2027 BCBR Pre-race Handbook

WELCOME

We can't wait to welcome you to the 2027 BC Bike Race.

Going into our 21st year of providing exceptional mountain bike experiences, our team of red shirts is busy preparing to give you the best possible week both on and off the bike.

This short guide will give you some pre-race information to help you get to the start line and outline the flow of the week. We will be sending you more information over the coming months to help you further plan your week with us. In the meantime, if you have any questions, Moniera in Racer Relations, will be happy to help. Email her at info@bcbikerace.com.

We are honored and grateful to be riding on the traditional and unceded territory of the Coast Salish people. If you would like to learn more about the first nations groups in the communitites we will be visiting, check out this interactive map.

Photo by Deniz Merdano.

GETTING HERE

We will welcome you to Racer Check-in at Rebagliati Park, 4540 Blackcomb Way.

If you are flying, you'll arrive at Vancouver's YVR airport. From there, you can drive or catch a shuttle to Whistler. We recommend you arrive a minimum of one day before the race in case there are any issues with your luggage or bike.

GETTING TO AND FROM BC BIKE RACE

This year's race starts and finishes in 2 different locations so book your flights accordingly.

Registration and Day 1 are in Whistler. The Tourism Whistler website outlines how to get there from anywhere in the world.

If you are on our **Transportation Program**, you will need to get yourself to Whistler first. You can book a shuttle from Vancouver airport, which you can find on the Tourism Whistler website.

If you are **driving yourself**, Tourism Whistler has great information on their website to help you rent a car, if needed, and plan your route.

Day 5 finishes in Cowichan Valley and the closest airport there is Nanaimo Airport (YCD). This is a regional airport that may have limited connections to major airports like Vancouver and Seattle. Victoria International Airport (YYJ) is a 90-minute drive from basecamp and provides more flight options.

If you are on our **Transportation Program**, we will have shuttles to Victoria on May 29. Your bike must be boxed for transport to the airport. Shuttles are scheduled to arrive at the airport by 10am. If you book a flight that leaves before the shuttle arrives, you can book your own transportation to either Victoria or Nanaimo airports. Victoria airport transportation options are on their website. Nanaimo options are on their website.

ACCOMMODATION

You will need to book your pre-race accommodations ahead of time. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Aava in Whistler Village starting on May 19. Book your room with this link. Tourism Whistler also has a fantastic Accommodations guide that can help you find the righy option for you, whether you are coming solo, with a racing partner or with family.

NEW THIS YEAR - Our first basecamp will be in Cumberland, which means you will need to stay in a hotel or other accommodation for Days 0 and 1. Those on the Transportation Plan can stay in Whistler for both days as we will get you from Whistler to Squamish for Stage 2 and then continue on to the ferry after this stage.

