### Welcome

sea since time immemorial.



# Discovery

Let us awaken your family's sense of wonder this summer. Discover the magic and history of the world around you with help from a park interpreter. Weekly offerings in July and August include family campfires, craft stations and cultural presentations. Look for the event calendar on our website for full details.

Prefer to go at your own pace? Search for geocaches using your GPS enabled device. For the perfect kids' adventure, pick up a copy of our Xplorers booklet and complete the challenges to earn a prize!



### Wildlife

Pinch me—this can't be real!

An amazing variety of wildlife awaits you as you discover the Gulf Islands. Killer whales, porpoises, sea lions, seals and otters call the waters surrounding the park reserve home; eagles, falcons and turkey vultures fly overhead. Many species of seabirds, shorebirds and waterfowl live here or stop over on their annual migrations.

For a chance to spot whales, sea lions and seals from land check out East Point, Saturna Island!



### Hiking

From easy shoreline trails to invigorating shore-to-sky mountain climbs, Gulf Islands National Park Reserve has walks and hikes for all energy levels. Stroll barefoot along the sandy beaches for hours. Let your feet carry you to mossy waterfalls, salt marshes and jaw-dropping ocean views. Along the way, happen upon history: ancient sea gardens being actively tended, heritage orchards, former cottages, and Hawaiian homesteads.

Open this guide to see the full park map and detailed trail maps!



### Coast Salish Traditions

Coast Salish First Nations have lived in this region for thousands of years and their knowledge, culture, and oral history have been passed from generation to generation. Since time immemorial, the land and sea have nourished and sustained First Nations communities and their ties to the natural world can be seen in all aspects of their culture.

Discover these connections first-hand by participating in a Coast Salish Traditions activity this summer! Find full details on our online event calendar.



### Plan Your Visit

Saturna, Mayne, and Vancouver islands. Hop aboard the seasonal

**SEASON OF OPERATION:** May 15 – September 30

CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS: reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca

# Boating + Kayaking

Float your boat at one of Canada's premier boating destinations. Dig in your paddle as eagles soar overhead. Drop anchor at Russell Island and hike to a historic Hawaiian Homestead. You'll be greeted by sheltered waters, sandy coves, and unbelievable views.

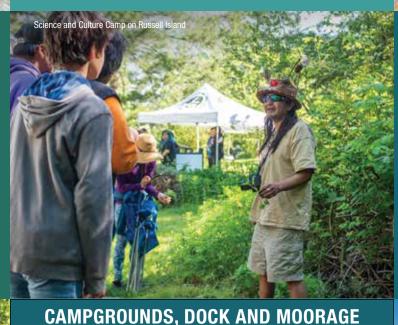
Discover spectacular coastlines around every corner. Spot seals, sea lions and porpoises. If you are lucky you may even come home with stories of sighting a pod of killer whales.



### Outreach

Learn fun facts and enjoy conversations and short presentations about BC's coastal wildlife, marine life, culture, history, geography and Parks Canada's incredible places through our partners.

Find us this summer hosting programs at **The Shaw Centre** for the Salish Sea in Sidney. Visit our website for a list of summer programs.



## Camping

Whether you are new to camping or a seasoned pro, you'll love it here. We offer outdoor overnight experiences for everyone. Book your favorite campsite, pack the car and take the family for a relaxing escape to a sun dappled forest. Looking for an adventure? Go backcountry! Cycle, paddle or hike to a rustic waterfront campsite. Add some stars and you've got the perfect evening!

Campground details are located on the back side of this guide.



Gulf Islands
National Park Reserve

Visitor

Guide



# Fort Langley

# Frontcountry Campgrounds

Sidney Spit Campground, Sidney Island

SMONECTEN, Prior Centennial and Sidney Spit

Easy access, spectacular scenery, and the ability to book your campsite in advance make a vacation to one of our frontcountry campgrounds a dream come true. Detailed descriptions of each location accompany the park map inside this brochure. When planning a trip please note that SMONECTEN and Prior Centennial campgrounds offer potable water, garbage disposal, and fire rings. Sidney Spit Campground has no water, no garbage facilities (pack-in pack-out), and does not allow campfires at any time of year.



D'Arcy, Isle-de-Lis (Rum), Princess Margaret (Portland),

getaways. These rustic locations require you to bring your own

Hike, bike, or paddle your way to one of our rejuvenating backcountry

drinking water, and to pack-in pack-out (no garbage facilities available).

All other open backcountry campgrounds are first-come first-served.

Pender, Prevost, Saturna and Cabbage islands

Shingle Bay Campground, North Pender Island

Consult the kiosk upon arrival for registration info.

