

## Botanical Beach

### Description:

Botanical Beach is the western most portion of the Juan de Fuca Provincial Park. It is also the western terminus of the rugged 47km [Juan de Fuca Marine Trail](#). The park offers a short loop trail (3-4km) that accesses some of the most spectacular coastline and tide pools known on the BC Coast. If you are up for an easy stroll and want to see some impressive sights, Botanical Beach cannot be missed. The park is equally impressive on a sunny day as it is during wild winter storms.

In addition to the loop trail, the shorter Mill Bay Trail accesses a calm gravelly beach that isn't exposed to the open-ocean swells. Mill Bay is a great place to set out for a near-shore snorkel or swim.

### *Hiking:*

The short loop trail is accessible to everyone - including people with limited mobility. It offers access to several exposed west coast beaches. Check out the amazing life in the tide pools and keep your eyes peeled for glass balls!

### *Snorkelling/Swimming:*

The Mill Bay trail offers a short 1.5km trail down to a nice quiet beach. This beach faces Northwest, but is protected from ocean swells. This is a great place to swim on a warm sunny day or set out for a snorkel amongst the local harbour seal population.

### *Wildlife Viewing:*

There is ample opportunity to experience wildlife along this trail. Hikers should be aware that there is a healthy population of bears, cougars and wolves along the length of the trail. Although these animals will not regularly seek out interaction with humans, and will most likely intentionally avoid contact, you should be appropriately prepared to encounter them at any time. Deer and large Roosevelt Elk can also be spotted. Marine wildlife includes Grey Whales, Humpback Whales, Sea Otters, Killer Whales, Sea Lions and numerous species of birds.

### Directions from Renfrew:

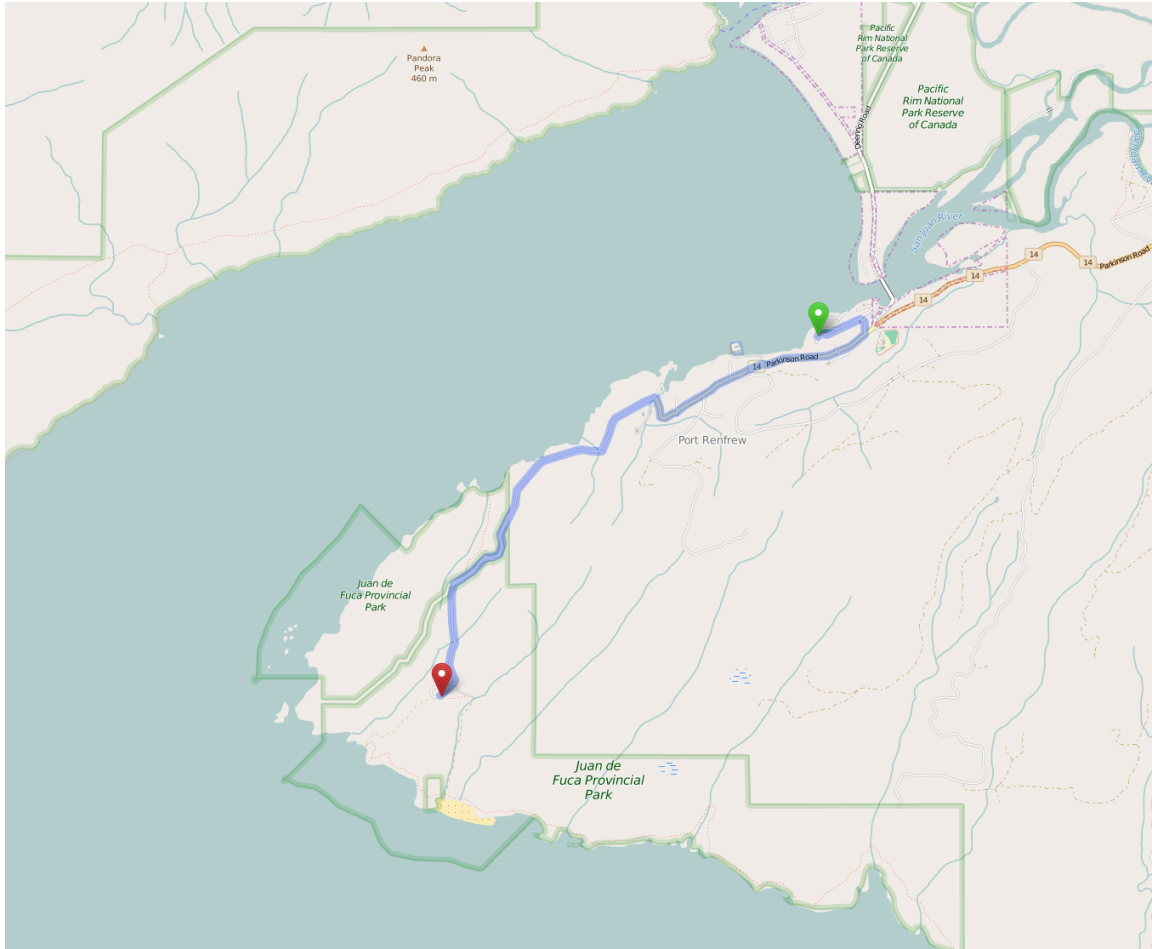
- Zero your odometer at the beach house.
- Using the map, drive the same route as if you were driving towards the General Store.
- At 2.3km you will be at an intersection. Turn left.
- Continue on this road.
- The Mill Bay trailhead will appear on the right at 4.4km.
- Continue on to the end of the road (5.5km) and you will find the trailhead at the parking lot.

## CAUTIONS:

- Rogue waves can and do happen. Be cautious while near the surf at Botanical Beach. People have been swept into the ocean here.
- Wildlife will be present on this trail. There is usually a lot of sign of cougars, bears, elk and wolves. Be prepared to encounter wildlife at any moment.
- Tide Pools are sensitive to human disturbance. Please look, but do not touch.
- As this is a provincial park, you must leave anything of a natural or archaeological origin in its place. Do not remove anything natural or archaeological features.

## MAPS:

### Botanical Beach Trailhead:



# Mill Bay Trailhead:

