

It's an RV Secret

By Jennifer Rhyne

“My favorite thing about springtime is the first sight of cobwebs and dust settled into corners.” Sounds ridiculous, doesn't it? After all, who likes the sight of dirt, and the prospect of cleaning it, except perhaps the actor on a Swiffer® mop commercial? Yet, it is definitely an unspoken sentiment shared by RV'ers across the continent. Welcome to spring. The fragrant scents of daffodils, the rosy hues of tulips, the cozy warmth of sunshine, and the stirring of dust and cobwebs as the RV is geared up for the first long weekend of the warm weather months - surely this is a moment worthy of the favorites list! Think about all the tender feelings that the RV conjures in your mind - the unforgettable memories, the family bonding, the miles and miles of undiscovered roadways, lined with blossoming trees and filtered sunlight, and the friendships made along the way. It is completely natural to get excited about cleaning away the winter dirt - it IS the long weekend! And to help you decide where to go for your long weekend getaway, in your newly sparkling clean RV? Read on!

There is nothing like the soft winding roads, endless stretches of golden sand, and the friendly faces of town locals along Highway 101 to get the summer started. This gorgeous expanse of highway begins on the spectacular Sunshine Coast - in Lund, BC - a cozy community nestled right at the entrance to Desolation Sound. (Highway 101 ends in Puerto Montt, Chile, so you'll need to allow for a little more time if you're up for driving the entire route!) The quaint British Columbia portion of Highway 101 is only a 40-minute, RV-friendly, ferry ride from Vancouver. Armed with plenty of campsites nearby, Desolation Sound is a kayakers dream, loaded with tiny islands dotted throughout the shimmering azure ocean waters. Don't happen to have a kayak? There are places to rent the gear to enjoy this soothing sport in almost every community along Highway 101; it is one of the best ways to explore the waters of the Sunshine Coast. The stillness in the air is comforting, and the sounds of playful seals and soaring eagles will dominate all else if you opt to stroll lazy pathways or dip your paddle in the calm waters.

So, you are not a water baby. Not to worry! Why not stretch your RV legs along a farm and garden roadway in the Fraser Valley. A longtime favorite journey for RV'ers, campsites with full hook-ups and ample amenities are aplenty, topped only by the amount of stunning viewscapes you will happen upon. Sample notes of green apple and citrus from a glass of white Gewurztraminer at a boutique winery (there are over 10 in the valley!), taste farm fresh cheeses at a local dairy farm, or sniff the bright blossoms that spring is famous for at Minter Gardens in Chilliwack. There are so many varieties of farms in the valley that there are even self-drive maps available to guide you along a Circle Farm Tour. Ahhh, a long weekend spent collecting ingredients for an exquisite culinary celebration (to test out your RV's appliances after the long winter of course!) - it is a wondrous idea for a family weekend.

So when your non-RV friends and family laugh at you when you tell them excitedly that you spent the day with dust and dirt, join the rest of the RV'ers with your secret smile, for we all know that nothing starts a season off better than the first long weekend getaway. And no long weekend getaway can possibly top exploring Vancouver, Coast & Mountains.