

The Pacific

Pacific Rim National Park follows the southwest coast of Vancouver Island, from Long Beach's miles of unsullied beaches, past the Broken Group Islands, to the West Coast Trail from Bamfield to Port Renfrew. The trail, laid out as a telegraph line route in 1891 and developed as a "lifesaving trail" for shipwrecked sailors between 1908 and 1915, is still reserved for serious, well prepared hikers. Grey whales and sea lions cavort off Long Beach and its tide pools hold brightly-coloured anemones, starfish, barnacles and tiny darting fish. The islands have a wild appeal and some have space for tents. One, Box, offers a vertical display of rock layers that suggests an open pack of circular saw blades.