

The Little Town That Did!
Featuring A Small World B&B in
Chemainus BC
By Ron Kirstein

Edited by Lisa Cole
Photos by Ron Kirstein



One of the great murals in Chemainus - viewed from the statue nearby

We start our trip North from Victoria and within the hour find ourselves in Chemainus, a quiet little town snuggled between Mount Brenton and the ocean. Fishing, forestry, and mining were the industries that spawned Chemainus. As these industries started to falter, the townspeople rallied.

With guts and determination, they re-invented their community as a tourist destination, and what a destination it has become. They started painting murals on buildings throughout the community. These murals illustrate the incredible history of the community. They are done very well indeed.

As we drive into town, the murals are evident around each corner. A new one is in progress on the side of the Chemainus Dinner Theatre. It depicts the trees of Emily Carr, a famous artist who lived on the Island until the early 1900's.

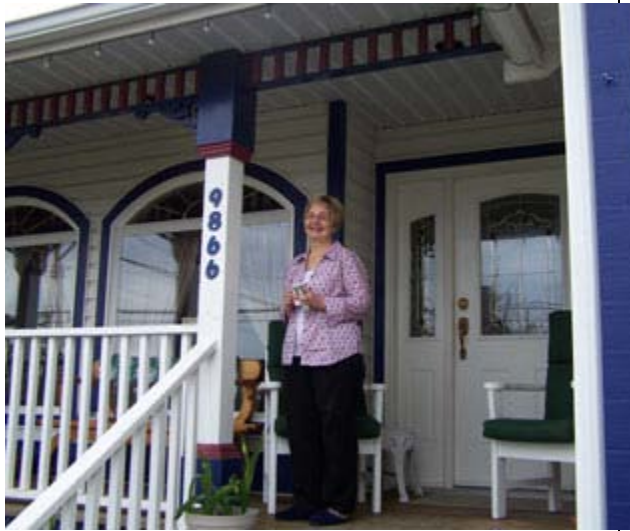


Emily Carr Trees Mural Chemainus Theatre

A Small World Bed and Breakfast

I have my wife and her Mom and Dad in tow. Our destination is "**A Small World B&B**" operated by John and Lynne Landygo. Lynne greets us at the door. She is having tea on the front porch with Sam. Sam is their pet cat and surrogate child. Their other children are grown up. John and Lynne are very congenial hosts. They are active in the community and know everything that is going on. They also direct us to local eateries. It is evident that John and Lynne are well liked by the locals we meet later on. They are quite the jokesters and a lot of fun to spend time with.

At most of the bed and breakfasts I have visited, the hosts do not eat with us. We have given out the invitation many times. Some do, but most don't. We are pleased that John and Lynne do eat with us and it is very special to spend time with them. We feel that we have found new friends.



Lynne greets us upon arrival.



Lynne and John at breakfast with us...

Our accommodations are clean and comfortable and have all that we need. At an early age, Lynne had developed an interest in doll houses. When she and John moved to Chemainus from nearby Saltaire, they built their house with a plan to open up a store that sold miniatures. Due to a bureaucratic miscue, the business was not allowed to operate. So, they converted the space into rooms and started a bed and breakfast instead. Their resourcefulness is typical of what makes the Chemainus community work.

Lynne is now able to share her passion and incredible skills with visitors to her B&B. When I look at the amazing miniatures displayed at "**A Small World**," I am awed by the detail and intricacy and the patience it would take to make them. Word has it that John helps with the miniature models in his "secret" shop in the backyard.



French Toast -mmm good!



Alex and Audrey enjoying Eggs Benny...



One of the 3 Rooms at A Small World



There are a number of these miniatures at the B&B

John and Lynne are a great team for breakfast. Lynne serves us her tasty and sumptuous version of "Eggs Bennie" and then "French toast". Oh, my - they are good! (see photos above). Fresh fruit in yogurt, scones, muffins and superb main courses are something you can expect at breakfast in A Small World.



