

27. HORTH HILL AND GREEN PARK

This is a two-booter which starts at the parking lot of Horth Hill Park, off Tatlow Road in North Saanich.

1. At the far end of the parking lot you'll find three trails. Take the one to the left and follow the main trail, keeping left at the sign posts and don't be tempted to take side trails that lead off to various roads! When you get to 'A' you'll find a small pond on the left (in the summer it's mostly mud) and the main route runs up a short incline to the right. Follow the main trail around the top end of the park until you come to 'B'.
2. At 'B' there's post with trail names on it. You'll see a trail leading off to the left up a short incline (red arrow on the map) but only take this if you're comfortable with rocky bits to navigate on the way down from the hilltop. The best route is to follow the main trail as it turns left down a short incline and then take the graveled trail directly ahead (the main trail goes to the right). A short distance down the graveled trail you'll come to a junction with a trail leading off to the left. Follow that trail, turning right up a slight incline and then downhill until you come to the end of Willow Drive. Follow the trail around the end of the road, keeping left, and continue downhill. As you go down the hill you may see a donkey in an area to the left; he really likes a carrot!
3. As you pass the donkey's field you'll see the trail rising up a short hill ahead. Keep straight on until you come to Tanager Road and the trail continues on the other side of the road. The next part of the trail is decorated with fairy houses, castles, and the like, so take your time to admire the handiwork! Continue straight on to Calypso Lane where you'll see the trail across the road. Follow the trail down the hill to Greenpark Drive.
4. At Greenpark Drive, there's a trail marker to the left on the other side of the road. Pick up that trail and, keeping to the right at the next junction, you'll come to a nice rest spot at the end of Green Lake at 'C'. From the bench, keep left, following the lake around until you come to another trail leading in from the left. Keep right and a few metres later you'll see an informal trail leading off to the right. After a short uppy bit this trail starts to run downhill until it reaches a flight of stairs. Not far from the bottom of the stairs at 'D' there's a trail junction where you turn right.
5. The trail comes out onto a road. Keep straight ahead and there's a trail at the end of the cul-de-sac. This trail leads to a great look out over the harbour at

Westport. On the way down the steep hill be sure to take your time because the trail has lots of gravel on it which can be quite slippery, especially when it's dry. At the bottom of the hill you come to the Pat Bay Highway where you turn right.

6. Ahead you'll see a big road sign at 'E', and a few metres after that there's a trail leading off to the right. A short distance up the trail you'll come to a junction where you turn left. This trail leads you up a hill, at the top of which is Oriole Lane. Follow Oriole Lane down the hill until you see a trail on the right. The trail is dead straight and has a newish fence along its left hand side.
7. Take that trail, crossing Littlewood Road at 'F' and pick up the trail which runs from the other side of the pedestrian crossing. Follow the trail through the forest and back to the parking lot and the public conveniences.