

# Rugged Point Marine Park



## Rugged Point Marine Park

Photo: Surfrider Foundation - Vancouver Island Chapter

### About the Park and Area

Rugged Point Marine Park encompasses 162 hectares of upland and 187 hectares of foreshore, in a exposed coastal environment. The park and surrounding area has been used since time immemorial by the people of the Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations for Cultural, Social and Spiritual purposes. Parts of the park and surrounding areas are still used for gathering a rich abundance of foods and products to sustain peoples of the area. The park provides tent platforms, a picnic shelter, toilet and a short 750m trail and boardwalk leading to the outer beaches. Sheltered bays on the east side of the park are somewhat protected from dominant winds and are more suitable for anchoring small boats and camping. The outer beaches are enjoyed by hikers, kayakers and surfers.

The park protects habitat for important species including Marbled Murrelet, Sea Otters, Gray Whales and Northern Abalone, as well as numerous types of shorebirds and intertidal species. The park's towering forests include old growth Sitka Spruce and Douglas Fir trees with a thick, often un-penetrable understory of salal. Grey Wolves, Black Bears and Cougars all frequent the park's beaches, woodlands and trails; visitors must respect their presence to ensure these animals remain wild.

There are 11 special protected areas that are located in the Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations Territory, from Rugged Point Marine Park and Tahsish-Kwois Parks in the south to Muqin/Brooks Peninsula Park and Solander Island Ecological Reserve to the north. These very diverse high conservation value parks are extremely wild and remote. They among the best that Vancouver Island has to offer for west coast wilderness recreation.

### Services in the Area

Village of Kyuquot: ..... 15 km north (accommodation, store, medical/health center)

Fair Harbour: ..... 18 km east (fuel, store, boat launch)

### Travel Safety

Kyuquot Sound is a wilderness area, and not patrolled or serviced on a regular basis. Visitors must be entirely self-sufficient and be prepared to deal with all emergencies on their own. Marine weather and sea conditions can be very unforgiving and change at any time. Winds, fog and ocean swell can be challenging. Marine travel is often the safest during the morning hours, before winds pick-up. Please monitor VHF weather channels and consult tide charts for the local area, prior to departure.

### Emergency and Local Contacts

Police: 250 956 4441 ( Port McNeil RCMP - non-emergency )  
 Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations: 250 332 5259  
 Nearest Phone: Kyuquot  
 Nearest Medical Facility: Kyuquot Red Cross Health Center 250 332 5289  
 Report Forest Fires: 1 800 663 5555  
 Report All Poachers and Polluters: 1 877 952 7277 ( RAPP )  
 Coast Guard Radio (Marine Emergencies): VHF Radio / Channel 16

### What You Need to Know

A few reminders to ensure your visit is safe and respectful of park values:

- Practice "leave no trace" low impact camping and use toilets, food caches and tent pads where provided.
- Please stay on designated trails and open beach areas.
- Be respectful of First Nation Sites. Do not seek them out and if you encounter sites that appear to have archaeological significance do nothing to affect their well-being, Please respect their value to all peoples, leave them intact and move onwards.
- View all wildlife from safe distances and never feed or approach them. Store your food so as not to attract wildlife.
- Keep children in sight and close by. Please leave pets at home or at a minimum keep them on a leash at all times.
- Drinking water is scarce – make sure you bring enough and treat or disinfect any local sources used.

