

Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission



Community Trail Guide

Third Edition

Community Parks Guide



Third Edition
Revised and Expanded 2014

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Introduction

The Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission (PIPRC) invites you to explore the community parks, trails and ocean accesses it manages. These trails on North and South Pender Islands were delegated to the PIPRC by the Capital Regional District (CRD). This guide is designed to provide information that will facilitate your enjoyment of these parks and trails.

Please note that some parks on the Pender Islands are administered by other agencies. A listing of these trails, their affiliated agencies, and their access points is available for your convenience on page 99. Contact these agencies for further information about their parks.

This guide is organized by the three major areas: North Pender, Magic Lake area (on North Pender) and South Pender. You may want to plan a visit to parks and trails found within one

area, and perhaps plan out a longer walk using loop and connector trails. Most trails with available connectors or loops have that option listed within the trail descriptions, but you can use the map in the back of the book to plan out your own adventures! Please be sure to keep the tides in mind if you are walking along the shore from one access point to another. Respect private landowners; take no shortcuts to the road from beach areas.

The PIPRC parks display the diverse ecosystems of the Southern Gulf Islands. Some trails have informative signs telling about the local flora and fauna, while some parks and trails celebrate the contribution of humans in the history of the islands. Other parks offer picnicking, baseball, disc golf, swings, swimming and small boat launching.

Many trails are unimproved with exposed rocks and roots, reflecting the PIPRC's low environmental impact policy, so watch your

footing. Parking spots are provided at some trails, but most parking is on the side of the road, and can be minimal or difficult. A few trails are only accessible by foot.

The trails are rated easy, moderate or hard. Easy trails can sometimes have steps or a slightly steep section, but are reasonably smooth to walk on. They are usually short. Moderate trails are often steep and include steps and staircases, and generally have rougher terrain. Hard trails are usually very steep, rough and long.

Please respect the natural environment within the parks. If a trail is closed for restoration, kindly take the marked detour. Take no souvenirs and pack out your trash. Dogs must be kept under control and picked up after. We ask that you respect the privacy and boundaries of adjacent property owners. Mountain bikes are not permitted on any parks or trails. We thank you for your cooperation! Enjoy!

North Pender Island

Grover Sargent Memorial Cairn Trail

#12

Clam Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 90 Metres

Parking: On road at trailhead

Amenities: Boardwalks to Cairn

Beach Access: None



Grover Sargent Memorial Cairn

This short trail mainly consists of boardwalks over a wetland leading to the cairn. The cairn is a memorial for Pilot Officer Grover Stewart Sargent of the Canadian Air Force. On February 4, 1943, Sargent died at age 21 when his Hawker Hurricane MK XII crashed on this spot during a night time test flight.

Magic Lake Swimming Hole Park #13

Pirates Road, North Pender

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: Large gravelled parking lot

Amenities: Outhouse, Dock, Swimming Float

Beach Access: No, but Lake Access

The swimming hole is a great spot for lounging in the sun and going for a swim.

The gravelled lot provides plenty of parking, and there is an outhouse.



Magic Lake Swimming Hole

Access to the swim dock and float is down a few steps from the dam that retains the water in Magic Lake. There is a sturdy ladder attached to the dock, so getting out of the water after you swim is nice and easy. Please clean up after your dog as this is a water source for the community!

Mount Menzies Park #15

Hooson Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: About 2 Km, 80 Metre climb.

Parking: Plenty of roadside spots in cul-de-sac

Amenities: Bench, loop trail

Beach Access: No

Close to the trail head there is a map that shows a looping trail, with an extension at the top leading to a bench, but not much of a view. The bench at the top marks the end of the PIPRC land, so please don't follow any unmarked trails into private property. Most people like to hike up one leg of the loop, and use the other side to come down again to the parking area. The trail is steep and slippery in places, leading through a dense forest canopy, and passing along the edge of a wetland.

George Hill #16

Ogden Road, or Upper Terrace Road, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: About 2 Km each way, 130 Metre
climb

Parking: Easy roadside spots on Upper Terrace,
difficult roadside parking on Ogden Rd.

Amenities: 2 Benches

Beach Access: No

This steep, long and rewarding trail boasts a 180-degree view at the top, one of the best views the parks have to offer! It will take about 30 minutes in each direction. If you start the trail from Ogden Road you will have a shady and challenging climb through dense forest, using steps and ramps to help you up. The Upper Terrace leg is shorter and more open, but is still a steep trail. Half way up there is a bench with a view. At this point the trail opens up and takes you across a steep rock face, up more stairs to the top. The expansive view is well worth the

effort, looking out across Galiano, Mayne, and Salt Spring Islands. On a clear day the Olympic Range is visible.



