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Welcome to Pemberton!

Allow me to thank our members, our board volunteers, partners, the Village of Pemberton, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and you, the “tourist,” our most valuable player. In 2018, Pemberton stood out as the place to play. And, so far, this year has been remarkable as well. The spring sledding season keeps going in pursuit of what seems to be an endless amount of snow and mountain biking is already in full swing in the valley.

Many of our visitors have discovered they can enjoy the slopes of Whistler while staying in Pemberton. This year, we continue to see great interest in one of B.C.’s finest provincial parks: **Joffre Lakes**. (Don’t forget, beginning in 2019, camping at the picturesque alpine campground is by reservation only.) Also, a new dock at **Anderson Lake** has seen an increase in pleasure craft activity.

Slow Food Cycle Sunday is in its 15th year and, on Aug. 18, we invite you to join us for this spectacular, and educational, pedal-powered event.

Please visit us at tourismpembertonbc.com where you can find a wide variety of activities provided by our members that you and your family are sure to enjoy. New this year, you will have the ability to book activities directly through our site.

When you come to our little village, whether at the grocery store, a local shop, a restaurant, a gas station, the trails, the library or water park, stop and ask a local why they love Pemberton. Our locals are Tourism Ambassadors brimming with recommendations—they’re also rewarded through our loyalty program called “Ask A Local.”

As always, “Adventure Begins Here!”

Mark Mendonca
Tourism Pemberton



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COVER IMAGE:

The Pemberton valley is a soaring pilots dream come true. Studded with 9,000-foot peaks and a valley floor only a couple thousand feet above sea-level, the views are simply stunning!

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Pemberton
VISITORS' GUIDE 2019-2020





Pemberton Beer Farmers raise a glass of their 100 per cent farm-grown beer. PHOTO SUBMITTED

RAISING A GLASS TO LOCAL DRINKS

Spud Valley is home to two new breweries and a booming distillery

ALYSSA NOEL

Visitors have been flocking to Pemberton in recent years for many reasons. There's the farm-fresh eats, top-tier mountain biking, and unparalleled backcountry, to name just a few draws.

But unique breweries and distilleries have not been on that list—until recently. While Pemberton Distillery Inc. is set to celebrate its 10th anniversary this year, two new breweries have set up shop in Spud Valley to help create an epic tasting-room crawl that spans from The Beer Farmers down Pemberton Meadows Road to the industrial area on the east end of town that both the distillery and the Pemberton Brewing

Company call home.

"When I first envisioned the distillery I kind of planned on us being a production distillery and didn't plan on having an on-site tasting room," said Tyler Schramm, founder and master distiller who runs the distillery with his wife Lorien and his brother Jake. "I just thought, 'Not that many people are coming to Pemberton and who would want to come to an industrial park to taste alcohol?' At this point, I admit, I'm very, very wrong about that."

Part of the distillery's appeal is its organic designation as well as the fact that it uses local

ingredients—from the fabled Pemberton potato to apples from an orchard near Lillooet and even foraged elderflower.

The long list of spirits now includes Schramm Organic Gin, Schramm Organic Potato Vodka, and Pemberton Valley Organic Single Malt Whisky, to name just a few staples. But they also make 11 to 12 different liqueurs in small batches, as well as absinthe, and brandy.

"For me, what led to the distillery was an interest in organic agriculture," Schramm said. "We now actually have a small farm in the family and we grow the herbs used in the gin and the

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Pemberton Distillery has been supplying both locals and visitors with their premium spirits for a decade. PHOTO SUBMITTED

absinthe and some of the ingredients that go into the liqueurs are grown on our own property. I'd never call myself a farmer, but I do try to grow the ingredients."

The Beer Farmers, who opened up their brewery on a 120-year-old family farm in the summer of 2018, also boast local ingredients.

Bruce and Brenda Miller had been running the family farm when they recruited their children to come on board for the new pursuit. "It's been a lot of fun," said Will Miller, the couple's son, who returned to the farm to help with the new family business. "The summer was pretty crazy. When you open, it's the beginning and the end at the same time. So much work leads up to it—and the work hasn't even started."

After a bustling summer—which included a jam-packed farm during the annual Slow Food Cycle—The Beer Farmers pressed cross-country ski tracks on their sprawling property for locals to enjoy during the snowy months.

"It was a very interesting demographic of customers," Will said about the cross-country

skiers who stopped by for a post-workout tippie. "I've never had so many people personally thank us for doing something."

Growing their own hops and barley on the farm, the family is ready for a busy summer. "We're happy because we now have the patio and outdoor seating area," Will added. "We want to create it as something for people to come and learn a little bit about how the growing process works—how farms grow and beer is produced—and promote our 100-per-cent farm-grown products."

Capping off the trio of unique tasting rooms is the Pemberton Brewing Co., which also opened its doors in 2018. Offering a bold variety of beer—from beloved IPAs to its tasty blueberry sour—you can try a flight in their tasting room or find them on tap at venues across the Sea to Sky corridor.

Schramm said having a variety of venues has been beneficial to business. "There's definitely spirit drinkers and beer drinkers," he said. "They often travel together ... Having three of us operating in the valley is mutually beneficial." ●



It's no secret that I love Pemberton. Born and raised in the Pemberton Valley, I am the fourth generation of my family to call this beautiful valley home and this little slice of paradise has my heart. I know the valley and the people; I truly enjoy sharing my love of Pemberton with others and helping them to find the perfect property to call home.

As a licenced Realtor® with over 15 years experience I have the skills, background and knowledge to guide you through the process with confidence. I look forward to helping you with your Pemberton real estate needs.