A Light Lunch - Tea Room Lounge - Tea Room Street View & Maple Street



Ron enjoying fruit and lemon yogurt

Our hosts direct us to the Twisted Sisters Tea Room for a light lunch. Just two blocks away on Maple Street, we find a row of funky buildings, one of which is the tea room. It is not large and has a loft area where they show movies on a large screen. The soup is amazing and the sandwiches superb. The sisters are fun and friendly and definitely twisted. You will enjoy them. They have a tea wall that boasts over a 100 different teas and counting. The lunch is perfect. After the sumptuous and filling breakfasts at A Small World, we appreciate finding a place that serves a "light" lunch. It is tasty and just the right proportion..



Uncle Roy shows us through the Coastal Mission



A Norweigan Cargo Ship loads in Chemainus

At Lynne's recommendation, we go down to the docks to tour an "open boat" - a mission boat that visits communities all around Vancouver Island and up the mainland coast. Uncle Roy provides a

great tour and it appears that they do great work for people in remote communities. Check out the boat and the mission work they do at the [Coastal Missions Web Site](#). While we are there, an enormous Norwegian cargo ship with a hold big enough to hold all of Chemainus pulls into the mill to load up lumber. Living on Vancouver Island always provides amazing new stories to follow. This is another great Vancouver Island story.r.



Waterwheel Park between Downtown and Old Town

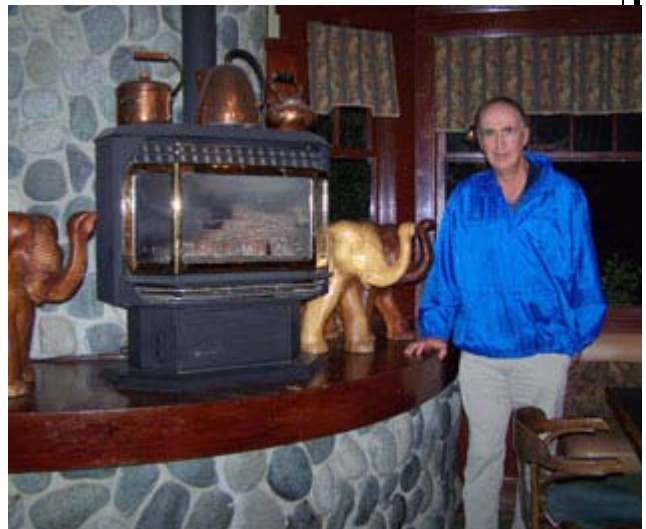


The Dinner Theatre in Chemainus

We spend our afternoon touring the shops downtown and checking out many of the spectacular murals. There is a horse-drawn carriage that provides an expert tour of the murals explaining much of the history. Then we go to the old town part of Chemainus, just down the hill. Too many people miss this part of town. There are shops, restaurants and a great bakery down here. Don't miss it.



Linda in the Saltaire Pub



Ron in the Saltaire Pub

For our evening meal we visit the Saltair Pub and the Harbourside Café. The Saltair Pub has excellent pub food. I really enjoy their crab cakes and seafood chowder. All of the food is enjoyable, substantial, and the atmosphere is great! We find the Harbourside Café only two blocks from A Small World. The decor is pretty basic but the food is very good and the pie exceptional. Fish and Chips and Curried Chicken are two dishes worth a try.

Chemainus is in the North Cowichan area. There is so much to see and do. Scuba diving, kayaking, hiking, and much more await visitors to this great little town. I urge you to take time to visit Chemainus. You will be glad you did. A stay at A Small World B&B will ensure you have a great time.



Unique Architecture can be found throughout Chemainus



A doll house outside a former B&B in Chemainus



Some of the Chemainus Murals



Chemainus is beautiful with ocean views and flowers

CHEMAINUS SPECIALS

SUMMERLEY B&B SPECIAL OFFER

Summerley in Chemainus, a Charming 1930s Arts and Crafts house in the beautiful town of Chemainus 5 minutes walk from Shops, Restaurants, Theatre and Murals, Liz Fincham is British and loves to cook and makes you feel at home, you will love the casual relaxed atmosphere and the memorable breakfasts served on blue willow china, bring old friends and make new. **Just mention this ad and receive a 10% discount.** Looking forward to meeting you. 250 246 9104

Utopia Bakery Café (a true Dutch Bakery)

Utopia Bakery Café in Chemainus invites you & your party to come on over for a **fabulous cup of coffee on us** when you make a purchase. Please mention the name of the magazine you drop by. We have an excellent assortment of baked goods, from artisan breads to very fine European desserts. Everything made from scratch and we use butter. Come in, see it for yourself, sit on our deck and enjoy breakfast, lunch and or a pastry. We built this bakery from the bottom up and we are very proud of it.