View from George Hill Summit

Mount Elizabeth Park #17

Clam Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 0.64 km start to finish using loop

Parking: One spot on road to the left of trailhead

Amenities: Interpretive signs, bench

Beach Access: None

Although not terribly steep, this mossy trail climbs steadily through a forest of Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar, and loops back down. The trail is a bit rough in places with rocks and roots. Pick up a nature guide at the beginning of the trail and look for the corresponding numbers throughout your hike to learn about local flora and fauna. Make sure you return the guide on your way out.

Peter Cove (North) Ocean Access #18

Trincoma Place, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 10 Metres

Parking: On road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

A short flight of stairs leads down to a sand and gravel beach. The view looks out to sea toward Tilly Point on South Pender Island.

Skeeles Road Viewpoint #19

Razor Point Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 90 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Ocean Access: No

This is a short trail, steep in places, that leads to a bench with a view overlooking Browning Harbour and across to Mortimer Spit on South Pender Island.

Oaks Bluff Viewpoint #20

Pirates Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 0.46 Km, 66 Metre Climb

Parking: Dirt parking lot with 4 spots

Amenities: 3 benches, bike rack

Ocean Access: No

This steep hike climbs up switchbacks and stairs through a dense tree canopy to the top of the

bluffs. 2 viewpoints and 3 benches allow you to fully appreciate the scenery from 100 metres above sea level. The first view shows Bedwell Harbour Marina and South Pender, while the second looks toward Swanson Channel and Vancouver Island in the distance. The Olympic Mountains can be seen on a clear day, and the lucky visitor may see orcas passing below. This trail can be hazardous in wet or windy conditions, and caution is required at the top where there is a sheer cliff down to the water.



View from Oaks Bluff

Gardom Pond Trail #21

Harbour Hill Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 0.45 km

Parking: On the main road below the private road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No



Gardom Pond

This 10 minute walk takes you along a moderately easy trail through a shady forest. A small bridge and boardwalk take you over a waterway, and on to the lake. The 3 acre Gardom Pond is covered in lily pads during the summer, and is frequented by ducks and herons. You can enjoy the view from above the pond while sitting on the bench, but there is no access to the lake shore. Please stay on the trail and respect the surrounding private properties.

Bricky Bay Ocean Access #22

Armadale Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 40 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes



Bricky Bay

Follow the staircase down to the sandy beach and enjoy the view of Navy Channel and Mayne Island. There was once a brick factory here and the beach is littered with the remains of old red bricks – hence its name.

Bridges Road Ocean Access #23

Bridges Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 30 Metres

Parking: 2 gravelled spots at trailhead, tight turn around.

Amenities: none

Beach Access: yes

This sandy crescent shaped beach is ideal for



Bridges Road Beach Access

playing children, picnics, and watching the sunset. Wide stairs with a handrail lead down to the beach, but at high tide the water can touch the bottom steps. At low tide there are small tide pools to be enjoyed, and the Orcas sometimes pass through the view.

MacKinnon Road Ocean Access #24

MacKinnon Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 30 Metres

Parking: One small roadside spot at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes



Beach at MacKinnon Road Ocean Access

The stairs from MacKinnon Road lead directly to a little sandy beach. At low tide you can find tide pools at the end of the beach where a wealth of inter-tidal life can be observed. Against a back drop of Vancouver Island, the ferries, boat traffic and occasional Orcas traveling up Swanson Channel provide a grand view.

Starvation Bay Ocean Access #27

Bedwell Drive, North Pender

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 20 Metres

Parking: No close parking. Road side spots at the end of the road.

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Take the stairs to the sandy beach on the south side of Bedwell Harbour. A view of South Pender Island lets you observe the constant boat traffic, sea planes, marina and customs dock in front of Poet's Cove.

This beach also boasts a plethora of sea life and tide pools in the rocky outcropping at the far side.

Peter Cove (South) Ocean Access #28

Plumper Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 50 Metres

Parking: One marked spot at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

A short, wide path leads down to the crescent shaped sandy beach. The view looks across the entrance to Bedwell Harbour and on to South Pender. Small boats, kayaks and canoes can easily be carried down and launched from the beach. Please stay in the tidal zone and off of the surrounding private properties.



Peter Cove South

Irene Bay Ocean Access #30

Irene Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 20 metres

Parking: 2 gravelled spots at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes



Irene Bay

A short but steep gravelled path leads down to this appealing little beach. This is an ideal spot for launching kayaks and canoes, and otters can often be observed here.

Percival Cove Ocean Access #31

Otter Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 220 Metres

Parking: Side of road at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Also known as “Blackberry Lane”, this trail is hedged on both sides by vigorous blackberry vines and wild roses, and is a wonderful place to stock up on local berries in the late summer.



Blackberry Lane to Percival Cove

In the Spring the shy California Quail nest under this protective cover. The walk is easy, but becomes steep near the end with a staircase leading to the beach.

