

WESCAN 2020

Walking Tour- GUIDED (leave Laurel Point lobby @ 3 pm)

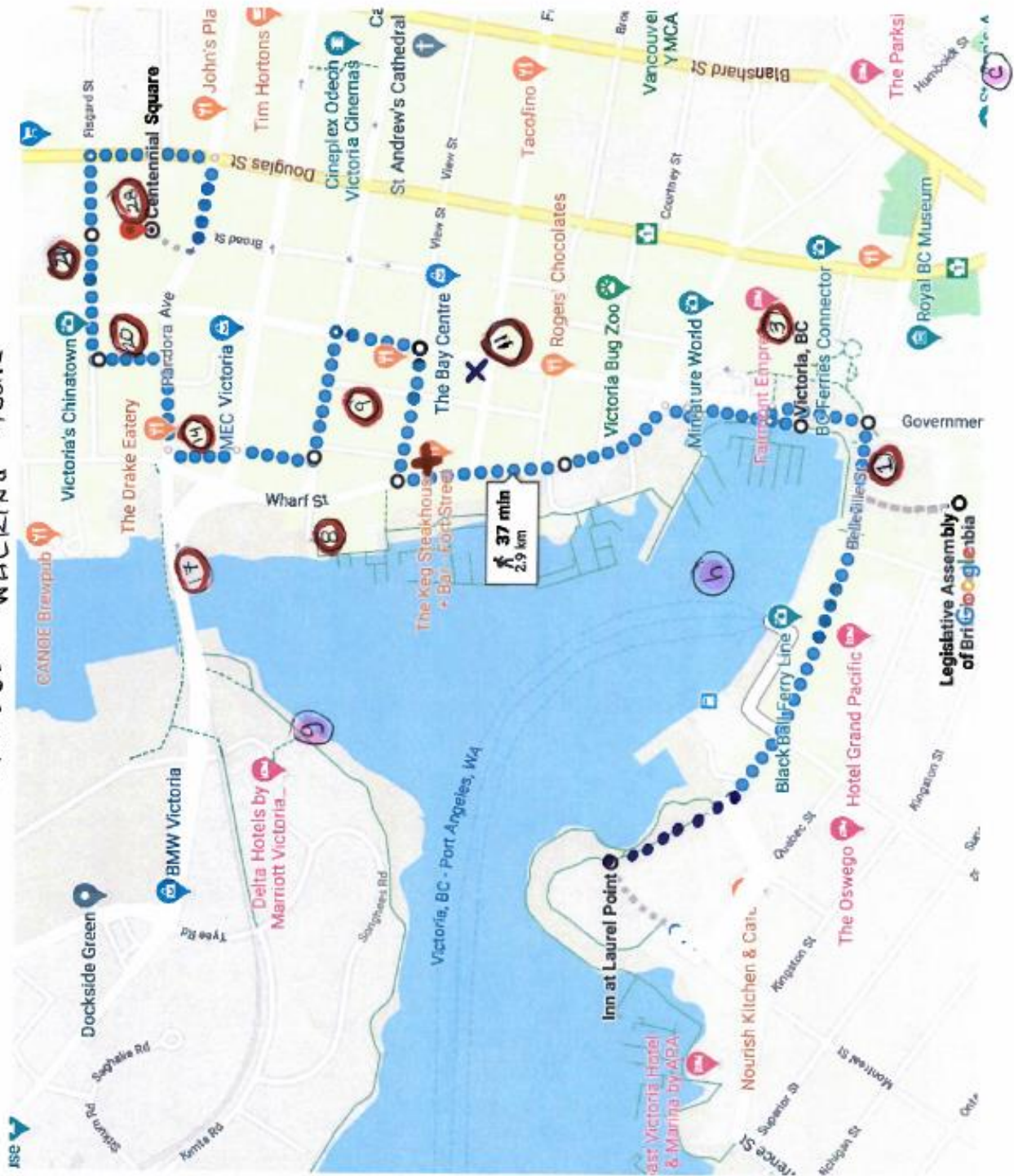
Feel Free to Explore on own, or leave and return to tour as you wish. (tentative times posted)

