

CDMC

Trip Report

[Home](#)
[Future trips](#)
[Past trips](#)
[Trip guidelines](#)
[Conditions](#)
[Routes >](#)
[Forum](#)
[Membership](#)
[Reference >](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Photo contest](#)
[What's new](#)
[Member](#)
[Login](#)

Changes

- today
- yesterday
- < 7 days
- < 30 days

Mt Finlayson (scrambling) [return to Reports list](#)

Mon May 20, 2013

Leader: **William Wright**

Co-Leader: **Tim Penney**

A great sub-tropical adventure, to the warmer climes of Southern Vancouver Island, was enjoyed by a few members from our club, on Victoria Day.

The day kicked off with a leisurely breakfast, at a Valley eatery, before getting away by 7:30 AM - after a brief break in Ladysmith, we found ourselves at the trailhead for Mt Finlayson.

Two of our party decided to push onto the summit while the remains chose to enjoy the other aspects of Goldstream Park, which are numerous - a very beautiful spot to enjoy a few hours whilst on the shores of Finlayson Arm, at the foot of the Malahat.

Mt Finlayson, itself, is a Diorite Dome of Igneous Rock, just shy of 1500' - the trail is steep and getting to the summit includes a couple of exposed Class 3 rock scrambles over very well worn, glaciated rock.

What remains today are fabulous views to the Olympics, in Washington State, as well as vistas of the surrounding Gulf Islands - this rocky gem also exhibits a wonderful array of wild flora that we were most fortunate to catch in full Spring bloom.

Although the lightly clad spandex crowd, using this hill as their own personal Grouse Grind, surely completed their route much more quickly than our near 3 hour amble but, did they enjoy it as much?

While on the summit we explored the possibility of a loop off the mountain, down to the sea and then, back to our trailhead via Finlayson Arm Road - perhaps another road trip, next year.

Regrouping in the Goldstream Provincial Park Parking Lot, the party now headed for the second half of our foray, an urban outing into the Garden City's downtown core - here, we explored the wildlife of the inner city while adding much needed gear to our kits.

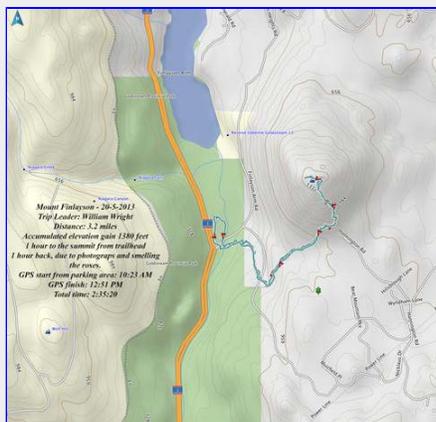
We also enjoyed a well-deserved meal on the Victoria Inner Harbour - while filling ourselves with fine food, we soaked in the setting sun along with the beautiful architecture of the Empress and the Legislature, which align the waterfront.

On our return journey to the Valley, our resident Francophones were comfortable enough, in our jelled group, to be heard quietly bantering (in a foreign language) from the rear rumble seat - meanwhile, Tim & I discussed, at length, the extensive possibilities that this area holds for future CDMC treks.

A superb day, well worth the effort and well spent in the company of this gaggle!

A charity fundraiser in 2012 had people climbing Mount Finlayson as many times as

possible in 12 hours. The best effort saw one entrant climb the mountain 8 times. The average from all climbers was 3.93 times.



GPS route map
[Tim Penney photo]



At the parking area
[Denise Allard photo]



Ready for some exercise
[Denise Allard photo]



*Giant old growth Cedar
Trees in Goldstream
Park*
[Tim Penney photo]



At the beginning of the climb
[Tim Penney photo]



*View down to The Westin Bear
Mountain Golf Resort*
[Tim Penney photo]



View from near the summit
[Tim Penney photo]



*Broad-leaved stonecrop (Sedum
spatulifolium)*
[Tim Penney photo]



Monsters that we met in Victoria
[Tim Penney photo]



*Other friendly animals on the
sidewalk*
[Tim Penney photo]

Report contributors: Tim P, William W,

Participant list (4 of 4): Denise A, Tim P, Roger V, William W,

[return to Reports](#)