

Vancouver Island Nature Viewing Region

Discovery Islands Area

Surge Narrows Provincial Park



Surge Narrows Viewpoint: photo by Krista Kaptein



Orca in Surge Narrows: photo by Krista Kaptein

Surge Narrows Provincial Park is the site of some of the world's fastest tidal currents where the channel between Quadra Island's east shore and Maurelle Island is blocked by a group of small islets in the narrows. One of the newer trails constructed on Quadra follows the shoreline to a lookout alongside the roaring tidal rapids.

[Photo Gallery](#)

Geographical Description	Between Quadra Island and Maurelle Island.
Area/ Trail Length	Park size 488 ha includes marine waters. 1.3 km trail from Surge Narrows Road to viewpoint.
Seasons to Visit	Year-round. For best effect check the Tide and Current tables to find a time with high water flows.
Habitat	Marine, rocky shore.
Viewing Highlights	A unique feature of this park are the tidal rapids caused by the convergence of two flood tides. This natural occurrence, located in the middle of the park, gives the park its name. Chance of seeing Orca, sea lions. Bonaparte's Gull, Red-breasted Sapsucker. Marine life including sea urchins, sea cucumbers, sea stars and anemones.

Other**Features**

Main Access Trail from Hoskyn Channel boat launch at end of Surge Narrows Road.

Secondary Accesses By boat.

Cautions

The tidal currents are also notorious for their strength, particularly at Surge Narrows on the east and Seymour Narrows on the west. Paddlers should avoid Seymour Narrows and only travel through Surge Narrows at slack tide. Paddlers and boaters should also be familiar with tidal current charts so they can safely explore the rich waters around Surge Narrows Park. Only very experienced kayakers should attempt to paddle in the fast-flowing and treacherous tidal streams at Surge Narrows – currents can flow through this area at 16 knots and up to 14 knots on the ebb.

Jurisdiction BC Parks, Strathcona Regional District.

Regulations Dogs on leash.

Facilities Parking area. Boat launch.

Other Paddling, fishing, whale watching.

Recreational Activities**Other****Connections****History****FMI****Links**

[Quadra Trails Map](#)

[BC Parks](#)

[BC Parks iNaturalist Project](#)

[Tide Tables](#)

[Nature Trust of BC](#)

[BC Ferries](#)