

Gwaii Haanas is one of the premier sea kayaking destinations in the world.

National Geographic Traveler magazine rated Gwaii Haanas **#1 Park Destination in North America**.

Outside magazine listed Gwaii Haanas as one of **Canada's coolest spots**.

Explore

- Discover over 800 islands and islets, and the many sheltered inlets and bays.
- Experience ancient Haida villages where the Haida Gwaii Watchmen are hosts and guardians.
- Soak in one of the natural thermal pools at Hotspring Island.



- Float through Burnaby Narrows and experience the rich diversity of marine life.
- Encounter some of the twenty species of whales and dolphins seen in the waters around Gwaii Haanas.
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of SGang Gwaay—an outstanding example of an ancient Northwest Coast First Nation village with longhouse remains and standing carved poles.



Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site is located in the southern portion of Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands), a remote archipelago that supports many unique plants and animals. Entire ecosystems are protected within Gwaii Haanas, from alpine to seashore. Hundreds of generations of Haida have been nourished by the rich abundance of these islands. Respecting Haida culture and applying traditional knowledge are essential elements in the co-operative management of Gwaii Haanas.

Camping

All visitors to Gwaii Haanas are expected to *Travel Without Trace*, which:

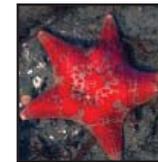
- Maintains the integrity of the local ecosystems
- Shows respect for Haida culture and heritage

Gwaii Haanas has no designated campsites. However, there are many good camping spots for small groups. To minimize impacts and ensure a quality wilderness experience, group size is limited to twelve people.

Kayak Routes

The east side of Gwaii Haanas provides sheltered routes with its range of islands, islets, and inlets—offering more route options during changing weather conditions. The east coast is still a challenging area to paddle, with exposed crossings and hazardous stretches of coastline and headlands.

The west coast of Gwaii Haanas is steep and rocky. Pounding surf and lengthy stretches of cliffs make landing very difficult, if not impossible. It is not recommended for kayakers.



National Marine Conservation Area Reserve

Gwaii Haanas is working toward the creation of a national marine conservation area reserve. This is a type of marine protected area that balances conservation and use. If established, it would help protect Gwaii Haanas from mountain top to deep sea—nearly 5000km² of land and ocean.

Travel Information

Step 1: Reserve Call *Super, Natural British Columbia* (1800-HELLOBC) between February 1st and September 30th to reserve trip dates.

Step 2: Learn Attend the Parks Canada orientation session, which includes travel, health and safety information, as well as a brief introduction to Gwaii Haanas natural and cultural history. It is mandatory.

Step 3: Register All visitors must register before entering Gwaii Haanas or visiting any of the Haida Gwaii Watchmen sites—unless travelling with a licensed guide.

Independent and Guided Trips

Kayakers can spend a few days or a few weeks paddling through Gwaii Haanas. Many visitors rent kayaks locally.

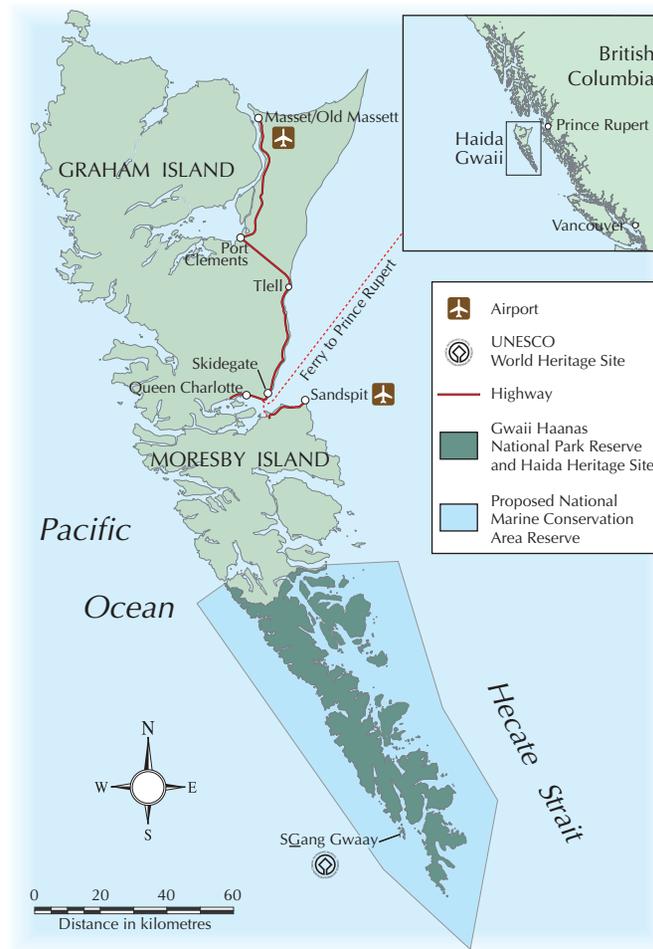
Exploring Gwaii Haanas on a guided tour is a great way to enhance your visit, and is recommended for novice kayakers. Tour operators offer trips of varying lengths for every budget.

Tour operators must be licensed to operate in Gwaii Haanas. Licensing ensures that the operators meet industry certification standards and government regulatory requirements.

Travel by kayak from Moresby Camp (the closest boat launch) to the northern border of Gwaii Haanas at the Tangil Peninsula, along the inside waters, takes two days, weather permitting.

If your group is travelling independently (i.e. without a guide), you may wish to reserve drop-off or pick-up transportation with a licensed tour operator. Reserve early! Find the *Tour Operators Listing*: www.pc.gc.ca/gwaiihaanas.

Access Gwaii Haanas by boat or seaplane only
—there are no roads.



Gwaii Haanas is protected through the cooperation of the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation by the Archipelago Management Board (AMB).

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site

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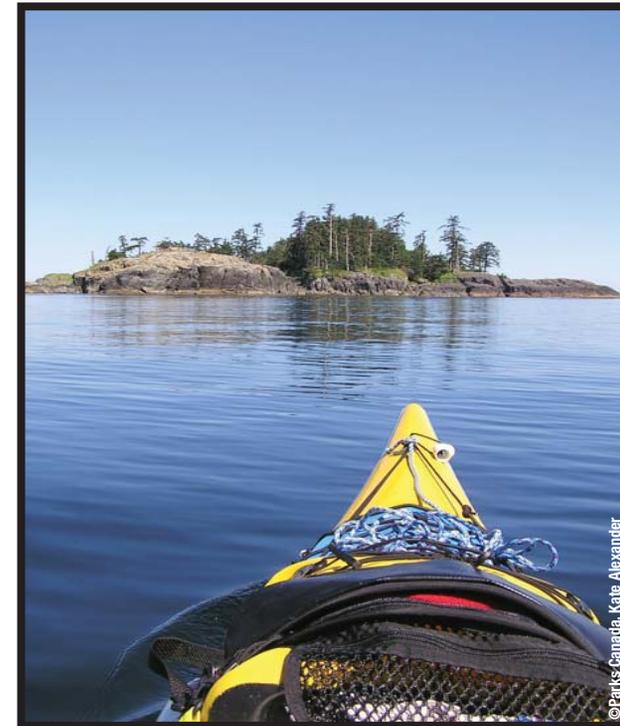
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SEA KAYAKING

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GWAII HAANAS

NATIONAL PARK RESERVE AND HAIDA HERITAGE SITE



*Paddle the edge
of the world*

Canada

Haida
Nation