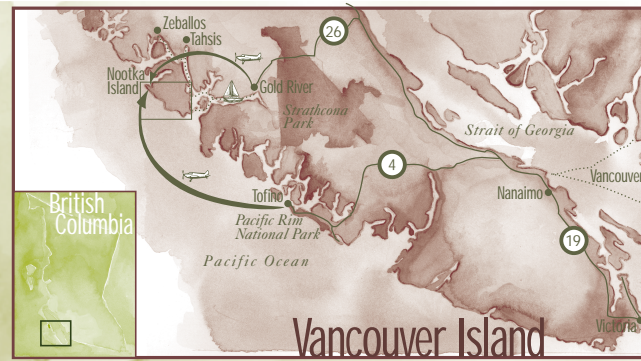


The NOOTKA TRAIL

- 1** Louie Bay Lagoon
Float plane lands here, disembark as close to south end of lagoon as possible. Pick up rough trail at end of lagoon to First Beach.
- 2** First Beach
Plenty of fresh water, sandy beach, good place to spend a day.
- 3** Ferrer Point Excursion
Good day trip north along rocky coastline from First Beach toward Ferrer Point. Shipwreck observable on west coast. Former road from near shipwreck to inner bay; abandoned trailer. Abandoned salvage operation below Tongue Point, originally part of shipwreck on west coast. Old radar station camp near Tongue Point, later used as Esperanza Mission Camp. Overgrown trail up to radar installation on Northwest Cone.
- 4** Travelling South of First Beach
Difficult headlands one kilometre south of First Beach. Beaches passable only at very low tide; otherwise take trail overland marked at entrance and exits by buoys. Good hiking after this to Skuna Bay on rocky tidal shelves, through small bays, across flat beaches.
- 5** Skuna Bay
Nice sand beach, good water
- 6** Skuna Bay to Calvin Falls
Beach not passable at highest tide just before Calvin Falls.
- 7** Calvin Falls
The waterfall spills six metres onto a sandy beach; cross creek at low tide. Rough shelter north of Calvin Creek in woods. Rough overgrown trail from Calvin Falls to Crawfish Lake some distance south of creek. Beach walk from Calvin Falls to Bajo Point with one stream crossing.
- 8** Bajo Point
Ancient village sites, culturally modified trees, low tide walk to Bajo reef. Good tidal pool, sea otter, whale, orca viewing here. From Bajo Point to Beano Creek, walk along tidal shelf and pebble beaches.
- 9** Beano Creek
Private cabin by creek, pebble beach. Logging close behind cabin. Often ponded fresh water where Beano Creek comes out to the ocean, behind sand and pebble dam. Other water: spring 1.5 km south on beach. Ancient village site of Tsarksis, an early whaling centre for aboriginal people, near Beano Creek. Beyond Beano Creek, need intermediate to low tide to cross on beach. Headlands start two km beyond Beano Creek; take trail (see #10). Allow three days from Beano area to Friendly Cove.
- 10** High cliffs above beach
Rough access for trail up to first headland (short length of rope is helpful; e.g. 15 m); can go up gully. Once on headland, trail goes through forest. Parallel but exposed trail along coast on cliffs through steep grassy meadows (take good care if choosing this option).

- 11** Spectacular headlands and sea caves
Five to six km of continuous headlands, sea caves, pocket beaches. Trail goes inland for two-three km. Allow one-and-a-half to two days for this section.
- 12** Maquinna Point
Detour off trail to point for spectacular coastal views, rock scrambling. After Maquinna Point there are scenic campsites on pocket beaches. A few campsites cut out of the bush and salal.
- 13** Tidal lagoon
Wade at low tide, swim at high tide. Fresh water short distance before lagoon. Camping on either side of lagoon. Trail from lagoon to Yuquot is managed by Mowachaht/Muchalaht, Ministry of forests and Western Forest Products Ltd. This section is part of Yatmah's Trails.
- 14** Village of Yuquot, Friendly Cove
Museum (former church) and lighthouse. A few families of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht people at Yuquot. Fee charged for camping. Cabins available—contact Mowachaht/Muchalaht Band Office in Gold River. Boat dock access to water taxi, float plane. Scheduled stop for MV Uchuck III.



Hiking Tips and Cautions

Water
Creeks, small streams or springs provide fresh water, but the availability of fresh water varies during the hiking season. Water filters are recommended.

Camping
Choose campsites carefully to prevent flooding from incoming tides and contamination of drinking water sources. Practice no-trace camping; pack out or burn garbage. Be careful with fires.

Coastal hiking
When hiking along beach routes watch for suspended buoys indicating access to trails across headlands. Forested portions of the trail are marked for the most part; use maps, compass, etc. to assist with route finding. Avoid beach option when tides are incoming. Carry topographical maps and current tide tables.

Equipment
Be prepared for adverse weather conditions. Rains can be expected in any season. Take a good tent with a waterproof fly, waterproof bags for storing clothing, sleeping bags and food, a small stove for cooking purposes, good hiking boots, proper rain gear, and a basic first aid kit.

Wildlife
Hikers will undoubtedly meet bears when hiking along the beach. Care must be taken with food supplies (hang food, watch packs). Hikers may want to take bear spray.

Fishing and Shellfish Gathering
If you plan to fish, obtain a B.C. fishing licence prior to arriving on Nootka Island. If you plan to gather shellfish, check ahead of time about closures due to paralytic shellfish poisoning, also known as red tide. For information on PSP closures in

the area call the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' 24 hr. line at 604-666-2828, or check the following website: <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.bc.ca/ops/fm/shellfish/biotox-ins.htm>

Emergency
The Nootka Trail is remote and hikers should be self-sufficient. There is a lighthouse and lighthouse keepers at Friendly Cove. Carry a VHF marine radio for weather forecasts and emergency contact.

This map is hand-drawn and intended as a rough guide only. The trail as marked on the map is only a rough representation that indicates where it mostly follows the land or where the route mostly follows the beach/sand flats/tidal shelves. The trail may vary between forest and beach within those sections; watch for buoys marking entrance to forest. Take recommended topographic maps, nautical charts and a compass for route finding.

Western Nootka Island



0 1 2 3 Miles

0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers

12 Maquinna Point