Grimmer Bay Ocean Access #32

Otter Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 40 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

This trail is short and very steep, with stairs leading down to the water. Beach access is available at moderate to low tide, at which time a wide mud flat with great tide pools will appear. You can look across to the tiny islet with a Garry Oak meadow. This is a very sunny and protected bay.

Wilson Road Viewpoint #33

Hooson Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 150 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

Park on Hooson Road and walk down Wilson road to the trailhead. There is a lovely view of Plumper Sound, Mayne and Saturna Islands. Please respect the privacy of the neighbours.



Wilson Road

Niagara Road Ocean Access #34

Otter Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 230 Metres

Parking: 2 gravelled spots at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Be careful not to block or park on the adjacent private driveways.

The trail begins in an open grassy field alongside a seasonal stream, and slopes downward, leading you under Big Leaf Maples. The path becomes steep, and a few sets of stairs take you down to the wide sandy beach. This is one of the sandiest beaches on North Pender, great for kids, picnics, or just admiring the view of Salt Spring and Prevost Islands.

Walden Road Ocean Access #35

Stanley Point Drive, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 160 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

This shady trail is a bit steep, taking you under Western Red Cedar trees and through Sword Ferns, Salal and Oregon Grapes. Some steps help you down to a small pebble beach, looking towards Prevost Island.

Found Road Ocean Access #50

Clam Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 1.5 Kilometres each way. A total climb of about 70 Metres.

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Interpretive signs, Benches

Beach Access: Yes

This is one of the longest PIPRC trails, and is very steep in places. You will pass through 5 different ecological zones on your way to the ocean, and you should keep your eye out for the interpretive signs along the way. The first zone is a miniature rainforest with wetland vegetation including cedars and ferns. Next is a grove of Broadleaf Maples with older nurse trees supporting ferns and maple seedlings. Third is a phenomenon called “trees knees” where the roots of a stump have intertwined with neighbouring trees, keeping it alive without leaves or trunk. In the next zone, the last ice age has left huge granite rocks called ‘erratics’ that may have come from the Coast Range. Finally you will come to a more open slope with Douglas Firs and Arbutus spreading over a mossy meadow. At this point the trail descends steeply, taking you down a few flights of stairs, and finally down to the beach.

There is a wonderful view of Mayne Island, and at low tide you can follow the beach for quite a long distance in both directions. Please respect

the surrounding private properties, and don't step on the numerous banana slugs!



Found Road Ocean Access Driftwood

Seawest Viewpoint #51

Hooson Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 190 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

Although not too long, this trail has narrow parts, roots and rocks, so make sure you watch your footing. Part way in an access road bisects the trail, just look for the “trail” sign slightly down the road to your right. At the viewpoint bench you are looking directly across Plumper Sound to Samuel Island between Mayne and Saturna.

Wallace Road Ocean Access #54

Wallace Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 100 Metres

Parking: One spot at trailhead on side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

This beach access trail is steep, wet and rough in places, so watch your step. Stairs and a ramp lead down to the rocky shore, and at low tide you can walk around to Medicine Beach.

Tracy Road Ocean Access #55

Armadale Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 260 Metres

Parking: one spot at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Although this is a short trail, the stairs are quite steep, hence the moderate difficulty rating. The path leads to stairs down to the beach. At low tide you can walk north to Found Road. Going south, it is difficult to get to Bricky Bay even at low tide.



Tracy Road Stairs to Beach

Welcome Bay Ocean Access #56

Clam Bay Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 280 Metres

Parking: Side of road at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

The trail to Welcome Bay is well groomed and only slightly undulating. There is a self-guided nature trail guide for your enjoyment. Boardwalks help you across the wet beginning,

and a short flight of steps takes you down to the crescent shaped pebble beach. The view includes Saturna and Mayne Islands, with a distant view of Mt. Baker on a clear day.



Welcome Bay Beach

Plumper Way Viewpoint #59

Plumper Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 50 Metres

Parking: One marked spot at trailhead

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

A short trail leads to this view point that looks out into Boundary Pass. Here the border between Canada and the U.S. lies half way between the Penders and Stuart Island, one of the San Juan Islands in the U.S. This is the main



Plumper Way Viewpoint

shipping channel for ships coming from and going to the Port of Vancouver. Use caution here and keep well back from the edge as there is a very sharp drop off down to the water.

Mumford Road Viewpoint #62

Canal Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 260 Metres

Parking: No spots available. Can park at the school and walk

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This attractive trail starts off with a couple of switchbacks taking you through a forested area, crosses a private driveway, and continues on to a loop trail with a bench and a beautiful view. Mortimer Spit can be seen clearly right across the water, as can the bridge connecting North and South Pender. This is a wonderful place to watch otters and boats.