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EXPLORING THE BACKCOUNTRY

Whether you get there through the air, by your own two feet, or with the help of a motor, Pemberton's surrounding terrain is worth visiting

BRIGITTE MAH

For some, an adventure isn't an adventure unless they've gone off the beaten path to the untamed wilderness that makes you feel small and large at the same time. Pemberton is a quiet town in a valley but just a short flight or drive away lays an endless amount of snow-capped volcanic peaks, offering a side of nature you can't experience at home.

The backcountry is rugged, endless, majestic and daunting—but it doesn't have to be. Here are some of the best options that let you step into the true essence of nature without having to go at it alone.

BY AIR: HEAD-LINE MOUNTAIN HOLIDAYS

When you take to the skies the whole world opens up, and the notorious Pemberton Ice Cap is a world of its own. As the largest southern ice field in British Columbia, the 325-square-kilometre area is a stunning remote location that is a mere 15 minutes from Whistler's heliport. Azure and cobalt-blue ice caves, bottomless sink holes, convex and concave rolls of snow, and the glacier's edge make for an irresistible experience for the backcountry adventurer.

Head-Line Mountain Holidays offers a lift up to the

ice cap in an A-Star helicopter and then takes you on a tour through the Arctic-like terrain via one of their snow machines.

"We get out there early, before anyone else does, and (guests get to have) that more serene, private experience out there," said president and CEO Doug Washer.

The guides share their research and knowledge of the ice and its power, and guide you through your cave exploration. And just when all sense of the modernized world fades away the helicopter returns for you, leaving you wanting more.



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L: Wendy Thompson Hut during the summer. MARIUS M. GRECU / SHUTTERSTOCK.COM
R: Broken Boundary Adventures take you beyond the norm in half the time. PHOTO SUBMITTED

“People say it’s the best thing they’ve done and our guests have done everything,” said Washer.

For those wanting to immerse themselves in the ice cap experience for more than half a day, Head-Line also offers multi-day snowmobile expeditions with heli-sledding and trail-riding options. Guests can stay in a chalet that offers undercover storage for sleds or in glacier pods as an overflow option. They can also spend the night on the ice field as part of the expedition.

BY YOURSELF: THE MARRIOTT BASIN

For those who want to earn their turns, the Duffey Lake Road is a corridor through some of the best backcountry snow on the West Coast. There are a multitude of choices for skiers and snowboarders, with everything from steep grinds to meandering skins to a full, multi-day loop. One of the most popular places is the Marriott Basin, which does not allow motorized access.

A few hours skin in from the Duffey will bring you to the Wendy Thompson Hut, a reservation-based hut run by the Alpine Club of Canada Whistler

Section that sleeps up to 17 and offers access to some pristine powder and big mountain skiing. You’ll have to book ahead, bring your own sleeping bag and manage your own avalanche risks, but the ride down from the peak is always worth it.

BY SLED: BROKEN BOUNDARY ADVENTURES

When you want to get to your objective quickly, you need a machine.

In the winter, a snowmobile is the fastest and most efficient way to cover a lot of terrain. From December to April, Broken Boundary Adventures gives you the chance to not only get out into what may feel like a daunting environment but also to become a better snowmobiler and skier. They offer full day private snowmobile and sled-access skiing group tours and are out for 60 to 80-kilometre days as they adventure into the backcountry up on the Pemberton Ice Cap.

“We see ice caves, big mountains, and lots of untouched areas,” said chief operating officer Tyler Kraushar. “The day caters to whatever the ability of the group is.”

And if you’re not up to snuff on how to operate a snowmobile, don’t worry—Kraushar and his crew will help you.

A decade ago, few snowmobilers would think to hire a guide. “It’s what started to build up the snowmobiling in the corridor: people accessing the backcountry to go skiing and snowboarding,” said Kraushar, who has noticed a significant increase in sledder traffic in the backcountry. “I would say that based on the numbers coming out of the trailheads that snowmobiling has become the primary means of access in the corridor.”

He believe the balance is shifting, and that soon there may be more sledders than snowboarders or skiers combined. “I think it’s the ability to cover more ground,” he said. “You don’t have to stop and slow down when you get to the flat spot.”

Whether you decide to explore by air, sled or your own feet, you’re guaranteed to discover inspiring terrain that will leave you in awe of the volcanic peaks that make Pemberton’s backcountry one of the most unique places in the world. ●



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The weekly farmers' market has everything from potatoes to plants to delicious locally baked goods. DAVE STEERS / DBSTEERS@FLICKR.COM

CONNECT WITH THE LAND

Pemberton's farmers make up the backbone of the Pemberton Farmers' Market and the annual Slow Food Cycle Sunday

BRIGITTE MAH

There is a pastoral wonder about Pemberton, a near idyllic hygge that is bolstered by the rugged peaks of Mount Currie and the verdant meadows below. Small wonder that it is the land where some of the continent's best potatoes, beef and honey grow. And while there are many events that celebrate the beauty and richness of the land, each year there are two that give you a taste of Pemberton's roots: the Pemberton Farmers' Market and the Pemberton Slow Food Cycle Sunday.

Held in the iconic open barn on Frontier Street in the heart of downtown, the Pemberton Farmers' Market runs each Friday from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. from June 7 to Oct. 25, bringing several dozen

local growers and makers to connect with the community and its visitors.

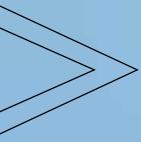
"Everything that we have (in the market) is B.C. grown or made," said the market's manager, Mollie Reynolds, adding that the market won Market Of The Year in 2018 by the BC Association of Farmers' Markets.

The market's location is part of what makes it unique: the open-concept barn is in the centre of the small-town bustle of Pemberton. Sometimes the train toots as it rattles on past and sometimes horses trot by. "We always have live music and because of the location it's kind of like an afternoon block party," said Reynolds. "It brings

quite a nice feel to the market."

You can expect a range of music from any of the 18 local musicians, which includes the popular bands Chicks With Picks and Courageous Mountain Rangers. Your toes will get tapping with the festive Cuban and Colombian-inspired original tunes from Nice Verdes and the upbeat lyrics from songwriter and guitarist Susan Holden.

The market boasts a selection of some of the best locally grown food, so much that Reynolds feels it's almost a foodie market. There are often five or six farms that bring a variety of food: veggies from beets, lettuce, carrots, potatoes, squash and depending on where the farm is located, fruit



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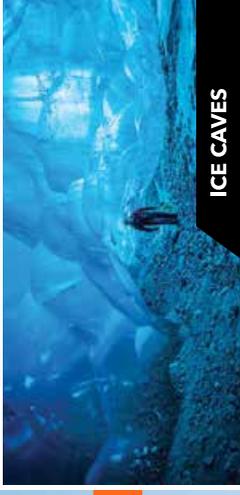
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The annual Slow Food Cycle Sunday attracts crowds from Pemberton and beyond with food, drinks, art and much more.

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like watermelons, apples, pears, raspberries, and cherries. You'll also find mouth-watering baked goods—including gluten-free items—from a bakery in nearby Birken.

There are almost always handmade samosas and tacos, along with kombucha, eggs and jam. The meat farmers are on a rotating schedule to serve the whole corridor but will bring sausages, smokies, chickens and filet mignons.

There's more than just food, though. A local lavender farmer offers décor like macramé, and a potter boasts selection of handmade items, and there are almost always dog treats and knitted wares. Last year a massage therapist was available for massages right in the barn.

And if you really want to sink your teeth into the roots of Pemberton and visit the farms, hop on

your bicycle for the 15th annual Slow Food Cycle Sunday in August.

The event runs for one day and brings cyclists through half-a-dozen farms, spanning roughly 20 kilometres as an out-and-back ride from morning to mid-afternoon. Known as a Choose Your Own Biking Adventure, the event can be as short or as long as you want it to be. If you have little ones on run bikes and can only ride less than 1 km, that's ok; there will still be a farm for you to visit.

"It's meant to get people out on their bikes, meeting farmers and seeing the natural beauty of the land and being educated on what the farmers do and where the food goes to, along with the importance of maintaining farmland," said Carlee Cindric, Tourism Pemberton's marketing coordinator.

This year's participating farms will be Helmer's Organic Farm, Across The Creek Organics and The Beer Farmers, Plenty Wild Farms, Blue House Organics, and Edible Eden Farm. You'll get to meet the farmers face to face, learn about their process and business, and sample some delectable treats that really don't get any fresher than from the farmers themselves.

There will also be local vendors along the way with a variety of handmade items.

Whether you're peddling, walking, dancing or just shopping, you'll find a bountiful variety of Pemberton goodness at either the Farmers' Market or the Slow Food Cycle Sunday.

The food is so good that you may just dream about moving here. ●



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We invite you to download our **Tourism Pemberton App** for our community event calendar, local business directory, things to do and more! It's **FREE** from the **App Store** and **Google Play**.



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An aerial view of Big Sky Golf. DAVE STEERS / DBSTEERS@FLICKR.COM

PEMBERTON GEARS UP FOR BIG COMPETITION

Two first-time tournaments on the calendar for 2019

BRADEN DUPUIS

Pemberton's dueling golf courses—Big Sky and the Meadows at Pemberton—are gearing up for some big events this summer.

Big Sky is set to welcome the BC Amateur beginning July 8, while the Meadows will host the 2019 British Columbia Juvenile Golf Championship from Aug. 12 to 15.

It's the first time the tournaments will be held at the respective golf courses.

"We've done the seniors or the mid-am, but we've never done the amateur event," says Michael MacNeil, general manager at Big Sky.

"So this is a big one, and great exposure for the facility."

It's no surprise the two courses are drawing more attention these days—their quiet, picturesque locale becoming more and more a rarity in the world of golf.

"A lot of people are just kind of blown away with the setting and the tranquility," MacNeil says of Big Sky's appeal, pointing to the lack of residential development around the course.

"That's kind of the way things are going with the golf industry, to create that revenue, so it's

just such a peaceful, different setting with that beautiful mountain in the background."

Golf enthusiasts in the Sea to Sky have no shortage of options, but a visit to Pemberton will give you the best of all worlds.

Those looking for a low-cost, more laidback round will find it at the Meadows.

"We're very excited to be hosting the 2019 British Columbia Juvenile Golf Championship Aug. 12 to 15. It's a great opportunity for the community to volunteer and see some of tomorrow's top golfers today," says general manager Kevin McLeod,

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- Jay. G, Tripadvisor Review



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"We're very lucky with the courses we have out here, that's for sure. What an area to be in. You're just spoiled rotten."

MICHAEL MACNEIL

adding that anyone interested in volunteering can email info@pembertongolf.com.

"It's going to be a fantastic event."

This summer will also see more live music hosted at the Meadows, as well as more events for families, women and youth.

"There's going to be more outdoor games for everyone, and in the Black Squirrel restaurant we're updating our restaurant to include more vegetarian and gluten-free options," McLeod says.

"You can't beat our price, and we've got the laidback atmosphere, and you can usually get your favourite tee time—whenever you give us a call or book online it's usually there."

With every course in the corridor offering its own unique draw, MacNeil recommends taking a scattershot approach.

"I'm a firm believer in getting people out to play all the courses, and seeing which one you would prefer," he says.

"They're all different, and all very beautiful, so we're very lucky with the courses we have out here, that's for sure. What an area to be in. You're just spoiled rotten."

While Big Sky and the Meadows are next-door neighbours, and technically in direct competition, the two courses get along famously, MacNeil says.

"We have a great relationship, and we support each other very well," he says.

"(Kevin's) got my back, I got his in certain situations when we need a hand, so it's a very healthy relationship and the door swings both ways, so it's good."

McLeod offers a similar sentiment.

"Now and again, we usually just sort of help each other out when one course needs something from the other one, just to sort of make something work," he says.

"We're always collaborating that way, and I'm going to be talking to him this year to see if we can do some more things together. It's great."

For tee times, rates and more information on each course, head to www.bigskygolf.ca and www.pembertongolf.com. ●

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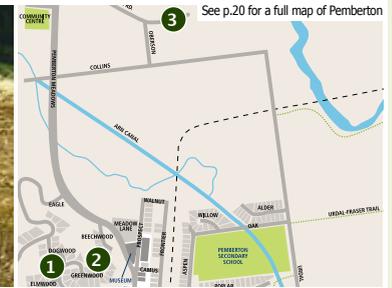
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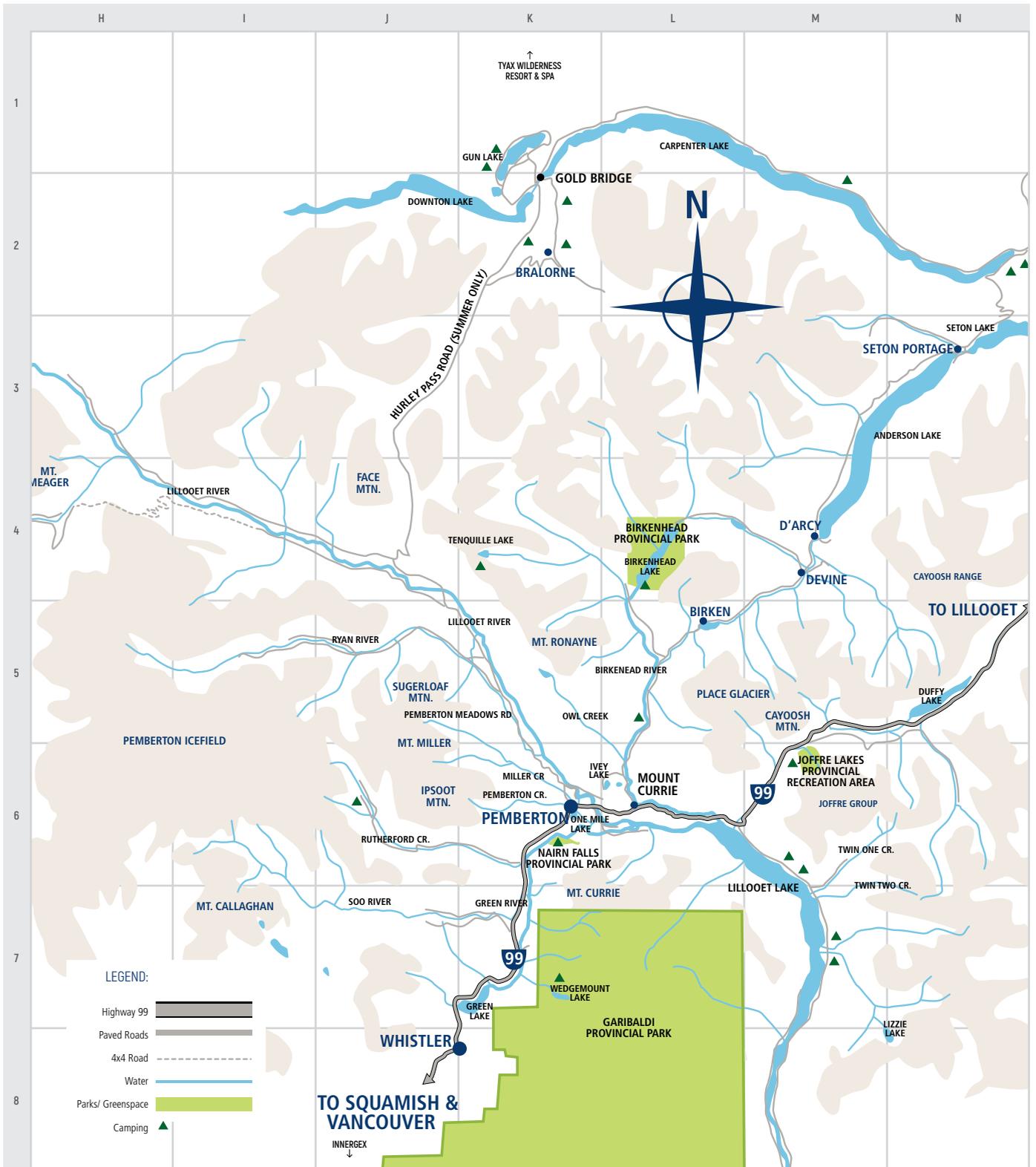
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A MOUNTAIN BIKER'S GUIDE TO PEMBERTON

Some of the best trails to ride during your visit—and a few choice places to fuel up too

BRIGITTE MAH

There is a well-known secret in the mountain bike world, and it's that Pemberton has some incredible terrain for when you want to adventure and explore on two wheels. It boasts the opportunity to "earn your turns" away from the lifts and resort crowds, and discover the land, community and history that blend indigenous life, farm life, ranch life, and modern life. And since nothing whets an appetite like a good ride, here are some popular rides and places to fuel both your heart and your stomach.

ONE COFFEE RIDE: THE GRAB AND GO

Roll into Mount Currie Coffee Co. or Blackbird Bakery and grab your morning coffee and a delectable treat. Choose from a selection of handmade, natural eats like the chorizo breakfast burrito, a stud muffin, almond or cheese croissants, or pain au chocolat. Then ride over to the Bike Co. to double check route directions and

get all the latest beta on trail conditions.

From there, you have two choices depending on how secure your coffee is. If it can spill and you want a casual ride that's more than a few blocks, then head over to the Visitors' Centre and ride the flat, green picturesque 7.5-kilometre Valley Loop Trail that meanders through riverside woods, creeks and active farmland.

