THIS IS HAIDA GWAI'I
KAATS’II HLA • TADSWII’

SUMMER
2018

PEOPLE | CULTURE | PLACES
YOUR HAIDA GWAI’I TRIP PLANNER
GOHAIDAGWAI’I.CA | HAIDANATION.CA
The name of this publication, This is Haida Gwaii, is bracketed by two phrases – tadswii’, which is in the Hl Gaagilda Xaayda Kil Haida southern dialect, and kaats’ii hla, in the Gaw Xaad Kil Haida northern dialect. Both phrases are a response to a knock on the door – come on in! The phrases acknowledge a guest’s presence, and welcome them into the house, and that’s what this publication is – an acknowledgment and welcome to you into our home.
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TADSWII' • KAATS'II HLA

THIS IS HAIDA GWAII
The people of Haida Gwaii have welcomed and shared these Islands with visitors who come here with yahguudang respect for millenia. Yahguudang is a Haida teaching that influences all life and interactions, and guides us as we strive to achieve till yah daa balance in our lives and with the place we inhabit.

The name of this publication, This is Haida Gwaii, is bracketed by two phrases – tadswii’, which is in the HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil Haida southern dialect, and, kaats’ii hla, in the Gaw Xaad Kil Haida northern dialect. Both phrases are a response to a knock on the door – come on in! The phrases acknowledge a guest’s presence, and welcome them into the house, and that’s what this publication is – an acknowledgment and welcome to you into our home.

These Islands are home to the Haida Nation and many other people – those born and raised here, those arriving for a holiday and staying a lifetime, and those who come with intention. This diversity has produced a rich culture with a history that includes an innovative Islands’ system of governance and a track record of working together for the betterment of those who call this place home.

When coming into our house, you are showing yahguudang when you abide by the laws of the land. One law is to take only what you can use – and, as a guest we ask that you show yahguudang as you experience our unique way of life. By upholding yahguudang, you are honouring this place, the people of Haida Gwaii, and yourself.

Welcome to our home! Tadswii’! Kaats’ii Hla! Come in, sit down and be humble.

I hope you enjoy your stay.

kil tlaats ‘gaa Peter Lantin
President of the Haida Nation

A NOTE ON HAIDA LANGUAGE USE: In this publication, the geographic location of the story determines which dialect is used. For the stories located north of Gamadiis Port Clements we use Gaw Xaad kil and for those south of Gamadiis we use HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil.
A CLASSROOM LIKE NO OTHER
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p: 250-626-3995 f: 250-626-3968
e-mail: vom@mhtv.ca
MassetBC.com

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www.sandspitin.com

This 20-room facility with restaurant and bar is open year round. The Sandspit Inn, a major employer in the community, provides a community gathering space, and plays a key role in the local economy.

SANDSPIT BUS
Contact us at sandspitbus@gmail.com

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SANDSPIT VISITOR CENTRE
Located inside the Airport terminal
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visitsandspit@gmail.com

Our visitor center and gift-shop sells souvenirs, Haida art, books, and artwork from local artisans. The center is part of the provincial visitor center network.

The Sandspit Community Society is an incorporated not-for-profit society that operates for the benefit of the community of Sandspit. The Society is run by a volunteer board of residents who wish to sustain the economic and social well being of our community by sustaining local businesses and social projects.

The Society also administers the volunteer recreation committee which organizes a variety of youth and adult activities year-round, as well as two major annual community events: The Wild Harvest Festival, and Loggers’ Sports Day; also coordinated by dedicated groups of volunteers.

The Sandspit Community Society
PO Box 459
Sandspit, BC
V0T1T0
sandspitcommunitysociety@gmail.com
In addition to items such as groceries, treats, coffee and slushies, you’ll find a growing line of local products including baking (bread & other baked goods), fresh produce, eggs and even cookie dough. Causeway Convenience also provides a selection of health food including organic, vegan and gluten-free products.

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Sword Fern Inn (formerly Dorothy & Mike’s) is a reflection of the independent spirit of the people who choose to make the islands “at the edge of the world” home. Each room, each suite is unique, with its own special ambiance and amenities. swordferninn.com

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Sun Studio is dedicated to yoga instruction as well as promoting arts and culture within the community of Queen Charlotte.

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**CHATEAU NORM**

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- Supporting and showcasing locally produced art

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- Catering and private rentals on request
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The Ocean View Restaurant, Pub and Grill bursts with a stunning harbour view while our team create great meals with fresh ingredients. The pub has been locally owned and operated for over 30 years and you will find something fun to do here every night we are open. Come and experience our brand of Haida Gwaii hospitality! Also available at 250-559-8008

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- The Gwaii Land Tour Company
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- Delicious Salmon Lunch

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- Woodturning by Mike Kolankowski
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- Aromatic. Fresh. Inviting.
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- www.jagsbeanstalk.com

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- Clean, comfortable private rooms
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- Large selection of brand name items
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Q.C. Liquidation’s ever-changing inventory includes electronics, toys, housewares, furniture, tools, automotive supplies, appliances, linens, clothing, office supplies and more. All of Q.C. Liquidation’s inventory comes from trusted, recognized manufacturers and even designer brands. New inventory arrives daily, so check back often for unbeatable deals that are better than off-island prices.

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HAIDA STYLE Expeditions
haidastyle.com 250-637-1151 Haida Gwaii, BC

HAIDA STYLE
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A LOCAL HISTORY MOMENT: CRYSTAL CABIN

HAIDA GWAI'I'S SOURCE FOR JEWELRY, CRYSTALS, AND HAIDA ART FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS.

1946
Dutes Dutheil, founder of Crystal Cabin, was born in Versailles, France.

1964
A self-taught goldsmith jeweler, Dutes won his first jewelry-making contest at age 18 in Ontario (pictured right).

1970
Dutes arrived in Haida Gwaii in 1970 and lived on North Beach and then at Langara Island. Later, he moved to Tiell where he bought a rugged piece of land and transformed it into Crystal Cabin.

1980s
Crystal Cabin has its beginnings by selling handmade jewelry and crystals at music festivals across British Columbia.

1998
Crystal Cabin expands into a new space; a larger and brighter gallery, still off the beaten path.

2002
Dutes creates the Tiell Stone Circle, which tells the story of Haida Gwaii’s geological past using local specimens from 62-200 million years ago.

TODAY
Crystal Cabin continues to bring together islanders and visitors to share and be inspired by the beauty and energy of these islands.

VISIT US IN TIELL, HAIDA GWAI'I | 1-250-557-4383
SHOP OUR COLLECTION ONLINE AT CRYSTALCABINGALLERY.COM
WHY WE LOVE HAIDA GWAI'I

MYLES EDGARS

Gaw Old Massett

I love everything about Haida Gwaii. Everything is there for you. The deer meat, the seafood...I was born here. It's a beautiful place.

DUTES DUTHEIL

Tll.aal Tlell

The people. Haida Gwaii is so giving and the people have been so kind to me. Haida Gwaii is my real home.

RAVEN ANN POTSCHKA & ANDRE JOHNSTONE, TYLER SIMONE & PHOENIX JACK

Gaw Masset

We believe this is a safe and supportive place to raise our kids. We feel blessed to be able to express our gifts and pursue our dreams. We are constantly nourished by Haida Gwaii. Xaayda Gwaay iitl' kuuyaadang!
CELEBRATING THE BIG DAY

MARRIED TO HAIDA GWAII

Edmonton couple, Jay and Tina Ooishi, knew they didn’t want an elaborate, expensive wedding. For one thing, Tina comes from a big Ukrainian family and an Edmonton wedding would mean inviting hundreds of relatives, to the point where the guest list could overwhelm the day.

In the summer of 2013, about three weeks before they were set to leave for a vacation to Haida Gwaii, Jay had an inspiration: why not have the wedding while they were here? “It was very spontaneous,” recalls Jay, with a laugh. “We had always wanted to go to Haida Gwaii and all of a sudden I was like - why don’t we go to Haida Gwaii and get married?”

Tina was immediately onboard, especially when she found out that author Susan Musgrave is one of the Islands’ two marriage commissioners. They bought rings and new outfits in Edmonton, and told no one but their two best friends about the plan. Then they packed their two dogs and camping gear into their four-runner, posted a sign on the back that said “Elope or Bust – Edmonton to Haida Gwaii” and set off.

That sign sparked many unexpected conversations along the way, including one with a crew member on the Northern Adventure who bought them breakfast as they set sail from Kxeen Prince Rupert and announced the upcoming nuptials on the ferry’s loudspeaker. “People would stop and say, oh wow, you’re eloping! They’d share stories about their weddings and even give us gifts, it was so unexpected,” says Tina.

The couple spent the first week of September here and lucked out with the weather. They spent their first few days in Tlłaal Tlell, camping at Misty Meadows and meeting up with Jason Shafto of Full Moon Photo for an afternoon photo session. The couple had decided that a leisurely, pre-wedding photo shoot made more sense than hiring a photographer for the actual ceremony, and had booked Shafto before they arrived.

One task they left to chance was finding a few guests to share their day. They knew the marriage commissioner would bring witnesses, and the magic of Haida Gwaii provided the rest. During their first few days, they befriended a honeymooning couple from Smithers and an older couple from England at the visitor centre in Da-
visiting brides looking for a last-minute cake to add a special detail to their day – and she's happy to oblige. “It depends how busy I am, but a wedding cake will always take precedence,” she says. Beach-themed wedding cakes are definitely the most popular, she said, complete with waves, sand, sea creatures like starfish, and even little beach chairs.

The top two spots for wedding ceremonies are almost certainly the Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay, which offers a dramatic interior space in the Gina Guu Aahljuu Naay Performance House, and Tllgaay Gaauu North Beach area where the wide-open shoreline and billowing waves form a spectacular background, even in stormy weather.

At Rapid Richie’s Rustic Rentals on Tllgaay Gaauu North Beach, Toni Smith says she’s seen plenty of beach weddings over the years and is often conscripted to act as a witness. She’s seen brides and grooms wearing everything from high heels to gumboots, and has even picked flowers from her garden for improvised bouquets. “This is a great place to elope,” she says. “It’s also a great place for a honeymoon.”

Author and poet, Susan Musgrave, became a marriage commissioner six years ago. “I applied as a joke,” she says. “One of my students sent me the ad and the link. I read the form and thought, oh, I could have some fun with this.” On her application, she said she would make a good commissioner.
jing Giids Queen Charlotte – all were thrilled to be invited.

Jay and Tina had booked two nights at a cabin on Gaatsguusd North Beach and headed up there the day before the wedding. “We were set on having the ceremony by the ocean,” says Tina. “The beach cabins totally appealed to us – we love the off-grid idea.”

The day of the wedding, September 6, dawned bright and sunny. Jay built a simple staging area at the beach and decorated it with white and blue paper lanterns they had brought from Edmonton. Tina found some flowers at the Co-op in Gaw Masset and made a simple bouquet. At 4 pm, they gathered near the ocean with their dogs, witnesses, the marriage commissioner, and a few other witnesses. It was everything they had hoped for. “It was a perfect day,” says Tina. The warmth and generosity of the impromptu guests made a profound impression on the couple. “Susan brought cake and sourdough bread, some people brought crab, other people brought out all kinds of food to make a feast – completely unasked,” Jay says. “It was absolutely wonderful and amazing.”

Photographer, Jason Shafto, says he is seeing more and more people coming to the Islands to get married. “In a lot of cases, they’re not exactly eloping but they want a deeply personal experience,” he says. “They tend to be fun, adventurous, energetic people. I know wedding photographers in the city and they say their clients can be super high maintenance. People who get married here are pretty playful and easy-going.”

Baker, Sheila Gordon, of Sheila’s Sugar Shack agrees. Based in Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte, she’s made cakes for weddings of all sizes – everything from five-tiered confections smothered in buttercream roses to tiny cakelets with delicate fondant details. Most customers book well ahead, but she has received quite a few calls from

EVERYBODY IS REALLY HAPPY AND IN LOVE... IT'S A VERY HONEST DAY FOR PEOPLE. YOU CAN'T BULLSHIT. IT'S A DAY OF HUGE HONESTY AND I LOVE HONESTY.