Mumford Road Viewpoint

Von Road Viewpoint #68

MacKinnon Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 130 Metres

Parking: 2+ side of road spots

Amenities: Picnic table

Beach Access: No

A short trail, Von Road, takes you to a viewpoint with a picnic table looking towards Otter Bay Marina. There is lots of boat traffic to watch, and the table is in a nice sunny spot. This trail is walking distance from the ferry.

Shorecliff Viewpoint #70

MacKinnon Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 170 Metres

Parking: One spot at trailhead

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

A five minute walk leads you between private properties down to a rocky shore with a bench. Here you can enjoy sea life, boats, and the Olympic Mountains in the distance.



Shorecliff Viewpoint

Ogden Road Viewpoint #71

Ogden Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 140 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This five minute walk takes you to a set of stairs leading down to a bench. The viewpoint overlooks the South end of Navy Channel, with Galiano Island to the west.



Ogden Road Viewpoint

Lock Road Viewpoint #72

Sunset Drive, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 70 Metres

Parking: Side of road at trailhead, limited

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

Just a little path to a bench. This view looks toward Mayne and Saturna Islands.

Pecos Road Ocean Access #73

Pecos Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 60 Metres

Parking: One spot at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Pecos Road is a small dirt road off of Razor Point Road. There is parking at the trailhead, and a couple of steep sets of stairs take you down to the rocky shore. There is a direct view of Browning Marina.

Bedwell Drive Ocean Access #74

Bedwell Drive, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 30 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Bedwell Drive is near the most southern end of North Pender Island. Park on the side of the road and head down the 2 sets of stairs to the rocks by the water. Your view here is across Bedwell Harbour to the Marina at Poet's Cove.

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Shingle Bay Park #1

Galleon Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: Plenty of roadside spots at all entrances

Amenities: Swings, Small boat launch, 2 Picnic Tables, Outhouse, Bench, Large Grass Field

Beach Access: Yes

With its large grassy field, picnic tables and great view this is a popular park for holding events. Looking seaward from the park, Prevost Island can be seen across Swanson Channel. At the end of Galleon Way is one of the entry points to the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve with a trail leading to Roe Lake. The Yardarm / Shingle Bay Trail #60, and the Masthead Crescent / Shingle Bay Trail #61 both connect to

this park, with the entrances just across the street.



Shingle Bay Community Park

Thieves Bay Park #2

Anchor Way, Magic Lake area, North Pender
Island

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: A large gravelled parking lot is provided, large enough for boat trailer parking.

Amenities: Picnic tables, Bench, outhouse, swing set, boat ramp, turnaround near the boat ramp.

Beach Access: Yes

This well used park provides a space for large gatherings as well as space for children to play on the swings, grassy field, and sandy beach. It has a large parking lot with enough room for short term trailer parking, and a cement boat ramp with a large turnaround beside the access to the marina. There is an outhouse for your convenience. The grassy area can be very wet during the rainy season.



Thieves Bay Community Park

Capstan Lane / Rope Road Trail #3

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 0.63 Km

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This is a connector trail between Capstan Lane and Rope Road. You also have the option of using the Capstan Lane Park trail #29, which T's in to the middle of this trail, to do a loop walk. The upper part of this trail is seasonally wet and muddy from December to May, and is a little steep at either end. The trail and boardwalks follow a wooded ravine and small seasonal creek through a wetland. In the Spring the wetland is filled with Skunk Cabbage, also known as Swamp Lanterns. Some of the Firs here are hundreds of years old, including a

significant stand of Grand Fir. You can go left on Privateers Road to take the Privateers / Schooner Trail #69.



Capstan Lane/Rope Road Trail

J.M. Abbott Park #4

Spyglass Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 340 Metres

Parking: Side of road at either entrance

Amenities: Benches, Picnic Table

Beach Access: No

This park is named for the surveyor, Mel Abbott, who bought and developed Magic Lake Estates in the 1960's. It is quite steep and rough, has a bench with an ocean view, a picnic table overlooking Buck Lake, and Arbutus trees covering the hill top. There is a loop option, or you can enter from Spyglass Road and exit again farther along the same road.

Danny Martin Park #5

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: Plenty of parking in a dirt lot, and roadside spots available

Amenities: Picnic Tables, Locked Outhouse, Baseball Diamond, Bleachers

Beach Access: No

Part of this park contains a well maintained baseball diamond with bleachers. The parking lot entrance is on Buccaneer Road. The toilets are only open during scheduled games. There is also a large grassy area outside of the baseball diamond with a small seasonal stream that drains into Magic Lake.

The Ball Park is operated by The Pender Island Youth Sports Association under licence from PIPRC.

