

British Columbia is also home to Vancouver Island, Canada's second largest populated island which covers an area of around 30,000 km square.

Darren and Mette Hobden emigrated to the Island from Eastbourne in 2004. "The nature is outstanding and breathtakingly beautiful," they say. "It is very scenic and serene. It has mountains, lakes and trees and is full of picture post-card views. The wildlife here includes seals, otters, salmon, bald eagles, golden eagles, vultures, humming birds, deers, raccoons, bears, cougars and wolves. Out of those the only one we haven't seen yet is wolves!"

They continue: "The people here are laid back and relaxed, the attitude seems to be 'what isn't done today can be done tomorrow'. There is definite community spirit here and everyone is involved from children to adults. There are so many opportunities for the children. Prices of things here are also cheaper than in England. Houses are cheaper and bigger and opportunities to own land or 'extras' with a house for example pools and hot-tubs are more available. The standard of living definitely feels higher and, basically we think it's the best place on earth!"