

## **RAEY CREEK IN WEST SIDNEY**

This walk is another one-booter and will take you a bit less than an hour. You park in front of the Brethour Cemetery on Canora Road, overlooking the airport (the Brethour Family were pioneer settlers, arriving in the area in 1873; visit <https://www.vicnews.com/life/founding-family-of-the-peninsula/> for their story). You can get there via East Saanich Road or the road that goes around the eastern perimeter of the airport.

1. From the parking area, walk down Canora Road, cross Canso Road and take the next road on the left, Winmeadow Place. At the end of cul-de-sac at 'A', you will see a path leading between the houses. Follow that, turning right into Brethour Park and then left. Stay on the chip trail that leads straight down to the playing field. Walk across the field, keeping to the right, and you will find a path between the houses leading off to the right at 'B'.
2. The path brings you into Redwind Place where you turn left. At the next junction, turn left and then right on to Epco Drive. At end of Epco you come to Weiler Drive which you cross and then turn right. At the next junction (Northbrook Drive) turn left and then left again down Lannon Way.
3. A short distance down Lannon Way you will come to the Glendale Community Centre. Turn into the grounds, keeping the garden allotment to your left, and cross the playing field, this time keeping to the right. You will find a chip path on the other side of the field (at 'D') which runs down towards the Pat Bay Highway. At the T-junction, turn right and then right again, following the chip trail around the edge of the open field (Peter Grant Park). At the southwest end of the field you will find a trail leading into the trees off to the right which leads you down a short hill into the valley of Reay Creek.
4. Follow the Reay Creek trail, keeping left, until you come to Summergate Boulevard. Just across the road, the trail leads past a bench, which is a good place to have a 'Werther's Break'. Continue on along the edge of the creek until you come to a bridge and a road that leads back up into the housing area. Once across the bridge turn right and, again, follow the creek which you will cross on another bridge. Up a short hill you'll come out on to Westbrook Drive where you turn left and then left again on to Northbrook Drive.
5. At the end of Northbrook you come to East Saanich Road where you turn right. Just past Mary's Bleue Moon you'll be able to cross East Saanich at a crosswalk on to the trail that runs along the side of the road and back to the cars. If you wish to, at Royal Canadian Air Cadet building ('F') you can turn down Hurricane Road and walk past the Viking Air factory. At the T-junction, turn right and then right again at the next junction with Canso Road. Canso will lead you back to the cars.