Disc Park #6

Galleon Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Parking: 2 large parking lots

Amenities: Picnic tables, Benches, Outhouse, Clubhouse, Drinking Fountain, Bike Rack

Beach Access: No

One part of the park is devoted to Disc Golf, offering 3 different courses and a total of 27 “holes”. Islanders and visitors test their skills in a challenging, rocky, steep and heavily wooded terrain. During the summer weekends the park is often full. There are plenty of places to rest along the course, and an inviting club house with picnic tables, garbage and recycling cans, a drinking fountain and an outhouse. The rest of the park has a number of interconnecting trails (#11, #49, #67) that wind through a variety of areas from a rainforest with huge trees to delicate wetlands.

The Disc Park is operated by The Pender Island Youth Sports Association under licence from PIPRC.



Disc Park

Lively Peak Park #7

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 250 Metres, 43 Metre Climb

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: 3 Benches

Beach Access: No

Lively Peak Park starts on Ketch Road, near Sailor Road. To reach the trailhead you have to walk up a portion of gravelled access road.

This rough trail climbs steeply through a shady and heavily forested area, using steps to help you up to the summit. Near the top the canopy opens up and includes many Arbutus trees.

There are 2 benches at the top, the first showing you Port Browning and Saturna Island, and the second sporting a view of the San Juan Islands with Vancouver Island in the distance. A short trail to the west takes you across the skid road again, and out to a third bench with another spectacular ocean view.



Lively Peak

Compass Crescent / Starboard Crescent Trail #8

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 70 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This is a very short and steep path leading directly from Compass Crescent to Starboard Crescent. It directly connects to trail #66, and allows a loop walk if you take Galleon Way.

Heart Trail / Prior Park #9

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 230 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

Offering a nice long walk through a forested area, the Heart Trail can also be used as a short cut to Canal Road. It starts at Ketch Road, and connects with Prior Park camp ground in the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. Some areas are rough and steep. The Heart Trail was constructed with the assistance of the First Open Heart Society of B.C. in appreciation for continued community support. On the other side of Ketch Road there is an extension of the Heart Trail, #49, which will take you to the Disc Park.

Schooner Way / Chart Drive Trail #10

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 110 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

Connecting Schooner Way and Chart Drive, this short and slightly steep trail offers the option of walking a loop by taking trail #79.

Bosun Way / Galleon Way Trail #11

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 0.89 Km

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

Entering from Bosun Way you will descend through a canopy of Western Red Cedar, Red Alder and Big Leaf Maple trees down into a rich wetland. Once the trail levels out it is an easy walk. This area can be quite muddy in the rainy season. Part of this trail edges the disc park, and you will exit into the Disc Park parking lot on Galleon Way. There is a junction along the trail at the edge of the disc park where you can choose to take trail #49 to Ketch Road, or #67 to Schooner Way instead.

Magic Lake Picnic Site Park #14

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: Lots of easy roadside spots

Amenities: 2 Picnic Tables, Small Boat Launch and Storage, Bike Rack, Dog Clean Up Station

Beach Access: Lake Access



Magic Lake Picnic Site

This well used parkland is a favourite place for lakeside picnics and for launching kayaks and canoes.

Please store your small boat only in the designated area. The reeds at the water's edge provide one of the few Red Winged Blackbird nesting sites on the Penders. Dog walkers are asked to keep their dogs under control and to pick up after them, as the lake is a source of drinking water.

Harpoon Road / Panda Bay Ocean Access #25

Harpoon Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 60 Metres

Parking: Side of road at trailhead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

This ocean access trail leads to stairs down to a small pebble beach with views across Swanson channel to Prevost Island.

Boat Nook Ocean Access #26

Schooner Way, Magic Lake area, North Pender
Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 10 Metres

Parking: 1 spot at trailhead

Amenities: Bench with an ocean view

Beach Access: Stairs with a handrail leading to
rocks at the water. No beach.



Boat Nook

In the early 1970's prospective purchasers of Magic Lake Estate lots were flown into a dock at Boat Nook. A group of large rocks directly in the ocean view is often a resting place for seals, river otters and cormorants. To the right of the rocks is a significant kelp bed. This is more of a viewpoint than an ocean access, so use extreme caution at the foot of the stairs as the rocks can be slippery.

Capstan Lane Park #29

Capstan Lane, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 110 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This short trail links lower Capstan Lane with the Capstan/Rope Trail #3. It is a bit steep in places, and takes you through a high canopy forest down to boardwalks through a wetland. Swamp lanterns abound here in Spring.

Heart Trail

Extension/Ketch/Disc Park #49

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 420 Metres

Parking: Side of road across the street

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This trail starts across from the Heart Trail on Ketch Road, and can be steep in places. Stairs and boardwalks help you over a sunny slope and down into a small valley that drains into Magic Lake. You will enter the Disc Park #6 at the junction where trails #67 and #11 also meet up, and you can choose any of these as your exit point.

