

Gordon Head/UVic Neighbourhood Scavenger Hunt - Printable Version

For July 6th - July 20th, 2020

Explore these clues and submit a photo, story, or video to us about your experience or something you discovered on this Scavenger Hunt challenge. **Submissions can be sent to us by filling out the short activity form on the GVCC website under 'themed rides' or via Facebook and Instagram by tagging us at @biketoworkvic or #yyjbike!** With every submission, you will be entered into a draw for a chance to win a gift card for take-out food from a local restaurant or bike shop near you. Prizes for this Gordon Head/UVic Scavenger Hunt will be available for draw winners to pick up at the café/shop described on July 20th 2020.

Activities are designed with adult supervision in mind. Before undertaking any outdoor activities, please be sure to follow the latest COVID-19 Provincial Support and Information.

Clues:

1. Find the oldest house in all of Saanich that is still standing. This frontier cottage was built in 1860 with a simple two bedrooms, a sitting room, and a lean-to kitchen. The house was moved from its original location on the corner of Kenmore Road and Torquay Drive to one of the largest parks in Gordon Head in 1978.
2. Just to the east of the actual "Gordon Head," which juts out into the ocean, is a cove that was once the site of a Lekwungen First Nation village. It is called Kwatsech, the Lekwungen word for Gordon Head. Find this cove.
3. Gordon Head is bordered to the west by the Blenkinsop Valley. This statue of farmer Roy Hawes along the Lochside Trail commemorates the farmers of the valley. Snap a picture next to this well-known statue at one of the Lochside's busiest spots.
4. There are approximately 100 electric vehicle charging stations in Greater Victoria. We found three in Gordon Head and Ten Mile Point; can you locate them?
 - a. Hint: they can be found near clues 1 and 7.
5. Find a large stadium so-named because it was built 100 years after Canadian Confederation. The original seating capacity of this stadium was 3,000, and was briefly expanded to 30,000 when it served as the main stadium for the 1994 Commonwealth Games. The stadium can now accommodate 5,000 spectators.
 - a. Hint: Go Vikes!
6. This theatre is beloved for its screenings of documentaries, foreign, indie, and classic films. Though currently closed due to Covid-19, the theatre has virtual screenings for online rentals. Take a picture in front of this great theatre.
7. The largest library on Vancouver Island is found in Gordon Head, named for a wealthy benefactor whose contributions were guided by the thought that the growth of a university was

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the “single most important factor in the progress of a city.” Today the library is also home to a diverse archive, featuring collections on everything from Victoria’s Chinatown history to Anarchist literature, from 75 years worth of field notes from “the father of Canadian ecology,” to early maps of colonial BC. Take a photo in front of the library.

8. This community garden features individual plots for students, as well as communal plots for food banks which are tended to by weekly volunteer work parties. See what veggies you can identify at the garden from the nearby path.
9. This water tower is one of the last remaining in Saanich and supplied one of Gordon Head’s numerous strawberry farms with water in the early 20th century. Today you can find the water tower on the edge of University of Victoria property, just before a steep hill leading to our next seaside clue.
10. There have been 300 recorded sightings of this mythical creature, nicknamed “Caddy.” Sea lions, giant oarfish, and the carcasses of basking sharks have been misidentified as this elusive cryptid for almost 100 years. Find the bright red concrete replica of this sea monster in a popular beachside park.
11. This kayak launching spot in Ten Mile Point was once a key location for smugglers between the 1860s and the 1930s. First, Opium (legal in Canada until 1908) was smuggled into Washington State, followed by alcohol during prohibition in the US (1920-1933). Find this historic cove.
 - a. Bonus: Another historic cove in Ten Mile Point shares its name with a famous north island tourist destination. This cove was the site of Vancouver Island’s first telegraph connection (with Olympia, Washington) in 1861 and became the location for a dynamite factory in 1865. Find this other historic cove.
12. The easternmost point on all of Vancouver Island is located in Ten Mile Point. Can you find it?

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