

*A sixteen-day spiritual walking journey on beautiful Vancouver Island, British Columbia. No camping required. Churches, accommodations and restaurants noted en route.*

## **Vancouver Island Pilgrimage: A Sixteen-day Spiritual Journey from Sayward Junction South to Victoria, British Columbia**

by Dirk van de Leur

**Order the complete book from the publisher**

**[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9251.html?s=pdf)**

**<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9251.html?s=pdf>**

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**



DIRK VAN DE LEUR

# VANCOUVER ISLAND PILGRIMAGE

A Sixteen-day Spiritual Journey from  
Sayward Junction South to Victoria, British Columbia

**EACH DAY ENDS WITH ACCOMMODATION – RESTAURANTS ARE  
NOTED ALONG THE WAY – NO CAMPING REQUIRED**



Copyright © 2017 - Dirk van de Leur

ISBN: 978-1-63491-727-8

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the author.

Published by BookLocker.com, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida.

Printed on acid-free paper.

BookLocker.com, Inc.  
2017

First Edition

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	1
DAY ONE – SAYWARD JUNCTION TO ROBERTS LAKE .....	3
DAY TWO – ROBERTS LAKE TO BROWNS BAY .....	7
DAY THREE – BROWNS BAY TO CAMPBELL RIVER .....	9
DAY FOUR – CAMPBELL RIVER TO MERVILLE .....	12
DAY FIVE – MERVILLE TO COURTENAY .....	15
DAY SIX – COURTENAY TO BUCKLEY BAY .....	18
DAY SEVEN – BUCKLEY BAY TO QUALICUM BAY .....	20
DAY EIGHT – QUALICUM BAY TO PARKSVILLE .....	23
DAY NINE – PARKSVILLE TO NANAIMO .....	26
DAY TEN – NANAIMO TO CEDAR/YELLOW POINT .....	30
DAY ELEVEN – CEDAR/YELLOW POINT TO LADYSMITH .....	34
DAY TWELVE – LADYSMITH TO CROFTON .....	37
DAY THIRTEEN – CROFTON TO COWICHAN BAY .....	40
DAY FOURTEEN – COWICHAN BAY TO MILL BAY .....	43
DAY FIFTEEN – MILL BAY TO SAANICHTON .....	46
DAY SIXTEEN – SAANICHTON TO VICTORIA .....	50



DAY ONE – VICTORIA TO SAANICHTON .....	57
DAY TWO – SAANICHTON TO MILL BAY .....	62
DAY THREE – MILL BAY TO COWICHAN BAY .....	66
DAY FOUR – COWICHAN BAY TO CROFTON .....	69
DAY FIVE – CROFTON TO LADYSMITH .....	73
DAY SIX – LADYSMITH TO CEDAR/YELLOW POINT .....	77
DAY SEVEN – CEDAR/YELLOW POINT TO NANAIMO/LANTZVILLE .....	81

DAY EIGHT – NANAIMO/LANTZVILLE TO PARKSVILLE .....	<b>85</b>
DAY NINE – PARKSVILLE TO QUALICUM BAY.....	<b>90</b>
DAY TEN – QUALICUM BAY TO BUCKLEY BAY.....	<b>93</b>
DAY ELEVEN – BUCKLEY BAY TO COURTENAY .....	<b>96</b>
DAY TWELVE – COURTENAY TO MERVILLE.....	<b>100</b>
DAY THIRTEEN – MERVILLE TO CAMPBELL RIVER.....	<b>103</b>
DAY FOURTEEN – CAMPBELL RIVER TO BROWNS BAY.....	<b>107</b>
DAY FIFTEEN – BROWNS BAY TO ROBERTS LAKE.....	<b>109</b>
DAY SIXTEEN – ROBERTS LAKE TO SAYWARD JUNCTION .....	<b>112</b>

## **Introduction**

We want to help you have a spiritual journey traversing Vancouver Island: engaging with churches and meditating on God's provision. We also hope you'll enjoy the restaurants, wineries, B&Bs, farms and beautiful scenery along the way.