1. Parliament buildings. BIRDCAGES- Parliamentary government in British Columbia dates back to August 12, 1856, when Governor James Douglas convened the first Legislative Assembly of Vancouver Island within Fort Victoria (3:15)
2. BC Royal Museum and Thunderbird Park, Belleville and government. Helmcken House is one of the oldest and most famous haunted places. Built in 1852 as the original family home of Dr. John Sebastian Helcken, first doctor in the city
3. Empress Hotel. Showing the gothic inspiration with its steep roof and turrets
4. Inner Harbour. CAPTAIN JAMES COOK statue- In spring 1778, Captain James Cook became the first known European to set foot on what is now British Columbia.
5. Tourism Bureau. Welcome home statue. Overlooking the CANADA signage.
6. Dominion Customs House- 1002 wharf street. Built in late 1870's, after BC joined Canada in 1871. (3:30)
7. Wharf street waterfront- gateway to Victoria for the goldminers was Enterprise wharf, now the parking lot in front of wharf street. Hudson bay brick warehouse was biggest building in colony when it opened in 1859
8. Ships Inn-1248 Wharf. Operated by James Yates at corner of Wharf and yates and founded 1853, the colony's first tavern.
9. Bastion Square- center of Gold Rush Victoria. One of the first buildings was police barracks and jail, which then became Maritime museum. In 1859 the Union Hook and Ladder Company became first fire department started by volunteers. (3:45)
10. Musical Parkade- Summer of 2016. Part of an art project to make Victoria more interesting. This one consists of railings which allow participants to play musical beats by pressing buttons on the railings on each floor.
11. Government Street.

12. Garricks Head built in 1867- here patrons would down a pint or two before heading over to the gallows to watch the hangings.
13. Old Morris Tobacconist- 1116 Government built in 1892. Murchies tea - 1110 government established by John Murchie who got his start blending tea for Queen Victoria in Scotland
14. Waddington Alley -1858 the number of saloons, gambling dens and halls grew in number. The muddy alley was paved with wooden blocks, many are still visible today in some areas. (4:15)
15. 515 Yates- This building is the old Wells Fargo company which had on display for many years a golden nugget as big as hen's egg, found by Afro-American prospector Samuel Booth.
16. Willies Bakery. Lower Johnson street during the Klondike gold rush many wooden structures were replaced by the present brick buildings along the streets. Saloons, hotels and dubious reputation establishments operated on these streets
17. The Johnson Street bridge. 4 bridges have spanned here. The current bridge is Canada's largest single leaf bascule bridge. A 5 year project estimated to cost about 50 million went to 10 years and over 100 million. Has a lower pedestrian walkway and a multipurpose deck. Can see the gears that operate the bridge rising.
18. Market Square- until about 1900 a ravine and stream ran between what is Pandora and Johnson. First Chinese, mostly young men arriving in 1858, settled on the North side of stream (Pandora side)
19. Chinatown- some of Chinatowns first buildings were on the Pandora side of Market square. They were flimsy and made of wood, in the 1880s they were replaced with brick buildings. 540 Pandora- Hoy Sung Ning Yung Benevolent Association- organizations or 'tongs' after the Chinese work for 'meeting hall' were formed to supply support for the Chinese who found themselves strangers in this land (4:30)
20. Fan Tan Alley- Canada's narrowest street. "Fan Tan" is a gambling game that was popular in the 1800s and it was played in six gambling dens upstairs above the alley. A tofu factory operated in the ground floor storefronts. (4:45)

21. 500 block Fisgard is most vibrant street in Chinatown. Shops and restaurants line the streets, sometimes you can hear music or mahjong from second floor clubs. The Chinese character 'shou' representing long life is repeated in a lot of the brick work. 558 Fisgard- Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Society tallest building on Fisgard, was the unofficial 'government' of Chinatown.
22. 532 Fisgard- sign of Dragon Alley. Dragon in China is not a nasty animal, it is one that brings good fortune and positive energy. Store Street is over from Alley and contains a number of stores from high end furniture at Chintz and Company, to second hand Value Village, Victoria's own Capital Iron, Canoe BrewPub, Swans Pub and Hotel and multiple restaurants and shops
23. 531 Herald- emerges from Hart block building. Big wooden doors allowed horses and carriages passage. Upstairs was one of Chinatown's brothels.
24. 1800 block Government. Longest building in Chinatown. Built in 1910 by Lim Bang. Recessed balconies was designed to provide shade and was common in Guangdong where summers get very hot.
25. 1713 government- Chinese temple established by the Yen Wo Society. 52 steps up to the top floor and the oldest Chinese temple in Canada, dedicated to the god Tam Kung.
26. Gates of Harmonius Interest- constructed in 1981 it followed the Chinese tradition of gates to commemorate an important place or event. The stone male and female lions and the bells in the corners keep away evil spirits. Dragons, phoenix birds and other symbols bring positive energy. Encouraging harmonious relations a reminder that boundaries between east and west are now fading, the once 'forbidden city' is now part of Victoria. (4:45)
27. Chinese school- 636 Fisgard. Chinese children were once banned from attending public schools unless they spoke English. In 1909 the Chinese community established the Chinese Public School where immigrants could learn the English language.
28. Centennial Square (Bay Center, government street etc.). Home to City Hall. (5:00)

GUIDED WALKING TOUR



○ self tours

○ Guided tour (see schedule)

+ Pub crawl starts (from)

✗ Pub crawl ends (sign on horses)