Sandy Sievert Park #52

Spyglass Road / Gunwhale Road, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 175 Metres

Parking: Side of road at either end

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This shady, forested trail meanders through a wetland with Salal and Sword ferns all around. Boardwalks help you over the wet areas, and the Spyglass Road end of the trail has a very steep staircase.



Sandy Sievert Park

Yardarm Road / Shingle Bay

#60

Galleon Way / Yardarm Road, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 230 Metres, 54 Metre Climb

Parking: Roadside spots available at Shingle Bay,
No parking on Yardarm

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This is a very steep, rough trail heading uphill from Shingle Bay to Yardarm Road. Being heavily forested, this is a shady and sometimes slick trail. A loop can be made starting and ending at Shingle Bay by using this trail with the Masthead Crescent Trail #61. Leave yourself an hour to do the whole loop.

Masthead Crescent / Shingle Bay Trail #61

Galleon Way / Masthead Crescent,
North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 0.62 Km, 58 Metre Climb

Parking: Roadside spots at Shingle Bay, no parking on Masthead

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

A high canopy of Maple trees shades this steep and wide trail, taking you from Shingle Bay up to Masthead Crescent. You can walk a loop, taking about an hour, by linking this trail with the Yardarm/Shingle Bay trail #60.

Buck Lake Trail #63

Spyglass Road / Privateers Road, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 320 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This trail links Privateers Road with Spyglass Road, and lets you out directly in front of Buck Lake. There are roots and rocks in the trail as you walk along the stream, and a couple flights of stairs. At the right time of year there are two little waterfalls.

Schooner At Reef Park #65

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 20 Metres

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: One Bench

Beach Access: None

This extremely short trail simply provides a bench with a view for people walking in the area. It is just off the road where Schooner and Reef meet.

Compass Crescent / Tiller Crescent Trail #66

Compass Crescent / Tiller Crescent,
North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 150 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

Although it is short, this trail is steep in places. It will take you from Compass Crescent down to Buck Lake where the trail follows along the water for a short while before sloping up to Tiller Crescent. Trail #8, Compass/Starboard , links up easily with this one as its trailhead is just across Compass Crescent.

Fire Hall / Disc Park Trail #67

Schooner Way/Galleon Way, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 210 Metres

Parking: Side of road on Schooner, or in Disc
Park lot on Galleon

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This trail runs from Schooner Way across a small bridge and along the side of the Fire Hall property into a forested area. It is seasonally quite wet. Eventually you will arrive at a junction point where you can branch off to the Disc Park #6, take #11 to Bosun Way, or #49 to Ketch Road.

Schooner / Privateers Trail #69

Schooner Way / Privateers Road, North Pender
Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 220 Metres

Parking: Side of road at either end

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

Following a creek that runs from Buck Lake to the ocean, this trail links Schooner Way and Privateers Road. At the Schooner end there is a small wetland, and some rock steps leading up into a forested area. A bench is provided for you to enjoy the creek and waterfall before you climb back up to Privateers Road. This trail links easily with #26 Boat Nook Ocean Access, #29 Capstan Lane Park, and #3 Capstan/Rope Trail.



Schooner/Privateers Trail

Ursula Poepel Park #79

Schooner Way / Chart Drive, North Pender
Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 130 Metres

Parking: Side of road at either end

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This trail leads uphill from Chart Dr. to Schooner Way, taking you through a heavily forested area, and up a few sets of steps. There is a bench overlooking Shingle Bay to your left before you take the trail to the right and on up to Schooner. A loop can easily be walked using #10 Schooner/Chart Trail.

South Pender Island



Fawn Creek

Fawn Creek Park #36

Ainslie Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 430 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

This trail is a large loop, taking about 10 Minutes. If you take the right hand path you will descend through a forest of mature Cedar and Fir trees, cross a small creek, and find yourself at a bench with a view of Bedwell Harbour. Here you can step down to the small muddy beach. As you walk back towards the road you are led through a wetland and across the creek again. A long set of stairs leads back up to your starting point.

Enchanted Forest Park #37

Spalding Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Distance: 2.5 Kilometres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: 3 Benches, Bike Rack, Interpretive Signs

Beach Access: No



The Enchanted Forest

This 4-hectare park offers a relatively flat area for an off road walk through a lovely forested wetland full of ferns and moss. This trail can be wet, so boardwalks are used in many places. The park is split in two by a private driveway, and has multiple entrances along the right hand side of Spalding Road, if you are heading down-island. The last entrance will lead you to a seasonal waterfall, and on to an Arbutus covered rocky bluff overlooking Bedwell Harbour. This last leg is steep and rocky. There are interpretive signs along the way to highlight local plants.

