

Panama Flats from Layritz Park

Park at Layritz Park off Wilkinson Road (turn at the Pentacostal Church). There are two routes available on this map. The shorter one will take less than 1.5 hours, while the longer one would be about 2.25 hours long.

1. Start at Layritz Park's parking lot and look for an informal trail to the right of the changing room building at the top of the parking lot. This informal trail will lead you to the Glendale Trail and turn right there. Continue down to Wilkinson Road and turn left. You'll come to the new bridge which has a set of stairs running of the sidewalk. Take the stairs and walk under the bridge along Colquitz Creek. Cross the creek and continue down the new trail to its end. You have a choice now: you can turn right and head towards Mann Road or you can continue on the Glendale Trail until you get to Brydon Park where you turn right and right again.
2. When you get to Mann Road you'll find a crosswalk. Follow the trail on the other side of the road to Copley West Park. This section of the Colquitz Creek is a good place to be in the Fall when the salmon are coming upstream. At Copley West Park, follow the trail around the outer edge of the football field and turn left on to Carey Road. Use the crosswalk over to the road leading off Carey and continue down there until you see the trail on the right hand side (it's only about 150m from the crosswalk). A short distance down the trail you'll come to a sign board showing the parks and trails in Saanich and now you need to decide which route you're going to take. For the shorter walk turn right and cross the bridge over the creek, continuing up the hill to Wilkinson Road where you'll turn right.
3. To get a view of Panama Flats you can continue straight ahead, crossing Roy Road and going up a gentle hill. Once the trail starts to drop down into Panama Flats there's a bench you can sit on for a bit of a rest. You can then return to the sign board noted in 2 (above) or, for the longer route, continue on the main trail to Hyacinth Park where there are picnic benches to sit on. Retrace your tracks to the sign board. Rejoin the shorter walk by turning left across the creek and uphill to Wilkinson Road.
4. On Wilkinson you'll go down a short hill and cross the road on the crosswalk. Continue along Wilkinson to the next road (Alan Road) and walk up the hill, turning right at the top. You'll see a groomed trail off to the left and then take the first turning on the right up the trail. At the T-junction just below the sports building turn right and down the short hill. Continue on the trail and look for a groomed trail off to the right. The groomed trail will bring you back to the park entrance road and the parking lot to the left.