



## WHAT TO BRING

### **What should I pack?**

You will need your day to day clothing and your swim gear. As there is limited room for luggage in vehicles, on the ferry and in the cabins, we kindly ask that you minimize what you bring.

We recommend you bring 2-3 swimsuits, water shoes, your goggles, cap, and swim parka along with 2 towels. There are towels at Drifters' Cove, but they are limited.

It is best to bring layered clothing: 1-2 pair of shorts, pants, a few t-shirts, a hoodie for warmth, and a rain jacket. Closed casual shoes work best, such as running shoes. You may also want to bring a pair of sandals that can be used when walking around Shearwater or Bella Bella, but they are not necessary. If it rains, you should be able to wear your water shoes.

You will also need to bring your personal toiletries, a coffee mug and a water bottle.

### **How much money should I bring?**

You will need funds for the following meals:

1. Lunch on the way to Port Hardy (unless you pack it)
2. Dinner in Port Hardy
3. Breakfast and possibly lunch on the ferry
4. A celebration meal in Shearwater
5. Dinner on the ferry on the way home
6. Breakfast in Port Hardy before you leave.

### **Can I bring a SUP?**

You are welcome to bring a SUP if you have room in your vehicle.

### **Should I bring food?**



This is up to each individual. Meals and snacks will be provided throughout the swim camp however we recognize that you may have some personal favorite go to snacks that you may want to bring along.

You will be staying on a property that is off the grid and only accessible by boat. I know I will have the odd dark chocolate bar packed in my bag!

## HOW TO GET THERE

### How do I get to Drifters' Cove?

1. You will travel to Port Hardy by car (more information below).
2. The following day you will take BC Ferries to Bella Bella (more information below).
3. Kevin will pick us up in Bella Bella and escort us to Drifters' Cove by boat.

## ABOUT PORT HARDY

### How do I get to Port Hardy?

We recommend that you carpool with others who are travelling to the camp.

It will take approximately 6 hours. There is nowhere to stop between Sayward and Port Hardy.

### Where can I eat along the way?

You can stop in Ladysmith at the Old Town Bakery for a coffee and treat (there is also a town washroom), Campbell River or Sayward for lunch and washroom breaks and if needed gas.

### Where do I stay in Port Hardy?

You will be staying at the [North Coast Backpackers](#). I have reserved and paid for space. It is under Susan Simmons if you arrive before me.



These are humble rooms and you may be sharing a dorm with others. There are washrooms and showers available. Your overnight stay will be short as you need to be up at 4:00-4:30 AM for the ferry.

We will try to have coffee ready to go.

### **Where can I eat in Port Hard?**

The [Sporty Bar and Grill](#) is walking distance to the backpackers and near the water if you would like a nice sunset view. We ate there last year and the food was good.

There is also a restaurant at the [Kwalilas Hotel](#) and the [Glen Lyon Inn](#). The food is good at both.

If you are looking for something simple, you can pick something up at the local [Save On](#). Please keep in mind you are in a very small town and things close early.

## **BC FERRIES**

### **What time is the Ferry?**

The ferry leaves at 7:30. You need to arrive at least 2 hours in advance. It takes approximately 20 minutes to drive from the Backpackers to the ferry. We typically leave the backpackers at 5:00 am.

### **How do I get to the Ferry?**

You will need to carpool to the ferry. I have reserved a ferry ticket and will reserve vehicle parking for you. When you arrive go through the ferry booth. They will direct you to parking. You can then walk to the ticket booth near the ferry. It is on the left.

**Be sure to bring your ID as it is require for the ferry.**

### **What do I need on the Ferry?**



We recommend you bring a day bag on the ferry. It is a 6-hour boat ride. There are great viewing windows where you can watch for humpbacks along the way.

### **Where do I park my car?**

See “How do I get to the Ferry?”

### **Where do I put my gear on the ferry?**

All of the gear you are not taking on the ferry will go in the little train cars. You will see them as you head to the ticket booth. After we check in, you can bring your luggage to the train cars, tag them with your destination (they will give us tags) and pop them in the train cars.

**Please try to put everyone’s luggage in the same car. It will be easier when we off load.**

### **How long is the Ferry and are there amenities on board?**

The ferry ride is approximately 6 hours. There is a cafeteria style restaurant and a BC Ferries shop. Sometimes they show movies in the Canoe room. They will announce this if they do.

### **How do I get from the Ferry to Drifters?**

Ray and I will be bringing our vehicle on board the ferry. We will use our car to taxi you and your luggage from the Bella Bella ferry terminal to the Government Dock where Kevin from Drifters’ Cove will meet us and transport us to his property.

## **DRIFTERS’ COVE**

### **Where will I sleep at Drifters’ Cove?**

We have reserved 2 cabins; the [Kingfisher](#) and the [Orca](#) cabins. Each has room for 4 to 5 people to sleep. Each cabin has a double bed in a bedroom, a loft with room for 2,



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and a sectional coach. There is electricity, a flush toilet and shower in each cabin. There is cellphone coverage on some parts of the property. The Orca cabin is larger than the Kingfisher and will be used for cooking meals during the day. You can view pictures by clicking the links above. If you require more, please let me know.

There is a rustic Kayakers cabin with no electricity and camping space on the grass near the Orca cabin. An outhouse is nearby.

As a group you can decide who sleeps where.

### **Do I need to bring an air mat our sleeping bag?**

If you are planning to camp, please bring your tent and sleeping gear. The property is protected by a dog (Simba) who keeps the bears away.

**You may need a mat and sleeping bag for the loft. I will know shortly.**

### **What activities can I do at Drifters' Cove?**

You can:

- Swim in the protected cove
- Kayak or SUP (there will be 4-5 boats plus 1 SUP)
- Relax and read on the dock
- Sit by the fire
- Watch for whales off the whale deck
- Explore the property

There are TVs in the cabins with videos, but I am guessing that you will not want to watch them.

### **Where is the nearest store?**

There is a small grocery store in Bella Bella. It is a 30-minute boat ride away. We will try to arrange a day trip part way through the camp to Bella Bella so you can walk around the community.



There is a small food market in Shearwater along with a giftshop and pub. It is also a 30-minute boat ride away. We will go to Shearwater for our last meal together.

## **CAMP ACTIVITIES**

### **What swim activities be available?**

Our hope is that you will have the opportunity to swim twice a day. One swim will be endurance (based on your distance preference) in the protective cove and another outside of the cove. We may swim around the corner to view the sea stars or to one of the nearby islands.

Kevin (or MJ) will take us out in the boat one day to play in the nearby bay where you can view sea cucumbers and seals.

### **What if it rains?**

We will swim!

## **TRAVELLING HOME**

### **How do I get home?**

On our departure day we will leave Drivers' Cove at noon and make our way to the ferry. The ferry departs around 6:00 PM. This will give you time to explore Bella Bella one last time.

MJ will have a cooler with snacks available at the ferry terminal.

## **MORE INFO**

Please email [info@susansimmons.ca](mailto:info@susansimmons.ca) if you require more information.