Narvaez Bay Campground, Saturna Island

Backcountry Campgrounds

Reservations are recommended at:

#### PLACES NUMBER

1	Outhouses available at all locations	UF SITES				
	Vancouver Island					
1	SMONEĆTEN R & &	49				
u	<b>Sidney Island</b> (Accessible by foot	passenger ferry)				
	SidneySpitFerry.com   Telephone: 250-656-7599					
	Sidney Spit R	29				
-	Mooring Buoys	21				
	Dock					
	Group campground. Reservations For more information or bookings, pl					
	Pender Islands					

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	Per	nder Islands					
	<b>R</b> 4	Prior Centennial R 🔁 👲	17				
	Δ	Beaumont CLOSED TO OVERNIGHT STAYS FOR 2022					
	Į"	Beaumont Mooring Buoys	14				
ĺ	Δ	Shingle Bay R	10	<b>₩ ⅓</b>			
D'Arcy Island							
	Δ	D'Arcy Island	7				

Beaumont Mooring Buoys	14					
Shingle Bay R	10	<b>*</b>				
D'Arcy Island						
D'Arcy Island	7					
Isle-de-Lis (Rum Island)						
Isle-de-Lis	3					
Princess Margaret (Portland Island)						
Shell Beach	6					
Princess Bay	12					
Arbutus Point	6					
Prevost Island						
🛕 James Bay	10					
Saturna Island						
▲ Narvaez Bay	7	* **				
Cabbage Island						
Cabbage Island	5					
Mooring Buoys	10					
To make a reservation visit: reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca or call 1-877-737-3783.  List of fees: www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/gulf/visit/tarifs-fees						

Drive-in Campsite 🔀 Boat Tie-up

Mooring Buoys 🔁 Potable Water 😝 Car

**Camping** 



are in our work, get behind the scenes, learn something new make a difference. We offer a wide range of opportunities from ent volunteers, to getting your hands dirty removing invasive cies, to becoming a campground host and welcoming visitors

Want to learn more? Check out the volunteering section of



### MORE INFORMATION

**TELEPHONE:** 250-654-4000

**TOLL FREE**: 1-866-944-1744

PARK EMERGENCY CONTACT: 1-877-852-3100

Aussi disponible en français.

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**I** LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! facebook.com/GulflslandsNPR

### Campground Information

- Camping permit holders must be 19+ years of age.
- Pets must be kept on leash at all times and their waste removed. • Alcohol consumption is only permitted on a registered campsite.
- Cannabis consumption is prohibited in all frontcountry campground common areas (washrooms, kitchen shelters, campsite trails,
- Fire restrictions: campfires, briquette-fueled barbecues and portable campfire apparatuses are prohibited at Sidney Spit, at all backcountry campgrounds, and at all day use areas (including below the high tide mark).
- Maximum length of stay is 14 days per year. • Maximum group size per campsite:
- Frontcountry 6 adults (or 7 people including children);
  Backcountry 5 people.



# olunteer Behind the Scenes

from around the world to the national park reserve.

our website.





# Hiking, Camping and Boating Guide

### **A** Prevost Island

**James Bay Campground** is only accessible by water, and is popular with kayakers. There are no tent pads in this open field style camping area. 10 backcountry campsites.

### **B** Russell Island

**Haumea Trail** Easy 1.2 km 30-minute loop. This island is steeped in rich history. Coast Salish clam gardens have been used here for at least 1000 years. A spur off the main loop trail leads to one of the last surviving Hawaiian homesteads in the region. The historic Mahoi house dates back over a century.

### **C** Princess Margaret (Portland Island)

Arbutus Point Campground 6 backcountry sites, Shell Beach Campground 6 backcountry sites, and Princess Bay Campground 12 backcountry sites (ideal for groups), offer opportunities to camp on all sides of Portland Island.

A shoreline loop allows you to hike around the entire island and enjoy spectacular views. Shorter trails cut across the interior of the island.

 $\label{lem:princess Margaret Perimeter Trail\ Moderate\ 6.5\ km\ three\ \ hour\ loop.$ 

**Royal Cove Trail** Moderate 1.4 km

Kanaka Bluffs Trail Moderate 0.8 km

Pellow Islets Trail Moderate 0.7 km

### **D** SMONEĆTEN Campground (Sidney)

SMONECTEN Campground Park your RV or pitch your tent in a campsite surrounded by tall cedars. Only 25 minutes from Victoria, SMONECTEN Campground makes a perfect basecamp for exploring the Gulf Islands and the Greater Victoria area. 49 sites, with a mix of RV, tent, and walk-in sites. Reservations recommended.

**Cycling** There is easy access to beautiful walk-in campsites and the Lochside Regional cycling trail which connects the campground to Victoria and the Swartz Bay ferry terminal.

### **E** Sidney Spit

Spend a day on car-free Sidney Island. Hop on the passenger ferry at Sidney Pier and soon you'll be kicking off your shoes and exploring kilometres of warm sandy beaches. Looking for a boater's paradise? Tie up to our Sidney Spit dock or mooring buoys for an overnight stay and treat yourself to a spectacular sunset.

**Sidney Spit Campground** 29 tent sites. Reservations recommended. No water available. Pack in water.

**Boating Facilities** First-come first-served mooring buoys and dock space. Fees apply daily after 3 p.m.

**SKTAMEN (sk-thay-men) Trail** Easy 2.1 km loop from the main dock to the campground and then returning along the eastern coast.