Mortimer Spit Park/Ocean Access

#38

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Parking: Plenty of spots along road/turnaround

Amenities: Picnic Bench, Outhouse

Beach Access: Yes

A gravel road allows easy car access to the pebble beach and mud flats. There is an



Mortimer Spit

outhouse and a stone picnic bench, and you can easily hand-launch kayaks and small boats. From the spit you can look back to Shark Cove and the bridge between North and South Pender, or across to Browning Harbour and North Pender. Please be careful of weather and tides, as the access road is at sea level and can become flooded.

Lilias Spalding Heritage Park #39

Castle Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance to Park: 90 metres up hill

Parking: 2 paved spots on Spalding Road, past Castle Road if you are coming down-island.

Amenities: 2 Picnic Tables, Bench, Outhouse, Historical Sign/Remains

Beach Access: No

This 4 hectare park is situated on the original homestead of Arthur and Lilias Spalding who came to South Pender as pioneers in 1889.

There are historical remains here of a farm building, as well as heritage trees and shrubs. A large grassy area with picnic tables provides the perfect place for gatherings, and there is access to an outhouse. There is no access from Castle Road, but visitors can park off of Spalding Road, just past Castle Road, in the marked areas provided. You will need to walk up the steep paved fire access road to reach the park.



Lilias Spalding Heritage Park

Castle Road Trail #40

Castle Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 0.82 Km, 90 Metre Climb

Parking: Side of Road on Spalding Road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

This trail is steep, rough and full of switch backs. It ends before the summit of the hill, so please respect private property and do not go beyond the park boundary. There are expansive views of South Pender along the hike, with glimpses of Mayne and Saturna Islands. Beautiful rock faces are home to Sedum plants, and Arbutus and Douglas Fir populate the hillside. Allow about 30 minutes each way. Castle Road is private, so visitors must park on Spalding Road and walk up to the trailhead.

Bridge Park Viewpoint #41

Ainslie Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 90 Metres

Parking: Marginal Side of Road Spots

Amenities: Bench, Picnic Table

Beach Access: No



Bridge Park, South Pender Island

This short trail follows the canal between North and South Pender, and provides a great view of

the bridge. A shady bench at the end provides a nice viewpoint or you can watch the boats go by from the picnic table near the beginning of the trail. Please stay away from the edge of the trail, as erosion is undercutting the bank.

William Walker Trail #42

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 1.2 Km, 92 Metre Climb

Parking: Opposite side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This long trail climbs steeply through dense forest, with rocks and roots acting as steps to help you up.

This is an active logging area, and you will cross skid roads along the way. Just follow the trail signs to keep on track. As the canopy opens up, the Salal becomes quite dense, while in the shady areas the moss has taken over to create a

soft green covering for rocks and fallen trees. About half way up there is a huge old growth Fir tree, which can be admired from a little bench. Eventually the trail descends and connects with the Mount Norman Trail in the National Park Reserve. If you don't mind walking on the road you can create a loop hike by continuing back to the William Walker trailhead.



William Walker Trail

William Walker Road Ocean Access

#43

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 90 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

William Walker Ocean Access trail has two short sections of steps ending with a short staircase to the beach on Plumper Sound. At low tide a 700 metre walk on the beach to the left towards Browning Harbour will connect to the staircase of the Canal Road Ocean Access trail #48.

Boundary Pass Drive Ocean Access

#44

Boundary Pass Drive, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 90 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

This is a short trail between two private properties that leads to a bench, and a staircase down to the beach. At low tide it is possible to walk out to a small rocky islet with tide pools. Saturna Island is just across the water, and Mt. Baker can be seen in the distance on a clear day.



Boundary Pass Ocean Access

Ancia Road Ocean Access #45

Conery Crescent, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 110 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

Ancia Road Ocean Access has a short, wide path leading to an extremely long staircase down to the beach. There is a bench halfway down the stairs, in case you need a rest! At low tide you can walk along the rocky shore to the other end of the bay. Saturna Island lies across the water.



Ancia Road Beach

Gowlland Point Ocean Access #46

Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 50 Metres

Parking: Lots of easy spots at trailhead

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

A platform with a bench directly next to the parking area provides a beautiful view of the San Juan Islands in the USA, and on a clear day, of Mt. Baker. A steep set of stairs leads down to a beautiful sand and pebble beach. If you walk to the right, towards the point of land with a navigation light, you soon will be able to access the CRD Brooks Point Regional Park by means of a staircase (in planning stages at time of writing).

Craddock Drive Ocean Access #47

Craddock Drive, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 30 Metres

Parking: Lots of spots at trailhead, side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

Craddock Drive Ocean Access begins with a long set of low rise steps that are often wet in the rainy season. You are let out on a large pebble beach with lots of driftwood. As you explore the shoreline you can admire Boundary Pass, and the US San Juan Islands and the many freight ships passing.



