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# BLUE DOG KAYAKING

## AN INSTRUCTIONAL EXPEDITION

### SOUTH BROOKS, THE BUNSBY'S AND KYUQUOT SOUND

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SEAMANSHIP & LEADERSHIP IN MULTI-DAY TOURING

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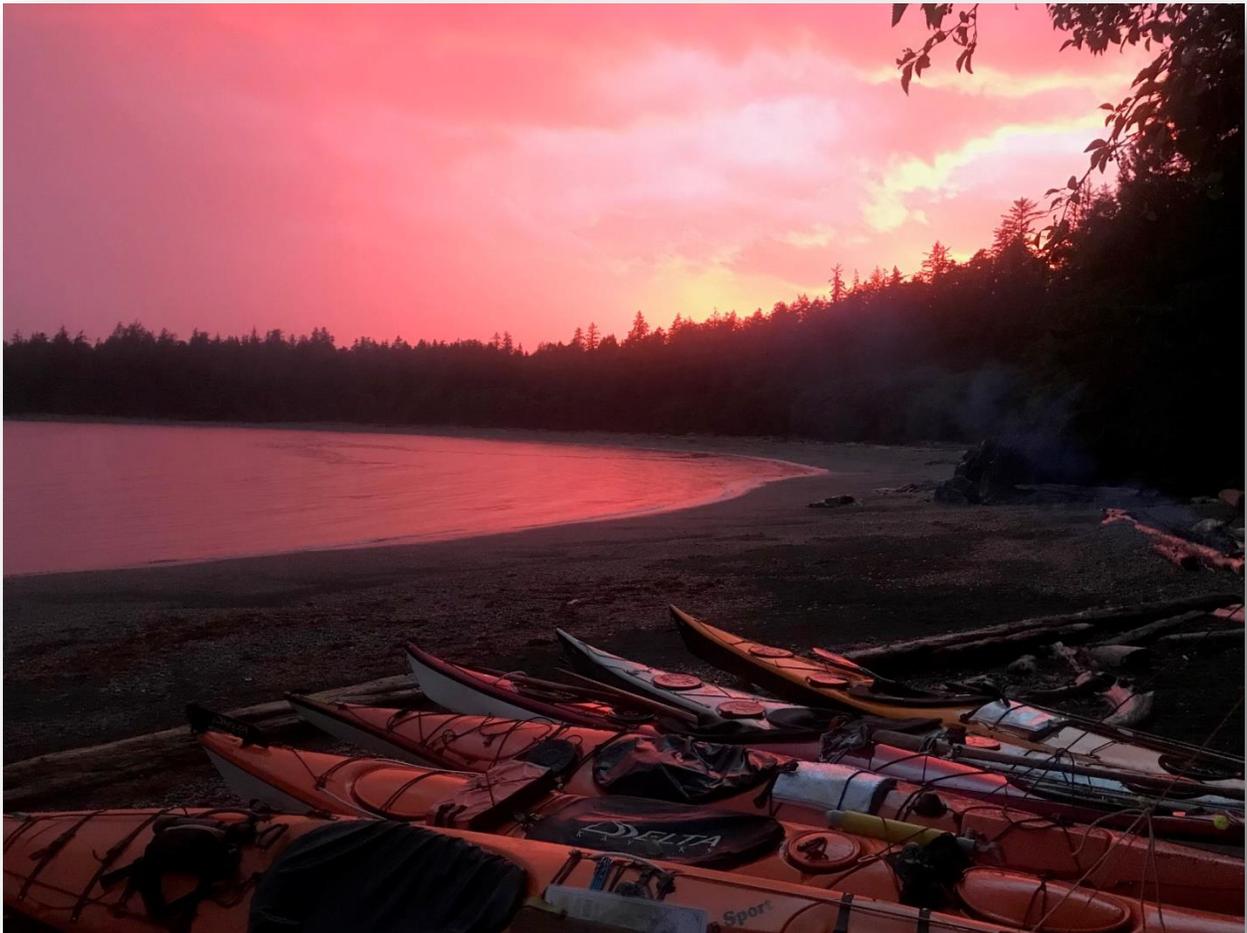
PRE EXPEDITION PACKAGE  
EXPECTATIONS & SCHEDULE

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## AN INTRODUCTION

This expedition will start with water taxi transportation from Fair Harbour to the South Coast of the Brooks Peninsula

We will paddle back visiting the magical Bunsby Islands where we will spend a few days allowing time to explore the area. We will then paddle to Spring Island in the Mission Group, another Island paradise with wonderful beaches, reefs and islets. Our final destination is Rugged Point Provincial Park which can boast some of the best beaches on Vancouver Island before paddling back to Fair Harbour



## EXPECTATIONS

This is not a recreational, guided tour - this program is empowering, challenging and above all fun; a personalized opportunity to focus on improving your strokes, navigation, weather & tide interpretation, leadership skills, rescues and camp life.