Or, if you can put your coffee in your backpack and you want a little more elevation in a two-hour time frame, park at the Mackenzie Basin parking lot and ride the gravel road along the iconic Lillooet River to Happy Trail. Pedal up the blue trail to Waco Trail, and at the top continue onward to Radio Tower Trail, where you'll descend and meet up with Crosstown Traffic Trail. Ride that trail and you'll end up right back at your car.

TWO COFFEE RIDE:

GRAB, GO, NOSH AND THEN GO AGAIN

If you've got a casual day and want to capture the pastoral views and sunshine by going for a ride, grabbing a snack and then riding again, this ride in the One Mile Lake area is a great way to explore some of Pemberton's elevated green and blue trails without giving you a heart attack. The trail circuit can be a bit confusing so stop in at Bike Co. for your best trail info.

Fuel up with coffee and treats at one of the many eateries and coffee shops in town. Ride toward One Mile Lake and link up to the Sea to Sky Trail, where the gravel path will take you on some slight inclines until you reach Piece of Cake on your left. From there, it's a short ride to Nairn One Mile, which will take you up to Murse Made, Underhill and One Mile Climb until you reach Newsflash. At the top of Newsflash turn right on Brakeaway



Pemberton has a wide variety of trails within riding distance of the village and all the best eating spots.

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to Pioneer and then descend the black diamond sequence of Pioneer to Fizzy Pop to Dog Beach.

Hit Mile One Eating House for a burger or their famous mac and cheese, then head out again to Smoky Tickler and climb 178 metres of black diamond singletrack until you reach Fat Tug. Descend Fat Tug and call it a good day of riding.

THE FULL PULL: TWO COFFEES AND A BURGER

For the day when you just want to ride and ride because the weather is phenomenal and the trail conditions are perfect, fuel up and start off with one of the "two coffee" rides, then refuel and head out to pedal up Happy, Waco and Nimby to the Lower Paraglide Launch. Soak up the unparalleled view of the valley and then climb the 451 metre blue trail Middle Earth to Rudy's. Descend via Rudy's, Overnight Sensation, Radio Tower, and Crosstown Traffic and call it a day with some patio time at The Pony.

Regardless of the route you choose, you'll have experienced more than just the terrain. Riding in Pemberton is about experiencing the land and the people you meet along the way. ●



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Pemberton's iconic Mount Currie is the perfect backdrop for the perfect wedding photo. ALANNA GOVENLOCK / STOLENSTILL.COM

PEMBERTON'S WEDDING WIZARDS

Forget meadows and Mount Currie views—the valley's lengthy list of talented wedding vendors is the real reason why you should consider Pemberton your dream wedding venue

MEGAN LALONDE

With expansive meadows and snow-capped mountain peaks as a backdrop and a convenient location just far enough away from the hustle and bustle of Vancouver and Whistler Village, there's no shortage of natural elements that make Pemberton a perfect wedding venue.

But the one not-as-obvious factor that really sets Pemberton apart?

"An abundance of talented local vendors," says Carlee Cindric, a Pemberton-based wedding and event planner with Pocketful Productions.

"The local vendors that I have a chance to work with are so professional and quite world class. They're super passionate about what they're doing, they put a lot of time and energy into what they're doing, and they love it ... They're living

and working here for a reason."

Despite a small population of just over 2,500 people, Pemberton's skilled community of wedding vendors and venues is booming.

To name just a few: Lisa Vertefueille of The Flour Pot will turn your cake dreams into reality, while the Cake Kitchen specializes in tailoring their creations to your dietary requirements, including vegan and gluten-free. Before the dessert course, treat your guests to an exquisite meal from The Collective Kitchen or Snowline Catering. Hair and makeup artists Colleen Conroy and Brenda Bakker will make sure you look your best, while Sophie Rivers of Ninebark Floral Design or Julia Hoogeveen of Flowers and Jules will transform your venue with carefully curated greenery and blossoms. Photographer Anastasia Chomlack can capture it all in snapshots you will cherish forever.

"Everyone has a strong game—that's the thing about being in the Sea to Sky. It takes a lot ... (of determination) to stay up here," says Hoogeveen of her peers.

Aside from remarkable talent, there's several advantages to choosing locals to make your dream wedding a reality, explains Cindric.

In addition to a cost difference—there's no need to worry about travel, shipping or accommodation fees—"most of the vendors work together quite often, so when you've got vendors who know each other and have worked together quite a bit it allows for a smoother experience," she says.

Cindric adds, "If you're working with people that know the area and the venue inside and out, that takes a level of potential stress off."



L: Colleen Conroy, a local make up artist, has worked her magic for countless Pemberton brides. WHISTLER WEDDING COLLECTIVE
R: A stunning winter wedding bouquet by Flowers & Jules. LEAH KATHRYN / LEAHKATHRYNPHOTO.COM

“There’s so many amazing local vendors we can work with that have been doing this for years ... There’s so much talent that you don’t need to stray very far.”

CORINNE GRAVES

Staff at Riverlands Weddings and Events (located on the grounds of the world-class Riverlands Equestrian facility) are similarly well-versed in working with local vendors, whether the venue is hosting an elegant, luxurious event—such as one wedding for a Sikh couple and their 250 guests that included guided barn tours and a dressage presentation—or a more rustic, intimate wedding in their turnkey Red Barn venue, complete with strings of twinkling lights and an adjacent field perfect for longtable dinners.

“We work with couples very closely, and they can choose their own venue and create their own experience,” says Corinne Graves, Riverlands’ finance and office manager.

“We don’t provide any of the vendors, so we work with a lot of local vendors,” she continues. “That’s the good thing about the Sea to Sky corridor; there’s so many amazing local vendors

we can work with that have been doing this for years ... There’s so much talent that you don’t need to stray very far.”