- AUTHOR AND POET, SUSAN MUSGRAVE
er because she’d been married three times, and used her first and second husbands as references. But the experience has proved more meaningful than she expected.

"It's really made me much less cynical about marriage," she says. "Everybody is really happy and in love… It's a very honest day for people. You can't bullshit. It's a day of huge honesty and I love honesty."

Musgrave has become adept at calming nerves, finding humour in small slip-ups (a couple of brides have said "awfully-wedded husband" instead of "lawfully-wedded"), and winging it when the unexpected happens, as it tends to do on Haida Gwaii. "Once, we were holding the ceremony in this clearing on the White Creek trail," she says. "A raven started croaking from up in a tree. I told them it was a really good luck, but I was really thinking about the So-pranos, where a raven croaking means someone is about to die."

When wind and rain threatened to ruin one couple's plans to renew their vows on the beach, Susan brought the beach inside, completely transforming a room in her house with moonsnail shells, sand, and candles. She's flagged down campers to act as witnesses, picked banana slugs out of the bridal path, and baked bread for a wedding gift.

"Everybody who gets married here, there's a story," she says. "I've even had people who I married end up moving here."

That's exactly what happened to Jay and Tina. Back home in Edmonton, they couldn't stop thinking about their week on Haida Gwaii. "It was so hard to leave the Islands," says Tina. "It felt like we didn't have enough time here."

Within two years, they had quit their high-stress city jobs, packed up all their possessions, and headed west along with their dogs. Today, they all live happily in Gamadiis Port Clements.

"There's a feel to Haida Gwaii that really resonated with us," says Jay. "We loved how wild it was, but it's really the people. The people here are absolutely amazing."
FOLLOW THE RIVER, WALK THE TRAIL
If you're looking for a hike that is challenging but won't take all day, that immerses you in stands of towering cedar and hemlock trees, and that might even offer a few leaping salmon, look no further than the Louise Dover trail. This moderately-demanding, two-hour hike through lush, old-growth forests also offers a detour to a spectacular waterfall. Perhaps due to its location on Moresby Island, this trail does not attract nearly as many hikers as some of the trails on Graham Island, making for a more secluded hiking experience.

Volunteers from K‘il Llnagaay Sandspit built the trail and dedicated it to Louise Dover (1912-1986), a Haida woman who was highly respected by all who knew her. It is located within the Damaxyaa Protected Area, an 824-hectare area in the northern part of Moresby Island formally protected by both the Haida Nation as a Haida Heritage Site and the Province of BC as a conservancy. The Haida Nation and the province work together in managing this area, along with 12 other protected areas on Haida Gwaii, including Gwaii Haanas and Nee Kun.

Archaeological evidence shows kuuniisii ancestors occupied Damaxyaa for at least 10,000 years. Haida oral history, however, indicates kuuniisii lived in the area since the time of the late glacial maximum 20,000 years ago. Damaxyaa’s forests are crowded with the marks kuuniisii left behind, such as bark stripped trees and test holes.

The trail starts on the west side of the Daamaxyah Gandlaay Haans Creek, about 10 kilometres east of the ferry landing and close to the marina, just outside the community of K‘il Llnagaay. There is no "official" parking area, but hikers can leave vehicles in the wide paved shoulder near the bridge. A sign marking the trailhead is visible on the forested side of the highway, and the trail is well marked with blue flagging tape and new trail markers.

The first section follows Daamaxyah Gandlaay through lush stands of ferns. In the fall, watch for pink, coho and chum salmon runs in the creek. In the spring, visitors may see Dolly varden and Steelhead. After about five minutes of easy walking, the trail crosses the creek by way of a large spruce log that acts as a bridge. On the other side, the trail starts to ascend and follows a loop. If you turn right and travel counter-clockwise, you’ll complete the most difficult portion first and leave the easier hiking for the end. This section of the trail can be wet, muddy and slippery at almost any time of year, and some parts are steep. Hiking boots are a must.

Near the halfway point watch for a small marker indicating the 400-metre detour to the waterfall. Be warned: the detour can be slippery and is steeper than the rest of the trail, but the waterfall is lovely. It’s recommended if you’re prepared to do some clambering. After the detour, continue following the blue flagging tape or trail markers as the trail gradually descends back to Daamaxyah Gandlaay. The loop meets up with the start of the trail near the spruce log bridge. From there, simply retrace the path back to the highway.
A full red moon was rising up out of Siigee Hecate Strait when Tiffany Scholey and Genevieve Gay steered their fat tire bikes across the hard-packed sand of GaahlsGagas East Beach. It was the middle of the night, and they were in the middle of nowhere – far from any roads, homes or cell service. As the moon rose, it illuminated the ocean and the receding tide, exposing scattered rocks and a family of raccoons scrounging for treats near the tideline. As the two women biked through the night with the wind at their backs, their dogs running alongside them, Tiffany was awestruck by the stark, moonlit landscape of cliffs, trees, and sand.

The two friends were in the middle of a four-day expedition that saw them ride fat tire bikes along the 80-kilometre stretch of GaahlsGagas from Tll.aal Tlell to Sk’aw Gandalaas Cape Fife, and then to Taaw Tow Hill. Completely uninhabited and located entirely within the Nee Kun Naikoon Protected Area, GaahlsGagas is tackled by a few hikers every year. When Scholey and Gay, who live in Gaw Masset and along Tow Hill Road, heard that their local bike shop, Masset Bikes, had a couple of brand new fat tire bikes available for rent, they decided to try the route.

They packed their gear – a tiny tent, two sleeping bags, a couple of litres of water, a small stove, a GPS and four days of rations – in dry bags and set off from the Tll.aal Gandlaay Tlell River bridge at low tide, biking along the muddy river bank. Their dogs, Pepper and Reggie, were also kitted out with dry bags full of provisions. As they reached the Pesuta shipwreck, the mud transformed into sand and after an hour and a half of easy biking they reached the mouth of the Kwiid Gandlee Mayer River, the first of three river crossings along the route. For Scholey, this was the only slightly scary moment of the entire trip. As she crossed the river with her bike, the water rose up to her thighs and the surging current almost knocked her off her feet. Gay jumped back in and pulled her to the other side. From there, they rode four kilometres to the...
public-use cabin at GaahlIns Kun Cape Ball, where the tide dictated that they stop for the night. Curled up around a campfire, they dried their clothes and enjoyed a warm dinner.

The second day saw them bike 40 kilometres from GaahlIns Kun to Xuuya Gandla Oeanda River, crossing Maag Gandlaay Cape Ball River with no problems. This section of Gaahlls-Gagas is marked by high cliffs that are impossible to pass at high tide, and they took a break part-way through to wait for the water to recede. At 10 pm, they put on their headlamps and puffy jackets and started biking north again, just as the full moon rose.

After hours of night biking, they camped in the dunes near Xuuya Gandla, which they crossed in the morning with the help of a large log that had conveniently washed up across a narrow section. After two days of sunshine, the third day brought rain and storm-force winds, but they had rain gear and the wind was at their backs, so strong that they didn’t even need to peddle for most of the day. After overnighting near Sk’aw Gandalaa, they awoke to find the wind was still blowing, so they decided to cut inland and take the Sk’aw Gandalaa trail to Taaw, instead of biking around Nee Kun Rose Spit, where they would be fighting the wind. The Sk’aw Gandalaa trail, however, is not designed for bikes and they found themselves wading through mud and swamps. "We couldn’t help but laugh at the ridiculousness of it all," Scholey said. "At one point, we waded through a swamp that was over waist deep and floated our bikes." Six hours later, covered in bruises, they arrived at Taaw, where Scholey’s husband picked them up. After a quick change, they headed to a restaurant for a celebratory dinner.

“We were so tired and bruised,” Scholey laughed. “We decided we had to go to Charter’s. It was such a contrast to go from dirt bagging it to going fine dining.” It was the perfect end to an epic adventure.
Maryanne Wettlaufer's Gaw Masset studio is filled with light and colour. Large canvases saturated with exuberant shades of blue and green are hanging from the rafters, leaning against the walls, and lining the hallway. These latest oil paintings form a series she calls Haida Gwaii – A Painted Journey, inspired by her adventures on the land and ocean here.

For Wettlaufer, art and adventuring are inseparable. Born and raised in Stratford, Ontario (which she describes as a small community with a stimulating mix of theatre and farm folk), she graduated from the Ontario College of Art and then moved to Vancouver, where she worked as an art director for outdoor apparel company StormTech. She spent her weekdays in the office and her weekends out in the back country with her truck, kayak and sketchbook. Eventually, she realized she needed to spend more time painting and adventuring and less time in an office, and decided to move to a place where this would be possible.

After a stint in Inuvik, she landed on Haida Gwaii in 2006 and immediately embraced the islands' art community and natural beauty.

Haida Gwaii has a turbulent energy she finds invigorating. "It's a big place, and it demands big art," she said. "Here, nature is always reaching out and touching you."

When she's not painting, Wettlaufer works as a paramedic and volunteers with the Canadian Rangers. She takes advantage of every opportunity to get out on the land, hiking and camping with others, and her expeditions to places like Nee Kun Rose Spit, K'aa K'aana Gwaay.yaay Battle Island, and SGang Gwaay have all been turned into paintings.

Wettlaufer's original artworks and prints are available at The Ground Gallery and Coffeehouse in Gaw, the Chown River Gallery on Tow Hill Road and Gin Kuyaas Haida Art Studio in Gaw Old Massett. This summer, she will be featured as an artist of the week at the Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay in HLGaagilda Skidegate. She welcomes visitors to her studio by appointment – contact her through her website at maryannewettlaufer.com, or call/text her at 250-626-7555.
These islands are remote and that’s part of the appeal for artists who make their home here. The natural beauty of this place inspires all kinds of art – from traditional and contemporary Haida designs in carving, weaving and drawing to postmodern quilting, painting and pottery.

Unlike other studio tours concentrated over a week or weekend, Art Route runs year-round. Because of this extended commitment, some artists prefer visitors to call ahead while others maintain regular hours during the entire season. Please don’t be shy about contacting artists or visiting homes and studios during posted hours, phoning or emailing for appointments.

The economy of the Islands is changing. There is now less emphasis on resource extraction and more attention paid to locally driven solutions. The arts play a large role in this economic shift and by putting visitors in contact with artists, the Art Route contributes to the livelihoods of artists and business owners. Welcome to these shining islands and enjoy the Art Route.
Haida gwaii Trip Planner
For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
When you've reached the edge of your world, ours begins.

Haida Gwaii is a treasure. The wild beauty of Haida Gwaii strikes a deep impression on visitors and residents alike. Come here with curiosity and respect – you will always be welcomed back to the edge of the world.

We hope this guide will make planning your trip easy. One way to think of Haida Gwaii, is as a village of 4,500, hardy, unique characters who live in seven 'neighbourhoods' spread up and down the Islands. The ocean and the forest are our larder, the ferries are our connection to the mainland, and the ferry lineup is one of our gathering points where we socialize and politic – with coffee cup in hand.

For a trip to remember, book your accommodation, excursions and travel well in advance. We recommend six months to a year lead time to ensure you enjoy a smooth trip. Accommodation varies from rustic 'off the grid' beach cabins to modern and natural lodges and retreats, and extraordinary camping in old growth or on the beach. All accommodation is small scale and intimate. Each time you book you are talking with an owner who cares passionately about the quality of your experience.

There are no chain stores, fast food franchises or large hotels on the 'Islands of the People'. Here we live slowly, at a pace that is rich with unique experiences. The winter season is the social season, full of concerts, artisan fairs, coffee houses and events throughout the Islands. We re-connect, regroup, and plan for high season tourism in the summer, but love to see visitors all year long.
Whether you’re planning travel to Haida Gwaii from Vancouver, Toronto, Seattle, Beijing, London or your own special corner of the world, this information will help prepare your journey to Haida Gwaii.

**ARRIVING BY AIR**

Air service is available daily from Vancouver and Prince Rupert. For schedules and fares please check with the following carriers.

- Air Canada flies daily from Vancouver International Airport (YVR) to Sandspit International Airport (YZP).
- Pacific Coastal Airlines flies between Vancouver’s South Terminal (YVR) and the Masset Municipal Airport (ZMT).
- Inland Air has daily scheduled flights between Prince Rupert and the Village of Masset.

