

Carrington Bay Park

Guide



photo: Eldron Consulting

CARRINGTON BAY PARK

Carrington Bay Park is on unceded Klahoose First Nation land and comprises 351 hectares (868 acres) of Crown land on lease to the Strathcona Regional District, who manage it as parkland. These parklands lie within the northern wilds of Cortes Island, a relatively undeveloped, unfragmented landscape mosaic of sensitive ecosystems buffered by second growth forests. The sensitive ecosystems provide oases for provincially significant species and ecological communities at risk. Carrington Bay Park boasts biologically rich and diverse marine and terrestrial ecosystems.



As you walk the trail from the log jam to the swim rock, look for the curiosity of sea cucumbers collected along the shoreline of Carrington Lagoon. As the glaciers receded over the shoreline of Carrington Bay 10,000 years ago, they dropped a few fossil erratics of 130,000,000 year old clams, *Buchia spp.*, to convolute the geological history of the area and delight local naturalists!



photo: C. Gronau



This deeply cut bay and adjoining lagoon, on the northern shoreline of Cortes Island, were surveyed in 1864 and named after the first class draughtsman in the Hydrographic Office of the British Admiralty – Robert C. Carrington.

Carrington Bay has a rich homesteading history and, in contrast to today, the area was well populated at the turn of the 20th century. One of the more popular anchorages and campsites, tucked in behind Chicken Island, was the homestead of Wilena



photo: Cortes Museum

and Dick Thompson, who lived there with their five children from 1947 – 1954.

During the heyday of logging, logs dumped into the head of Carrington Lagoon were boomed and towed to the outlet, which was blasted open by Norman Brothers Logging to more easily sluice their logs into Carrington Bay. The outlet of Carrington Lagoon, known as the log jam, today bridges two popular campsites, the larger being the former site of the Barrett's steam-powered shingle mill.

Carrington Bay Park is a marine access park with beautiful wilderness campsites and safe anchorages, except in strong northwesterly winds.



For your own protection and to protect the park forests & wildlife:

**PLEASE CAMP ONLY IN DESIGNATED TENT SITES,
USE OUTHOUSES AND STAY ON TRAILS.
SEASONAL FIRE CLOSURES IN EFFECT.**

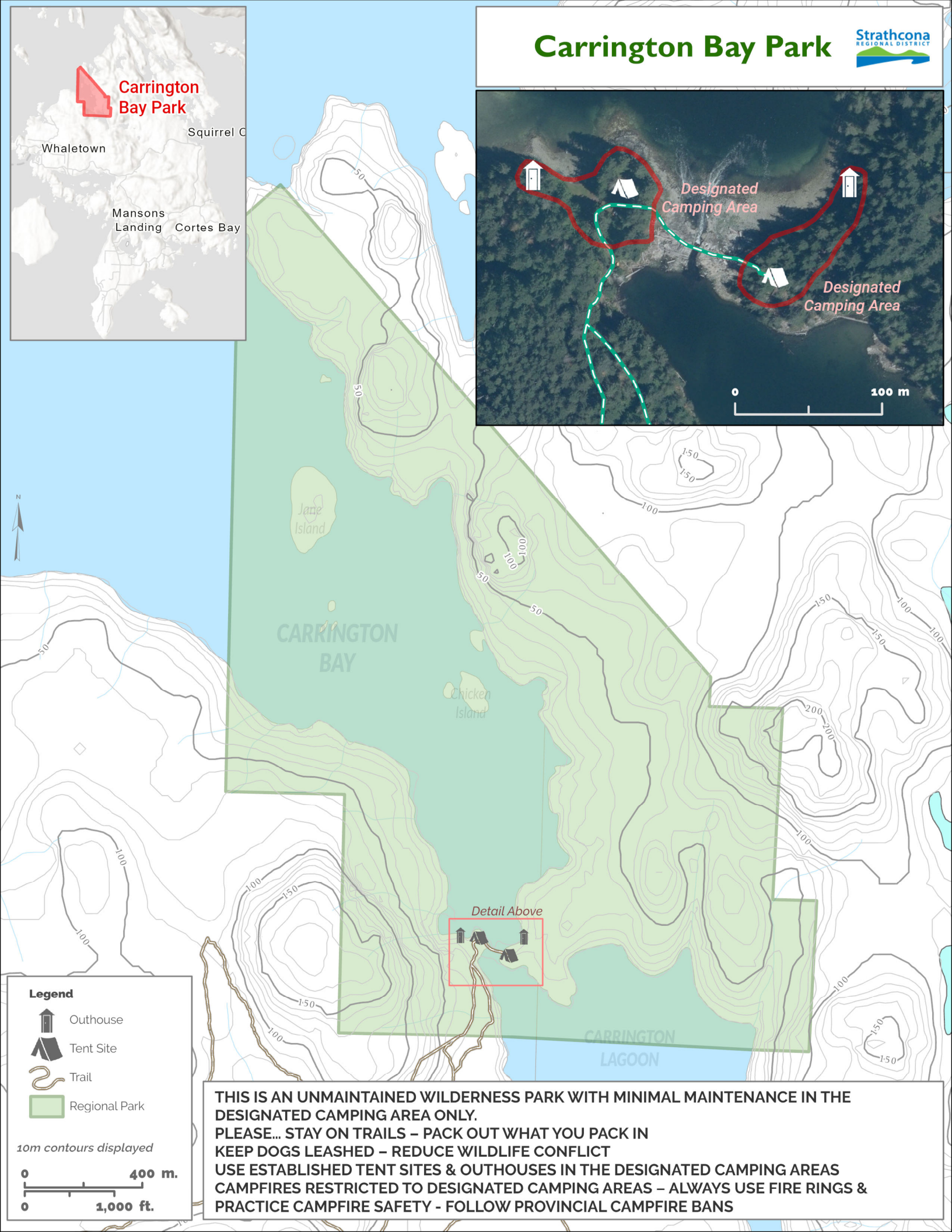
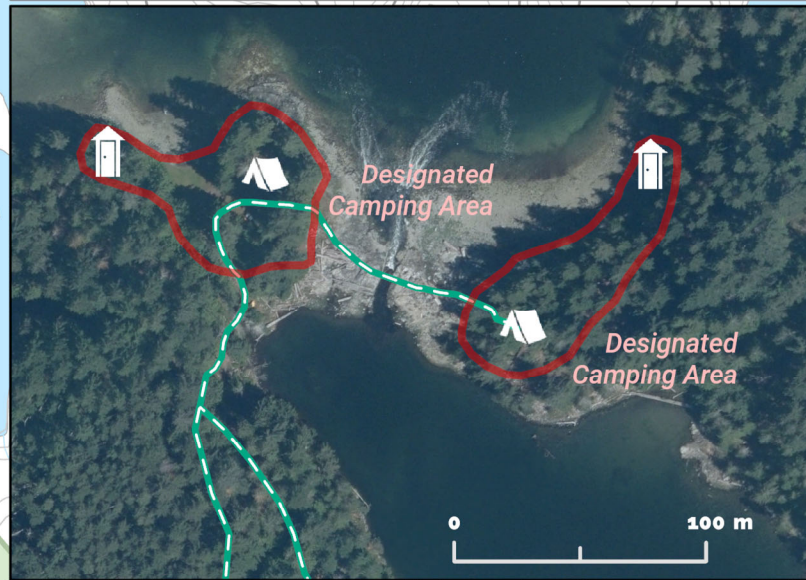
Exercise caution at all times in the park as you are in ungroomed wilderness. Trails may not be safe during high winds due to falling branches and tree blow-down. To reduce wildlife conflict, dogs are discouraged within the park but when present, dogs must be on leash and under their owners control at all times.



Strathcona Regional District

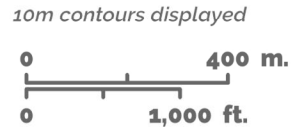
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Carrington Bay Park



Legend

- Outhouse
- Tent Site
- Trail
- Regional Park



THIS IS AN UNMAINTAINED WILDERNESS PARK WITH MINIMAL MAINTENANCE IN THE DESIGNATED CAMPING AREA ONLY.
PLEASE... STAY ON TRAILS – PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN
KEEP DOGS LEASHED – REDUCE WILDLIFE CONFLICT
USE ESTABLISHED TENT SITES & OUTHOUSES IN THE DESIGNATED CAMPING AREAS
CAMPFIRES RESTRICTED TO DESIGNATED CAMPING AREAS – ALWAYS USE FIRE RINGS & PRACTICE CAMPFIRE SAFETY - FOLLOW PROVINCIAL CAMPFIRE BANS