GETTING TO VANCOUVER ISLAND

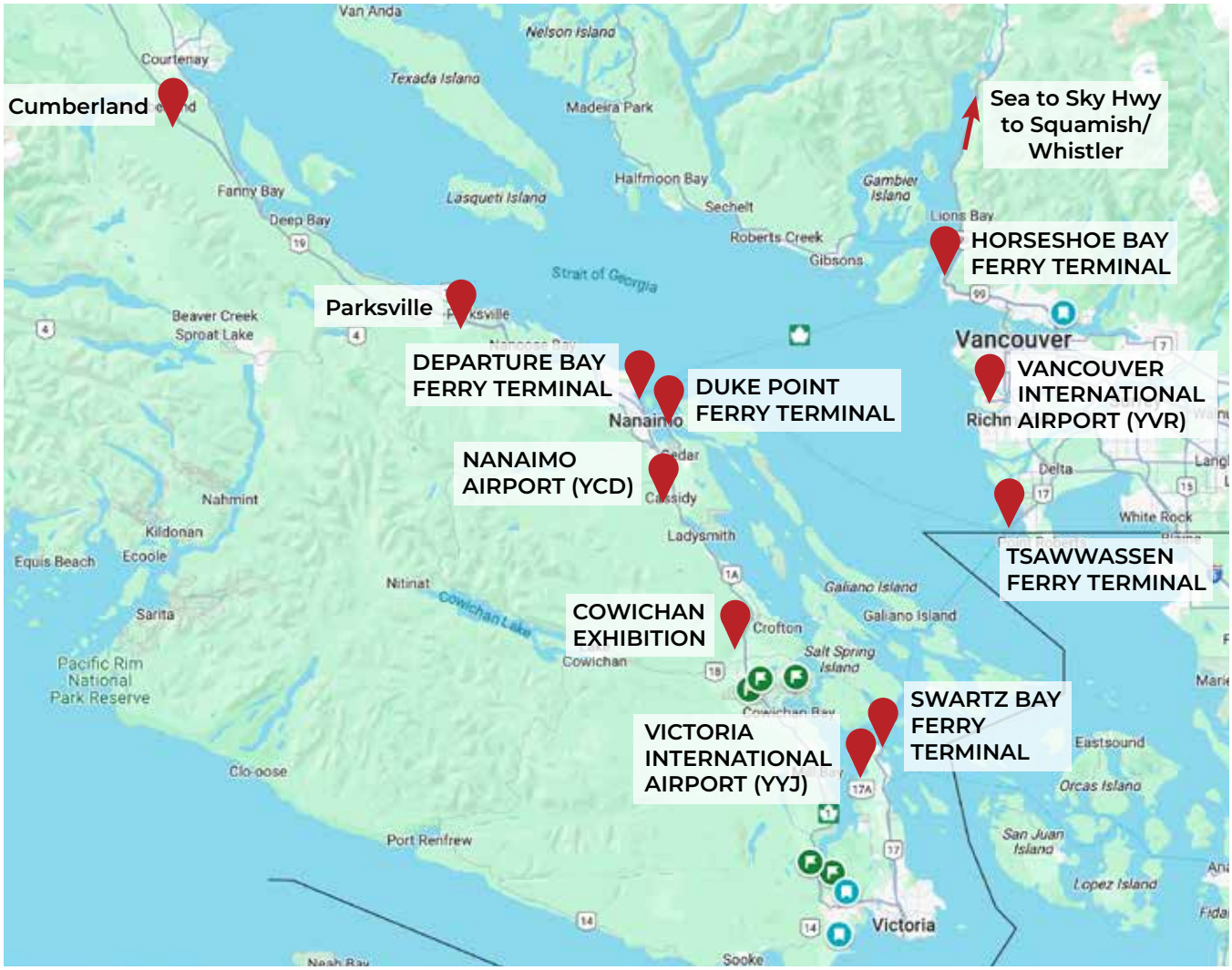
After the Day 2 Squamish stage, we head to Cumberland on Vancouver Island. If you are on our Transportation Program, we take care of that for you. If you are driving yourself, you will need to make a ferry reservation to get from Horsehoe Bay to Nanaimo* then drive 1 hour and 15 minutes north to Cumberland. There are no

***IMPORTANT: You MUST make a reservation in order to sail from Horseshoe Bay to Nanaimo.**

BEFORE AND AFTER THE RACE

If you are planning to arrive a few days before the race, you can explore Whistler's many outdoor activities, restaurants, spas and more. Visit Tourism Whistler for information.

If you are planning to stick around a few days after the race, you can explore Vancouver Island's arts, culture and other attractions. Visit Tourism Vancouver Island for ideas and information.



BASECAMPS

We will have 2 basecamps during race week: Cumberland and Cowichan Valley. There are no point-to-point stages, and all stages start and finish in the same place. The race is designed so you can drive your own vehicle all week if you want. Each basecamp hosts services to help make your race as smooth and enjoyable as possible. These amenities are available to all racers, even if you are not staying at basecamp.

Basecamp Amenities:

- Medical: emergency response including hydration
- Wellness: massage therapy, nightly yoga
- Space to hang out and socialize, and charge your devices
- Shower trucks for riders on our Tenting and Vanlife programs
- Washrooms
- Retail
- Beer Garden

THE BASECAMP EXPERIENCE

To truly make this a week that's all about biking, we offer an EASY BUTTON for when you're off the bike: The Basecamp Experience. While you focus on soaking up all the amazing singletrack and enjoying the camaraderie of other riders, let us take care of your accommodations, meals and transportation. Choose any combination of these options to make your race week exactly the way you want it. **All Basecamp Experience Add-ons will be available for purchase by December 1.**
Note: This year, the basecamp will start in Cumberland so you will need to book hotel or BnB accommodation and provide your own meals for days 1 and 2.

Transportation Program

Leave the driving and navigating to us. We provide a spacious and comfortable coach bus that:

- Picks you up from Whistler on May 25 (Day 2) to get you to the stage start in Squamish
- Shuttles you between our Basecamps and remote starts
- Drops you off in Victoria on May 29 (Day 6)

Secure bike transportation and luggage storage for the week are also included. Bike bags and spare luggage that you don't need during the week will be stored on a Day 5 truck that will NOT be accessible during the week. This truck will be unloaded at our Cowichan Valley basecamp in the afternoon on our final day of racing.

Meal Plan

Our Meal Plan provides you with a hearty breakfast and dinner starting with breakfast on May 26, Day 3, and ending with dinner on May 28, Day 5. The menu satisfies most tastes with options for vegan and gluten-free. Our caterer, Whistler Cooks, provide delicious, well-balanced, healthy meals with a meat and vegan protein option each day and ensure ample portions so you, as an athlete, can refuel for the next day of racing. You can find the 2026 menu here to get an idea of what to expect. This will be available for purchase by December 1.