**ARRIVING BY WATER**

BC Ferries provides regular scheduled sailings to the Islands from Prince Rupert, year-round. Connector service is available in Prince Rupert for the Inside Passage route to or from Port Hardy on Vancouver Island, or north with Alaska’s marine ferry system. Arrange at terminals two hours in advance. Check for current conditions and changes in schedule at bcferries.com.

The Islands have long been known for their excellent recreational boating opportunities. Many of the communities have marinas, boat ramps and services catering to recreational boaters. Check the recreational boating directory at gohaidagwaii.ca for more information.

**AUTO RENTALS**

- **K’il Llnagaay Sandspit** - Budget Car Rentals 250.637.5688
- **Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte** - Budget Car & Truck Rentals 250.559.4641, Island Auto Rentals 250.559.4118, Haida Gwaii Vehicle & RV Rentals 250.637.1202
- **HlGaagilda Skidegate** - Gwaii Taxi & Tours 250.559.2380 & 250.637.1162, Rose’s Longhouse Gift Shop-National Car Rentals pick up and drop off 250-626-3833
- **Gaw Masset** - National Car & Truck Rentals 250.626.3833, Rustic Car Rentals 250.626.3756

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
BIKE RENTALS

**Gaw Masset** - Masset Bikes 250.626.8939, North Beach Surf Shop 250.626.7873, Bike RePsych bikerepsych@gmail.com

**K’il Llnagaay Sandspit** - the Sandspit Visitor Centre 250.637.5362

**Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte** - Echo Bay Lodge 250.637.1758, Bike RePsych bikerepsych@gmail.com, Green Coast Kayaking 250.637.1093

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Are there public transit buses on island?**

Unfortunately, there is no public transportation on island. Most communities will have a taxi service. There are several companies on island that will provide taxi services and tours.

**Are all roads on Haida Gwaii passable for a camper? A small vehicle? Are there unpaved roads?**

There are only about 140kms of paved highways on the islands and many areas to camp and hike in between the communities on the main highway. There is an extensive network of unpaved roads too, some suitable for a camper-van on short distances, and some not advisable. You will want to enquire locally for information on the state of the roads and logging activity.

**How safe is it to bike around the islands?**

Cycling is a great way to experience a destination, as it slows you down, keeps you active, gets you places you may not get to by conventional motor vehicle, and puts you in direct contact with the elements and with people. Haida Gwaii is no exception to the rule: It is certainly a good way to get around.

Haida Gwaii has a very limited network of paved roads, which means that if you choose to stick to the pavement, you won't necessarily be cycling all that much, and you also will have a hard time getting lost. There is a much more extensive network of unpaved roads, logging roads, backroads etc, that can take you much farther into the wilderness, though it is not for everybody.

**Is it necessary to book tours in advance or is it easy to book them when we arrive (e.g. excursions to Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, Haida Heritage Site, Naikoon Provincial Park, etc)?**

All tours, especially to Gwaii Haanas, should definitely be booked in advance. The Haida Heritage Centre & Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum does not take bookings and has regular hours of operation. Naikoon Provincial Park does not take bookings either (campgrounds are on first come first served basis). You can hike in Naikoon Provincial Park and other areas at your leisure with no reservations required. See pages 68-69 for more information.

**I would like to go to Gwaii Haanas, how can one get there?**

There is no road access to Gwaii Haanas. It is only accessible by floatplane or boat. See pages 54-58 for more information. For a list of licensed tour operators, including floatplane service, visit the Gwaii Haanas website at www.pc.gc.ca/pn-np/gwaiihaanas
Things to do On-Islands

Choose one or more idea from each block and build your own itinerary, one day at a time! See gohaidagwaii.ca for more details and contact information.

**K’IL LLNAGAAY SANDSPIT AREA**
- Bike and kayak rentals, maps available at Sandspit Visitor Centre
- Bird-watching at the ‘spit’
- Choice of restaurants and shop to explore
- Shoreline walk along K’il K’aag’an Shingle Bay
- Picnic at the whale-watching gazebo at Kun Gwaay Onward Point
- Spend the day at Diinal GawGa Gray Bay
- Hike the Dover Creek Trail

**DAAJING GIIDS QUEEN CHARLOTTE AREA**
- Bike and kayak rentals, maps available at Queen Charlotte Visitor Centre
- A waterfront stroll on the sea walk and docks
- Guided or self-guided kayak tour of Daajing Giids GawGa Bearskin Bay or Tllgaduu GawGa Kagan Bay
- Explore the Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte and Tllgaduu GawGa Kagan Bay
- Enjoy a coffee overlooking the harbour
- Guided sightseeing or fishing charter to the Duu Guusd the West Coast of Haida Gwaii
- Guided single day boat tour exploring X’aana Kaahl’ii GawGaay Skidegate Inlet
- Hike Kuu Jad TlldaGaw Sleeping Beauty Mountain
- Enjoy a variety of shops downtown
- Choice of restaurants for lunch and dinner

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
**HLGAAGILDA SKIDEGATE AREA**

- Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay and Saahlinda Naay *the Haida Gwaii Museum*
- Choice of grocery store, restaurants and food trucks for lunch and dinner
- Check your fuel at Taaw Naay Gas station
- Walk the front road and look for whales and seals
- Saahlinda Naay *Haida Gwaii Museum* and *Xaayda ‘Waadxanaay Longhouse Gift Shop*
- Visit Haida artists at their studios (call before to confirm times and availability)
- GuuhlGa Siiwaay K’yuu *Spirit Lake Trail*

**TLL.AAL TLELL AREA**

- Check out the artisan shops along Richardson and Beitush roads
- Visit local farms to see what’s growing
- Have a coffee and walk the never-ending Tlldas *East Beach*
- Stop at the Misty Meadows Campground for beach access
- Walk on the Anvil Trail and explore the upper reaches of the Tll.aal *Gandlaay Tlell River*
- Hike to the Pesuta Shipwreck
- Explore Nee Kun area *Naikoon Park*

**GAMADIIS PORT CLEMENTS AREA**

- Take a guided kayak tour of Gaw *Kaahlili Masset Inlet*, Juus *Kaahlili Juskatla Inlet* and river tours
- Join a guided land tour and explore logging roads to get to Yaagun Gandlaay *Yakoun River* or Chaahluu *Kaahlili Rennell Sound*
- Explore the new walking paths throughout Gamadiis *the Village of Port Clements*
- Check out the pioneer artifacts and get up to date information at the Port Clements Museum
- Stroll through the historic St Mark’s Gift & Gallery for art, food and produce by local artists
- Walk along the great Sunset Park trail and go up to the bird-viewing tower at Yaagun Kaahlili Stl’ang *Yakoun Estuary*

**GAW OLD MASSETT AND MASSET AREA**

- Grab a bike or a water sport rental to get around
- Walk or drive through Gaw monumental pole tour
- Explore local history at the Dixon Entrance Maritime Museum
- Walk along to bird-view platforms at the Delkatsla Wildlife Sanctuary
- Choice of grocery store, restaurants and cafes to grab lunch or dinner
- Take a guided cultural tours on land or on the water
- Hire a fishing charters for a world-class fishing experience
- Walk the endless beaches and enjoy a pacific sunset

**TAAW K’YUU TOW HILL ROAD AREA**

- Stop by small local cafes for snacks and coffee
- Visit a gallery for artwork and more by local artists
- Hike up to the viewing platforms on Taaw *Tow Hill*
- Check out the impressive spray at Kwahtsiisda the *Blow Hole*
- Walk the 17 km (one way) beach to Nee Kun Rose Spit
- Search for agates on Hl’yaalan Galguusd *Agate Beach*
- Hike out to Tlldas *East Beach* via the Cape Fife Trail
- Explore the bogs and landscape of Nee Kun area *Naikoon Park*
Annual events

HAIDA GWAII FILM FESTIVAL
March, Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte - The Haida Gwaii Film Festival, founded in 2009, brings Canadian and international films to Haida Gwaii. The festival also provides workshops on various aspects of the film industry.

ALL ISLANDS ART SHOW
March, Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum - The All Islands' Art Show is an annual event held to showcase the artists of Haida Gwaii. A Youth All Islands' Art Show is also held on a bi-annual basis.

SENIORS’ WINTER GAMES
April, all island event - the ‘Winter Games' is a popular event for all islanders (50+) and is organized each year by one of the communities. Islanders under 50 are welcomed and encouraged to cheer on the participants.

TROUT DERBY
May, Moressby Island - This fun family event at Gawu Kuns Siivaaay Mosquito Lake is hosted on the Sunday of the long-weekend, by the Sandspit Rod and Gun Club. This is a popular weekend of camping and fishing for all ages. Contact Jim Henry for more information at 250.637.2212.

HAIDA GWAIi TRIP PLANNER
For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca

LOGGERS SPORTS DAY
July, Kil Llnagaay Sandspit - Loggers Sports Day has been a tradition in Sandspit for over 50 years. The day begins with a parade, followed by competitions in axe throwing, sawing, setting chokers, burling and a greased pole climb.

TLELL FALL FAIR
August, Tl’eel - Sunday of the Long Weekend. The exhibit building’s walls and tables are laden with island produce and products. Islanders proudly display their beautiful farm animals. For event details call Linda Louis at 250.559.8975.

THE EDGE OF THE WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL
August, Tl’eel - Since 1975 this event has grown, attracting visitors from all over the world. See www.edgefestival.ca for more information.

AGATE MAN TRIATHLON
August, Gaw Masset - The race consists of a 500m swim in Pure Lake, a 20km bike ride to the Masset Fire Hall, and a 6km run around the Delkatla Wildlife Sanctuary. Participants are welcome to register alone or in teams. To register call 250 626-5652 or e-mail qciroy@gmail.com.

HAIDA HERITAGE CENTER CELEBRATION
August 18, Hlgaaagilda Skidegate - This celebration is for the award-winning cultural centre; it begins with a clan parade followed by a day of traditional Haida celebrations.

Moresby Explorers Pig Roast
Last Saturday in August, K’il Llnagaay Sandspit - The Moresby Explorers crew welcomes everybody for an end-of-season party, Pig Roast and potluck-style dinner with live bands. Come and celebrate the end of the season in style.

SANDSPIT WILD HARVEST FESTIVAL
– September 7 & 8, K’il Llnagaay Sandspit - This event includes speakers, wild mushroom identification lessons, food processing workshops, botany ecology tours and more! Evenings close with a signature Wild Harvest Dinner with a renowned local chef. Contact Flavien Mabit at sandspitwildharvest@gmail.com

Haida Gwaii Museum Gala
Late September, Hlgaaagilda Skidegate - This fundraising event at Naagudgiikyaang Skidegate Community Hall is an evening of delicious treats and live entertainment. Collectors come to bid in an art auction featuring pieces from Islands artists. See haidagwaiimuseum.ca for more information.

COHO SALMON DERBY
Late September/October, K’il Llnagaay Sandspit & K’aasda GawGa Copper Bay - The annual Coho Derby hosted by the Sandspit Rod and Gun Club has been a popular event in K’il Llnagaay. It is held over four consecutive weekends, ending on Thanksgiving Day weekend. The derby attracts residents and off-Island fishers alike. Contact Jim Henry for more information at 250.637.2212.

