

## The Final Approach: a cure for a sweet spot

Featuring the Airport Restaurant at  
Qualicum Beach

By Ron Kirstein, Edited by Lisa Cole

Photos Courtesy of Ron Kirstein



Lisa studies the excellent lunch menu at the Airport  
Restaurant

Photo by Ron Kirstein

When you travel around Vancouver Island you will likely want to know where you can get a good meal. Generally, I just ask the locals. Most often they will lead you to the best places. It sure has worked for me.

Now I have a sweet tooth, so it has been my mission to find the best places for ice cream cones, my major weakness. I also like great pie. Lemon Meringue, Banana Cream, and Pumpkin Pie are among my favourites. I really like Pecan pie, Strawberry Rubarb, Apple, and a host of others, as well.



Lemon Pie!

Photo Courtesy of Ron Kirstein



Pecan Pie

Photo Courtesy of Lisa Cole

For years, a woman in Sooke made pies for Mom's cafe. The pie there was fantastic. I have not been there for a while, so I hope that's still the case. Just recently I discovered the Airport Restaurant in Qualicum Beach. I had heard the food was pretty good there and it surely is. The windows overlook the airstrip, so you can watch the planes come and go while you eat. They have a very nice patio as well. The place is often jam packed full of people at lunch time, so be sure to get there early. They open daily at 11 am.

I was there one day when I heard a diner behind me ask what was for desert. The waiter rattled off a list of pies that would knock your socks off. When he brought the pie out, he did a masterful job of marketing: he walked around the restaurant making sure everyone had a good look at it. That was good enough for me. I tried my favourite, banana cream. The crust was unbelievable and very flakey. Not sure how many times I have been back there, sincebut I was just there a few days ago. It was a beautiful day and we sat out on the patio, watching the sights. I had a buffalo burger and it was outstanding. Lisa tried the pecan pie and said it was to die for.



**Buffalo Burger**

Photo Courtesy of Ron Kirstein



**Banana Cream Pie**

Photo Courtesy of Ron Kirstein