

# PACIFIC. AUTHENTIC. RICHMONDBC

## BEACHES, BIRDS & PLANES ON SEA ISLAND

An adventurous way to explore Richmond's Sea Island—home of Vancouver International Airport—you'll witness both technological and nature-based flyers on this intriguing tour. Whether you spot birds or planes en route, you'll likely be surprised at just how close the great outdoors is to one of Canada's busiest airports.

1 Start at the Canada Line Templeton Station, located next to McArthurGlen Designer Outlet 2. Known for its designer brands, McArthurGlen is shopping paradise for those looking for discounted luxury items.

3 Head west towards Templeton Street then go west on Ferguson Road until you reach Iona Beach Regional Park (30 minutes). This route is a paved road with designated bike lanes for the first one-third of the route, short section with no shoulder. Nature lovers can choose to take the short nature trail alongside the road.

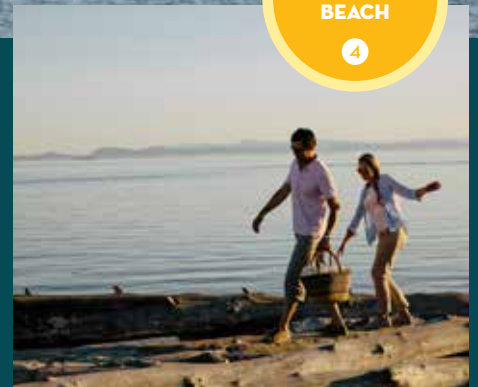
During your ride, you'll see planes overhead making their descent into the airport, but as you cycle further, nature takes hold and

feathered flyers become more abundant. Iona Beach 4—a long, narrow stretch of sand and grass at the mouth of the Fraser River—is one of the Lower Mainland's most celebrated birdwatching spots. Lock-up your bike and walk the beach trail towards its log-strewn far section; you'll see plenty of reasons why.

From sandpipers to marsh wrens and from buffleheads to surf scoters, this is a great place to slow down and let nature unfurl itself around you. And if you need a scenic backdrop for your beady-eyed bird photos, you'll find the expansive panoramas of Georgia Strait and mountain-backed West Vancouver to swivel your lenses at.

DON'T MISS  
IONA  
BEACH

4














SHOP  
MCARTHURGLEN  
DESIGNER  
OUTLET

2



## LEGEND

-  Explore
-  Hospital
-  Park/Golf Course
-  Steveston Museum and Visitor Centre
-  Free Parking
-  Public Washroom
-  Canada Line/Station
-  Main route, mainly on off-street paved and un-paved paths
-  Alternate route, following major on-street lanes
-  Ride Direction
-  Cycle with care!

-  1 Templeton Canada Line Station
-  2 McArthurGlen Designer Outlet
-  3 Ferguson Road

-  4 Iona Beach
-  5 McDonald Road
-  6 McDonald Beach Park
-  7 Unpaved Dyke Path



This map is a route aid, not to scale, does not show all roads and trails. Information was accurate when printed, but things change! Author/publisher disclaim any liability with use of information; your safety is your responsibility, be safe and have FUN!



### EXPERIENCE YVR AIRPORT



The Iona Jetty juts out nearly 4 km into the Strait of Georgia and visitors can walk or cycle on the gravel trail atop and beside the large pipe that stretches the length of the jetty. It's fun to ride out to the end and you might spot seals, herons, and eagles along the way.

**5** Back in the saddle, retrace the route you took to reach Iona. But this time, take a left-hand detour along McDonald Road (15 minutes). Heading towards the shoreline, you'll soon come to McDonald Beach Park **6**. This hidden gem Fraser River greenspace offers sandy swathes and inviting picnic areas—making it a great place to stop and fuel-up if you've packed some substance along for the ride.

But it's not just about natural vistas here. Find a spot to sit along the park's shoreline and you'll

have some great views of the busy Fraser River, from working boats chugging past industriously to huge booms of timber logs being transported en masse along the river. It's a reminder that this region—and especially waterfront communities like Richmond—was founded on this busy waterway.

**7** From here, you can take the off-street unpaved dyke path along the river that links back up with the on-street bike path network around McArthurGlen Designer Outlets. If you didn't pack a picnic, now's a good time to grab a quick bite at one of the outlet's cafes and restaurants, or continue along the designed bike paths (or take the Canada Line if your legs need a rest) towards Richmond city centre for a culinary adventure.