhels.co.uk

1	Beaches	Parksville Town Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town fronts a shallow, sheltered beach • Behind beach promenade, sandy children's play park and grassy area which plays host to ball games, fairs and live music throughout the year. And toilets. • Great for sunset and v-formation geese • Look out for the annual beach sandcastle competition
		Rath Trevor Beach	A 5-minute drive out of town takes you to Rath Trevor, with deer eagles and huge fir trees. Driftwood is a feature.

		Pipers' Lagoon	A 30-minute drive down the coast will take you to Pipers' lagoon where the burnt orange trees twist themselves in to complicated den areas, and boats lazily drift past.
		Miracle Bay	An hour north of town you arrive at the isolated Miracle Bay beach with surely the world's largest driftwood for playing on.
		Tofino	2 and half hours across the back of the island takes you to the west coast, and wild, surfing Tofino, which faces the brunt of the Pacific waves, winds and weather.
2	Cathedral Grove	<p>See the oldest, tallest, widest trees at nature's own Cathedral, where the sun shines through the canopy as if through real church windows.</p> <p>An easy 30-minute board-walked stroll through Douglas Fir and Red Cedar takes you to the star of the copse - at 800 years, the oldest tree in the woods.</p>	
3	Markets	Errington Market	The weekly Errington farmers' market with knitwear-clad trees is set in a woodland idyll and sells hand-crafted jewellery and incredible produce
		Craig Street Market	Craig Street Market runs weekly throughout the summer. Market stalls stretch out over several streets, filled with music, food and home-made trinkets
		Coombs Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collection of shops selling eclectic items, from 15-foot high stone Buddhas to artisan homewares. • The ice cream shop sells any flavour you care to name.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't miss the goats on top of the turfed shop roof at the Old Country Market.
4	Horseriding	<p>Don traditional Canadian riding boots and head off in convoy into the sun dappled dusty woods at Tiger Lily Farm.</p> <p>After the trail, have a play with the farm animals in the petting zoo area.</p>	
5	Top Bridge Park River tubing	<p>A stretch of emerald creek, with white water just deep enough to go tubing. Or drift gently through the deeper water round the corner under "The Nose", a rock jutting out about 25 feet above the water.</p>	
6	Wildlife Recovery Centre	<p>This wildlife sanctuary has a country artisan vibe with ramshackle wooden buildings, and mysterious faces floating in the ground.</p> <p>Watch bears being fed and birds of prey in the displays.</p>	
7	Cameron Lake	<p>With unfeasibly clear water, this lake is a perfect place to swim or paddle away an afternoon</p>	
8	Englishman River Falls	<p>A 30-minute drive from Parksville, mossy trees, ancient woodland, rushing waterfalls and a clear swimming creek make Englishman River Falls Provincial Park a winner</p>	
9	Summer Fairs	Coombs Country Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funfair rides • Farm animals • Horse trials • Zucchini racing

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a proper Canadian County fair day out at the annual Coombs Agricultural Fair.
		VIE X Nanaimo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live wrestling • Padded gladiator combat • Zorbing football • Live music • Large funfair rides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all the fun of the fair at this large annual event
		Parksville Kidsfest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bouncy castles, • Electronic rodeos • Hammer swinging • Climbing walls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all at this annual child-friendly even behind the town beach \$5 for an armband and you are set for the day
		Errington "Hi Neighbor" Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huge pancake breakfasts prepared by the local fire brigade • Live country music • Ladies in traditional costume • Fancy dress parade • Crafts • Market • Circus skills • Zucchini racing

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• And last but not least, free corn from a local farmer at this annual "be good to your neighbour" themed event.
10	Catch a sea plane	Fly in a tiny sea plane over the channel between Nanaimo and Vancouver/Vancouver Airport. It's much cheaper and much more fun than a real plane.	