Expression Sessions
– November, Taaw Tow Hill - Coincides with the November Full Moon. Each year North Beach Surf Shop organizes a weekend of surfing at Gaatsguusd North Beach. See www.northbeach-surfshop.com for more information.
Do it yourself, by season

FALL & WINTER

- Surfing - Check out Hl'yaalan Galguusd Agate Beach and Hl'yaalan Gandlee Hiellen River for good breaks
- Storm watching - listen to the pounding waves in an off-the-grid ocean-side cabin along Taaw K’yuu Tow Hill Road or watch the surf at Kwahtsiisda the Blow Hole trail end
- Steelhead fishing at Yaagun Gandlee Yakoun River
- Beachcombing for glass fishing floats and agates along the beaches
- Holiday craft fairs in all communities
- Winter concerts - check Haida Gwaii Arts Councils and at the Queen Charlotte Visitor centres for dates

SPRING & SUMMER

- Beachcombing - looks for washups after the winter storms
- Go along the Pesuta Shipwreck hike
- Visit the Haida Heritage Centre
- Roadside whale-watching (May is whale-watching month)
- Crabbing – bring a salt water license, and take only what you can use for a lunch or dinner.
- Clamming – bring a salt water license, and take only what you can use for a lunch or dinner.
- Look in to zodiac or plane tours of Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site

MUST SEE AND DO, ANYTIME OF YEAR

- Hike the GuuhlGa Siiwaay K’yuu Spirit Lake Trail in HlGaagilda Skidegate
- Visit the Tll.aal Tlell Artisan shops and stop at Misty Meadows Campground
- Walk along the magnificent old growth trees along The Golden Spruce Trail outside of Gamadiis Port Clements
- Take a tour of the Gaw Old Massett monumental poles
- Go to Gaatsguusd North Beach! Walk the accessible Blow Hole Trail and climb to the top of the Tow Hill Lookouts
- Stroll along the Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte Sea Walk
- Bird watching at the ’spit’ in K’il Llnagaay Sandspit and the Delkatla Nature Sanctuary in Gaw Masset
- Visit Diinal GawGa Gray Bay, south of K’il Llnagaay Sandspit. Please see the advice for driving on active logging roads on page 52.
- Drive to Chaahllu Kaahl Rennell Sound to experience the west coast waves. Please see the advice for driving on active logging roads on page 52.

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay and Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum
- Gwaii Haanas tours with Haida owned and operated tour guides
- Tour out to Ts’aa.ahl Llnagaay, one of many village sites along Daawuuxusda the West Coast of Haida Gwaii
- Land Tours with Haida owned and operated tour guides
- Haida Canoe at Gamadiis Port Clements
- Gaw Old Massett monumental poles tour
- Haida artists studio visit, self-guided tour - please contact the artists in advance to arrange
This map is not to scale and not intended for navigational purposes.
Tidal currents occur in conjunction with the rise and fall of the tide. The vertical motion of the tides near the shore causes the water to move horizontally, creating currents. When a tidal current moves toward the land and away from the sea, it "floods." When it moves toward the sea away from the land, it "ebbs."

Tide tables are essential for exploring the beaches of Haida Gwaii. We have extreme tides here on Haida Gwaii - up to 24 ft tidal variation. Booklets are published annually by the Canadian Hydrographic Service and they provide instructions on the use of tables to determine daily tides (time and height) for specific locations.

For Haida Gwaii you should obtain:

- Canadian Tide & Current Tables Volume 7: "Queen Charlotte Sound to Dixon Entrance"

Tide tables provide information on the time and height of the tide. It’s important to remember there are factors that can increase the effects of the tides, such as your location and storms.

Learn to read tide tables before traveling along the beach. A famous Hawaiian, Duke Kahanamoku, helped popularize the motto, "Never turn your back on the ocean." His reasons were twofold: he wanted people to watch out for the physical dangers of being hit by a wave, and he wanted mankind to show respect for the ocean. Sneak or rogue waves can appear at any time and on any beach.

Rip tides can form on any beach with surf. They are often found near jetties or between sand bars. If you are caught in a current that pulls you quickly from shore, swim parallel to the beach to break out of it.

Estimated using predictions from the Canadian Hydrographic Service. Estimates are unofficial and may vary significantly from reality. Use with caution.

From Haida Fisheries Program / Crawford Ecological Consulting

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
A tsunami is a natural hazard consisting of a series of long, surge-like waves generated when a large volume of ocean water is rapidly displaced. Most tsunamis are caused by major subduction zone earthquakes, where there is significant displacement of the ocean floor. Tsunami waves contain considerable energy; they can travel rapidly further inland compared to ordinary coastal waves. A tsunami may not look like a wave at all, but will have very strong currents under its surface.

Tsunamis are a challenging hazard to respond to. The arrival time of the wave generated far out at sea can be predicted fairly accurately, however, the intensity of the wave when it reaches shore is more difficult to predict, particularly in real time during an event.

While a distant tsunami will likely allow time for an official tsunami warning to be given, a local tsunami can reach the shoreline in minutes and may NOT allow for an official warning to take place.

**EVACUATION NOTIFICATIONS**

If you are near the coast and feel a major earthquake making it difficult to stand, you must "Drop, Cover, and Hold On", and then evacuate to higher ground immediately with your 72hr emergency kit. High ground is considered anything over 10m above the high water mark. If you are unfamiliar with the area, ask your accommodation provider about evacuation spots and muster points.

If a tsunami threat (or any other emergency like flooding or wildfires) is identified, authorities will notify the public via Environment Canada EC Alert, VHF 16, media like radio or TV, and direct to all LTE cell phones through AlertReady (April 2018) - the BC Emergency Alerting System - in the impacted area. The Haida Gwaii Emergency Management system will also send alerts via SMS, phone, email to those that have registered with the ePACT service [epactnetwork.com/en/signup/haidagwaiialerts](http://epactnetwork.com/en/signup/haidagwaiialerts).

When disaster hits, there won’t be time to collect emergency supplies. Ensure you have emergency kits for your home, workplace and vehicle. They should all contain food, water and supplies for a minimum of 72 hours. A week or longer is better. Information on building these kits can be found here at [emergencygov.bc.ca/PreparedBC](http://emergencygov.bc.ca/PreparedBC). Do not return to low-lying areas to gather your belongings. People should wait until they get notification that the Tsunami Warning has been lifted or as instructed by Emergency Officials before returning to the inundation zone.

**TSUNAMI SIRENS**

Tsunami Sirens are located in the communities of Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte, HlGaagilda Skidegate, Gaw Masset and Old Massett. The warnings sound like an air-raid siren.

Every Tuesday at 7pm, the Village of Masset tests their emergency sirens; the fire department call out warning is first, and the tsunami warning siren is second. The Village of Queen Charlotte & HlGaagilda test their sirens every third Thursday in October on "Shake Out BC" day - please see [shakeoutbc.ca](http://shakeoutbc.ca) for more information on this province-wide earthquake drill day.

**ON HAIDA GWAI, EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION CAN BE:**

- If you feel a prolonged earthquake large enough to make standing difficult
- Tsunami Siren
- Continuous vehicle horns or police/fire sirens
- AlertReady - all LTE cell phones, radio, TV
- ECAlert
- ePACT call out - SMS, phone, email (only if registered - [epactnetwork.com/en/signup/haidagwaiialerts](http://epactnetwork.com/en/signup/haidagwaiialerts))
- VHF16
- If you feel an earthquake you can check the Pacific Tsunami Notification Centre website for real-time warnings: [ptwc.weather.gov](http://ptwc.weather.gov)
Located at the mouth of Gaw Kaahlii Masset Inlet on the southern edge of Siigee Dixon Entrance. Gaw remains a centre of Haida artistry, as it has for generations. Today's generation of artists maintain a network of home-based and large studios for creating classical monumental Haida works and more intimate pieces. Most of the studios are well signed and artist's welcome visitors. Many artists also participate during seasonal harvesting periods and studio hours can fluctuate, so check with artists ahead of time – many prefer for you to make an appointment.

Attractions around Gaw include the Islands' largest collection of contemporary monumental poles. Seventeen are located throughout the village, including a pole raised in 1969 which was the first to be raised since 1871. The pole was carved by Guud Sans Glans Robert Davidson and raised in 1969.

Tlaga Gawtlaas New Town is a recent community expansion that was constructed in 2003 by the Old Massett Village Council (OMVC). It's a ten minute walk from the Masset Sea plane base.
Gaw Masset and sometimes known as New Masset and the surrounding waters are known throughout the world for their productive salmon and halibut fishing grounds. Gaw has all amenities for a traveler including a variety of attractions, accommodation and restaurants.

The Dal Kaahlii Delkatla Wildlife Sanctuary is a 228 ha wetland set aside for migrating and resident birds. Observation towers mark several trails that run through the refuge. Over 140 species have been recorded here, including Trumpeter swans, Peregrine falcons, Sandhill cranes and Bald eagles.

The Dixon Entrance Golf Course, located five kilometres east of Gaw, offers scenic vistas along the north coast overlooking Siigee Dixon Entrance and the southern islands of the Alaskan panhandle. Non-members are encouraged to play a few ‘rounds’ – literally – as the course circles around Canadian Forces Base Masset (1943-1997) which was a “listening post” and part of the early warning system for North America during the Cold War.

You can access the Masset Visitor Information Centre during the summer months - it's located right by the "Mile 0" sign, across from the seaplane base. The Masset Visitor Centre will have up to date information on what's happening in the Village of Masset and surrounding areas.

You can access up to date information about the village of Masset at massetbc.com.

**DAL KAAHLII WILDLIFE SANCTUARY WALK**

Dal Kaahlii is a critical stopover for birds during spring and fall migration, an important wintering waterfowl area and home to many summer nesting species. The first Wood sandpiper identified in Canada was sighted in Dal Kaahlii and the first Canadian sightings of Aleutian tern and Red-faced cormorant were seen in nearby Gaw Kaahlii Masset Inlet. Over 150 species of birds have been seen there.

In 1964 a causeway was built across the entrance to the Sanctuary, blocking tidal access. The mud-flats and grassy meadows suffocated under a cloak of juncus effucus, an invasive freshwater plant. Sitka spruce and Red alder also colonised the mudflats and damaged the rich feeding areas for shorebirds and waterfowl. In 1995, thirty years later, after a major fundraising effort to raise $1 million, tidal access was restored to the Sanctuary. The natural tidal forces are slowly restoring the area back to a coastal intertidal wetland.
Taaaw K’yuu Tow Hill Road area spreads out along the paved road and beyond for approximately 10km, east of Gaw Masset, wandering along the northwestern boundary of Naikoon Provincial park. The area’s amenities include guesthouses and cabins along forested rivers and beaches. After a good night’s rest listening to the waves and wind you can start your day at the Moon over Naikoon Bakery Bus, famous for its fresh coffee, soup, and cinnamon buns.

Surfing during the winter is very popular and the annual surfing event, “The Expression Session” held in early November, is a great way to spend the day out on Gaaatsguusd North Beach.

You can access up-to-date information about this hamlet at gohaidagwaii.ca website.

**TAAW TOW HILL & KWAHTSIISDA BLOW HOLE HIKE**

Taaaw Tow Hill is a unique attraction on Haida Gwaii rising 400 feet and towering over Hl’yaalan Galguusd Agate Beach. Its face consists of rock columns formed from molten lava approximately 2 million years ago.

The trailhead is well marked and follows the Hl’yaalan Gandlee Hiellen River for approximately 100 metres where further signage directs you to the Taaw or Kwahtsiisda routes. The two trails do connect with each other half-way up Taaw, creating a loop route for hikers wishing to visit both attractions.

The 30 minute hike up Taaw is of an easy to moderate level of difficulty and is made more accessible by a well maintained boardwalk with stairs. Walking through the rainforest - huckleberry and salal bushes are in abundance as are ferns and mosses which carpet the forest floor. At times, edible (and inedible!) mushrooms can also be found in the area.

The return to the parking lot is an easy hike along the boardwalk taking approximately 15 minutes.
Gamadiis Port Clements is located close to where the Yaagun Gandlee Yakoun River drains into Gaw Kaahlili Masset Inlet.

The village is one way into exploring Haida Gwaii's rugged interior and Duu Guusd the west coast of Haida Gwaii.

In town, the Port Clements Museum is an interesting place to visit and operated by the Port Clements Historical Society. The museum houses a remarkable array of historical logging equipment as well as antiques and artifacts from the last century.

If you are in the mood for activity hike the Golden Spruce Trail. Located 5km south of town, K’iid K’iyaas the Golden Spruce grew on the west bank of Yaagun Gandlee. Genetic variation turned the tree's needles gold in colour - a seedling with this coloration is located at St. Mark's Church.

Gamadiis celebrates Canada Day (July 1) with a flurry of activity in the municipal park, capped off by a raucous mud bog challenge. You can get up to date information about the Village of Port Clements at portclements.ca.

THE SUNSET PARK TRAIL

The trail is an easy well maintained walk at the west end of Gamadiis and is accessed via a parking lot 2km east of the Sunset Park Campground. It is secluded spot and features a treed park-like setting and Gaw Kaahlili.

