HIKING TRAILS

GIBSONS

GIBSONS SEAWALL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 20-30 min one way | Easy

Paved waterfront walkway with views of Gibsons Marina, Gibsons Harbour, Keats Island and North Shore mountains. Just steps away from shops and restaurants in Lower Gibsons.

ACCESS: There are access points along Marine Drive and Gower Point Road in Gibsons, including Armours Beach, Winegarden Park, and Gibsons Marina. There are also stairs down from Gibsons Landing at the bottom of School Road.

SOAMES HILL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 1 km one way | 40 mins | Moderate

Conquering "The Knob" can be done in a short 40 minutes, but remember to leave some time to enjoy water and a snack at the top. Here you can take in the stunning views of Gibsons Harbour, the coastal mountain range, Keats, Gambier, Bowen, and Vancouver Islands. Soames Hill Park covers 150 acres and boasts over 5 km (3 mi) of trails which vary in difficulty from moderate to strenuous through impressive second-growth forest. 434 steps and over 333 feet of railing.

ACCESS: 639 Bridgeman Rd. | From Hwy 101 and North Rd, Follow North Rd., turn right onto Reed Rd then left onto Chamberlin Rd. Pass Shirley Macey Park and enter the park at either Esperanza Rd. or Bridgeman Rd.

LANGDALE FALLS

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 1.5 km return | Moderate

The 12 metre (40 foot) Langdale Falls is part of the Sprockids Mountain Bike Park. About one km each way, the trail is quite steep in sections and will test your cardio. The final stretch to the falls has a climbing rope to give you that bit of extra stability over this precarious section.

ACCESS: Sprockids Park, 1235 Stewart Rd, Gibsons. From Langdale ferry terminal, head up Hwy 101 to the top of the bypass and turn right on Stewart Rd. Parking is on the right side and the trailhead is across the parking lot. Enter at the Sprockids Park sign.



MT ELPHINSTONE SUMMIT TRAIL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 12 km return | 5-8 hours | Strenuous

A good workout through the forest with beautiful views towards the Tetrahedron from the top, overlooking the Georgia Straight, Howe Sound, and Vancouver.

ACCESS: Sprockids Park, 1235 Stewart Rd, Gibsons. From Langdale ferry terminal, head up Hwy 101 to the top of the bypass and turn right on Stewart Rd. Parking is on the right side and the trailhead is across the parking lot, a short ways in, look for the Elphinstone Summit sign and trail. Continue along the trail and do not take the first two trails on the left (Pineapple Express and Lower Flume) but continue up the White Trail until you reach the Mt. Elphinstone Summit trail sign. From the Summit Trail sign, follow the YELLOW trail markers up the trail and do not go left on the To Dakota Ridge trail.

When you reach a logging road, continue right along it and look for the trail on the left side of the logging road. Continue up the trail until you reach the first lookout overlooking Gibsons and Howe Sound. The trail continues and brings you to the summit of Mt Elphinstone by a cell tower and helipad with phenomenal views.

ROBERTS CREEK

CLIFF GILKER PARK TRAILS

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 7 km of trails | 15 min to 2.5 hrs | Moderate

Trails are colour coded and easy to follow and all loop back to the parking lot. The park is a largely advanced second growth Douglas Fir forest. Roberts Creek and Clack Creek flow through this park. The trails cross them at various points on rustic wooden bridges and the waterfall is a highlight (especially in the winter time). Wheelchair accessible viewing platform.

ACCESS: Follow Hwy 101 west from Gibsons for 10 km or drive east on Hwy 101 from Sechelt. Adjacent to the Golf Club on the north side of Hwy. Watch for signage.

SECHELT

DAVIS BAY BEACH & MISSION POINT PARK

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 825m one way | Easy

Level, paved walkway along the beach. Pedestrian pier, washroom, sandy beach (at low tide); shade, trees, grassy area and picnic tables and gravel trails in Mission Point Park.

ACCESS: Adjacent to Hwy 101 between Bay Road and Whitaker Road, at the east end of Davis Bay Esplanade.

SECHELT WATERFRONT PROMENADE (Snickett Park)

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 30 min one way | Easy

This smooth, flat walk will take you from Rotary Friendship Wharf to Snickett Park with ocean views, benches, and picnic tables along the way. An ancient log (over 5,000 years old) is on display. View commemorative totem poles and a heritage graveyard on the Sechelt First Nations band land at the east end.

ACCESS: From Highway 101 in Sechelt, access the walkway from Shorncliffe, Ocean, Trail, Inlet, or Wharf Avenues.

BURNETT FALLS

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 10-15 min one way | Very Easy

A short walk with a bit of an incline that ends at a spectacular view of the waterfall.

