Welcome to Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Discover the unique wildlife, plant and cultural treasures of the Gulf Islands! Each island is unique, offering a distinct culture and lifestyle that is sure to captivate you. Choose a new adventure each weekend and experience first-hand the beauty of the Gulf Islands.

**Gulf Islands National Park Reserve, 2220 Harbour Road, Sidney, BC V8L 2P6**

**MORE INFORMATION**
- 1-866-944-1744 (TOLL FREE)
- 250-654-4000 (TELEPHONE)
- gulf.islands@pc.gc.ca

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**
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**EMAIL**

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**
1-877-852-3100

**WEBSITE**
parkscanada.gc.ca/gulfislands

**Visitors Guide**

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**McDonald Campground**

Need a quick recharge? Park your RV or pitch your tent in a campsite surrounded by tall cedars. Only 25 minutes from Victoria, McDonald Campground makes a perfect basecamp for exploring the Gulf Islands and the Greater Victoria area.

**Cyclists** can discover easy access to beautiful walk-in campsites. Looking for a scenic ride? The Lochside trail runs directly in front of the campground and you can follow it all the way to Victoria or the Saltspring Island ferry.

**Prior Centennial Campground**

Escape to this laid back island where you set the pace. Don't miss the legendary whale watching at East Point – four streets away. Whether you're there to unwind? Grab your friends and disappear for the whole weekend at the quaint campground by a peaceful lagoon.

**Shingle Bay Campground**

Perfect for a quick get away, pitch your tent in one of our 3 campgrounds! Or get off the beaten track head to our rustic backcountry campsite and enjoy the sunset beside the shimmering waters. Follow nearby hiking trails to the backcountry campground, Narvaez Bay. Set up camp and relax under the sunset. You'll be greeted by sheltered waters and friendly volunteer hosts.

**Georgetown Campground**

Discover the delight of sleeping in a douglas fir forest and enjoying views across to East Point! The legendary whale watching at East Point – four streets away. Whether you're there to unwind? Grab your friends and disappear for the whole weekend at the quaint campground by a peaceful lagoon.

**Sunset Campground**

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. Looking for a scenic ride? The Lochside trail runs directly in front of the campground and you can follow it all the way to Victoria or the Saltspring Island ferry.

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**Sidney Island**

 Spend a day on-car-free Sidney Island, step on the passenger ferry at Swartz Bay and step into this hidden slice of paradise. Enjoy kayaking, canoeing, exploring lighthouses of empty sandy beaches. Need longer to unwind? Grab your friends and disappear for the whole weekend at the quaint campground by a peaceful lagoon.

Looking for a leader's paradise? Take in our Sidney Island dock or mooring buoys for an overnight stay and treat yourself to a spectacular sunset.

**Pender Island**

One short ferry ride to the Pender Islands and you’re inside the perfect escape. Will it be a kayak tour, a challenging hike to the summit of Mount Norma, a treasure hunt on the geocache trail, or a relaxing game of disc golf? You decide. After you’ve burned off some energy enjoy your tent in one of our 3 campgrounds!

Discover the delight of sleeping in a douglas fir forest and enjoying views across to a campsite of Prior Centennial Campground. Get away from it all at a time-honoured country campsite and enjoy the sounds by the water’s edge at Shingle Bay or Returned Campgrounds.

**Boating + Kayaking**

Find your treat at one of Canada’s premier boating destinations. Feel the waves enter your kayak as you enter overhanging trees and enter the protected inlets of the Gulf Islands. You’ll be greeted by sheltered waters and friendly volunteer hosts.

Discover spectacular coastlines around every corner. Spot seals, sea lions and porpoises. If you are lucky you may even come across a pod of orcas. You’ll be greeted by sheltered waters and friendly volunteer hosts.

**Coast Salish Traditions**

The Gulf Islands are part of the homeland of the Coast Salish First Nations. They 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 maintained and augmented First Nations connections 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!

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**Saturna Island**

Escape this laid back island where you set the pace. Don’t miss the legendary whale watching at East Point – four streets away. Whether you’re there to unwind? Grab your friends and disappear for the whole weekend at the quaint campground by a peaceful lagoon.

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**Mayne Island**

Brush up on your birding skills at Georgina Point — an important bird area for shorebirds that stop for a meal. Don’t forget to take a selfie by the light tower!

**Georgetown Campground**

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**Discovery**

Awaken your family’s sense of wonder this summer at one of our puck events. Choose the magic of a campfire with the whole family at the weekly “S’mores and More” program at McDonald Campground. The adventures with kids don’t stop there. Every Sunday on Saturna, listen for seals at Sunset Wildlife Watch. Fall in love with a whale at Orca News.

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Camping
Are you new to camping or a seasoned pro? Gulf Islands National Park Reserve offers outdoor overnight experiences for everyone. Book your favorite campsite, pack the car and take the family for a weekend escape to a sun-dappled forest.
Looking for an adventure? Go backcountry! Cycle, paddle or hike to a remote waterfront campsite. Add some stars and a few hoots from an owl and you've got the perfect evening!
New! Reserve a backcountry site at Shingle Bay on North Pender 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 sandy beaches for hours, or get your heart pumping on trails with towering trees and spectacular ocean views. Along the way, happen upon history: old cottages, homesteads and logging roads.

Visit parkscanada.gc.ca/gulfislands for trail and campground details.

Plan Your Visit
Getting here:
Set sail aboard BC Ferries to reach Pender, Saturna, Mayne, and Vancouver Islands. Hop on board the seasonal walk-on ferry from the town of Sidney to Sidney Island. Explore the park reserve at your own pace by boat, kayak or water taxi.
Season of Operation: May 15 – September 30
Reservations:
Book your campsite online: reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca or by phone: 1-877-737-3783. All other campgrounds are first-come-first-served.
Programs and Events:
For full program and event details check out our events calendar.

Adventure awaits — leave ordinary behind and discover Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.