

CANADA

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP TO SOUTH WEST COAST - CANADA | 4TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Victoria - Port Hardy

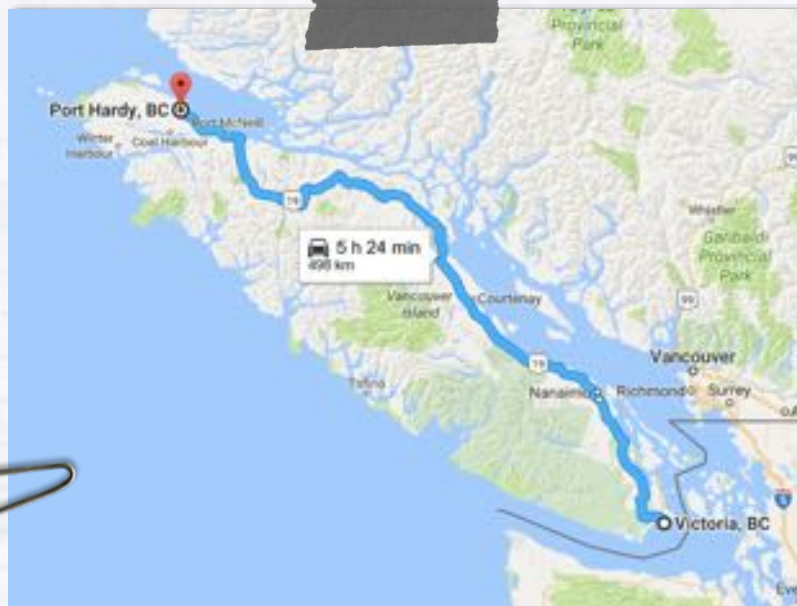
After bidding an early farewell to our hosts Kathy and David we headed for Port Hardy. We were warned that the drive would be a long trip.

Near Campbell River, we stopped at the Ripple Rock Rest Area. Evidently down below us was the Seymour Narrows with its Ripple Rock. This dangerous rocky outcrop, just below the surface of the water, had claimed over 20 shipwrecks. In 1958, the rock was finally blown up in one of histories largest non-atomic blasts.

Once we passed through Campbell River the highway narrowed through the lush inland forests. This area of Vancouver Island right up to Port Hardy is the centre of a rich logging industry. The many lakes and rivers are well known and tour companies run trips to view the wild life (inland and whale and orca watching along the coast) and to enjoy treks in the mountainous forested geography.

It was late when we reached our destination - Port Hardy - a scenic spot at the northern end of the island where anglers come to fish for salmon, halibut and ling cod. Port Hardy is also the terminus/port for BC ferries.

Tomorrow we have booked a ferry ride and sail along the famous Inner Passage, a 490kms journey through to Prince Rupert where we will be spending a few days.



Every two years since 2009 we have spent up to 4 months at a time exploring Europe. We chose Europe because both our family roots lay in Europe (Poland and Germany for me and Britain for Heather). We felt very comfortable touring this area. On route we did spend a short number of days in Asia but found that experience less than enthralling. This year we decided to have a taste of a new country - Canada. Our biggest fear is that, unlike Europe, we might find Canada to be too similar to Australia. So far we have been pleasantly surprised. We shall see.