This is the first edition of this guide. Note that **maps are not to scale** but may be referenced for street names and directions. The turn-by-turn instructions contain distances.

**The guide book is in two parts: the first takes you south from Sayward Junction to Victoria, ending at Christ Church Cathedral; the second north from Victoria to Sayward Junction.**

We've chosen a route that is suitable for walking or biking, although you'll need to dismount and walk your bicycle in some places. On days that use railway tracks, cyclists may prefer to use the adjacent highway.

For those who enjoy them, labyrinths on your route are included in the day-by-day guide – see the middle of the book for a list of others near the route.

Three days of the pilgrimage, between Sayward Junction and Campbell River, are alongside the Island Hwy (#19). Traffic is not heavy but you will be walking on the shoulder of the highway. Between Campbell River and Nanaimo you'll be walking predominately along the shoulder of Hwy 19A, which is a secondary highway. Nanaimo south to Victoria consists of walking trails, country roads and railway tracks.

Focus on removable layers as you will be walking/biking in shade and sun.

On some days there is only one place to stay at the end of the day. Other days end in larger centres with more options. We recommend

Bed & Breakfasts for local flavour and a meal to start you on your way. You'll need to ask whether they can send you off with a lunch if needed and will permit dinner to be delivered.

If they do not have space for you, ask for alternatives nearby. We have not included AirBNB/VRBO listings as they are changeable but in some cases might be the best option.

**Certain days have one accommodation option, so please make sure of your reservation or a nearby AirBnB/VRBO:**

- **Day One South/Fifteen North – Roberts Lake Resort,**
- **Day Two South/Fourteen North – Brown's Bay Resort,**
- **Day Four South/Twelve North – The Alders Beach Resort in Merville (generally weekly only, summertime very limited), and**
- **Day Fifteen South/One North – Theo and Gina's B&B in Saanichton.**

Want to improve the next edition of this guidebook? Email your suggestions to **VIpilgrimage@gmail.com**.

Service times for churches on your route are listed. However, if you arrive and the church is closed, consider spending time on the grounds supporting the church's ministry with your thoughts and prayers.

## **DAY ONE SOUTH – Sayward Junction to Roberts Lake**

Make your way to the **Sayward Valley Resort** at **Sayward Junction**.

1-866-357-0598  
fisherboypark@telus.net

**Sayward Junction** is 65 km north of **Campbell River** on Hwy 19.

The Tofino Bus – All Island Express will stop there.  
1.866.986.3466 info@tofinobus.com

The All-Island Express buses are equipped with exterior bike racks (select departures) that have a maximum capacity of two bikes. Reservations are required. \$15 per bicycle is charged.

- You'll be travelling on the shoulder of Hwy 19 to **Roberts Lake** today. Distance is approximately 33 kms.

This is the longest day on the route. If you prefer, start your pilgrimage at **Roberts Lake**.

- Tonight's accommodation:

Your destination tonight is **Roberts Lake Resort**.  
250-287-9421  
robertslakeresort.ca  
(Food service is available at the Resort)

Note: this is the only accommodation in the area: confirm your reservation. The resort is open year-round but has a two-night minimum stay on weekends.

- Lunch: pack a lunch today – there are no restaurants on today's route.



*Meditation: “Yahweh - Breathe in: ”Yah,” breathe out “weh.”*

Let's Begin:

- Today's walk is south on **Hwy 19** for 33 km.
- You'll pass Sayward Christian Fellowship on your right (check for service times).
- **Roberts Lake Resort** is on the left, fronting the lake.



