

ARBUTUS RIDGE - Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where is Arbutus Ridge located?

- On southern Vancouver Island about 1 hour north of Victoria, 1 hour south of Nanaimo & 20 minutes south of Duncan in the Cowichan Valley
- Overlooking the Salish Sea, Satellite Channel, Salt Spring Island & the Saanich Peninsula

2. What makes Arbutus Ridge special?

- It is a beautiful seaside community noted as one of Canada's finest for active adults 55+
- You will find a **sense of community** where you will **easily make many friends**
- There is a network of waterfront walking paths, sidewalk trails, parks, and ocean views
- The community surrounds the privately owned 18-hole Arbutus Ridge Golf Course
- 24-hour security – no break-in in the history of the community

3. What is the weather like at Arbutus Ridge?

- Climate Warm micro-climate enabling palm trees to grow.
- Temperature Canada's warmest year-round temperature
"Cowichan", from a First Nations' word, means "Warm Land"
- Sunshine Victoria has 308 days of sunshine.
- Rain Victoria has 1/3 less rain than Vancouver, Montreal and New York City and Arbutus Ridge gets less rain than Victoria
- Winter Usually above 0 C. (Averages around 6 C.) There may be one or two small snowfalls which usually melt the next day.

4. Where do I find groceries and other services?

Groceries, Gifts, Liquor, Paint, Clothing, Pizza, Restaurant etc.	Mill Bay Centre 10 min.; Valleyview Centre 10 min.
Lawyer, Accountant, Banks, Library	Mill Bay Centre 10 min.; Duncan 20 min.
Stores/Services/ Big Box Stores	Duncan 20 min.; Langford 30 min.; Victoria 45 min.
Airports/Ferries/Sea Planes	Victoria 1 hr.; Nanaimo 1 hr.; Maple Bay 30 min.
Bus - BC Transit (local)	Arbutus Ridge to Mill Bay Centre, Valleyview Centre, Shawnigan Lake and Duncan

5. How close are the medical facilities to Arbutus Ridge?

- Ambulances 15 min.
- Hospitals Duncan 25 min.; Victoria 35 min.
- Medical Doctors, Dentists, Physiotherapists, Lab, X-Ray, Audiologists, Optometrists: all 10 min.

Arbutus Ridge – Frequently Asked Questions cont’d.

6. What is a Bare Land Strata?

Residents own their home and land and are responsible for maintaining those. They have shared ownership and financial responsibility for maintaining common property such as Roads, Parks, Activity Centre, RV Storage area, Pool, Tennis Court, etc.

Arbutus Ridge is a Strata Plan administered by the Strata Property Act of British Columbia.

- Council consists of up to 7 elected members who are residents who volunteer to serve
- Paid employees consist of a manager as well as office, maintenance, and security staff
- Common sense Rules and By-Laws, in no way restrictive, protect the lifestyle and beauty of the community

Fees

\$482.00 per month (\$79.71 extra fee for 23 homes on the watercourse)

The fee is the same for each strata lot regardless of the size of the home.

Fees cover costs for staff and all services including water, sewer, security, garbage and all the amenities.

A Contingency Reserve Fund and an up-to-date Depreciation Report are in place as required by the Strata Act. Additional funding for major upgrades is voted on by the residents at an Annual General Meeting.

7. How many people are allowed per home and what age is allowed?

Two people are allowed per home one of whom must be 55 years old.

8. Can I have visitors?

Visitors, including grandchildren, are welcome for up to 30 days per person per calendar year.

9. Can I have pets?

Arbutus Ridge has a pet bylaw, where a home may have one dog or one cat. Council may grant exceptions for compassionate reasons to new home buyers for existing pets. The seller or the realtor must submit a written request on behalf of a potential home buyer for Council to approve an exception to the Pet bylaw on compassionate grounds if it is a condition of a sale. Council may review and grant exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

10. Is High Speed Internet available?

Yes. Shaw and Telus have high speed internet and cable/satellite services available. Free Wi-Fi Service is available at the Security Gates, Café and in the Village Centre.

11. What are the demographics of Arbutus Ridge?

65-74 yrs. - 44%

75-84 yrs. - 28 %

55-65 yrs. - 19%

Over 85 yrs. - 8%

Single - 15%

Working - 9%

Arbutus Ridge – Frequently Asked Questions cont'd.

