Note persons contemplating a visit to Naikoon Provincial Park are reminded that it is a wilderness area with limited resources. Your safety is your responsibility.

Be prepared for emergency situations. Carry what you will need to rescue yourself and your vehicle should it become stuck on the beach.

Avoid travelling on the sand dunes as disturbance can lead to loss of plant life, erosion, exposure and damage to cultural sites. Tire tracks and repeated foot traffic through the sand dunes cause extensive environmental damage.

Vehicle/ATV use within Naikoon is limited to between the high and low tide lines of North and East Beaches; ATV use on interior trails and sand dune areas is not allowed.
Welcome to the Tong Hill Community

www.towhillroad.ca

1 Tow Hill (TaaW)

Tow Hill consists of faceted columnar-jointed basalt columns, a volcanic plug formation that is one of the most distinctive features of North Beach. At an elevation of 125m, Tow Hill has two interpretive boardwalks; one that leads out to the "Blow Hole" and another that winds its way up the hill to two viewing platforms. The views of Agate beach and Yakan Point/North beach are spectacular from these platforms. Taaw (Tow Hill) is important to the Haida people and several legends of significance are attributed to Taaw.

Tow Hill Loop Trail: This trail starts at the Tow Hill day use parking lot and follows the west bank of the Hiellen River. A sign at the junction will guide you up the boardwalk for the 15 minute hike to two viewing platforms. One platform provides a spectacular view of South Beach, Yakan Point and the interior bogs. Please take care to stay on the boardwalk - there are several hidden cliffs and dangers in this area. Halfway along this trail you will come to a junction directing you to the Blow Hole, which is at the base of Tow Hill - another 15 minutes and you’re on the rocky shoreline. The Blow Hole is best viewed at mid-tide - watch out for slippery footing. Total loop distance is approximately 2 km.

2 Hiellen Campground / Reserve

Hiellen Reserve is a 70.5 acre area owned by the Massett band, and was the site of several important Haida villages. This location continues to be a very important food gathering place for the Haida; razor clams digging, cranking and fishing are done here. Permission was obtained to build a clam cannery here in 1923 and it ran seasonally until 1930 - you can see the remains of the boiler close the river near the beach access. There are camping sites, pit toilets and parking available.

3 Rose Spit

The sand bars of Rose Spit extend outward 14 km from this point and are a dicey proposition for any ship to cross. Ever changing, Rose Spit is being formed by southeast gales eroding the east beach coastline and driving the sand northwards, where the turbulent waters of Dixon Entrance and the Hecate Strait meet. Rose Spit is an area of high importance to the Haida people, and is known as NAIKUN "the long nose of Nai" - one of the Haida creation stories involves Raven finding a cockle shell on the beach, and coaxing the humans out.

Alternatively, you can try the Cape Fife Loop - A two/three day wilderness hike through coastal forest, bogs and along sandy beaches to Rose Spit. Hike Cape Fife trail to East Beach shelter - then turn northwards along the beach to Rose Spit. Follow North Beach back to Tow Hill day use area. Approximately 35km return trip.

4 Cape Fife Trail

The Cape Fife trail starts just past the Tow Hill day use parking lot and the Hiellen River. Signs will guide you to the trail head. The trail crosses the Argonaut Plain and spectacular bog environments. Some portions of the trail are boardwalk. 10km one way (4 hours approximate). The Cape Fife shelter is located at the end of the trail on East Beach.

North Beach

Wide open sandy, pebbled beaches spilling over with driftwood along the northern coastline of Graham Island. It is easy to access by foot or car which is a big reason why this beach attracts people to the area for beach combing, hiking, surfing, fishing, clam digging, ATVing and relaxing. The beaches offers up some of the best ocean views, waterfront experiences and peaceful moments available while visiting on Haida Gwaii. North Beach is mainly hard packed wet sand at low tide when the ocean waters retreat exposing miles of beach for all to see and play in. During the winter, both beaches become storm watching destinations - Nature's power on display with huge waves and howling winds smashing the coastline. It is always wise to pack good rain gear on an outdoor storm watching adventure or any adventure for that matter! Layer your clothing, bring a hat and gloves if brave enough to venture outdoors in a west coast storm. Some stay in a vehicle and watch the storms from the car, Agate Beach is good for that. A good description of the North Beach area:

"Nellie Hammond knew nothing about cooking, but being very much in love and realizing that her husband wanted to try pioneering at Tow Hill she agreed [to join him.] 'Never will I forget that ride out along that beach. The majesty of those big trees and the dragonflies over the river - it was a sight to behold.'"

- from The Queen Charlotte Islands, Volume 1 1774-1966 by Kathleen Dalzell

Accommodation

Alaska View Lodge • 250-626-3333
All The Beach You Can Eat • 804-313-6192
The Beach House B&B • 250-626-6040
Hidden Island Guest house • 250-626-5286
Highwater House • 250-559-8133
Kelp Beds • 250-626-3895

Rapid Ritchie’s Beach Cabins • 250-626-5472
North Beach Cabins • 250-557-2415
New Moon Over Naikoon Cabins • 250-626-7737
Limberlost Lodge • 250-626-3371
All The Beach You Can Eat • 250-626-3333
Highwater House • 250-559-8133
Kelp Beds • 250-626-3895
Rapid Ritchie’s Beach Cabins • 250-626-5472
Windsong Cottage Rentals • 250-626-3625

Emergency Services

Police • 250-626-3991
Ambulance • 1-888-461-9911
Masset Fire Department • 250-626-5511
Masset Health Clinic • 250-626-4702
Coast Guard • 1-800-567-5111