*Roberts Lake*

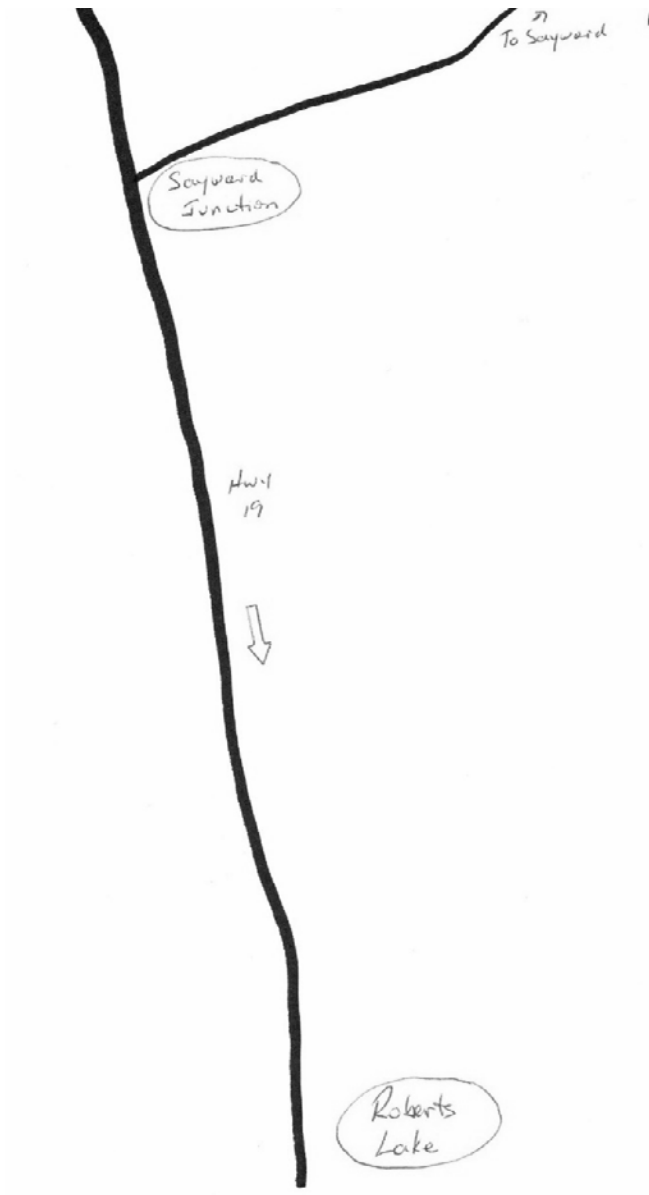
### End of Day One

Congratulations on completing your first day. This was the longest distance to cover. Feel free to enjoy the beauty of Roberts Lake for a day or two before continuing. Bear this idea in mind throughout your

*Vancouver Island Pilgrimage*

journey: staying and enjoying God's creation in places that are meaningful to you.

## Day One Map



## **DAY TWO SOUTH – Roberts Lake to Browns Bay**

- You'll be walking along Hwy 19 to the resort marina of **Browns Bay** today. Distance is approximately 17 kms.
- Tonight's accommodation is the **Browns Bay Marina**, which has four suites. The nearby RV Park has yurts. Food service is available at the Marina.
  - [www.brownsbayresort.com](http://www.brownsbayresort.com) 1-800-620-6739
- Lunch: **Tammy's Cafe** on **Hwy 19**.

*Meditation: "Be Still and Know That I Am God."*

Let's Begin:

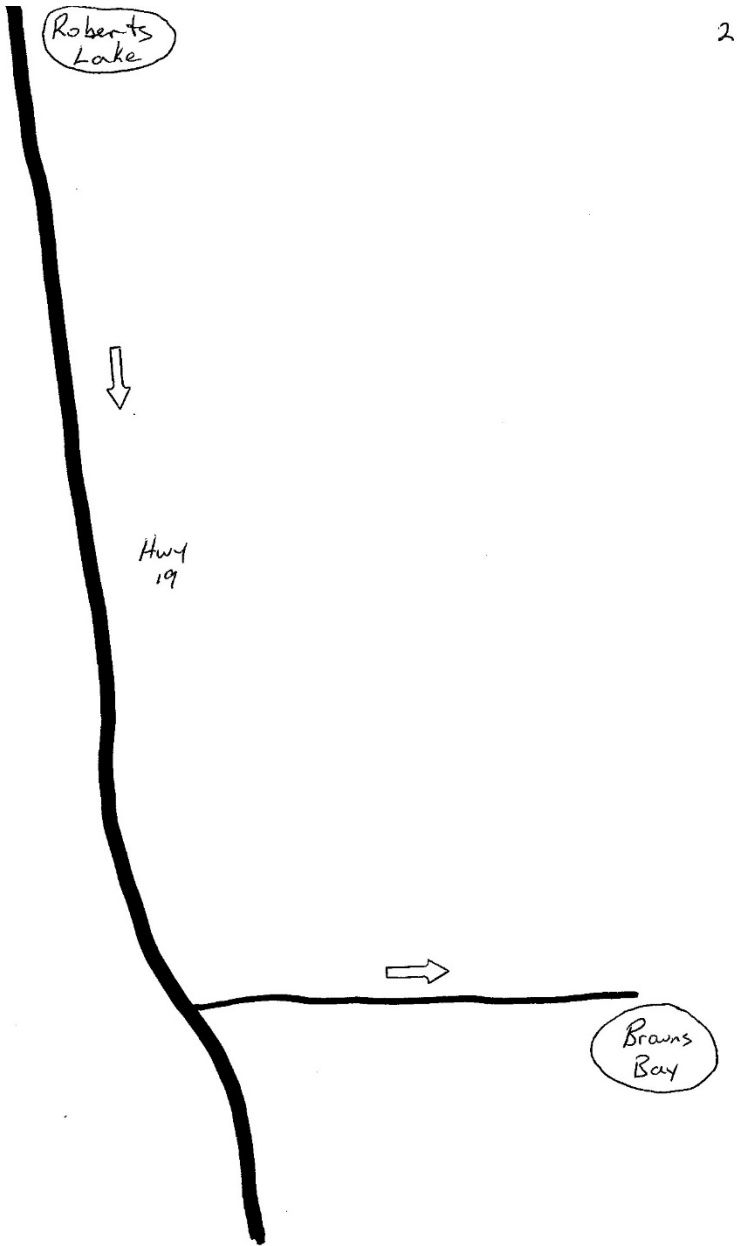
- Today's walk is south on **Hwy 19** for 12 km.
- Turn left at the **Browns Bay** sign and walk 5 km along the gravel road to the marina/RV park.

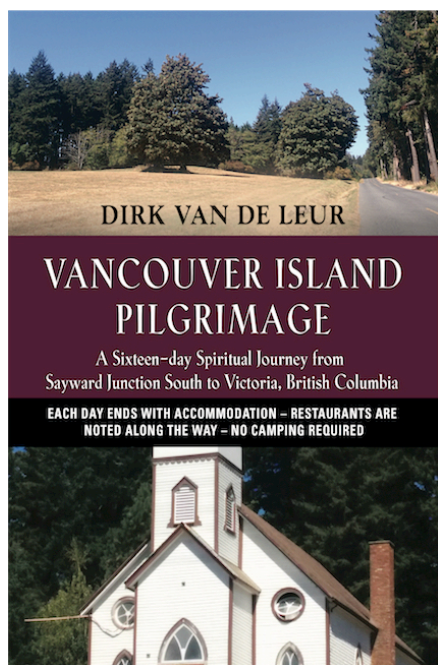
End of Day Two



*Browns Bay*

## Day Two Map





*A sixteen-day spiritual walking journey on beautiful Vancouver Island, British Columbia. No camping required. Churches, accommodations and restaurants noted en route.*

## **Vancouver Island Pilgrimage: A Sixteen-day Spiritual Journey from Sayward Junction South to Victoria, British Columbia**

by Dirk van de Leur

**Order the complete book from the publisher**

**[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9251.html?s=pdf)**

**<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9251.html?s=pdf>**

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**