ACCESS: 5396 Burnett Rd. From Sechelt, go north on Wharf Ave. At the 4-way stop, turn right onto East Porpoise Bay Rd. Take a right turn on Burnett Rd. and park at the end. Trailhead will be visible.

HIDDEN GROVES TRAIL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 3.5km trail network | Easy/Moderate

Hidden Groves, combined with the Sechelt Heritage Forest, have over 16 kilometres of hiking trails including two accessibility trails. The routes of the smooth and well marked trails thoughtfully weave through the 170 acres to allow everyone a private experience of this magical forest.

ACCESS: 7000 Sechelt Inlet Rd. From Sechelt go north on Wharf Ave. Turn right at the four-way stop onto E. Porpoise Bay/ Sechelt Inlet Rd. After 6km look for the Hidden Grove sign on the right hand side of the road.

FOOTBRIDGE OVER CHAPMAN CREEK

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 6 km one way | Easy

From the Sechelt airport, a pleasant 1.5km walk through the forest to a bridge over Chapman Creek. After crossing the bridge the trail connects with trails to the Davis Bay area or to Selma Park and on to Chapman Creek Falls (approx 4.5km).

ACCESS: From Hwy 101 take Field Rd. North to its end, turn left, and follow the gravel road to the airport. There is a parking area on the left and the trail starts there.

KINNIKINNICK PARK

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 480m loop | 30min| Easy

Tree aficionados will love this park as every trail winds through enormous towering trees, and even some old growth stumps left behind that are easily over 5 feet in diameter. A user-friendly loop starts in the southeast corner where you'll find a detailed trail map.

ACCESS: From Sechelt, travel west on Hwy 101 to Mason Road then turn right. In 3.4 kilometres then turn right onto Heritage Road. Turn right at Sandpiper Road and the trailhead is on the left.



HIKING TRAILS

HALFMOON BAY

SMUGGLER COVE TRAIL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 1.2 km one way | 40 min | Easy/Moderate

Enjoy the forested trail on a raised boardwalk to the secluded anchorage of Smuggler Cove where the main trail splits and winds through rocky outcroppings to many viewpoints of the anchorage, Welcome Pass, Thormanby Island, Texada Island and the Strait of Georgia.

ACCESS: 5172 Brooks Rd. Heading north on Highway 101, turn left onto Brooks Rd., 1 kilometre north of Halfmoon Bay. Follow signs to the end of Brooks Rd., 3.5 kilometres from the highway. Parking and outhouse at trail head.

BIG TREE RECREATION SITE

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 500m one way | 15 mins | Easy, Wheelchair Accessible forested trail

Home to what is believed to be the largest existing tree on the Sunshine Coast. The hike to the tree and picnic area is on a wide, smooth path that is very user-friendly for hikers, trail runners and bikers. The path wraps through old growth Douglas Fir and second growth—all the trees reach to breathtaking heights.

ACCESS: 9 kms north of Sechelt on Highway 101 and 400m before Trout Lake, turn right onto Halfmoon-Carlson Forest Service Rd (small rock quarry on right). (Turn-off is easy to miss. If you reach Trout Lake you've gone too far). Proceed 2.8kms on main logging road, ignore spurs to left & right. As soon as you pass the bridge, trailhead and parking area are immediately to your right. The road is an active forest service road. Please watch for traffic and be aware of soft or rough spots.

PHARE (WORMY) LAKE

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 3.5 km | Easy

Sections of new trail link with existing roads and trails to circumnavigate Phare (Wormy) Lake.

LOGGING ROAD ACCESS: A logging road beginning at the intersection of Mason Rd and Heritage Rd, W. Sechelt. Take right hand forks, watching for Phare (Wormy) Lake signs. There is a parking area about 3.75km from the start of the road. Note: 4x4 type vehicles recommended. This is a one lane active logging road. Drive with care and attention, expecting industrial vehicles and other traffic. Expect changing road conditions.

HOMESITE CREEK

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 9 km of trails | Moderate

Area features beautiful trails and scenic waterfalls, and connects with an extensive trail network. There are two main trails. The one on the right is about 2 kms long and takes you to the Homesite Waterfall. The trail to the left takes you down past the creek and can be taken all the way out to Brooks Rd. For an extra adventure check out Homesite Creek Caves across the highway from Homesite Creek Falls.

ACCESS: On Hwy. 101 north of Sechelt, approximately 3 kms from the north end of Redrooffs Rd. A small white sign on the left side of the highway marks the trailhead and small parking area. To access the Caves, take Homesite Creek Forest Road on the right side of the highway (heading north) to the parking area. Caves trail begins across the road from the parking area.

