



Summer Fun Guide 2013



Summer Programs



Campfire Circle

Share the magic of a traditional Canadian campfire with your family. Join an interpreter for songs, stories, s'mores and more! Park at the Blue Heron Park and follow the signs to the campground. Bring a flashlight and a mug for hot chocolate. *Note: we will gather around a lantern if there is a fire ban.

The Big Catch

You will be amazed at what we will find in our net: fish with horns, eel-like creatures and maybe even the elusive Pacific spiny lumpsucker! Be prepared to get your feet wet. Meet at the park kiosk by the main dock.

June & July			Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Campfire Circle	7pm - 8pm	McDonald Campground, Sidney	✓		
July & August					
The Big Catch*	11am - 12pm	Sidney Island		✓	
Salmon Walk	11am - 12pm	Lyall Harbour, Saturna Island		✓	
Orca News 2013	2pm - 2:30pm	East Point, Saturna Island		✓	
Wildlife Detectives	10am - 12pm	Winter Cove, Saturna Island			✓
August					
Sunset Wildlife Watch**	8pm - 9pm	Winter Cove, Saturna Island	✓		

* No program August 10th ** No program August 9th

Orca News 2013

A short, engaging update on the endangered southern resident killer whales. East Point is a prime spot for land-based whale watching. Bring a blanket or a chair. Meet out at the point (5 min. walk)

Salmon Walk

Slip away from the afternoon sun to a cool, fern-lined trail beside the stream that once again glints with salmon. Meet at the junction of East Point Rd. and Valley Rd.

Wildlife Detectives

Set out on this family activity equipped with a GPS, a magnifying glass and a detective book. Search for clues near animal trails and burrows! All detective tools provided. Drop-in anytime but allow 1 hour to complete the challenge.

Sunset Wildlife Watch

Discover the wildlife of the Salish Sea and relax into the peacefulness of an East Point sunset. Dress warmly and bring blankets, chairs and flashlights. Meet out at the point (5 min. walk).

Special Events

June

2 Camping Season Kick-off

McDonald Campground, Sidney • 11am - 2pm
New to camping? Rusty camping skills? Mountain Equipment Co-op and other groups will show you how it's done: learn how to rain-proof your site, cook gourmet campfire meals and choose the right equipment. Park at Blue Heron Park and follow the signs to the campground.

8 World Oceans Day

Beacon Park, Town of Sidney • 11am - 3pm
Check out the live marine creatures inside the Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre. Outside on the Sidney waterfront enjoy music, face-painting and exhibitions by local environmental organizations. Visit the Parks Canada booth to paint a fish.

July

1 Saturna Lamb BBQ

Winter Cove, Saturna Island • 10am - 4:30pm
Celebrate Canada Day with islanders at a country fair picnic. Play games and win prizes at the Parks Canada booth.

20 Parks Day Old-fashioned Picnic

East Point, Saturna Island • 1pm - 3pm
Bring a blanket and a picnic and ease into an afternoon of old-fashioned pleasures. Enjoy free ice-cream from Saturna Parks and Recreation. Tour the Fog Alarm Building. Make a kite. Join the interpreter for Orca News 2013.

August

4 Kids' Day Critter Caper

McDonald Campground, Sidney • 1pm - 4pm
Winter Cove, Saturna Island • 1pm - 4pm
Can you solve the mystery? Find the clues along the trail and examine the evidence. Drop-in anytime, but allow an hour to solve the mystery.

Geocaching

Self-Guided Treasure Hunt

May 15 - September 2

Awaken the treasure hunter inside you and join us for the park reserve's geocaching program. All you need is a GPS or a smartphone and the passport below! Each visitor to complete a route receives a limited edition geocoin. See website for more information.

Survivor Challenge Passport

The Plant Challenge McDonald Campground • Town of Sidney N 48 40.380 W 123 25.481 / GC2XHWY <small>Hint: Before you look up to admire the tree, look down where it meets the ground.</small>	
The Creature Challenge Sidney Island N 48 38.540 W 123 19.855 / GC2XHXM <small>Hint: If you were a crab on the beach, you could find a safe, cool spot to hide in the sand or HEFTC under a...</small>	
The Habitat Challenge Prior Centennial Campground • Pender Island N 48 45.987 W 123 16.490 / GC2XHVA <small>Hint: At the intersection of a sign, a rock and a fern.</small>	
The Water Challenge Winter Cove • Saturna Island N 48 48.572 W 123 11.392 / GC2XJ01 <small>Hint: Before you walk onto the dock, keep your feet on the ground and reach your hand into the rocks.</small>	

More Information

Meeting place: At the park kiosk/info sign at the location listed, unless otherwise noted

To get here: Travel to Sidney Island by Alpine Ferry (www.alpinegroup.ca); travel to Pender and Saturna Islands by BC Ferries (www.bcferries.com)

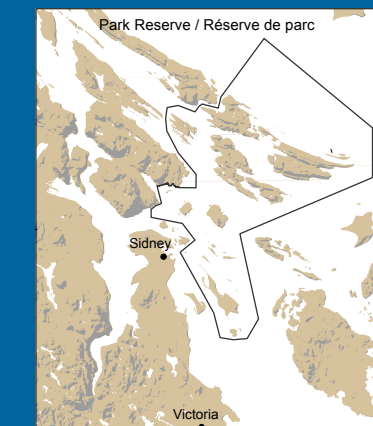
For more information: Download the visitor guide or a hiking and camping guide from our website

Costs: Free & no registration is required

Ages: All ages

Park Office

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
2220 Harbour Road
Sidney, BC, V8L 2P6
1-866-944-1744
parkscanada.gc.ca/gulf



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One-Day Family Adventures!



Animal Safari

Saturna Island • Saturdays, July & August
Attend one activity or escape for the whole day!

- 8:25am: Catch a BC Ferry from Swartz Bay to Saturna Island
- 11am - 12pm: Salmon Walk (see program listings for more info)
- 12 - 2pm: Free time (drop-by the weekly market at the General Store)
- 2 - 2:30pm: Orca News (see program listings for more info)
- 2:30 - 3:55pm: Free time (picnic at Winter Cove)
- 3:55 or 8:55pm: Catch the ferry back to Swartz Bay

Tropical Vacation*

Sidney Island • Saturdays, July & August
Attend one activity or escape for the whole day!

- 10am: Catch the Alpine ferry in Sidney
- 11am - 12pm: The Big Catch (see program listings for more info)
- 12 - 1pm: Free time (have a picnic)
- 1 - 2pm: Join an interpreter and do a nature craft or a geocache activity
- 2 - 3pm: Free time (go exploring)
- 3, 4:30 or 6pm: Catch the Alpine ferry back to Sidney