Along the trail is an abundance of salal, salmon berry and huckleberry bushes.

The area is also a place where deer browse and small bird nest and feed. High above eagles soar from their year-round nest sites. The forested area consists of alder, cedar, spruce and hemlock and there are signs of logging from the early days where cuts for 'spring boards' still show in huge stumps.

Along the trail, you will see in a standing cedar tree a ‘bore hole’. This archaeological evidence of Haida occupation indicates that the tree was tested for its quality of wood. Today, these trees are known as Culturally Modified Tree's or CMT’s.
Tl.laal Tlell is a small community spread out along Tll.das the east coast of Graham Island, located 43 kilometers north of GuuhlGa Llnagaay Skidegate Landing.

Visitors can access beautiful beaches and sand dunes along the Tl.laal Gandlaay Tlell River, which is well known for excellent fishing. A trail leads from the day-use area, just north of the bridge, to the shipwrecked remains of the Pesuta, a log barge which ran aground in 1928.

There are artists, galleries, a cafe, a fine choice of accommodations, a general store and cattle ranch in the area. Tl.laal is also home to the annual Tlell Fall Fair and the Edge of the World Music Festival – both held in August.

You can access more information about the Tl.laal community at gohaidagwaii.ca.

THE ANVIL TRAIL

The Anvil Trail is a 1- to 2-hour return loop trail that goes through a variety of forest types and meanders along a bend of the Tl.laal Gandlaay.

The trail is a 5km loop and starts at pole #767 on Highway 16, about 2km south of Wiggins Road. There is a small parking area on the ocean side of the highway. The trail is maintained by volunteers of the Tlell Watershed Society and meanders through very varied types of forests, from dark young forests to old growth. Interpretive signs along the trail explain the differences between those ecosystems.

PLEASE NOTE: Some areas can be wet and boggy and almost impassable during periods of heavy rains. Some trails branch off the main one which can make navigation challenging at times. Make sure you stay on the main trail to avoid wandering off into the forest.

Be sure to bring some sturdy footwear, water and snacks as well as some rain gear and warm clothes.
Situated along the waterfront in the village of HLGaagilda a cedar longhouse fronts the beach. The longhouse is the home of the Skidegate Haida Immersion Program (SHIP), which teaches and preserves HLGaagilda Xaayda Kil Haida southern dialect. Out front in the waters from April to June whales appear and can often be seen swimming in the inlet alongside the highway.

Kay Llnagaay Sea lion Town is a first stop for many visitors as they disembark at the BC Ferry Terminal at GuuhlGa Llnagaay Skidegate Landing. The Haida Heritage Centre is an award-winning facility built on the site of an ancient village site.

At Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum there is an extensive collection of Haida historical and cultural treasures, restored monumental poles, and a natural history gallery of local birds, mammals and fossils. Museum curators also maintain revolving seasonal exhibits.

Haida artists and their apprentices are often found at the Centre working in various mediums, carving monumental poles outside the centre or weaving naaxiin, Raven’s Tail, and other textiles within. A restaurant and local society offices are located within the centre, including the Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site office.

You can access up to date information about HLGaagilda at skidegate.ca website.

GUUHLGA SIWAAY KYUU SPIRIT LAKE TRAIL

GuuhlGa Siwaay Kyuu is a popular hiking trail located across from the George Brown Recreation Centre along Highway 16. The hard packed, well maintained trail is easy to moderate level of difficulty. Depending upon the route taken, a return hike can take approximately 1.5 – 2 hours. The trail begins with a moderate gain in elevation for the first 15 minutes of walking and levels out after that. Hikers will experience the quiet moss carpeted forest, wander over bridges and boardwalks spanning creeks and may find themselves enticed to pause and enjoy the scenery at the picnic areas overlooking the lakes.
Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte is situated between the ocean and the mountains of the west coast. The present-day Village of Queen Charlotte was founded when the North American Timber Holding Company began to build a sawmill there in early 1908. Prior to that the inlet shores and upland area was home to at least half a dozen Haida villages. Today Daajing Giids has all the amenities travelers need including a variety of accommodations, restaurants and an information centre. You can access up to date information about Daajing Giids at queencharlotte.ca.

**SLEEPING BEAUTY HIKE**

The Sleeping Beauty hike is the most accessible alpine hike on the Islands. From the summit on a clear day it provides amazing views of Xaana Kaahlili Gaw-Ga Skidegate inlet, Duu Guusd the west coast, KandaliiGwii Hecate Strait, the islands' mountain ranges and even Tag-wan the Canadian mainland. This hike is known locally as "Sleeping Beauty", but the trail itself is called Tarundl Trail. The summit or "nose" of the Sleeping Beauty, is called Kuu Jad Tllda Gaau Mount Raymond.

This is a hard hike, along a steep trail with some slippery sections. The altitude gain is just under 700m (rising from 327m to 1018m). The hike itself, however, can be done in 3 to 5 hours return.

Getting to the trailhead can be hard on vehicles as there are some steep sections and for the most part unpaved. A vehicle with high clearance is advised. Please note that most rental companies, unless they specifically state otherwise, will not allow their vehicles to go on logging roads. Always make sure you pack some warm clothes, raingear, water, snacks, sun protection etc. This is a strenuous hike, with very slippery sections, and is only advisable for experienced hikers. It is best to enquire at the Queen Charlotte Visitor Centre as to how to access the trailhead and get updates on trail conditions.
K’IL LLNAGAAY Sandspit

K’IL LLNAGAAY Sandspit is at the base of K’waas, a sand spit that reaches out into K’waas, a sand spit that reaches out into KandaliiiGwii Hecate Strait. In HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil this spit of sand is the physical embodiment of a supernatural being named K’waas. In the waters surrounding the village there is an abundance of good fishing spots especially during the coho runs in September and October. The area also offers many camping, birding, hiking, and kayaking options throughout north Moresby Island.

Visitors can reach the village via the ferry at GuuhlGa Llnagaay Skidegate Landing and there are daily flights from Vancouver. See the BC Ferries schedules for more information.

In the back country a network of logging roads run through the hills and lead to popular campgrounds like Diinal GawGa Gray Bay and Gawu Kuns Siiswaay Moresby Island. South of these, visitors will come to Gawu Kuns Llnagaay Moresby Camp, the home of Jiila Kuns, a supernatural mother of Kuustak, the Haida eagle matrilineages. Today, the site provides tour operators with a boat-launch for those venturing into Gwaii Haanas. K’il Llnagaay hosts an annual Logger Sports Day in July and a Wild Harvest Festival in September. You can find more information about K’il Llnagaay at gohaidagwaii.ca.

ONWARD POINT TRAIL

Onward Point Trail is a short easy loop-walk to a platform situated above Xaana Kaahlii GawGaay Skidegate Inlet from which you can watch whales. The trailhead begins at the Onward Point pull-over, approximately mid-way between K’il Llnagaay and Gaats’iiGundaay Alliford Bay Ferry. The trail winds through a forest of second-growth spruce and leads down to the platform and a popular beachcombing area. Rounding the point, the sand and gravel beach becomes a rock shelf with intriguing geometric shapes and evidence of fossils. On the return portion of the trail, the forest canopy begins to fill in as the spruce is replaced by cedar and stone steps have been placed into the sloping hillside.

Although the walk itself takes less than 30 minutes, one can extend the time spent at this popular attraction by exploring the rock shelf, beachcombing, taking photographs and enjoying a picnic while watching the active marine life in the nearby waters. Take a break at Onward Point!
The road less traveled

TRAVELING ON LOGGING ROADS

Turn your lights on! Day or night, the more visible you are, the better your chances of avoiding trouble. Use your lights at all times. Forest roads are not built to the same standards as public highways. For example, they often have sharp, blind corners and narrow sections. All drivers must be prepared to react to unexpected conditions and to be able to stop safely. For your own sake, stay alert and always be ready to take evasive action. Remember, dust means traffic.

Logging trucks use all or most of the road width because of their size. Please give logging trucks and other industrial traffic the right-of-way. Due to their size, they just can’t manoeuvre the way personal vehicles can.

Loaded logging trucks definitely have the “right-of-weight”! When you see a logging truck or any other heavy equipment coming, get to a turnout and let the oncoming vehicle pass by. You may find turnouts on either side of the road -- whichever side it’s on, get to it and wait until it is safe to proceed.

Before you go, let someone know where you’re heading and when you expect to return. If you do get lost or stranded, stay with your vehicle. It will provide shelter until help arrives, and generally, rescuers can find it more quickly than they can an individual in the woods. Forest road users must be prepared for emergencies; there are no hospitals, restaurants, telephone booths or gas stations. Be sure to take the following:

- emergency food and water
- navigational/communication aids (maps, compass, charts, and fully charged GPS, cellular or satellite phone, VHS or handheld radio, battery charges)
- extra fuel/fire extinguisher/axe
- first aid kit/warm clothing/sleeping bags
- a tool kit/shovel/tire emergency repair kit
- a tool kit/shovel/tire emergency repair kit

A WORD ABOUT MOBILE DEVICE ACCESS ON Haida GWAIi

Mobile phone coverage on Haida Gwaii is good in some locations and “iffy” in others. You can pick up a reliable signal in the area around Xaana Kaahlili Gwaay Skidegate Inlet – Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte, HL’Gaaqilda Skidegate, K’Il Lnagaay Sandspit – and up coast to about Gandl SkahlGaal St. Mary’s Spring. After that your bars drop rapidly. Further north there are a couple of spots where texts can be picked up but the next most reliable spot is at the end of Wiggins Road in Tl’al Port Clements Tlell. Going north, your phone will chirp again just south of Gaw Masset. Service in the area around Gaw Kaahlili Masset Inlet is reliable, but as you head out to Gaatsguusd North Beach service thins out. Check out the centre-fold map for locations, and remember, the back country is a “signal-free” area – enjoy!

EMERGENCY SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gaw Masset/North End</th>
<th>Gamadiis/Tl’al Port Clements/Tlell</th>
<th>HL’Gaaqilda/Daajing Giids Skidegate/Queen Charlotte</th>
<th>K’Il Lnagaay Sandspit</th>
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<td>250-626-5511 Fire</td>
<td>250-557-4355 Fire</td>
<td>250-559-8300 Fire</td>
<td>250-637-2222 Fire</td>
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<tr>
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<td>205-626-3991 RCMP</td>
<td>250-559-4421 RCMP</td>
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Ambulance

800-461-9911

209-701

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
Haida Gwaii cannot yet be designated as wheelchair-friendly but communities are working toward that goal. There are a number of attractions and activities that are accessible to people with limited mobility.

- **Gaatsguusd North Beach** offers easy access to the beach with parking immediately beside the beach. The beach might prove challenging as the ground is often soft depending on wind and tides. The area has many places to sit and enjoy the surf in close proximity to one’s parked vehicle. At the Hiellen Campground:

- **Kwahtsiisda the Blow Hole** at Tllgaay Gaauu North Beach and a tour of the monumental poles in Gaw Old Massett is an enjoyable and easily navigable north-island tour. The monumental poles in Gaw can be viewed from the roadside and the Kwahtsiisda is a 20-minute walk (each way) via a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk from a parking lot. At the trail head:

- **The Delkatla Wildlife Sanctuary and Interpretive Centre** are also wheelchair-accessible to some degree. The interpretive centre and bird watching tower next to it are easily accessible via the walk and drive along Cemetery Road.

- **An easy pathway runs along the waterfront at Sunset Park in Gamadiis Port Clements.** The trail along the estuary was designed to be wheelchair accessible but it can be challenging at times if the chair tires are narrow. The two kilometre path leads to a bird watching tower that is wheelchair accessible up to the first level.

- **Gamadiis Port Clements** has also improved the Golden Spruce Trail to make it wheelchair-accessible. The trail takes about 20-minutes to walk each way. This is an inspiring old growth rainforest trail. At the trail head:

- **The ocean-side drive from Tll.aal Tlell to Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte** features gorgeous views of the open ocean from the roadside. At Halibut Bight rest stop:

- **Haida Heritage Centre and Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum** at Kay Llnagaay were designed to be wheelchair accessible. Although the inside of the centre is accessible, the outside area where the monumental pole tours are conducted has proven difficult to some due to the gravel covering. Tours at the Centre include the monumental pole, Gyaa K’id Naay carving house, Haida canoe and weaving tours.