TRIANGLE LAKE

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 4km one way | Moderate

Steady incline up a very attractive trail with old growth Douglas Fir. Triangle Lake is a shallow lake with rare coastal bog ecology. From the north end of Triangle Lake, trails continue to Highway 101 at Trout Lake and connect with a number of mountain biking trails.

ACCESS: From Sechelt, go north on Highway 101, and follow the signs to Sargeant Bay Provincial Park. Turn left on Redrooffs Road. The trail starts near the yellow bollards on the upland side of Redrooffs across from the main entrance to Sargeant Bay Park. Walk this trail for 500 Metres until you meet the signed Triangle Lake trail leading off to the right.

Please consider:

- Local maps (apps) are highly recommended as many of the trails are in trail networks and not all signed
- In the case of windy weather, it is advised to stay out of the forest
- 4x4 vehicles are required/recommended for access to some of these trails
- Times given are rough estimates
- Many of these trails are multipurpose hiking, biking etc.
 Please respect and be aware of all trail users
- Although rarely seen, be alert for large wildlife. Consider carrying bear spray, air horn or whistle. Make noise while on the trails

PENDER HARBOUR

FRANCIS POINT PROVINCIAL PARK

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 2.3 km one way | 30 mins | Moderate

The trails wind along the rocky coastline and provide excellent views of Georgia Strait and Vancouver Island. From the parking lot, it's a very short distance along the trail to the beach. The trail then splits to the left and right. Take the right side for some rocky stairs up to a very nice viewpoint (about a 10min walk). Take the left side for a hike out to the lighthouse and enjoy the views or have a picnic. A fantastic hike for almost all skill and fitness levels. Take care on a wet day as the rocks are often smooth and can be quite slippery.

ACCESS: Approximately a 45 minute drive from Sechelt. Head north on Hwy 101 towards Pender Harbour. Turn left onto Francis Peninsula Rd and continue, keeping right at the Francis Peninsula Rd/Warnock Rd junction. Turn left on Merrill Road and continue to the park entrance.

PENDER HILL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 1.5 km one way | 30 min | Difficult (Steep)

This trail is all about the view from the top. Added attractions are the dry, rocky arbutus-dominated ecosystem with its typical shrubs, such as juniper. In April there is an excellent display of wildflowers. The top of the hill is an open, moss-covered expanse with Pender Harbour at your feet.

ACCESS: 4331 Coastview Dr. Follow Hwy 101 north from Sechelt. Turn left onto Garden Bay Rd. (at the Petro-Canada gas station) north of Madeira Park. Continue approx 4.5 km, then bear right onto Irvine's Landing Rd. Turn right onto Lee Rd. then right on Coastview Dr. Continue to the trailhead at the end of the road.

MOUNT DANIEL TRAIL

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 2 km one way | 40-60 min | **Difficult (Steep)**

This very steep trail is rewarded with an incomparable view of the geography of the Pender Harbour area. It's a bit of a grind uphill (rated difficult due to the steep grade of the trail) so be prepared to put your fitness to the test.

ACCESS: North of Pender Harbour turn left on Garden Bay Rd. at the Petro-Canada gas station. Follow the road for about 3.5 km, then park in the gravel pullout/dirt road on the left side just past Oyster Bay Rd. but before you reach Garden Bay Lake. From the parking area, follow the gravel road up just a ways (200 metres or so) where you will see the sign for the trail head.

EGMONT

SKOOKUMCHUCK NARROWS (Sechelt Rapids)

LENGTH & DIFFICULTY: 4 km one way | 1 hr to view point | **Moderate**

Whirlpools, strong currents and rapids form as water exits/enters Sechelt Inlet through the narrows. One hour walk on a wide trail sheltered by trees to rapids viewing points. Take North Point Trail to view ebb tides (whirlpools), or Roland Point Trail to view flood tides (standing waves that kayakers play on). This trail narrows for the last 10 minutes and gets a bit rooty under foot. Google "Skookumchuck Viewing Times" to find the best times to go.

ACCESS: 6474 Egmont Rd. An hour drive along Hwy 101 from Sechelt towards Earls Cove, turn right on Egmont Rd. (if you end up at Earls Cove Ferry Terminal, you have gone too far). Drive approx 15 min to Skookumchuck Provincial Park trailhead & parking.

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, MAPS & DIRECTIONS:

- Sunshine Coast Regional District Parks (SCRD.ca/Parks)
- Sunshine Coast Trails (Sunshine-Coast-Trails.com)
- AllTrails.com (hiking trails app)
- Trailforks.com (mountain bike app)
- SunshineCoastCanada.com/hike