

Summer Fun Guide 2015

McDonald Campground, Sidney

SPECIAL EVENTS

Learn to Camp

OVERNIGHT EVENT:

Saturday June 20, 1pm to Sunday June 21, 12pm

Keen to camp with your family, but not sure where to start? We can help! Parks Canada, Mountain Equipment Co-op and volunteers will show you how it's done at an overnight event. Learn how to set up a tent, start a fire and about outdoor safety. Circle up around the campfire with new friends and a mug of cocoa.

Registration begins May 1st, 2015. Fees apply.
For more information contact 1-888-773-8888.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Campfire Magic

Fridays in July and August, 7pm – 8pm

Share the magic of a traditional Canadian campfire with your family. Join an interpreter and guest presenters for songs, First Nations culture, s'mores and more! Bring a flashlight and a mug for hot chocolate. For families with children 12 and under.

Note: we will gather around a lantern if there is a fire ban.

Park at the adjacent Blue Heron Park and follow the signs to the campground. Meet at the group campfire ring.

Sidney Island

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Drop-in Saturdays

Sidney Spit • Saturdays, July and August, 11am- 2pm

Get away to a tropical island for the day! There's something for everyone. Beautiful sandy beaches. Nature crafts. Pick up your Xplorers booklet. Try geocaching. Bring your camera and a picnic! Drop-in any time, but allow one hour to complete an adventure.

Saturna Island

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturna Lamb BBQ

Winter Cove • Wednesday July 1, 10am – 4:30pm

Celebrate Canada Day with islanders at a country fair picnic. Play games and win prizes at the Parks Canada booth. Learn traditional skills from our Coast Salish guest.

Parks Day – Intertidal Safari

East Point • Saturday July 18, 1pm – 4pm

What will the divers bring up from the deep? Drop-in and join Parks Canada and the Saturna Island Marine Research and Education Society for fun marine activities. Enjoy free ice-cream courtesy of Saturna Island Parks and Recreation. Tour the Fog Alarm Building with Saturna Island Heritage Committee volunteers.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Sunset Wildlife Watch

East Point • Fridays in July and August, 8pm – 9pm

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. Enjoy the talents of island musicians and storytellers. Meet out at the point (5 min. walk).

Orca News 2015

East Point • Saturdays in July and August, 2pm – 2:30pm

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).

Family Sundays

Winter Cove • Sundays in July and August, 11am – 1pm

Choose from two self-guided GPS Adventures: Nature Photographers or, new this summer Nature Camera Pros. We supply the GPS devices. You bring cameras and a picnic. Pick up your Xplorers booklet. Do a nature craft. Something for everyone! Drop-in anytime. Allow one hour to complete an adventure.

Parks Canada BioBlitz

Various locations • Friday July 17, 4pm to Saturday July 18, 4pm

Help us find and identify as many different organisms as possible in 24-hours! Work side-by-side with experts and add to the park reserve's official species list. Two ways to participate: join scientists for nature activities (no registration required) or register your family as citizen scientists on inaturalist:

www.inaturalist.org/projects/parks-canada-bioblitz-2015-gulf-islands

Self-Guided Activities

Geocaching

May 15 to September 30

Try one of our geocaching programs and embark on a self-guided adventure to experience the park reserve's cultural and natural hotspots. Choose from two routes: a family-friendly treasure hunt or a more strenuous route. See website for more info.

Xplorers **NEW**

Are you ages 6-11? Do you like to hike, draw a picture, or use your GPS to find a mystery location? Then the Xplorers program is just the right adventure for you! Kids and their family can discover cool facts about the park reserve by completing activities in the Xplorers booklet. Pick up your copy from the Pender Island Museum, the Saturna Fog Alarm Building or the office in Sidney.

Trail Guide App **NEW**

Check out our new EXPLORA trail app — available now on the App Store and Google Play. Discover the park reserve in a whole new way with mini quizzes, historic photos and insider info! Routes available for: Sidney Spit, Russell Island, Georgina Point (Mayne Island), Roesland (Pender Island), Winter Cove and Lyall Creek (Saturna Island).



More Information

ALL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Costs: Free unless indicated

Ages: All ages

Registration: Not required unless indicated

Bring: Water, hat, jacket, sunscreen and appropriate walking gear

Meeting place: At the 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 Saturna Island by BC Ferries (www.bcferries.com)

To reserve an activity in French: Please contact the office

Website: parksCanada.gc.ca/gulfislands

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PARK RESERVE OFFICE:
Gulf Islands National Park Reserve,
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