At nearly 510 hectares, Riverlands is the largest privately owned property in the Whistler/Pemberton area—allowing for uninterrupted mountain views and wide open pastures.

In addition to providing a picturesque backdrop for your nuptials, Pemberton’s rural setting also inspires its local vendors to get creative. Hoogeveen is just one example: basing her business in Pemberton allows the florist to grow her own organic flowers on her nearby acreage.

“Not everyone has the opportunity to,” Hoogeveen says. “Pemberton’s hot and can grow such beautiful flowers ... And Pemberton has become such a wedding hub, I’m working here mostly (as opposed to down the road in Whistler).”

To that end, her newer venture, dubbed Pemberton Mountain Flowers, offers do-it-yourself brides the cost-effective option of ordering fresh flowers in bulk, or choosing a simple bridal arrangement from a pre-set list of designs (Flowers and Jules remains available for custom florals).

Best of all, couples commuting for their big day won’t need to worry about transporting their flowers up the winding Sea to Sky Highway.

“Sure, it sounds easy when you’re planning it, but once they get the flowers, flowers need water, water comes in buckets and then you have buckets of water in your car,” Hoogeveen explains. “We’re trying to help in every aspect, because nobody wants to be bringing up buckets of water on their wedding day with their wedding dress.” ●



The month of May offers multiple opportunities to check out archery on horseback at a training camp or the Canadian Open House Archery Championship. PHOTOS SUBMITTED

ON TARGET: ARCHERY ON HORSEBACK

Borsos Torzs Horse Archery Club offers visitors a chance to take in a unique sport

DAN FALLOON

For some folks, the promise of seeing top-notch riders showing off their horseback riding skills enough to draw them in.

For others, the chance to see top-flight archery is a selling point.

As the home to some of the world's top competitors with the ability to combine those two skills, the Borsos Torzs Horse Archery Club offers both and, conveniently, is open to visitors.

Coach and club founder Robert Borsos, who has competed in horse archery since 2003, says travellers from around the world have come out to see the sport, which is exactly what it sounds like: shooting arrows at targets while on horseback.

Borsos explains that after a training session, guests can try their hand at shooting some targets, though from a steady spot on the ground.

"They are welcome to watch," he says. "After we are finished, they are welcome to try the bows and arrows."

As well, guests can pet the horses and take a picture with them.

For the best viewing opportunity of the season, check out the training camp from May 18 to 23 or the Canadian Open Horse Archery Championship from May 24 to 26.

The competition will attract international riders as it serves as an official Lajos Kassai Open event, named for the Hungarian man who started the sport's renaissance in the '80s by creating the modern rule system and spreading it to Europe and North America.

Borsos Torzs ran Canada's first horseback archery competition in 2005, the North American Horseback Archery Challenge, which had both mounted and foot

events. It has continued annually ever since.

As well, TV fans may recognize club members from appearances on BBC's *Barbarians*, Discovery Channel's *Weapons of War*, or Spike TV's *Deadliest Warrior*.

This year, Borsos Torzs members will compete in the U.S., France, Luxembourg, Hungary and Russia, sending anywhere between two and five athletes depending on the event. If there are limits to how many riders each club can send in an event, some still go attend as support staff.

The team is entirely self-funded, so donations are welcome. For more information, visit www.horsebackarchery.ca. Contact the club through its website before you visit to confirm there will be activity during your planned visit, as well as for directions. Borsos adds there are signs that read "Horseback Archery" that will lead visitors to the club's site on Nelson Bar Road in Mount Currie. ●

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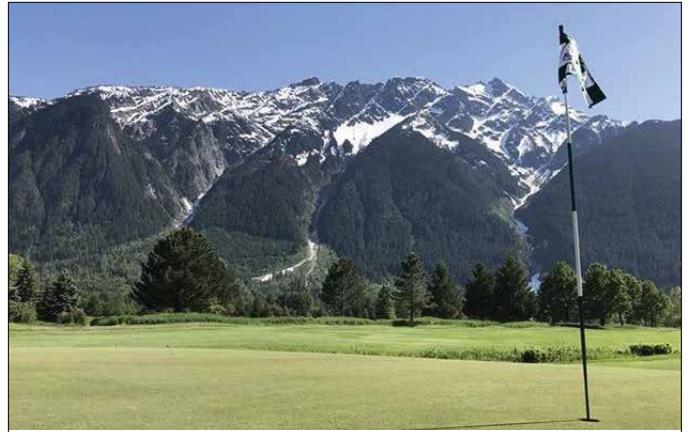


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L: Lucas Cruz BORIS BEYER/CRANKWORX Centre: Brenna Nott PHOTO SUBMITTED R: Ethan Hess PHOTO SUBMITTED

PEMBERTON'S YOUNG ATHLETES ON THE RISE

Meet Spud Valley's sporty youth

DAN FALLOON

Boasting mountains and forests, lakes and rivers, Pemberton and its surrounding area is jam-packed with recreational opportunity.

So it should be no surprise that a significant portion of the population gets pretty good at their sports of choice.

Here's a look at three young Pembertonians who are already making their mark on the world, or at the very least, seem primed to in short order.

LUCAS CRUZ – DH MOUNTAIN BIKING

Downhiller Lucas Cruz is preparing for his second season on the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) junior men's downhill circuit.

In his rookie year, the 17-year-old earned four top-10 World Cup finishes, including a fourth-place showing in the season opener in Losinj, Croatia.

He credits his surroundings for helping him craft excellence in his sport.

"It's been the perfect training ground, really," the 17-year-old said. "We have a huge mountain biking community around us, and the Whistler (Mountain) Bike Park, where I spent all of my summers."

Cruz started out riding BMX in Squamish at age nine before the Pemberton track opened in 2012.

"It just gave me a really good foundation of bike-handling skills and was a good fit for competition before I started mountain biking," he said. "It was a really big part of how I became a mountain biker."

