

Kayak Destinations

Nootka Sound, Bligh Island Marine Park

West Coast of Vancouver Island, BC

Padding Notes

- Excellent camping at Charlies Beach
- Fairly sheltered paddling especially in the Spanish Pilot Group
- Caution: winds can create surf on the outer beaches
- Good area to develop skills beyond those required for Gulf Islands and Broken Group
- Area of historic interest where Indigenous and European cultures first intersected in the PNW
- A good trip description is available on [SKABC Newsletters Jan 2007](#)

Trip Basics

No. of Days	3 - 5 days or more
Paddle Distance	10 - 50 nm
SKGBC Water Class. Map (I-IV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Class II• Class III beyond Yuquot (Friendly Cove) and Burdwood Point
Recommended Launch Site:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cougar Creek Forest Recreation Campground: boat launch, overnight parking and camping for a fee• Alternately, Passage on UCHUK III with Kayaks from Gold River

Getting There

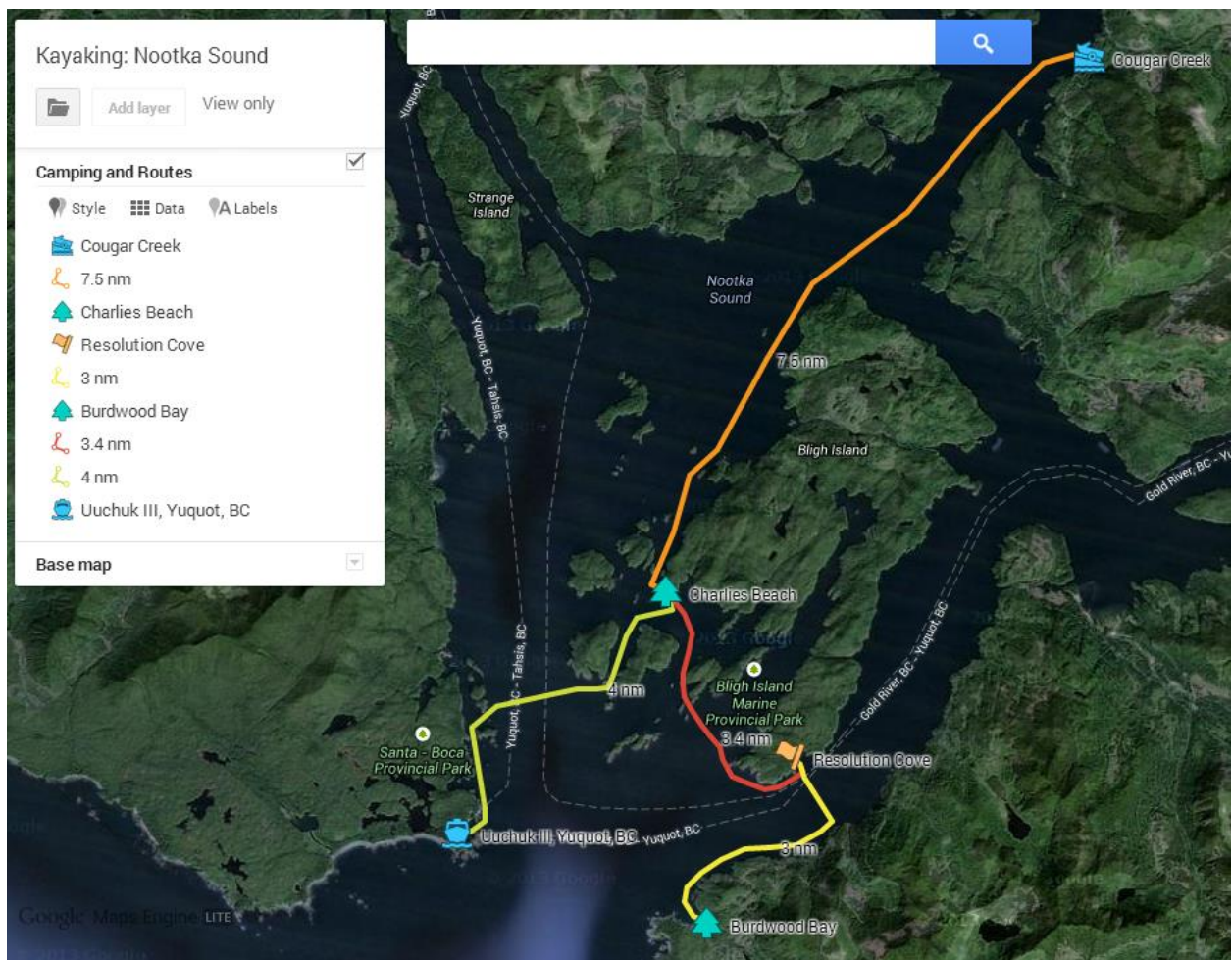
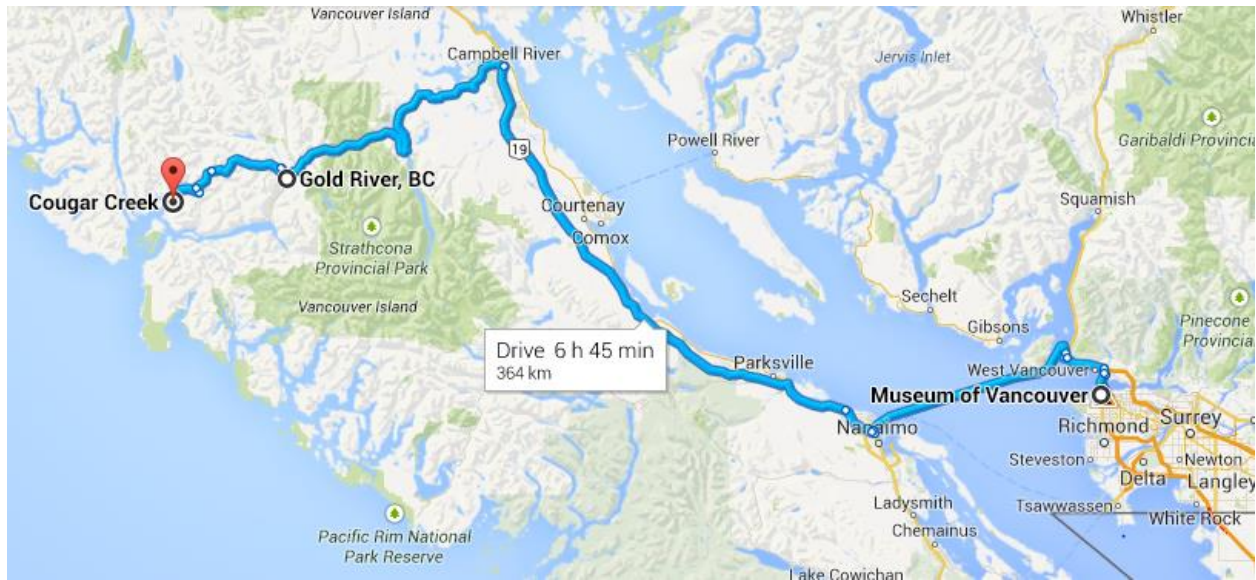
Driving Directions	Google Maps: Vancouver Museum–Gold River-Cougar Creek (also next page)	
Travel Distance - Total	364 km	6 h 45 min
- Ferry	58 km	2 h 11 min
- Gravel	43 Km	1 h
Ferry Info	Horseshoe Bay to Departure Bay	
Paddle to nearest campsite	Charlies Beach: See Map (next page)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7.5 nm to from Cougar Creek Launch• Outhouse• No fresh water	
Suggested Day Paddles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resolution Cove historic site• Beaches at Burdwood Bay• Yuquot (Friendly Cove) See Map (next page)	

Planning

Nautical Charts	3675 1:40,000 Nootka Sound
Marine Trail + Camping Info	BC Marine Trails Map
Trip Planning Maps	BC Coastal Recreation Kayaking and Small Boat Atlas Vol 2 pp. 30-31
Suggested Guide Books	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Wild Coast Volume 1 by John Kimantas pp. 207-224. (in the library)• Sea kayak Nootka and Kyoquot Sounds by Heather Harbord (in the library)
Tide Station	Saavedra Island
Marine Weather	VHF radio West Coast Vancouver Island South report
Water Taxi	Tahtsa Dive Charters and kayak rentals 1-866-934-6365

NOTE: All information must be confirmed by kayakers before departing, and is provided without warrantee

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