



## **Backcountry Experience Itinerary**

### **2 Day, 1 (or 2) Night Program**

#### **Day 1**

- 10:10 AM**                      **Ferry leaves Tsawwassen Terminal.** Typically the Victoria, Swartz Bay ferry arrives on Galiano around 11:45AM. Click here for [BC Ferry schedules](#)
- 11:05 AM**                      **Ferry arrives at Sturdies Bay Galiano Island.** Foot passengers disembark first.
- 11:05 – 11:30**                      **Drive to the Millard Learning Centre.** Need on-island transportation? Rent our bus! Seats up to 54 small students or 36 adults.
- 11:40 – 11:55**                      **Welcome & Site Orientation**  
Your class will be camping at our 188-acre Millard Learning Center. Stay at either our Frontcountry or Backcountry campsite.
- 11:55 – 12:30**                      **Lunch**
- 12:30 – 1:00**                      **Gear sign out & set up camp**  
We have a full supply of tents, sleeping mats, sleeping bags, hiking bags, day bags, and camp stoves all donated by Mountain Equipment Co-op!
- 1:00 – 1:30**                      **Bag-packing discussion and pack bags**
- 1:30 – 1:45**                      **Bus from the Millard Learning Centre to Laughlin Lake**
- 2:00 – 3:00**                      **Hike to Pebble Beach through plantation forest to mature forest**
- 3:00 – 3:15**                      **Snack break on beautiful Pebble Beach**
- 3:15 – 4:45**                      **Hike from Pebble Beach to the Millard Learning Centre (~7km total)**  
Students will see ecosystem changes as we go from sea level to 120m ridge and back down to the Millard Learning Centre.

- 4:45 – 5:00**                    **Explanation of camp cooking etiquette & leave no trace and how to operate MSR stoves**  
 Student cook groups (4 people/group) will have pre-planned all their food and meals for this 3 day trip. They will use MSR cook stoves to cook each meal.
- 5:00 PM**                        **GCA Staff depart**

**Day 2**

- 7:30 – 8:00**                    **Rise and Shine!**
- 8:00 – 9:20**                    **Breakfast & Clean-up**
- 9:20 – 10:00**                **Pack up camp and clean campsite**
- 10:00**                            **GCA Staff arrive**
- 10:00 – 10:30**                **Check in & gear inventory**
- 10:30 – 11:30**                **Orienteering and compasses activities**
- 11:30– 12:00**                **Native Plant Teaching Train walk down to Crystal Cove**  
 Students teach and learn from one another, becoming masters of native plant identification!
- 12:00 – 1:00**                    **Lunch at the Cove**
- 1:00 – 2:00**                    **Hike to Ridgeline Classroom**  
**Wilderness First Aid Lesson & games**
- 2:00 – 3:00**                    **Wildlife Safety, Food Caching, and Shelter Building**
- 3:15 – 3:30**                    **Walk back to MLC Wrap up & Goodbyes**
- 3:30 – 4:00**                    **Load bus**
- 4:00 – 4:30**                    **Bus from the Millard Learning Centre to Sturdies Bay**
- 5:45 PM**                        **Ferry departs for Tsawwassen Terminal**
- 6:40 PM**                        **Ferry arrives at Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal.**

Sample itineraries are subject to change depending on ferry schedule and age group. Please contact us at [bookings@galianoconservancy.ca](mailto:bookings@galianoconservancy.ca) for more information.