**Lagoon Trail** Easy 1.8 km spur off SKTÁMEN Trail to lagoon (3.6 km total).

### F Isle-de-Lis (Rum Island)

**Isle-de-Lis Campground** This small island features coastal bluffs, a Douglas fir and arbutus forest, and vegetation that reflects the warm Mediterranean-like climate of the southern Gulf Islands. 3 backcountry campsites.

### G D'Arcy Island

**D'Arcy Island Campground** With numerous coves, cobble beaches and a forest of arbutus and Douglas fir, D'Arcy Island's beauty belies its past history as a leper colony for Chinese immigrants in the late 1800s and early 1900s. 7 backcountry campsites.

#### **H** Mayne Island

Brush up on your birding skills at Georgina Point — an Important Bird Area overlooking Active Pass. Use the high powered viewscope to get a closer look at harlequin ducks and black oystercatchers.

**Campbell Point Trail** Easy 750 m each way. Campbell Point features remnant old-growth forest. A wide and relatively flat trail brings you to superb views from the point across to Georgeson Island.



### I Cabbage Island

Cabbage Island Campground This small oasis lies on the outermost reaches of the Gulf Islands archipelago. It is a very popular destination for paddlers and boaters alike, featuring a beautiful sandy beach for easy access. Rich and dense eelgrass meadows thrive in this area, and river otters and raccoons can often be spotted playing in the intertidal. 5 backcountry campsites.

**Boating Facilities** First-come first-served mooring buoys. Fees apply daily after 3 p.m.

### **Tumbo Island**

**TEMOSEN** (te-mo-son) Trail Easy 5 km 90-minute loop. Tumbo Island has recovered well from the fur farming, timber harvesting and coal mining activities that are part of its rich and varied past. Today, the island is largely forested with mature Douglas fir and Garry oak trees. A large marsh area divides the long and short arms of the island and attracts numerous bird species, such as the red-winged blackbird.

### **Saturna Island**

Don't miss the legendary whale-watching at East Point — from shore! While you're there, learn about the endangered Southern Resident killer whales during one of our park events. You can also soak up island lore at the community museum in the fog alarm building. Please note that, at the time of printing, the trails and campground listed under letters K and L are closed in order to make repairs following significant storm damage. They are scheduled to re-open in this 2002.

- Xwiwxwyus (kwik-wi-us) Trail at Winter Cove
  Easy 1.2 km loop. This trail starts at the Winter Cove day
  use area and heads through the forest to a viewpoint
  overlooking Boat Pass. Looping back along the Winter
  Cove shoreline, the trail passes through wetlands including
  a salt water marshland. Enjoy spectacular views across
  the Strait of Georgia.
- Narvaez Bay Campground 7 walk-in or paddle-in backcountry sites. Reservations recommended.

to Narvaez Bay Campground.

Narvaez Bay Trail Moderate 1.3 km from the parking lot

**Monarch Head Trail** Moderate 2.5 km loop. The trailhead is on the right, past the parking gate on Narvaez Bay Road.

Lyall Creek Trail Advanced 1 km trail along Lyall Creek.
The trailheads are located at Narvaez Bay Road or at the east end of Valley Road.

### **Pender Island**

Will it be a kayak tour, a challenging hike to the summit of Mount Norman, a treasure hunt on the geocache trail, or a rousing game of disc golf? You decide! After you've burned off some energy, pitch your tent in one of our two campgrounds and discover the delight of sleeping in a Douglas Fir forest. Get away from it all at a hike-in backcountry campsite and enjoy the sunset by the water's edge at Shingle Bay.

- Prior Centennial Campground 17 frontcountry RV or car camping sites. Reservations recommended.
  - Heart Trail Easy 500 m trail connects Prior Centennial Campground to the local Pender Island Disc Golf Course and other community trails.
- Shingle Bay Campground 10 walk-in or paddle-in

backcountry sites. Reservations recommended.

Shingle Bay Campground Access 300 m steep descent

from parking lot to campground.

Roe Islet Trail Easy 500 m from the Roesland parking area

to the viewpoint. The islet is only accessible at low tide.

Roe Lake Trail Moderate 1.2 km trail from the Shingle Bay Road trailhead to Roe Lake.

Roe Lake Loop Trail Moderate 1.7 km loop starting at Roe Lake. Circumnavigate Roe Lake and enjoy the tranquility. You can exit the trail at Shingle Bay Road or Magic Lake Estates trailheads.

- Mount Norman Trail Advanced 2.4 km each way (4.8 km total) from either Ainslie Point Road or Canal Road trailheads. This invigorating trail climbs 244 m to the viewpoint on top of Mount Norman.
  - **Beaumont Trail** Advanced 2 km trail from Ainslie Point Road to Beaumont Campground. This trail includes steep switchbacks.
- P Beaumont Campground
  CLOSED TO OVERNIGHT STAYS FOR 2022.

**Boating Facilities** First-come first-served mooring buoys. Fees apply daily after 3 p.m.