These days, Cruz enjoys riding near One Mile Lake or around the Mackenzie Basin, though one of his favourite downhill trails in the area is the double-black-diamond Resurrectum, located near Owl Creek.

At that site, he's been working alongside his younger brother to work on his building skills.

"That's where I've been trying to build some trails as well as get faster on my downhill bike. That's a really good spot for me," he said. "I've been looking for awhile to try to find a spot to make downhill trails in Pemberton because it's all enduro trails. I found this older trail, which is up toward Mount Currie, and it's a perfect shuttling spot."

With the 2019 Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) downhill season set to begin, Cruz is set to enter his final junior season before he joins the pro men's circuit in 2020. He'll be looking to cement a solid reputation for himself before he makes the jump.

"I have a really great opportunity with the SRAM

Troy Lee Designs Racing Team. They've given me a ton of support to really reach my full potential this year. Having an actual team to ride with is going to be really great," he said.

At press time, Cruz was preparing to kick off his season at the first race of the year in Maribor, Slovenia in late April.

BRENNA NOTT – CANOEING

Fresh off a training camp down in Florida, 13-year-old Brenna Nott is excited for the coming summer season.

Nott first joined the Pemberton Canoe Association in 2015 and since joining, has enjoyed learning and perfecting the intricacies of paddling.

"I like the challenge. It's not just sheer strength that depends on how far you get," she said. "There's a lot of technique. You can be strong and have sheer strength, but just strength won't move the boat. You need to think about how the boat is going to move forward and how you need to work to push the boat forward."

Though the Pemberton Canoe Association might not be as big as some of the clubs Nott and her teammates face, she appreciates the chance to learn her sport in the atmosphere she does.

"I like that we're such a small club so you can get more individual training," she said. "Our coaches can focus on our specific problems with technique and what the best way to fix them is, which in a bigger club, you wouldn't get."

Nott is rising in the sport, competing in events like last summer's West Canada Cup in Regina, Sask., where she won three medals including gold in the U13 women's individual 2,000-metre race and two others competing against older athletes in the U15 division.

Usually, though, Nott stays closer to home, competing in Burnaby and Maple Ridge. Eventually, she's interested in making the national team and one day, wearing the maple leaf on the sport's greatest stage.

"Hopefully, in the long run, possibly (making it to) the Olympics," she said of her eventual goal.

ETHAN HESS – PARA-NORDIC CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Ethan Hess has accomplished plenty before his 20th birthday at the end of April.

Born with spina bifida, Hess embraced the outdoors right away and has since become a high-level para-Nordic sit skier. The atmosphere in Pemberton drew him in quickly.

"It was a very, very big factor, especially having a disability, when you're in an environment where everyone does sports, you're just forced to do sports," he said. "At least, that's what had happened to me. All my friends were doing sports, my parents are really outdoorsy people.

"It's made a really, really big impact. There are a lot of amazing athletes coming out of Pemberton and I don't think that's a coincidence at all."

Hess' first major athletic breakthrough came in the summer when at age 12, he joined Pemberton's storied dragon boat team under the guidance of coach Hugh Fisher.

Hess recalled battling tough Vancouver teams and said it built resilience, especially when Pemberton's Laoyam Eagles squad had its 17-year winning streak at the Rio Tinto Alcan Dragon Boat Festival snapped and the team came back more determined than ever. Fisher's coaching, he said, played a huge role in that.

"Just the work ethic, the workouts he did were pretty hard and we had a lot of hard-fought battle," Hess said.

Since sliding seamlessly, into Nordic skiing, Hess made the 2018 Paralympics at just 18 and has been competing on the International Paralympic Committee World Cup tour the past two seasons.

This winter, he won all of his events at the Canada Winter Games and competed at the IPC World Championships in Prince George.

He encouraged young Pembertonians to vary their athletic pursuits, ideally finding sports that complement one another.

"Focus on overall athleticism when you're young, because we live in an area where you don't have to choose just one sport," he said. ●



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Mountain Bluebird. PHOTO SUBMITTED

BIRDING IN PARADISE

A wide-range of birds and easy viewing makes for a great day out

JOEL BARDE

If you're looking for a nature-filled (and inexpensive) experience, the Pemberton area is well known for its brilliant birding.

A quick trip to One Mile Lake—which sits on the outskirts of town, on the highway to Whistler—can expose you to an impressive range of songbirds and waterfowl.

One Mile Lake boasts a picturesque boardwalk that takes visitors through a healthy marsh, providing a terrific platform for bird watching.

According to Allen McEwan—president of local conservation organization, the Pemberton Wildlife Association (PWA)—what sets Pemberton apart when it comes to birding is its dramatic landscape.

"You're in the mountains, with some big streams flowing," said McEwan, drawing a portrait of a

pastime he loves. "Those two features create different habitat than what you'd see in the East."

Beginning in the 1950s, the PWA has kept a running list of birds spotted in the Pemberton Valley. "We add a bird or two pretty much every year," said McEwan, adding that the list is currently sitting at around 250. "Something strange comes by and we joyfully add it to the list."

One of the best parts about birding is that it's easily accessible. You don't have to be an athlete or own fancy outdoor equipment to enjoy it.

"You need to be dressed for the weather and, of course, a set of binoculars is a huge help," said McEwan. "They don't have to be expensive—\$100 or \$200 will get you started nicely."

McEwan also advises downloading a specialty birding app on your smartphone, which can be used to learn about species and identifying features, enhancing the overall birding experience.

If you are looking for somewhere a bit more remote than One Mile Lake, McEwan recommends checking out the Valley Loop Trail.

The flat, 7.5 km circular route is easy to walk, cycle or run, and is bounded by the Lillooet River, Arn Canal, and One Mile Creek.

(McEwan recommends accessing it via Airport Road parking near the Pemberton Creek Bridge.)

