“A Nice Place to Visit, But…”

Numerous Sources

Parkview residents have traveled far and wide, perhaps through military assignments, on business, or simply because they have a “sand in the shoes” zest for seeing the unfamiliar. Everyone has a story to tell, and we enjoy listening to and telling our experiences.

Native to British Columbia are the Okanagan (Syilx) people, who consider Spotted Lake sacred. Because the lake is situated on tribal land, tourists are requested not to visit it, but it can be seen from Highway 3, northwest of Osoyoos.

Multi-colored mineral pools are left on the lake’s bed when the intense summer heat leaves it almost dry. No two pools are alike in shape, size, or color, so the lake is a spectacular one to view.

Near Pamukkale, in southwest Turkey, the ruins of the ancient city of Hierapolis can be seen. It has been declared a World Heritage Site.

White travertine terraces provide a stunning view of cascading natural spring waters on their way to thermal pools below. The town was named Pamukkale (Cotton Castle) because the white travertine terraces look so much like cotton fields of central Turkey.
Scientists believe that the bright pink-colored water of Lake Hiller in western Australia, comes from the bacteria of salt-loving algae in it. Discovered in 1802, the lake is located on the Recherche Archipelago, one of Australia’s largest islands.

The megalithic Stone Jars of Laos are scattered across Xieng Khouang Province. Their origin is unknown, but some legends say that they were made by the ancients for brewing rice wine for giants.

Other myths declare that they were used in funeral rites. Massive US aerial shelling in the 1960s destroyed many of the large cylindrical jars, but others have recently been uncovered by researchers.
If you want to feel as if you’ve just stepped onto a sci-fi movie set, you should visit the island of Socotra, off the mainland of Africa.

The isolated island’s biodiversity is shown by the unique collection of plants and animals there, that are seen nowhere else in the world. Especially interesting is the dragon’s blood tree. Its odd-looking, umbrella shape, has red sap that was once sought after and used as dye. Today the sap is used in paint and varnish.

Other strange-looking trees on the island include the giant succulent cucumber tree and a rare type of pomegranate tree. Unique types of sparrow, starling, sunbird, bunting and warbler, are also found only on Socotra, which puts them in the endangered species category.
No amphibians exist on the island, but several species of lizards call Socotra home.

*If you see these critters anywhere else they’re probably on vacation!*