12. What are the amenities?

- Seasonal pool
- Year-round hot tub
- Tennis court
- Fitness centre
- Boat Launch
- Dock (Our docks were damaged in a storm and removed. The Residents are considering their options for future use of the waterfront.)
- RV and boat storage - \$.48/foot/month
- Multi-purpose centre with rooms for Crafts, Games, Library, Woodworking, Meetings, Kitchen, Hairdresser and Café
- 40 clubs and activities – some have small fees of \$25 -\$35/year

13. What are the Clubs and Activities at Arbutus Ridge?

Onsite

Art	Kayaking/Canoeing - launch area & racks
Ballroom Dancing	Knitting
Bible Babes	Library
Billiards/Pea Pool	Mah Jongg
Bingo	Motor Biking - informal groups
Boating	Music - choir
Book Clubs	Performing Arts
Bridge – Duplicate, Ladies, Mixed	Poker
Carpet Bowling	Quilting
Ceramics	Sewing
Crafts	Snooker - Ladies
Cribbage	Swimming
Cycling & e-Biking	Table Tennis
Dog Club	Tennis - Outdoors
Fishing - Salmon, Ling Cod, Chum, Prawns, Crabs	Wine Club
Fitness	
Glassworks	Woodcarving
Hiking - Ramblers	Woodworking

Offsite

Curling
Golf
Pickleball
Tennis - indoors and outdoors

Arbutus Ridge – Frequently Asked Questions cont’d.

14. What attractions and activities are close to Arbutus Ridge?

Attractions	15 Wineries, Kinsol Trestle, Trans Canada Trail etc.
Parks	Manley Park, Ocean trail in front of Arbutus Ridge, Trail beside the 18 th fairway
Wildlife	
Whale Watching	Sometimes in front of Arbutus Ridge or by taking a tour at Cowichan Bay or Victoria.
Seals, Sea Lions, Bald Eagles, Deer	Arbutus Ridge
Cultural	
Performing Arts Theatres	Duncan, Chemainus, Victoria
Symphony	Victoria Symphony in Victoria, periodically in Duncan
Opera	Metropolitan Opera Live on screen in Duncan
Art Galleries, Historic Sites	Nearby
Sports -outside Arbutus Ridge	
Golf (Year-Round)	Arbutus Ridge Golf Course
Tennis	Indoors - at Bubble at Arbutus Ridge Golf Course Outdoors - at Kerry Park Recreation Centre - 5 min.
Pickleball	Kerry Park- 5 min.; Duncan Rec. Centre - 20 min.; Chemainus outdoors - 30 min.
Curling	Kerry Park Rec. Centre – 5 min.; Duncan - 20 min
Fitness	Fitness Centre at Valleyview Centre - 10 min.
Swimming	Duncan Recreation Centre - 20 min.
Skating	Duncan Recreation Centre - 20 min.
Skiing	Mount Washington 2.5 hrs.
Hiking	Everywhere
Boating/Marinas	Mill Bay, Genoa Bay, Maple Bay
Fishing	Salmon, Ling Cod, Chum, Prawns & Crabs

15. Is the Arbutus Ridge Golf Course part of the Arbutus Ridge Community?

While the golf course winds through part of our community, it is a separate legal entity. For golf information go to: [https:// www.arbutusridge.com](https://www.arbutusridge.com)

16. Do Arbutus Ridge residents get a discount to golf at the Arbutus Ridge Golf Course?

No. But there are numerous discount packages available, depending on the frequency and time when you wish to play.

Arbutus Ridge – Frequently Asked Questions cont'd.

17. What type of homes can I find at Arbutus Ridge?

Total 643 homes/lots (1060 residents) - 148 acres of waterfront landscape and forested areas

Size Over 1,000 sq. ft. to 6,500 sq. ft.

Style One-level patio homes to multi-level homes – from \$600,000 to over \$1,000,000

18. Can I rent a home at Arbutus Ridge?

Yes.

Owners can rent for a minimum of 1 month.

Two renters are allowed per home one of whom must be 55 years old.

Renters may use all of the Arbutus Ridge facilities.

To find a rental, go to our website at www.arbutusridge.ca . Click on “Homes for Rent”.

19. How do I view homes/lots for sale or for rent in Arbutus Ridge?

Go to the Arbutus Ridge website: www.arbutusridge.ca .

Click on links at the bottom of the home page.

Since this is a gated community, it is recommended that you call the realtor of your choice to make an appointment prior to arriving.