



Falaise Community Association

Growing a stronger community together

Welcome to the Falaise Community

We are pleased to welcome you into our community. We'd love to share with you some of the many resources in our neighbourhood. There is an abundance of parks nearby which provide a plethora of walking and cycling opportunities. There are also many shops and restaurants within walking distance and easy bus access to reach all areas of the city.

Community Resources

Falaise Community Association (www.falaise.ca): We are an active association that advocates for its residents. We hold many activities throughout the year including a community garage sale, a family picnic, a family social/games event and opportunities to meet your neighbours at our general meetings. If you are a nature lover, there is also an opportunity to participate in our volunteer program restoring the Garry oak meadow in Falaise Park. We invite you to join the Association and hope you'll be part of our continuing conversations around keeping our community strong. For more information please e-mail: president@falaise.ca

The District of Saanich (www.saanich.ca): The Saanich website lists all of the recreation centres, parks, and city services located in Saanich.

Saanich Commonwealth Place (4636 Elk Lake Drive) offers a wide range of swimming and recreational programs.

The Bruce Hutchison Public Library is located at Saanich Commonwealth Place. It is the local branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library and is a tremendous resource for families.

Block Watch: There are four Block Watch groups under the Saanich Police Block Watch Program in the neighbourhood. Saanich police have a web site that provides some background on the program and describes how to get involved (<https://www.saanichpolice.ca/index.php/crime-prevention/block-watch>).

Royal Oak Bus Exchange: Transit hub with buses going to UVic, Camosun, Downtown, Sidney, BC Ferries terminal and the airport. Bus fare is currently \$2.50 (exact change) for a single boarding (no transfers) or \$5.00 for a day pass (purchased on-bus). Frequent bus users may prefer to purchase sheets of 10 tickets (\$22.50) or monthly passes (\$85). They can be bought at Thrifty Foods or Pharmasave.

Local Schools: Lochside Elementary, Royal Oak Middle School, and Claremont Secondary School are all located close by.

Falaise Parents: This a Facebook group that encourages interactions among parents with young children in the neighbourhood. The group can be found by searching for "Falaise parents" within Facebook and a request to join will be answered by one of the parents who moderate the group.

Little Free Library: This library can be conveniently found just inside the playground entrance to Falaise Park. It is kept stocked by two of our residents with both a range of adult books and a shelf for children's books. It was installed in 2021 and has proven to be very popular.

Parks and Trails

Falaise Park (875 Falaise Crescent) is a lovely 0.78 hectare park right on Falaise Crescent that offers a children's playground and benches to enjoy our native Garry oak meadow. Our community volunteer group supported by



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the Saanich Parks Pulling Together Volunteer Program maintains this park and it is where we hold our annual picnic.

Royal Oak Burial Park (4673 Falaise Drive): This 54.5 hectare Park has numerous roads and trails that offer serene walking opportunities in a quiet setting. More strenuous hiking trails can be found in the woods surrounding the park. The main access is on Falaise Drive with a trail access off Deventer Drive.

Rithets Bog (4461 Chatterton Way) is a nature sanctuary which is encircled by a 2.8 km walking trail. It can be accessed from Chatterton Way down the hill from Broadmead Village.

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (728 Beaver Lake Road) is a popular regional park that offers many types of family outdoor activities. The lake is used cooperatively by swimmers, wind surfers, sailors, water-skiers, fishers and rowers. Some park trails are designated multi-use, for hikers, cyclists and horse riders, while others are for hiking only. A 10-km trail around the lakes makes a good jogging route. The dog park area is a favourite with dog lovers.

Lochside Trail (entrance at 1145 Royal Oak Drive) provides cycling and walking access into Saanich Centre and on to downtown Victoria. Heading north the trail goes all the way to Sidney; a lovely one-hour bike ride.

Outerbridge Park (1181 Royal Oak Drive) has a number of features including trails, ponds and bridges on 3.8 hectares and is a sanctuary for wildlife, particularly birds. Some areas of the property are planted with ornamental plants and others have been left in a natural state.

McMinn Park (off Maplegrove St): It has excellent facilities for kids including a toy chest and a zip line. A popular park with locals as it has recently been rebuilt with a new playground, dedicated pickleball courts and disc golf.

Other Amenities

Broadmead Village Shopping Centre (777 Royal Oak Drive) has a range of services including restaurants, Starbucks, a pharmacy, Thrifty Foods, Canadian Tire, a BC Liquor store, banks, dry cleaner, a pet store and other amenities.

Chatterton Way Professional Centre (4400 block Chatterton Way) includes a walk-in medical clinic, doctors' offices, dental, legal, physiotherapy and massage services.

Howard Johnson Hotel & Suites (4670 Elk Lake Drive) has a swimming pool and a restaurant.

Royal Oak Shopping Centre (4410-4480 West Saanich Road) has a Country Grocer, Shopper's Drug Mart, McDonalds, Tim Hortons and a number of other shops and amenities.

Domino's Pizza and **Dragon Roll Sushi** (4592 W Saanich Road) at the corner of Wilkinson and West Saanich Road provide fast food options. There is also a cellphone store and a video game store there. Further up at 4649 West Saanich Road you will find **MOSI Acqua Cotta** bakery and café.

Public Tennis Courts are located in Perez Park at the top of Boulderwood Drive and in McMinn Park.

McCall Gardens and First Memorial (Falaise Drive) are funeral services located in the Royal Oak Burial Park. They provide funeral, cremation, and cemetery services. The Royal Oak Burial Park is a municipal non-profit organization that maintains the park and provides cremation services

We hope that you will enjoy our neighbourhood and look forward to seeing you at some of our community events!