- **The Queen Charlotte Seawalk is located in central Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte.** It provides a stunning view of Xaana Kaahlil GavGavay Skidegate Inlet and Queen Charlotte Harbour at the Visitor Information Centre, Community Centre & Library.
WELCOME TO THE ISLANDS OF BEAUTY

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site is a wild place. With no road access, stores, cell phone coverage and little signage, it is a true wilderness experience. The breathtaking beauty of the place is awe-inspiring.

Gwaii Haanas is unique, being one of the only areas in the world that is protected and managed from sea floor to mountain peak. Gwaii Haanas is also unique because it is managed as a true and equal partnership between the Government of Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation through the Archipelago Management Board (AMB).

Visitors come from all over to explore this jewel at the edge of the world, with its sheltered sandy bays, turquoise inlets, Haida villages, and old growth forests. Gwaii Haanas' unique combination of coastal temperate ecosystems and Haida culture make this a place like no other on earth.

Gwaii Haanas visitor experiences can include paddling kayaks or catching the wind and sailing through the waters alongside killer whales, Pacific white-sided dolphins and Steller sea lions, and seeing pods of humpbacks breaching and flicking their tail flukes as they gorge on the bounty of the Gwaii Haanas marine area. Visitors can float through K’iid Xyangs K’ii daay Burnaby Narrows, teeming with intertidal life, and see a vast array of different species at lower tides.

Natural and supernatural in equal turns, Gwaii Haanas is a uniquely untouched ecological paradise with an aboriginal history stretching back 12 millennia. Kayak along shorelines teeming with sea stars, walk amid towering, century-old monumental poles and soak up the moss-shrouded magic of 1,884 islands and islets you’ll have nearly to yourself. Activities range from one-day guided boat trips to extended boating or kayaking adventures.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF WORKING TOGETHER

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Gwaii Haanas Agreement, often called a document before its time, the Gwaii Haanas Agreement sets out the way Canada and the Haida Nation work cooperatively to protect the land, sea, and cultural history of this place. It is a promise to build and recognize the many relationships that exist in Gwaii Haanas.

Gwaii Haanas would not be what it is if it wasn’t for all the relationships developed over the last 25 years. The good people working together to protect Gwaii Haanas are what make this a place of living legacy for today’s youth and generations to come.

This section allows you to catch a tiny glimpse of what it’s like to travel to Gwaii Haanas. Gwaii Haanas has gained international acclaim for the monumental Haida poles, old growth rainforests and vibrant anemone filled waters within its bounds. The Archipelago Management Board is happy to welcome you to Gwaii Haanas in 201 and hopes you leave as in love with these shining islands as have so many visitors before you.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT

Are you travelling independently or on a guided trip? If you would like to take a guided trip, book your trip directly with a licensed Tour Operator. See pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/gwaii-haanas/visit/guides/voyagistes-operators for a list of licensed operators.

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
tour operators. If you are travelling independently (in your own boat, personal or rented kayak) you will need to make a reservation and attend an orientation.

Gwaii Haanas balances recreation with protection of the natural and cultural features that attract people. With this in mind, the number of visitors entering Gwaii Haanas each day is limited. Available space is distributed between guided and independent travelers.

July to mid-August is the busiest travel period, so if you plan to visit during this time, verify the availability of your Gwaii Haanas dates before finalizing your travel plans.

**RESERVE**

Make a reservation by calling Gwaii Haanas toll free at 1-877-559-8818. The reservation service is available Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm throughout the year. Be prepared to provide your planned entry and exit dates, the names of everyone in your group, credit card details and your vessel registration number, if applicable.

**ATTEND ORIENTATION**

All Gwaii Haanas visitors, who are not travelling with a licensed tour operator, must attend an orientation.

This 90 minute session provides an opportunity to connect with Gwaii Haanas staff, ask questions about your upcoming trip and to learn about the amazing Haida culture and incredible wildlife found here. The orientation will go over closures, traveler protocols and what to do in case of an emergency. Visitors who cannot attend a scheduled orientation in person should call the Gwaii Haanas office early in the planning process.

**HAIDA WATCHMEN PROGRAM**

Long ago, Haida watchmen were posted at strategic positions around a village to raise the alarm in advance of an approaching enemy. The current Haida Gwaii Watchmen Program began in 1981 as a volunteer initiative designed to protect Haida villages and other important cultural sites in Gwaii Haanas. Today, Watchmen welcome visitors and act as guardians protecting the villages from spring until autumn at:

K’uuna Llnagaay Skedans
Taanuu Llnagaay Tanu
Hlk’yah GawGa Windy Bay
Gandll K’in Gwaayyaay Hotspring Island
SGang Gwaay Ninstints, Anthony Island

Listen, as Haida Watchmen share oral histories and stories, which have been passed down through generations.

Haida poles at SGang Gwaay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and K’uuna Llnagaay Skedans stretch into the sky telling ancient stories. Haida poles are maps of Haida lives and lineages and form a connection with the supernatural, displaying crests associated with certain families and people.

With amazingly large posts and beams defining enormous tiered house pits dug into the earth, longhouses offer a window into Haida traditional life. Haida longhouse construction has been recognized as an architectural design unique to the Haida.
GUIDED WALKS

BEACH EXPLORATION
As the tide falls, join a Gwaii Haanas Interpreter and meet some of the strange and beautiful animals and seaweeds that are found in the world between the tides. Rubber boots or other water-proof footwear are highly recommended.

Location: Beach in front of Kay Llnagaay the Haida Heritage Centre.

Schedule: May - September on each low-tide cycle, see Gwaii Haanas website for more details.

GUUHLGA SIIWAAY K’YUU SPIRIT LAKE HIKE
Come and explore the sights, sounds, and smells of a coastal temperate rain forest. Learn about Haida traditional use, connections, and sustainability through ancient legends and oral histories. Please bring appropriate footwear and clothing for hiking.

Location: Guuhl Ga Siiwaay K’yuu Spirit Lake Trail Head across the highway from NaaGaagudgii Kyagangs George Brown Recreation Centre in HlGaagilda Skidegate.

Schedule: Tuesdays at 10:00am & Fridays at 1:30pm from June 15th – August 31st, 2018

GWAII HAANAS CONNECTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Join a Gwaii Haanas Interpreter at Kay Llnagaay the Haida Heritage Centre and learn about the history, stories, and science behind Gwaii Haanas.

Listen: Gwaii Haanas Connections offer a look at Gwaii Haanas and Haida Gwaii on a deeper level. Hear stories of our connections with the land and sea, as well as our broadening scientific understanding of some of the other inhabitants of Haida Gwaii.

Discover: From cedar weaving to a microscopic look at the shoreline, Gwaii Haanas offers activity stations for hands-on learning.

Our summer program schedule can be found on the Gwaii Haanas webpage www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/gwaiihaanas and posted in the Haida Heritage Center and Queen Charlotte Visitor Information Centre.

Private bookings: Does your group have a tight schedule or a particular interest? Consider booking a private or custom program.

Call 1-877-559-8818 for more information.

MORE INFORMATION

Want to learn more about Gwaii Haanas?

Please see the 2018 Gwaii Haanas Trip Planner online at www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/bc/gwaiihaanas/visit and gohaidagwaii.ca for your complete Gwaii Haanas information source.

GWAII HAANAS ADMINISTRATION

Phone: 1-877-559-8818 or 250-559-8818
Fax: 250-559-8366
Emergency: 780-852-3100
Email: gwaii.haanas@pc.gc.ca
Mail: Box 37, Queen Charlotte, BC V0T 1S0
Office: Haida Heritage Centre, 60 Second Beach Road, Skidegate, BC
Web: www.pc.gc.ca/gwaiihaanas
Facebook: facebook.com/GwaiiHaanas
This is your year to find Gwaii Haanas.
C’est l’année de votre découverte de Gwaii Haanas.

#25YearsStrong  #LivingLegacy
parkscanada.gc.ca/gwaiihaanas

#FortsDe25ans  #HeritageVivant
parcscanada.gc.ca/gwaiihaanas
A wealth of knowledge

SANDSPIT VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
250-637-5362 • lovehaidagwaii.com/the-sandspit-visitor-centre

Sandspit Visitor Centre is located inside the Sandspit Airport and provides information about what to see and do in the area, including the world-renowned Gwaii Haanas Haida Heritage Site, National Park Reserve, and Nation Marine Conservation Area. The Sandspit Visitor Centre staff members are locals with intimate, firsthand knowledge of the area, its culture, peoples and heritage, plus local events, like the Moresby Market, Loggers Sports Day and the Sandspit Wild Harvest Festival. In addition to information about the region, visitors are invited to spend time in the gift shop and take home a souvenir to commemorate their visit to the region. The Sandspit Visitor Centre is part of the official Tourism BC Visitor Centre Network and is operated by a not-for-profit community society.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
250-559-8316 • queencharlottevisitorcentre.com

The Queen Charlotte Visitor Information Centre is located in heart of Daajing Giids and is a part of the official Tourism BC Visitor Information Centre Networks. They are open all year long; during the winter they are open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and in the summer, seven days a week.

The Queen Charlotte Visitor Centre and it's services are an integral part of the Islands tourism community of Haida Gwaii. Wondering where to stay or how to connect with local tour and charter companies? Do you need a map or directions to hiking trails and beautiful beaches? The staff are here to help. Head outside to the interpretive garden and picnic area to relax and take in the fresh air.

PORT CLEMENTS MUSEUM & INFORMATION CENTRE
250-557-4576 • lovehaidagwaii.com/port-clements-museum

Visitors to Haida Gwaii must add a stop at the Port Clements Museum to their travel itinerary. The museum is run by the Port Clements Historical Society, made up entirely of local volunteers who have a passion for preserving and sharing Gamadiis' unique history. The museum features both outdoor and indoor displays, including its famous collection of machinery that helped to shape the town and power the industries that put Gamadiis on the map. In fact, visitors can take in more than 2,000 artifacts that have played a significant role in shaping the past of Gamadiis. Guests are invited to take an interpretive tour or browse the displays on their own. The Port Clements Museum is open daily June to September - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. During the rest of the year it is open Saturdays and Sundays - 2:00 - 4:00 pm.

MASSET INFORMATION CENTRE
250-626-3982 • massetbc.com

The village of Masset operates the Northern Haida Gwaii Visitor Information Centre. Located at Mile 0 of the Yellowhead Highway at the entrance to town the Visitor Information Centre is open daily from 9am-5pm from mid-June through mid-September. Besides providing visitors with any information they may need during their stay on Haida Gwaii, the Northern Haida Gwaii Visitor Information Centre also sells village of Masset merchandise such as baseball caps, t-shirts, and mugs, as well as various locally made products/jewellery. Other services provided are free WiFi access, public washroom, and telephone access for anyone in need to make a call.

For more information, blog stories and trip details: gohaidagwaii.ca
After his sister Saaywas had finished planting, Nang Kilsdlaas Hll.nga Supernatural Raven gathered the birds on the western side of Xiina Gwaay.yaay Ramsay Island. Together they stripped gid cedar bark to prepare for the gyaa 'islaa potlatch. From these they built a monument of boulders on open ground, which today resembles scattered bundles of ts'uu k'al. When his guests, the animals and supernatural beings, arrived floating in their canoes, he appeared before them dressed in drab, black clothes. Through his translator, Porpoise-Woman, Nang Kilsdlaas Hll.nga challenged his guests to fight him using GalGahlyan Northern abalone and chaay caviar as weapons.

When Nang Kilsdlaas Hll.nga had finished eating he provided piercings for his guests. These piercings are the nares, or holes, in bird beaks today. All the birds crowded into the small house there and told those who sat against the walls to have heads as narrow as the place where they sat. These are the diving birds today. Then Nang Kilsdlaas Hll.nga sent all the birds out of the house dressed in beautiful regalia. That day he provided all the birds with their plumage except sasaa k'iigee Harlequin duck. These birds went away weeping until they reached Naay Kun, where WaadGadagang Master Carpenter came down to them from his house. He took them inside and painted their plumage more finely than all other birds. Today bird watchers can distinguish them by the tearstains that mark their plumage.