Your Utopia Bakery Café team. **Located on A-9780 Willow Street (off Legion Street) in Chemainus**



CASTLE COVE INN offers an ocean view from every room. Stargaze while soaking in the outdoor hot tub adjoining our "Wine Cellar on the Beach suite" or watch the ever changing vistas on the water from the "King's Attic". Considering a longer stay? Then perhaps the fully-contained "Coach House" is for you. Whatever your choice you will be ensured of a treasured and memorable stay at Castle Cove and we shall look forward to your return. We offer up to 30% off for the 2nd night (except in the Attic). Please mention this ad when you book. **Phone: (250) 246-2052**

ARTWORK BY SHERYL SAWCHUK - Special Offer

Welcome to my studio and gallery where you can enjoy vibrant, colourful, original paintings as well as prints, cards, and more. Vancouver Island scenes, trees, and big, bold flowers are some of my favorite painting subjects. I also have beautiful hand-crafted jewellery and pottery by local potters. Mention this ad and receive 3 cards free when you purchase one large or two medium prints. I am located on Maple Lane at Laurel Street, less than a block down the hill through Waterwheel Park. As I frequently go to art festivals, please see my website www.sherylsawchuk.com for my hours of operation and festival schedule. 250-246-9975.

MA'S GIFTS AND ACCESSORIES - 9766 Willow Street, Ph. 250-246-9583, The Boutique Village Boost about Ma's Gifts to every one.

Jewellery hand picked by Ma from all over the world. Red Hat's love to come to Ma's for the biggest selection of Red Hat's and accessories on Vancouver Island. **TO ALL RED HATTERS IF YOU COME INTO MA'S IN FULL RED HAT REGAILIA YOU GET 20 % OF ANYTHING IN MA'S STORE**

Nautical decorating ideas for the boat and home. ***TO ALL BOATERS IF YOU ARE STAYING IN THE CHEMAINUS HARBOUR AND YOU CAN TELL ME THE NAME OF MR.UNFORGETTABLE YOU SHALL RECIEVE 20% OFF ANYTHING IN MA'S STORE***

The perfect gifts for your bride. Baby Clothes that will make you say Ah! And of course the Unbelievable Fairy Dresses . COME ON DOWN AND SEE MA.- [Email](#)

CHEMAINUS BAY BED AND BREAKFAST is located across the street from Kin Beach Park with an unobstructed ocean view across Bird Rock , Xihwu Reef, and Stuart Channel to the West Coast Mountain Range. Mermaids Retreat offers a king bed and private outdoor hot tub deck. Dolphin Dreams is entry level (no stairs) with a queen and double bed. Both have ensuites, fridge, microwave, coffee maker, fireplace. Full breakfast served. Stroll to every town amenity. **Email:** cu@chemainusbaybb.ca

Mention this ad and receive 10% off any accommodation package or for a stay of two or more nights. Packages available are for theatre, scuba diving, kayaking, whale watching and WildPlay. Call Toll Free: 1-877-992-2337

For more information on Chemainus
Click Here

CHECK OUT A SMALL WORLD B&B

[Homepage](#) Use the links below to find Victoria, the Gulf Islands or any community on Vancouver Island.
[Site Map](#) [Visit Victoria](#) [Visit Vancouver Island](#)
[Visit the Gulf Islands](#)
[Insiders Guide](#) [Free Stuff](#) [Our On-line Store](#)
[Advertise Here](#) [Web Services](#)

Vanisle Tourism Website

[E-mail](#)

Phone: 1-250-472-2144

[Advertise on this web site](#)

[Read our Disclaimer](#)

© Copyright Victoria Tourism Mall, all rights reserved, 1995-2009.



Search

this web site :

