

UPLANDS PARK AND THE CAMAS TRAIL

This walk is a very pleasant one-booter that takes you through the wilds of Oak Bay. Please note that it's very easy to get lost in the Uplands Park because there are lots of trails and no signposts! Park at the Willows Beach Park, off Beach Drive – there's a tea shop and a public convenience in the park.

1. From the parking lot, turn left at 'A' and walk along the promenade (Esplanade) until you come to the end of the road and the trail leads up a short hill. At the top at 'B', turn right and follow the trail to the Scenic Drive. Cross the Drive to the footpath and continue down the hill to the parking lot at Cattle Point.
2. Just past the boat launch you can cross the road to the shoreline and follow a trail around a small promontory. From the promontory there are two ways to make it back to Beach Drive from 'C'. The easy way is to just find your way back to Scenic Drive on your left and the other, more difficult way, is to follow the coastline and then onto the Drive by paralleling the fence along the house on the right. At 'D' you will see a signpost for a footpath across Beach Drive. The pathway will take you into Uplands Park.
3. Follow the trail, keeping right, and ignore the short trail off to the right that leads to the housing area. Continue straight on, ignoring the next trail leading off to the left, and then turn left at the next junction. After a short distance, there will be a trail leading in from the left and, just after that, you will come to a four-way junction where you turn left. At the next T-Junction, turn right and keep right until you come to a Y-junction at 'F'. At 'F', you will come out of the trees and you will see a trail leading off to right. Ignore that trail, keeping left until you come to Midland Road, where you turn left.
4. At the end of Midland Road you will come to Dorset Road where you turn right and continue up the hill to Nottingham Road where you will turn left. Just a few metres along the road you will come to what looks like a back alley on the left but which is, in fact, the Camas Trail. The Trail runs behind the houses until Musgrave Street where it becomes more of a footpath. At the next road junction it returns to being a back alley and then switches back to being a footpath at Heron Road.
5. At 'G', where the footpath ends at Lincoln Road, you have a choice. You can continue on down the Camas Trail, crossing Beach Drive and continuing straight on to the Esplanade, via a set of stairs, and then back to the car park.; or, you can turn right down Lincoln Road following it to where it turns left where you will see a footpath that leads off to the right that to return you back to Beach Drive and Willow Park.