Haida Gwaii is home to approximately 1.5 million nesting seabirds and many hundreds of thousands more that pass through the Islands. Dozens of species flourish in 18 internationally recognized Important Bird Areas that together cover about 2300 square kilometres of land and sea. Three thousand square kilometres of upland and 1700 square kilometres of marine foreshore are protected in Haida Gwaii under various designations. The rich intertidal environments, estuaries, old growth forests, and rocky cliffs found in these areas offer dozens of rare and declining species respite from human activity. If you have sharp eyes, you are likely to spot many of the over 250 species confirmed to nest, feed, or migrate through these Islands.
GUUD BALD EAGLE

Throughout K’iygang the Haida canon of oral histories one supernatural can be depended on to act with unwavering pragmatism. Throughout their travels through primordial time Nang Kilsdlaas Hll nga Supernatural Raven and Guud refer to one another as cousins. Today Guud Bald eagle represents one of the two moieties, or matrilineal kinship groupings, of Haida people. Haida descendants of the eagle moiety are called K’uustak. They are the matrilineal descendants of the Haida supernatural mothers, Jiila Kuns and Kalga Jaad Ice Woman.

Guud are a common sight in Haida Gwaii, where they dive from perches above shores to catch salmon and other fish. You can depend on spotting ts’aag soaring high above them in all parts of the Islands. They frequently nest close to towns, where you can see them tending to their nests and delivering meals for their chicks.

In spring Guud make time for love. You can watch them swooping and cartwheeling after one another in elaborate, airborne courtship dances. Their dances culminate as they lock talons and tumble in free fall, separating just before they would hit the ground.

Brown plumage and larger sizes distinguish juvenile eagles. These younger birds lack the distinctive white heads and tails that distinguish adults and make them conspicuous even from a distance.

YAAHL RAVEN

Yaahl are another bird common to Haida Gwaii which you are guaranteed to see. This large, inky bird represents another of the two moieties into which Haida people are born. Kayxal Haida descendants of the raven moiety are matrilineal descendants of SGuuluu Jaad Foam Woman.

You may be familiar with Yaahl, who features as a primary character in K’iygang. Distinguished in story both for his high intelligence and ability to outwit himself!

You can see these clever Is-lands residents everywhere; however it may take patience to witness some of their true character. You might catch them singing in chorus together, instigating fights amongst their friends, sledding in snow, dangling upside-down from power lines, or flying off with your lunch.
K’YAALUUWEE
PELAGIC
CORMORANT

Perched in dour-looking gangs on reefs and rocky outcroppings, k’yaaluwee Pelagic cormorant dry their wings and wait for better fishing weather. Their small, slender bodies bunched together in cliques, make for a chilly sight year-round. If these thin-headed seabirds look soaked, they aren’t faking. K’yaaluwee, like all cormorants, lack the preening oil most birds use to waterproof their feathers. They instead spread and preen their wings in whatever wind and sunlight might come their way.

Large webbed toes and small wings designed for swimming propel k’yaaluwee down to 100 feet below the ocean surface. There they catch non-schooling sea creatures like sculpins, gunnels, rockfish, juvenile flatfish, small crustaceans and shrimp. K’yaaluwee also dive for ‘iinang Pacific herring in rafts of mixed species.

When love is in the air, males dance for their partners on steep, rocky cliffs where they nest. Pointing bill up and tail down, they quickly raise and lower the tips of their folded wings, flashing their white flank patches. The dancers welcome their partners to share nests of grass, seaweeds, mosses, sticks, feathers, and the odd bright touch of plastic debris.
**WIID SWAINSON’S THRUSH**

In spring the forests of Haida Gwaii echo with the enchanting song of thrushes. Haida Gwaii hosts seven members from the thrush family, but only wiid’s songs have the power to make sk’awGan Salmon berries ripen. Visitors are likely to hear their song rising in flourishes and spirals from thickets.

Wiid spend winters as far south as Uruguay and summers as far north as Alaska's northern coast. Upon arrival at their summer retreat in Haida Gwaii, bachelors seek out the most alluring brambles they can find. Apparent cultural variations mean wiid differ in opinion over whether deciduous trees, bushes, or evergreens make the most suitable home. In Haida Gwaii the feathered homemakers tend to favour dense thickets. Whatever kind of residence they choose, males guard their territory jealously, warding off competitors with one of the most beautiful songs in the bird-world.

Mothers lay three or four pale blue eggs with light brown, blotchy spots in a cozy cup they construct from twigs, grass, and leaves cushioned generously in moss and lined with bark fibre, lichens, and fur. Should the nest tend to wobble on the branch, then mud makes for a fine adhesive.

**HAJAA CASSIN’S AUKLET**

Weighing in at 150-200 grams and with a length of 23 centimetres, their small size doesn’t keep hajaa Cassin’s auklet from diving deep to catch dinner. At 120 feet, this fluffy terror from above brings doom upon crustaceans like krill, shrimp, amphipods, and copepods. A few supplemental squid and small fish may also find themselves amongst the legions of the consumed.

Hajaa visit Haida Gwaii from March to August and you can see the seabirds bobbing on the ocean while they take a breather between dives, or zipping low on the water like fluffy tennis-balls with wings. Hajaa are dark above and pale below and bear a small white mark above the eye.

Males and females bow and head bob, moving their heads from side to side, touching bills. Haaja are true to one another and dig nests together by burrowing under tree roots, adding little or no nesting material. Pairs may also establish a nest in a natural crevice. Once the couple moves in they will return to the same burrow year after year. Upon hatching, hajaa young scramble from burrows to the water where they can swim and dive immediately.
Should you leave the allure of shore and wrestle through the thick ts'ahl pines and sk'itGaan salal, you might find yourself in the hunting grounds of an elusive predator. While this coastal subspecies of Northern goshawk is slightly smaller than their cousins in the interior, stads k'un are none-the-less deadly. Stads k'un prefer a traditional diet of st-luuts'idaang woodpecker, skaw grouse, t'in Varied thrush, ts'allang nga Marbled murrelet and t'il-hlk'yaah merganser. However, since the BC Game Commission introduced invasive daasGa squirrel to Haida Gwaii, the raptor has added these little morsels to the menu.

Adults wear a slick blue-gray jacket with a barred gray and white chest. A sullen, white brow overshadows an austere, red eye. They stand upon a sturdy pair of bright yellow legs tipped with sets of sharp, black talons. Overall they are a very handsome, if very rare, sight. Stads k'un have to dress well, after all, as Haida Gwaii’s national bird.

While stads k’un occupy a wide range stretching from Northern Alaska to Northern California, their dependence on mature k’aang hemlock and kayd spruce forest leave them endangered in Haida Gwaii. Extensive logging has left them with very few areas to nest and forage. Invasive species like k’aad deer further denigrate hunting grounds by stripping forests bare of cover, leaving smaller birds with nowhere to live.

It is estimated that their total population in Haida Gwaii might lie anywhere between 16 – 72 birds. You can identify their nests by the deposits of bones and feathers found below them.
"I've made art as long as I can remember," says SGid Gang.Xaal, whose Haida name translates to wild rose in English. "By the time I was 10 or 11, I knew I wanted to work in animation." After high school, she attended Emily Carr University of Art + Design in Vancouver. She focused on hand-drawn animation, graduating with a Bachelor of Media Arts with a major in Animation in 2015. Part-time and summer jobs at the Bill Reid Centre in Tagwan Vancouver and Saahlinda Naay the Haida Gwaii Museum in HlGaagilda Skidegate gave her further insight into Haida formline and led to other assignments. One was a project for the American Museum of Natural History, an interactive app and colouring book called Dreams of the Haida Child. The colouring book introduces children to Haida art and culture through 10 pieces in the museum's collection and the app brings their coloured pages to life through an animated story. Combining her knowledge of Haida art and her fluency in digital technology, SGid Gang.Xaal did the drawings for the storybook and background illustrations for the animation.

Just this past September, the two pieces she created for the Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum's annual art auction created quite a buzz, receiving some of the highest bids of the evening. Both are small paintings featuring Haida formline rendered in moody, complex colours: Dogfish in black and taupe on a pale violet background, and Mouse's House in two shades of blue-grey.

Now 25, SGid Gang.Xaal recently moved back to Tagwan, where she is working as a freelance artist and savouring the fresh perspective the big city brings. Her artwork — including two limited edition prints of watercolour paintings — is available at GinaDaahlGahl Naay the Haida Gwaii Museum Trading House, Crystal Cabin Gallery in Tilal Tlell, and Funk It in Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte. For original works, contact her through her facebook page or email sgidgang.xaal@gmail.com.

At GidGalang Kuuyas Naay high school in Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte, SGid Gang.Xaal Shoshannah Greene would escape from math and French classes to hang out in the art room whenever she could. She loved drawing characters, usually based on animals. Fascinated by animation work she had seen on the internet, she spent many hours in the art room working on her own methods, meticulously drawing images over and over to bring life and movement to her characters.

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WHY WE LOVE HAIDA GWAII

SU-SAN BROWN
TLLAAAL
Tllel
I love Haida Gwaii for not only accepting but encouraging each of us to slow down and be grateful just for where we live. It’s enough, the land can support us as long as we don’t try and make this place just like everywhere else.

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E MMY O’GORMAN
K’il Llnagaay
Sandspit
I love Haida Gwaii because of its endless beaches, its fabulous wild foods, and its ever-changing breathtaking skies. This is a dog walker’s paradise!

ALAN LORE
GAMADIIS
Port Clements
I’m super supported by all my friends and families here, so it’s an easy place to live. It’s really nice to be able to make a living by meeting interesting people and travellers.

CAROL KULESHA
DAAJING GIIDS
Queen Charlotte
Even when I’m not paying attention I see beauty. Out of the corner of my eye while walking or driving or drinking coffee on the deck, Haida Gwaii is eye candy.
FEATURED TRAILS
For specific trail information see BC Parks.ca or gohaidagwaii.ca:

Taaw Tow Hill & Kwahtsiisda Blow hole
K’iid K’iiyaas Golden Spruce
Anvil
Pesuta
Yaagun Yakoun Lake
Gregory Beach
Dover Trail
Secret Cove
Sk’aw Gandalaa Cape Fife
Tlldas East Beach

CAMPSITE LOCATIONS
Agate Beach and Misty Meadows
Campgrounds are subject to a nightly fee from June 1 to September 30:

Hl’yaalan Galguusd Agate Beach
Misty Meadows
Diinal GawGa Gray Bay

PICNIC & PADDLING AREAS
Make sure you understand the risks of water sport activities:

Diinal GawGa Gray Bay
Yaagun Yakoun Lake
Kwiid Suu Mayer Lake
Gantl’ Gadaas Pure Lake

THE TRAIL MARKER
There are two main shapes that make up Haida art, the ‘ovoid’ and ‘U’ shapes. Within many classical designs, you will find the salmon/trout head like this one used on the trail markers. The design is used to fill spaces in eye balls, wings, body parts, etc. There are thousands of different ways this common design element can be used.

Trail Marker design – Ben Davidson
CO-MANAGEMENT
The Haida Nation and BC Parks co-manage eighteen terrestrial and marine protected areas across the Haida Gwaii archipelago. This amounts to one-third of the Islands – just over 224,000 hectares (553,516 acres). Combined with Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, fifty-two percent of Haida Gwaii is protected and managed collaboratively with the Haida Nation.

- YAHGUDAANG is the Haida concept for respect for the land, sea and all living things - please practice this during your visit to Haida Gwaii protected areas. Use the principles of Leave No Trace camping.
- Please do not remove any cultural artifacts that you may encounter along the route and report any findings to the Council of the Haida Nation and BC Parks.
- Respect sensitive plants growing in coastal sand ecosystems and do not trample or pick them.
- Avoid travel in the forest during high winds.
- On exposed beaches always be aware of the tide and never turn your back to the sea. Make sure you have a current tide table and know how to interpret it.
- Be Taan Bear Aware – they can be encountered throughout Haida Gwaii. Always store your food and trash properly and away from your campsite, keep dogs under control, and pay attention to your surroundings, especially near salmon rivers.
- Use fire rings if provided and never leave your fire unattended. Ensure it is completely extinguished before you leave.
- Use care and attention driving on active logging roads.
- Tsunamis: rare but dangerous. If you feel the ground shake strongly for more than 30 seconds or notice the tide dropping rapidly and drastically, immediately move to higher ground.