Craddock Road Beach

Canal Road Ocean Access #48

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 100 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: Yes

The trail starts with a walk through the woods, ending in a steep staircase to the beach on Plumper Sound overlooking Saturna Island. At low tide an approximately 700 metre walk on the beach to the right will connect you with the William Walker Ocean Access Trail #43 to Canal Road.

Stuart/Moresby View Trail #53

Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 330 Metres, 27 Metre Climb

Parking: 2 Gravelled spots at trailhead

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This trail meanders through a high canopy forest of Arbutus and Fir trees, eventually sloping down through dense Salal to an expansive view. Please respect the private lands on each side of the trail right-of-way.

A bench allows you to relax as you look Southwest over Swanson Channel towards Stuart and Moresby Islands. Some areas of the trail are steep, and there are some steps. See if you can spot the uncommon Yew trees as you make your way through the forest.



Stuart/Moresby Viewpoint

Bidgood Road Ocean Access #57

Gowlland Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard

Distance: 100 Metres, 50 Metre Climb

Parking: Side of road at either end of the roadside cement barriers

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

This trail is very steep, and takes you from the road down through a forested area with lots of steps. You will come out at a viewpoint with a bench, and can descend, with the help of the provided rope hand rail, to a beautiful little pebble beach. The parking is very minimal with only room for one car on the side of the road after the cement barrier.



Bidgood Beach

Craddock Drive/Gowlland Point Road Trail #58

Craddock Drive/Gowlland Point Road, South
Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 0.56 Km

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: None

Beach Access: No

At the Gowlland Point end the trail runs through a forest and thick Salal, with a great view of the ocean to the south. You will wind through more forest and emerge in a large field before exiting the trail onto Craddock Drive. Please respect the surrounding private properties. This trail makes a loop between the two roads, and is easy walking distance to the Craddock Drive Ocean Access #47.

Drummond Bay Ocean Access #64

Higgs Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 30 Metres

Parking: Multiple spots at entrance

Amenities: Viewing platform, Benches

Beach Access: Yes

Drummond Bay offers a large crescent shaped pebble beach with a huge collection of driftwood. The viewing platform at the entrance offers 2 benches, and is a beautiful place to enjoy the scenery.



Drummond Bay Beach

Ainslie Point Viewpoint #75

Ainslie Point Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 120 Metres start to finish using loop

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This loop trail is steep in places, and leads you through a forested area to a bench with a beautiful view of North Pender Island and Bedwell Harbour. Parking is on Ainslie Point Road in the large turnaround. Please do not park on or block private driveways.



Ainslie Point Viewpoint

Saturna View Trail #76

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 180 Metres start to finish using loop

Parking: Side of road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This densely forested loop trail descends from the road to a bench with a wonderful view of Plumper Sound. Razor point on North Pender Island is visible, as are Mayne and Saturna Islands.

Ellena Road Trail #77

Canal Road, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate

Distance: 210 Metres using loop

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

This loop trail is rough with roots and rocks in places, and takes you on a shady walk through the forest. A bench with a view of Plumper Sound and Saturna Island is at the halfway point.

Mirada Road Ocean Access #78

Boundary Pass Drive, South Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 80 Metres

Parking: Side of Road

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: Yes

This trail descends through a shady area filled with ferns, and then splits at the end. You can go right to steps leading to the rocky shore, or left to a bench with a view of Plumper Sound. This trail can be slippery and muddy in the wet season, so tread carefully.



Mirada Road Ocean Access

Conery Crescent Trail/Viewpoint #80

Conery Crescent/Boundary Pass Drive, South
Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy

Distance: 300 Metres

Parking: Multiple spots at trailhead

Amenities: Bench

Beach Access: No

The trailhead begins at the end of Conery Crescent where there is easy parking. A short distance down the trail you have the option of going left or right. To the right is a viewpoint with a bench overlooking Plumper Sound. To the left is a shady trail that will take you to Boundary Pass Drive, which allows you to walk a nice loop back on the road.

Parks Administered By Other Agencies

Beaumont Marine Park

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
Access by water or Mt. Norman Trail

Brooks Point Regional Park

CRD Nature Reserve
Access from Gowlland Point Road

Greenburn Lake

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
Access from Gowlland Point Road

Loretta's Wood

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
Access from Hooson Road

Medicine Beach

Islands Trust Fund Reserve
Access from Wallace Road

Mt. Norman

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Access from Ainslie Point Rd, Canal Rd (S)

Mt. Menzies Bluff

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Access from Hooson Road

Prior Park (camping)

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Access from Canal Road (N)

Roe Lake

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Access from South Otter Bay Road or Galleon Way (end of road)

Roesland

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve

Access from South Otter Bay Road

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Pender Islands Parks and
Recreation Commission
P.O. Box 86
Pender Island BC
V0N 2M0

PENDERPARKS@crd.bc.ca
www.crd.bc.ca/penderparks/