"You have a lovely forested riparian zone right along the river, and it's really good birding," said McEwan. "You can easily get 30 species in an hour in that area."

Local birder John Tschopp said what he loves about birding in the area is that there is a constant changing of the casts, as northern birds flock south, and southern birds flock north.

“The variety is the same in winter as it is in summer,” said Tschopp. “It’s just a different cast.”

A popular bird in the area is the Lazuli Bunting, a beautiful North American songbird that birders flock to Pemberton to see.

“Birders from all over North America come to see the species because it’s so common here,” said Tschopp. “You don’t have to look hard to find it, and it’s a very nice bird.”

To learn more about birding in Pemberton, check out The Wellness Almanac, a local website dedicate to Pemberton and its surrounding communities.

Tschopp is the almanac’s dedicated birding correspondent, and his gorgeous photos of fowl can be seen there.

<https://thewellnessalmanac.com/2014/08/13/birdwatch-with-john-tschopp/> ●



Northern Flicker. PHOTO SUBMITTED

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Cheese	10"	\$9.99
mozzarella	12"	\$13.99
	14"	\$17.99
Pepperoni	10"	\$10.99
mozzarella, pepperoni	12"	\$14.99
	14"	\$18.99
Hawaiian	10"	\$10.99
mozzarella, ham, pineapple	12"	\$14.99
	14"	\$18.99
Margarita	10"	\$12.99
mozzarella, roma tomatoes, basil	12"	\$14.99
	14"	\$16.99
Meatlovers	10"	\$12.99
mozzarella, pepperoni, ham, hot capicol, ground beef	12"	\$17.99
	14"	\$22.99
Deluxe	10"	\$12.99
mozzarella, pepperoni, ground beef, onions, sweet peppers, black olives	12"	\$17.99
	14"	\$22.99
Veggie	10"	\$12.99
mozzarella, roma tomatoes, mushrooms, onions, sweet peppers, spinach, roast garlic	12"	\$16.99
	14"	\$20.99
Chicken Diablo	10"	\$13.99
mozzarella, chicken, onions, spinach, roast garlic, grandmas hot sauce (made in house)	12"	\$17.99
	14"	\$21.99

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PEMBERTON EVENTS 2019/2020

MAY

WI Plant & Bake Sale
Library Book Sale
Spud Crusher Women's Enduro
Museum Opens
PORCA Toonie Race (Tuesdays)
Pemberton Stockcar Races
Nimby 50 Bike Race
BMX Racing (Thursdays)

May 4
May 10
May 11
May 17
May 14, 18
May 18-19
May 25
Weekly

JUNE

4 x Fun Rally
Annual Chamber/Rotary Golf Tournament
PSS Graduation
BMX Race for Life (Charity for BC Children's Hospital)
WI Strawberry Tea (Berry dependent)
BMX Racing (Thursdays)
Farmers' Market (Fridays)

June 1-2
June 7
June 15
June 20
June 25
Weekly
Weekly, starting June 7

JULY

Canada Day
Spud Run
Tea & Tales at the Museum (Tuesdays)
BMX Provincial Qualifier
BMX Racing (Thursdays)
Farmers' Market (Fridays)

July 1
July 1
Weekly, starting July 9
July 21
Weekly
Weekly

AUGUST

Slow Food Cycle Sunday
Art on the Farm
Tea & Tales at the Museum (Tuesdays)
BMX Racing (Thursdays)
Farmers' Market (Fridays)

August 18
August 18
Weekly
Weekly
Weekly

SEPTEMBER

Terry Fox Run
Pemberton Lions Barn Dance
BC Rivers Day
PORCA Toonie Race (Tuesdays)
BMX Racing (Thursdays)
Farmers' Market (Fridays)

September 15
September 21
September 22
September 10, 17, 24
Weekly
Weekly

OCTOBER

North Arm Farm Pumpkin Patch
Lumpy's Trifecta
Oktoberfest Fundraiser
Farmers' Market (Last Farmer's Market of the Year)
Get your Spook on Early

October 1 - 31
October 13
October 19
October 25
October 26

NOVEMBER

Remembrance Day Service
Mountain of Art, Annual Gala & Fundraiser

November 11
November 23

DECEMBER

Pemberton Christmas Bazaar
Santa PAWS
PSS Breakfast with Santa
Li'wat Christmas Craft Fair
Pemberton Winterfest

December 31

FEBRUARY 2020

BC Family Day
Dine & Dance in the Dark
Spud Valley Loppet

February 17
Date TBC
Date TBC

MARCH 2020

Seedy Saturday Pemberton

Date TBC

APRIL 2020

Pemberton Lions Easter Egg Hunt
The Devils Golf Tournament

April 12

DON'T MISS OUT!

JUNE 7 - OCTOBER 25

PEMBERTON FARMERS' MARKET
Fridays at the Community Barn



AUGUST 18

SLOW FOOD CYCLE SUNDAY
15th annual farm to farm cycling event



DECEMBER 31

WINTERFEST NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION
A FREE, family friendly event



For up-to-date event information: www.tourismpebertonbc.com or download the FREE Tourism Pemberton App

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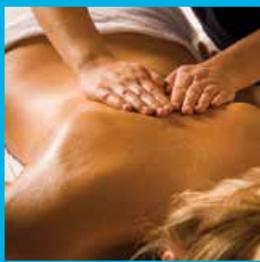
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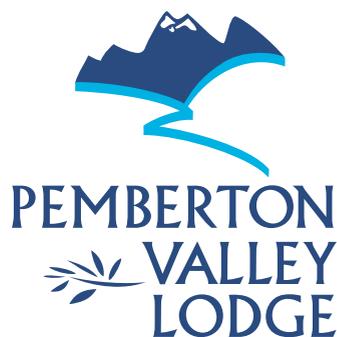
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