



Backcountry Experience Itinerary

3 Day, 2 (or 3) 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 – 9:30** **Breakfast & Clean up**
- 9:30** **GCA Staff arrive**
- 9:30 – 10:00** **Day Bag Talk & Pack Day Bags (with MSR Stoves for Lunch)**
- 10:00 – 11:00** **Compass Skills & Orienteering Activities**
- 11:00 – 11:20** **Snack Break**
- 11:20 – 12: 20** **Invertebrate Pond Study**
Using nets, buckets and ID books students find and catch fresh water bugs and creatures in our wetland pond located at the MLC.
- 12:20 – 12:40** **Hike to Crystal Cove via Bluff Trail with Day Bags**
- 12:40 – 1:20** **Prep Lunch with MSR stoves**
- 1:20 – 2:00** **Lunch, Clean-Up & Free time at Cove**
- 2:00 – 2:15** **Hike to Ridgeline Classroom. Split into two groups.**
- 2:15 – 3:00** **Group 1: Knot Tying & Shelter Building**
Group 2: Food Caching
- 3:00 – 3:05** **Switch activities**
- 3:05 – 3:50** **Group 2: Knot Tying & Shelter Building**
Group 1: Food Caching
- 4:00 PM** **GCA Staff depart**

Day 3

7:30 – 8:00	Rise and Shine!
8:00 – 9:20	Breakfast & Clean-up
9:20 – 10:30	Pack up camp and clean campsite
10:30	GCA Staff arrive
10:30 – 11:00	Check in & gear inventory
11:00 – 12:00	Native Plant Teaching Train Students teach and learn from one another, becoming masters of native plant identification!
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch
12:45 – 1:45	Wilderness First Aid Lesson & game
1:45 – 2:00	Tea Harvesting with native plants Take a nice walk in the forest and harvest abundant native plants for a delicious hot tea!
2:00 – 2:30	Native plant scavenger hunt
2:30 – 2:45	Snack & Tea Tasting
2:45 – 3:30	Wrap-up & Goodbyes
3:30 – 4:00	Bus to Sturdies Bay terminal
5:10 PM	Ferry departs from Sturdies Bay to Tsawwassen terminal
6:05 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 for more information.