PROTECTED AREAS OF HAIDA GWAIU

COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION
PROTECTED AREAS
haidanation.ca/?page_id=3894
250-626-6058

BC PARKS
BCParks.ca
Naikoon Park headquarters in Tiell
250-557-4390

GWAII HAANAS NATIONAL PARK RESERVE, NATIONAL MARINE CONSERVATION AREA RESERVE, AND HAIDA HERITAGE SITE
parkscanada.gc.ca/gwaiihaanas
877-559-8818

OLD MASSETT VILLAGE COUNCIL
PARKS DEPARTMENT
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info@gohaidagwaii.ca | GoHaidaGwaii.ca

"Southeast Wind" appears with permission of the artist, Robert Davidson

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Governance | History | Stories | Video | Haida Laas | Programs
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pcmuseum@qcislands.ca
www.portclements museum.ca

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2172 Harrison Ave, Masset • demms@mhtv.ca

Haida Gwaii Trader

What’s your Haida Gwaii story? Bring it to life with Haida Gwaii Trader! Send us your stories, photos, poems, cartoons, etc. We look forward to hearing from you. Call 250-557-2088 or email info@haidagwaiitrader.com Pick up the latest copy of the HG Trader magazine at participating retailers or check out our Ezine on the HG Trader website at haidagwaiitrader.com

250-557-2088 • P.O. Box 222 • Port Clements

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For more information, news, photos, and more please visit our website: portclements.ca
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For more information about Naikoon Provincial Park visit:
env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/naikoon

Facilities at Naikoon Provincial Park managed by
Old Massett Village Council Parks Department
For questions please contact Park Coordinator,
PO Box 175, Old Massett, Haida Gwaii V0T 1M0
parkes@mhtv.ca

MISTY MEADOWS
• 1km south of Tlell River bridge
• 30 vehicle camping sites, private tenting area, picnic shelter, pit toilets, water

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- The only nature centre in the Skeena region
- Comparable to centres in Europe
- A winning destination for residents and visitors

The Delkatla Sanctuary Society, a Registered Charity, owns and operates the Nature Centre. The Society is dedicated to protecting the Delkatla Wildlife Sanctuary, a migratory bird sanctuary, where over 140 bird species have been recorded.

250-626-5015 • 1860 Trumpeter Dr • Masset

The Yoga Pit was started to help inspire and build the yoga community in Northern Haida Gwaii. This small studio has morning and evening classes that are empowering and fun. Whether you are a beginner or an avid yogi let this space inspire you! Email: mariel.mcleod@gmail.com

**The Yoga Pit**

- Yoga classes offered in a variety of styles
- Drop in and registered programs
- Personalized practices and private workshops available

902-483-4992 • 1630 Orr St • Masset

The Ground Gallery & Coffee House is known throughout Haida Gwaii, not just for its rich coffee and espresso but as a place that brings people together. Savour an expertly crafted coffee beverage while you meet with friends, surrounded by local artwork.

**The Ground Gallery & Coffee House**

- Espresso and specialty teas
- Delicious baking and treats
- Local artwork and great atmosphere
- Northbeach apparel

250-626-5251 • 1599 Main St • Masset

Northbeach Apparel

Available at The Ground
1599 Main Street, Masset
**LADYBIRD’S BOUTIQUE**

- Vintage, retro consignment clothing, accessories and home-ware
- Diverse styles and sizes xs-3xl, for all genders
- Locally made jewelry, clothing, accessories, and natural products
- Haida Owned and Operated

778 867-3464 • 1638 Orr Street • Masset

Step into Ladybirds Boutique found in downtown Masset and be prepared to find something one of a kind. If you are looking for a locally handmade item or the perfect outfit that will make you stand out from the crowd, come on by.

---

**HIDDEN ISLAND RV & CAMPGROUND**

- 16 large treed RV lots, some big enough for groups
- Family owned and ideally situated for exploring Haida Gwaii
- Sites are walking distance to the beach

Located in Masset you can find Hidden Island RV & Campground - equipped with serviced sites, clean washrooms with showers, free high speed Wi-Fi, coin operated laundry, handmade gifts, nautical gifts, fishing tackle and marine supplies.

250-626-5286 • 1790 Tow Hill Rd • Masset

---

**TOW HILL MARINE TOURS**

- Cultural and Fishing Charters out of Masset, Haida Gwaii
- Locally owned and operated

Our cultural tours of the ancient Haida village sites in Northern Haida Gwaii are journeys into Haida history. Led by a Haida watchman, our full or half-day trips leave from Masset and are a must for those seeking to learn more about the north end of Haida Gwaii. towhillfishingcharter.com

250-626-6099 • info@towhillfishingcharters.com • Masset

---

**NORTH BEACH CABINS**

- Located in Naikoon Provincial Park
- Eco-tourism in off-the-grid beach cabins
- email: lschultz@northbeachcabins.com

Come to the edge of the world and relax while you revel in the sights and sounds of Haida Gwaii’s Naikoon Provincial Park. North Beach Cabins provides guests with an authentic eco-tourism experience in the heart of Haida Gwaii’s pristine native environment.

250-626-7126 • 15965 Tow Hill Rd • North Beach

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**SARAH’S HAIDA ARTS & JEWELLRY**

- Haida Drums
- Haida Argillite
- Haida Weaving
- Haida Jewelry

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387 Eagle Ave, Old Massett • 11am to 5pm daily
250-626-5560 • Toll Free: 1-888-626-5560 sarahshaidaarts.com

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**EAGLE TALON ADVENTURES**

- Kayak rentals for individuals & groups
- Locally made sweet & savoury foods
- Locally roasted coffee
- Variety of ice cream flavours

Eagle Talon Adventures is a new business in Old Massett owned by Cynthia Samuels. It is the first Haida-owned kayak outfitter in island. Eagle Talon Adventures, inspires the adventurous spirit with what nature has to offer.

778-361-0199 • 245 Eagle Avenue • Old Massett

---

**BEACHCABINS.COM**

- Located in Naikoon Rainforest Park and bordering the ocean
- Surf, harvest crabs and dig clams on your doorstep
- Local inside information from a 45-year resident

Cozy. Private. Unique.

beachcabins.com provides comfortable, oceanfront, private, off-grid cabins.

www.beachcabins.com

250-626-5472 • 15901 Tow Hill Rd • North Beach
### PLACE NAMES

- Chaahluu Kaaahli Rennell Sound
- Daajing Giids Queen Charlotte
- Damaxyaay
- Diinal GawGa Gray Bay
- HIGaagilda Skidegate
- Hl’yaalan Galguusd Agate Beach
- Gaahlins kun Cape Ball
- Gaatsguusd North Beach
- Gandll K’in Gwaayyaay Hotspring Island
- Gandll SkahlGaal St. Mary’s Spring
- Gamadiis Port Clements
- Gaw Masset, Old Massett
- Gaw Kaaahli Masset Inlet
- Gawu Kuns SiIiwaay Mosquito Lake
- Gna Guu Aahllu Naay Performance House
- GuuhiGa Llnagaay Skidegate Landing
- Juus Kaaahli Juskatla
- Kay Llnagaay Sealion Town
- Kwahtsiisda the Blow Hole
- K’il Llnagaay Sandspit
- K’uuna Llnagaay Skedans
- Kuu Jaa TllaGaw Sleeping Beauty Mountain
- Kxeen Prince Rupert
- Nasduu Gandlee Hippa Island
- Nee Kun Rose Spit
- MaaGa Gandlaay Cape Ball River
- Saahlinda Naay Haida Gwaii Museum
- Siigeek Dixon Entrance
- SGang Gwaay Anthony Island
- Sk’aw Gandalaay Cape Fife
- Taaw Tow Hill
- Taa Suu Tasu Inlet
- TIl.laal Tllel
- TIlleggduu GawGa Kagan Bay
- Ts’aa.ahl Gwaayyaay Chaatl Island
- Xaana Kaaahlii GawGaay Skidegate Inlet
- Xiina Gwaayyaay Ramsay Island
- Xuunya Gandlee Oeanda River
- Yaagun Kun Yakan Point
- Yaagun Suu Yakoun Lake

### LAND & SEA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GAW XAAD KIL</th>
<th>HLGAAGILDA XAAYDA KIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fish eggs</td>
<td>Tsaay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Abalone</td>
<td>Gahlgahl’yaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassin’s Auklet</td>
<td>Hajaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific herring</td>
<td>‘Iinaang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlequin duck</td>
<td>Sasaa K’iigee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelagic Cormorant</td>
<td>K’yaaluwwe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine marten</td>
<td>K’u’u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon berries</td>
<td>Sk’awGaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haida Gwaii Goshawk</td>
<td>Sdads k’un</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Cedar</td>
<td>Ts’uu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar bark</td>
<td>Giid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grizzly bear</td>
<td>Xuuts’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BEINGS

- The Haida canon of oral histories
- Matrilineal descendants of the raven moiety
- Hereditary leader
- Matrilineal descendants of the eagle moiety
- Haida ancestors
- One Whose Voice is Obeyed or Supernatural Raven

| K’iygang | K’aygang.nga |
| Yaalaa | Kayxal |
| Kilsaay | Kilslaay |
| Guuda | Kuustak |
| Kuniiisi | Kuuniiisi |
| Nang Kilslaas | Nang Kilslaas Hll.nga / Nang Kilslaas |

### ITEMS & EVENTS

- Monumental pole
- Expert carver
- Raven’s Tail weaving
- Grandmother
- Copper shield
- Balance (making things right)
- Grandfather
- Respect
- Potlatch
- Thank You

| Gya’ang | Gya’ang
| K’id ’leegaa ’aayaagaa | Gya k’id IlGaayGa |
| Yaahl Kuu | Naaxiin |
| Naanii | Nanaay |
| Taaw | TaaGuu |
| Till yahdaa | Till yahda |
| Tsanii | Chiiang |
| Yahgudang | Yahgudang |
| ‘Waahl’hahl | ‘WaahlGahl |
| Haw’aa | Haawa |
A NOTE ON HAIDA LANGUAGE

XAAYDA KIL AND XAAD KIL CONSONANTS

1. **Lips**
   - p, b, m, w

2. **Back of teeth**
   - t, t’, d, n, ts, ts’, j, s, tl, tl’, dl, hl, l, l’

3. **Hard palate**
   - y, ch

4. **Soft palate**
   - k, k’, g, ng, x, w

5. **Uvula**
   - k, k’, G (in Xaayda Kil), x

6. **Glottis**
   - h, ’, G (in Xaad Kil)

Elders say there were as many dialects of Haida as there were clans – at one time numbering well into the hundreds. Today three primary dialects are recognized: K’íis Xaad kil *southeastern Alaskan dialect*, Gaw Xaad kil *Haida northern dialect* and HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil *Haida southern dialect*.

The dedicated and vibrant Haida language community is thoroughly integrated into the Islands fabric. The community provides translation services, spell checking, the correct use of words, and context-references to many publications and individuals on Haida Gwaii. The community includes fluent speakers mentoring younger students in all communities, elders who gather in spaces like HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil Naay Skidegate Haida Immersion Program (SHIP) to record and teach, university students earning teaching degrees, those who participated in discussion and write in the language online, and people teaching themselves at home.

A NOTE ON HAIDA LANGUAGE USE:
In this publication, the geographic location of the story determines which dialect is used. For the stories located north of Gamadiis Port Clements we use Gaw Xaad kil and for those south of Gamadiis we use HlGaagilda Xaayda Kil.
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- Excellent choice of fish & chips
- Complete Haida Experience
- Collection of local Haida art

Get your delicious Haida Gwaii fish & chips!
Find us at 75 Raven Avenue (3rd house on the waterside of Raven Ave).
Summer hours (June 1 to September 15): Monday-Saturday 12pm-7pm, Sundays 12pm-6pm.
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- Dairy
- Meat
- Produce

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- Meat
- Produce
- Bait
- Ice
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