Note: *You will be responsible for your own meals on Days 1 and 2. For Day 1, there are plenty of restaurants and a grocery store in Whistler Village if you wish to cook for yourself. On Day 2, since you will be traveling around dinner time, you can enjoy an ocean-front dining experience onboard the ferry to Nanaimo. Visit BC Ferries for information about onboard food and other amenities.*

Dinner Only Option

We have added a Dinner only option for the meal plan. This is ideal for people who are staying off-site and still want the convenience and cammaraderie of having a meal with their fellow racers. You can find the 2026 menu here and you can purchase this option in BikeReg.

Day 5 Celebration Dinner

This is a wonderful way to wrap up the week. Enjoy a delicious catered meal as you reminisce about the journey with all the people you've met throughout the week. The evening will also feature entertainment, including a look back at your epic week of racing and our storied 21-year history.

This is OPEN TO ALL RACERS and their guests.

Those who purchase the meal plan will automatically have this meal included. If you do not purchase the meal plan and would like to celebrate your week with us, you will need to purchase a ticket. These will be available closer to the event.

Basecamp Tents

Stay where the action is in a spacious four-person tent starting in Cumberland. Each tent is sold as a single unit and you have the option to share a tent with another racer if you both choose. If you are sharing, please let us know who your tent mate is so that your tent tags get labeled correctly. Please note that tents may only be shared with other registered racers, and not with any personal support crew if they are not racing.

Your tent will be set up for you at each of our basecamps. You just have to bring your sleeping bag, pillow and the best sleeping pad you can lay your hands on. Teddy bear optional – we don't judge.

Shower and washroom facilities will be provided at Basecamp. You will also have easy access to on-site pay-per-use services such as Wellness, Obsession (the bike tech team), and meal halls if you opt for the Meal Plan.

Basecamp Vanlife

We will have a limited number of Vanlife spots for camper vans and trucks with roof-top tents at both of our basecamp locations.

Note that there is no electricity, water hook-up or sani-outflow. BCBR Basecamp is not a sanctioned community 'campsite' and will be more restricted than a sanctioned campground.

- Sites are located at Basecamp to ensure excellent proximity to the event and all Basecamp services.
- Sites can accommodate vehicles up to 26ft including bike rack.
- Sites will be issued for the duration of our stay in each location.
- Priority parking at remote stages.

Please note the **Vanlife rules** before purchasing your Vanlife spot. Failure to adhere to these rules may result in losing your Vanlife access and privileges.

Cumberland Basecamp

Our basecamp in Cumberland is located at Cumberland Village Park. This will be our base from the evening of May 25 to the morning of May 27.

For all racers, the **bike storage** area in Cumberland will be the tennis courts along Dunsmuir Road.

If you are on our **Accommodation Plan**, visit the tent host station to check in after you have registered with Racer Relations.

If you are on our **Transportation Program**, we will get you, your bike and luggage from Squamish to Cumberland. We will also transport your bike to and from each remote stage. It will be loaded onto a cube truck the night before and unloaded in a secure area at the remote stage start. We will provide storage for your small racer day bag in at each remote start so you can bring a change of clothes. Please make sure your bag is clearly labeled with your name and racer number.

If you are on our **Meal Program**, food will be served at the Cumberland Recreation Centre, 5 blocks west of basecamp along the main street, Dunsmuir Avenue.

Cowichan Valley Basecamp

After racing in Hammerfest/Parksville on May 27, we will finish the day at our second basecamp at the Cowichan Exhibition Park, 7380 Trans-Canada Hwy. We will stay at this basecamp for the remaining nights.

If you are driving yourself, there is plenty of parking here and our parking guides will point you in the right direction as soon as you turn into the grounds off the highway.

If you're on our **Accommodation Program**, visit the tent host when you arrive. The exhibition gounds have ample washrooms and there will be mobile showers on site.

For other accommodation options, visit the Travel and Transportation page on our website.

For those on our **Meal Program**, the on-site meal hall will be clearly identified with signs.

RACE SCHEDULE

XC and Enduro

Date	Race Location	Travel	Sleep
May 23	Whistler	None - Registration Day	Whistler
May 24	Whistler	None	Whistler
May 25	Squamish	Whistler–Squamish–Cumberland	Cumberland
May 26	Cumberland	None	Cumberland
May 27	Parksville	Cumberland—Parksville—Cowichan Valley	Cowichan Valley
May 28	Cowichan Valley	CowEx—Maple Mountain—CowEx	Cowichan Valley

If you have any questions, email Moniera at Racer Relations, info@bcbikerace.com.

We will have more specific race week details for you over the coming months and we are looking forward to seeing you at the start line!