Sandspit - Haida Gwaii Resources

Sunny Sandspit, is how I like to refer to this small community of 200 coastal characters that I have been pilgrimaging to since 1994. It offers travelers the driest weather of all Haida Gwaii communities, though I am bias, with over 4 kilometers of beach front, Shingle Bay offers some of the most beautiful sunsets.

Sandspit is also referred as the Gate Way to Gwaii Haanas, and is the starting point of all Ocean Sound Kayaking tours. It is the only community found on Moresby Island, which can be connected to Graham Island by BC Ferries.

Local ferry schedule from Alliford Bay (Moresby Island) to Skidegate Landing (Graham Island)

- Please note that Sandspit is 15km from the ferry terminal, and guests will need to arrange for either a shuttle, bike, or a vehicle.

Community Map of Sandspit for you to get the lay of the land

Services:

- **Airport:** Daily flights between Sandspit (YZP) and Vancouver (YVR)
- Grocery Store and Liquor Store, **Supervalu Hours**
- Public Showers/ Laundry, Sani Station found at **501 Campground**
- **Car Rental**
- Fuel Station
- **Marina and Harbor**
- **Bike Rentals** – some Sandspit Accommodations have complementary bikes.
- **Post Office**

Accommodations:

- Here is a variety of **Sandspit Accommodations** ranging in price, and facilities.

Dinning:

- Most popular is the **Sandspit Inn** located across from the airport.
- **Dick’s Wok In**
- **Supervalu** Grocery Store

Things to Do:

- **Sandspit Walks/Hikes:** All trails are well maintained, easy to follow, and can be walked in less than an hour, or bring a lunch, and enjoy the day.
  - **OnWard Point**, is a great place to watch gray whales in April and May.
- Dover Trail, named after a local woman, Louise Dover, is located across the road from the marina, and follows the Haanas Creek watershed thru some impressive forests.
- K’uuna Pt Trail, ironically located at the end of Koona Point RD which is your last right turn when travelling to the ferry landing at Alliford Bay. You walk through some nice cedar forests, while complemented by a variety of viewing bluffs.
- Spit Walk, great birding can be found out towards the actual spit. Follow the well-established locals trail along the airport fencing which is located at the parking lot for the government wharf (across from the BIG SALMON), and walk the beach back for some variety.

- Willows Golf Course is one of two courses found on Haida Gwaii.
- Logger Sports Day is in July
- Harvest Wild Festival
- Relax and enjoy over 8km of ocean front views.

Camping and Hikes near Sandspit

Please note, when traveling on logging roads, check in with the local Visitor Center to see if there is active logging, and what are the protocols of public travel.

- Gray Bay Recreation Site is a favorite camping destination.
  - The gravel access road is a 30-minute drive south of Sandspit. It has 20 beach front sites, all with picnic tables, fire pits, and pit toilets. Bring fresh water.
- Secret Cove and Cumshewa Head Trails are accessed from Gray Bay Recreation Site
- Mosquito Lake Recreation Site, is another favorite.
  - Roughly 35-minutes west of Sandspit by gravel road. All 11 sites have picnic tables, fire pits, and pit toilets. A small boat launch is also on site. Bring fresh water, or water purification.
- Moresby Camp Recreation Site is a where most tour operators launch to visit Gwaii Haanas.
  - All 10 sites offer picnic tables, fire pits, and pit toilets, roughly 45-minutes from Sandspit on gravel road. Bring fresh water.
- Hike either Moresby or Mosquito Mountains, check in with the Sandspit Visitor Center for trail conditions.

Explore Graham Island

The Haida Gwaii Museum in Skidegate is a popular day trip from Sandspit. Guests will need to take the local ferry to Graham Island. If you are just going to the museum, guests can leave their vehicles at Alliford Bay and board as a foot passenger, then walk the 4 minutes to the Museum, which saves you 30- 40$ CDN for the vehicle cost.
If you do not have a vehicle, a shuttle, hitch hike, or bike will be needed to cover the 15 km to the Alliford Bay ferry terminal.

Map of Haida Gwaii Communities

Travelling from Queen Charlotte City to Masset, Haida Gwaii’s most northern community, will take roughly 1.5 hrs of driving time. An additional 30 minutes’ drive on a gravel road will bring you to Tow Hill, Agate Beach, the “Blow Hole”, and North Beach, where on a clear day Alaska can be seen.

Graham Island offers countless galleries, café’s, accommodations, and hikes to enjoy.

- Maps
- Haida Style Dinner
- Hikes on Graham Island
- Gwaii Haanas Taxi and Rentals to get around
- Things to do on Graham Island
- Haida Gwaii Community Event Calendar
- Edge of the World Music Festival
- GO Haida Gwaii, and the Queen Charlotte Visitor Center is a great way to get current year-round information on rental cars, accommodations, things to do, etc.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ocean Sound Kayaking.