High on discovery learning, whether taking certification or not, the focus is on team work and developing good expedition behaviour. You can expect some long days so arrive with the fitness and energy to go full out for eight days with fun and vigour

Your leaders are highly skilled kayakers and incredibly committed instructors. They will observe your baseline abilities, provide feedback and make easily understandable suggestions for improvement. They give 120% and will inspire you to make the most of their expertise and this opportunity.

Prior to arrival, please identify to the leaders and/or group members any current severe allergies/medical conditions that may affect your participation or that might compromise or endanger the group by being unaware - please don't rely on a medical form - communicate. Manage your time and try to be organized and punctual. Show enthusiasm for learning and try to accurately assess your personal skill set as a sea kayaker.

Blue Dog Kayaking provides all the main meals for the expedition except lunches; food packing, preparation, cooking and clean up are the group's responsibility. You may find it helpful to work in pairs or write a rota.

## KAYAKS AND PACKING

This is a **non supported** expedition which means we carry all our own food, water and equipment. You will require a seaworthy sea kayak with perimeter lines and fixed bulkheads. Your kayak will need to be a minimum of 16' long in order to pack your fair share of gear and handle the sea conditions expected on the trip. We do not accept "recreational kayaks" on this trip for safety reasons. If you do not have such a kayak you can rent one from us. You should pack your kayak with your own personal gear before the trip to make sure it all fits into the front hatch as the back hatch will be required for expedition gear and food. **We suggest using smaller dry bags nothing larger than 13ltrs 5 and 10 litre bags are best you will not need a dry bag for your tent.**

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## CERTIFICATION

Blue Dog Kayaking offers Paddle Canada Level 2 skills certification on this program; this is an optional extra at no additional cost. Participants taking certification will have specific skills and outcomes to demonstrate while on the program. It is helpful if participants can communicate their desire to take certification prior to the program starting although this is not essential.

## CAMPING

This program includes multiple nights wilderness camping and one night at Fair Harbour campsite which we will book in advance; please note that participants are responsible for camping, parking and launching fees at Fair Harbour only as these fees are **NOT** included in the Expedition fee.

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# SCHEDULE

THIS EXPEDITION WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FIELD USING MULTIPLE CAMPSITES

The program will start the evening before we depart.

Fair Harbour campsite and dock is approximately 7 hours' drive from Victoria so we recommend that participants travel the day before, so we can catch the water taxi at 8am on the day the trip starts. Participants will need to provide their own meals the evening before and morning of the first day.

Our instructors deliver presentations on:

- Risk Management for the Recreational Paddler
- Kayak Navigation for dummies
- Weather forecasting & interpretation
- Tides & Currents

Providing all participants arrive by 7pm we will deliver a presentation on Risk Management for the Recreational Paddler that evening

## DAY BEFORE TRIP

- Travel to Fair Harbour campsite and dock (booking required)
- Instructor led presentation on Risk Management.

## DAY 1

- 08:00am - Water Taxi to South Brooks
- Set up camp and exploration

## DAY 2-7

- Unsupported expedition travel by kayak using multiple sites between South Brooks and Rugged Point. The exact sites and travel days will be determined by weather and sea state.

## FINAL DAY

- Paddle back to Fair Harbor

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# PRE - EXPEDITION ASSIGNMENTS

THESE ARE TOTALLY OPTIONAL UNLESS TAKING CERTIFICATION IN WHICH CASE THEY ARE MANDATORY

The following pre expedition assignments can be completed before or after the expedition. If you try to complete them prior to the expedition there will be an opportunity to 'fine tune' them together.



## THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE OF SEA OTTERS AS WE REACH SPRING ISLAND

1. Weather - in a log book provide in writing, 3 days of prior weather information and a forecast for our departure date. Identify areas on the chart where land/wind interaction might take place such as gap winds and clapotis
2. Develop a Camp Kitchen Plan - to include;
  - components of a safe, effective camp kitchen area
  - recipe for one evening meal including: nutritional values; quantities; ingredients; cooking method; fuel consumption; presentation; packing plan; waste disposal; dishwashing method
3. Navigation & Trip Planning Exercise

- complete the navigation and trip planning exercise provided

4. Heritage - Describe at least one renowned kayak expedition in the last 50 years

**OR**

Submit a list of 5 essential readings and resources for sea kayakers

**OR**

Use a variety of resources to identify 1-3 natural objects (flora, fauna, rocks, stars, etc.)

**OR**

Describe the seven Leave No Trace Principles and practices given as outlined in the Blue Dog Sea Kayaking Manual and work to integrate these principles and practices while on the expedition.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

Take a look at the study question - we will complete them during the expedition.



AN INCREDIBLE SUNSET ON OUR PADDLE BETWEEN TO SPRING ISLAND