



Gulf Islands Area Kayak Launches

(Overnight parking options are highlighted in yellow)

Launch Site	In Park	Outside Park	Jurisdiction	Parking (check with local authorities for details – fees may apply)	Notes
<i>Vancouver Island (good access point to inner Gulf Islands – Portland, Russell, Sidney, D’Arcy and Isle de Lis [Rum] Islands)</i>					
Piers Island Dock (Swartz Bay)		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Small parking capacity near dock – alternative parking available at the Swartz Bay ferry terminal parking area.
Roberts Bay		X	Town of Sidney – Public Beach	Day parking only on street	Access at the end of Amherst Street. Limited day parking available at the end of Amherst – use nearby side streets if necessary.
Tulista Park		X	Town of Sidney – Boat Launch	Day parking only in parking lot	Day parking available in parking lot adjacent to boat launch.
Island View Beach		X	CRD Regional Park	Day parking and overnight option in campground	Day parking available in large parking lot area. Overnight parking available with registration of a camping site.
<i>NOTE: Overnight parking is available in the Town of Sidney in Lot A at the corner of Bevan and Second Street. That lot is often used by fishers with boat trailers and capacity can be an issue in the summer months (see link below).</i>					





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<i>Salt Spring Island (good access point to Russell, Portland, North and South Pender and Prevost Islands)</i>					
Fulford Harbour		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage. Please check CRD link below for information on public beach accesses on Salt Spring Island.
Ganges Harbour		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage. Please check CRD link below for information on public beach accesses on Salt Spring Island.
<i>Pender Island (good access point to outer Gulf Islands - Prevost, Mayne and Saturna Islands)</i>					
Port Washington, North Pender		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage.
Hope Bay, North Pender		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage.
Hamilton Beach, North Pender		X	Public Beach Access	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage.
Roesland, North Pender	X		GINPR	Day parking only in parking lot	Dinghy dock or beach launch. Parking available in parking lot. Approximately 300 metres to beach from parking lot.



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Medicine Beach, North Pender		X	Pender Island Conservancy Association – Islands Trust Fund	Day parking only	Ideal launch site for Bedwell Harbour. Observe posted street parking signs.
Thieves Bay, North Pender		X	CRD Local Park	Overnight parking up to 48 hours only	Ideal launch site for Portland, Salt Spring and Prevost Islands. Parking lot (48 hours maximum) and drop-off area.
Otter Bay Marina, North Pender		X	Otter Bay Marina	Overnight parking available	Ideal launch if taking your kayak onboard BC Ferries, close to ferry terminal. Overnight parking available at marina – fees may apply.
Mortimer Spit Park, South Pender		X	CRD Local Park	Day parking only	Ideal launch area for accessing Saturna Island. Easy access. Park at the end of the road or on spit.
<i>Saturna Island (good access point to outer Gulf Islands - Prevost, Mayne and Pender Islands)</i>					
Lyll Harbour Dock		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage.
Winter Cove	X		GINPR	Day parking only on street	Good beach launch area. Dinghy dock also available. Observe posted street parking signage.



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Mayne Island (good access point to outer Gulf Islands – Prevost, Saturna and Pender Islands)					
Bennett Bay		X	Public Beach Access	Day parking only on street or parking lot	Beach access adjacent to the park reserve. Parking available in park’s parking lot off of Wilkes Road. Otherwise, observe posted street parking signage.
Horton Bay		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage.
Miner’s Bay		X	CRD – Public Dock	Day parking only on street	Observe posted street parking signage. Launch into strong current area.
NOTE: The above-noted list is only a suggested sampling of some of the known launch areas. There are many useful guidebooks available that include extensive detailed information about area kayak launches as well as other important information about planning your paddle trip in the Gulf Islands. Check out your local library or bookstore.					

Useful Links

- [Town of Sidney](#): Information about parking in the Town of Sidney.
- [Capital Regional District \(CRD\)](#): Information about public dock facilities and nearby amenities.
- [Capital Regional District \(CRD\) Parks](#): Information about local and regional parks.
- [British Columbia Marine Trails Network](#): Information on water accesses and camping facilities throughout the BC coastline.

Not sure where to start?

Check-out the proposed itineraries published in the Summer 2011 [Coast and Kayak Magazine](#). The article features the Gulf Islands as part of the new marine trail network and provides lots of planning tips, including access points and recommended paddling destinations.