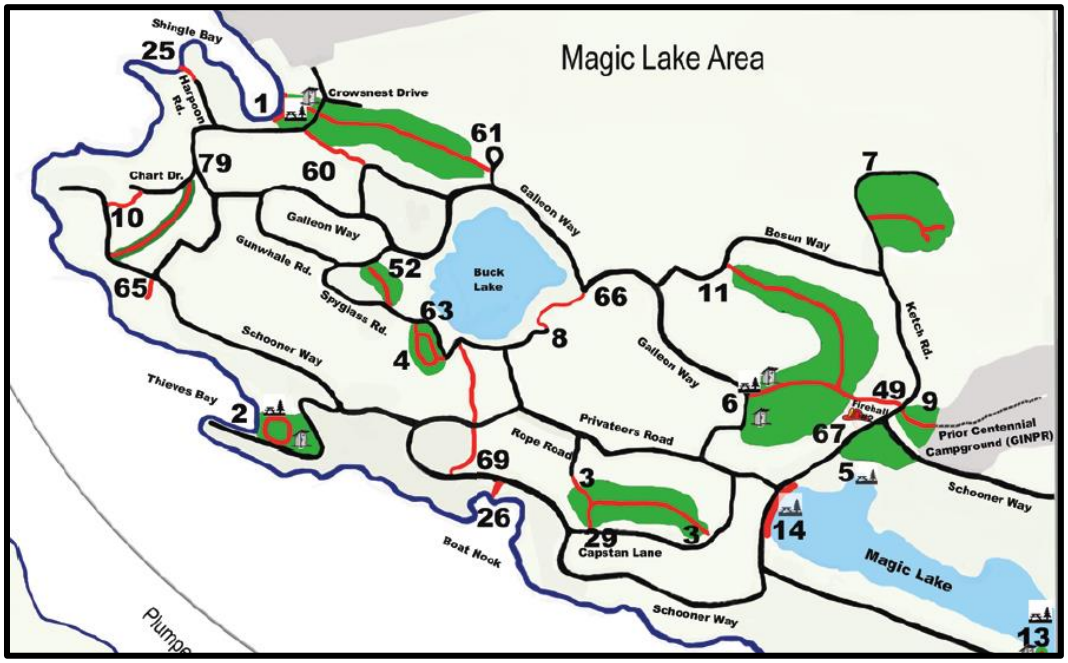
Pender Parks in the Neighbourhood

2613 Shoal Road



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Community Parks Guide

Third Edition

Revised and Expanded 2014

Shingle Bay Park #1

Galleon Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Parking: Plenty of roadside spots at all entrances
Amenities: Swings, Small boat launch, 2 Picnic Tables, Outhouse, Bench, Large Grass Field
Beach Access: Yes

With its large grassy field, picnic tables and great view this is a popular park for holding events. Looking seaward from the park, Prevost Island can be seen across Swanson Channel. At the end of Galleon Way is one of the entry points to the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve with a trail leading to Roe Lake. The Yardarm / Shingle Bay Trail #60, and the Masthead Crescent / Shingle Bay Trail #61 both connect to

this park, with the entrances just across the street.

Shingle Bay Community Park

Thieves Bay Park #2

Anchor Way, Magic Lake area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Parking: A large gravelled parking lot is provided, large enough for boat trailer parking.
Amenities: Picnic tables, Bench, outhouse, swing set, boat ramp, turnaround near the boat ramp.
Beach Access: Yes

This well used park provides a space for large gatherings as well as space for children to play on the swings, grassy field, and sandy beach. It has a large parking lot with enough room for short term trailer parking, and a cement boat ramp with a large turnaround beside the access to the marina. There is an outhouse for your convenience. The grassy area can be very wet during the rainy season.

Thieves Bay Community Park

Capstan Lane / Rope Road Trail #3

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 0.63 Km
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This is a connector trail between Capstan Lane and Rope Road. You also have the option of using the Capstan Lane Park trail #29, which T's in to the middle of this trail, to do a loop walk. The upper part of this trail is seasonally wet and muddy from December to May, and is a little steep at either end. The trail and boardwalks follow a wooded ravine and small seasonal creek through a wetland. In the Spring the wetland is filled with Skunk Cabbage, also known as Swamp Lanterns. Some of the Firs here are hundreds of years old, including a

significant stand of Grand Fir. You can go left on Privateers Road to take the Privateers / Schooner Trail #69.

Capstan Lane/Rope Road Trail

J.M. Abbott Park #4

Spyglass Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard
Distance: 340 Metres
Parking: Side of road at either entrance
Amenities: Benches, Picnic Table
Beach Access: No

This park is named for the surveyor, Mel Abbott, who bought and developed Magic Lake Estates in the 1960's. It is quite steep and rough, has a bench with an ocean view, a picnic table overlooking Buck Lake, and Arbutus trees covering the hill top. There is a loop option, or you can enter from Spyglass Road and exit again farther along the same road.

Danny Martin Park #5

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Parking: Plenty of parking in a dirt lot, and roadside spots available
Amenities: Picnic Tables, Locked Outhouse, Baseball Diamond, Bleachers
Beach Access: No

Part of this park contains a well maintained baseball diamond with bleachers. The parking lot entrance is on Buccaneer Road. The toilets are only open during scheduled games. There is also a large grassy area outside of the baseball diamond with a small seasonal stream that drains into Magic Lake.

The Ball Park is operated by The Pender Island Youth Sports Association under licence from PIPRC.

Disc Park #6

Galleon Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard
Parking: 2 large parking lots
Amenities: Picnic tables, Benches, Outhouse, Clubhouse, Drinking Fountain, Bike Rack
Beach Access: No

One part of the park is devoted to Disc Golf, offering 3 different courses and a total of 27 “holes”. Islanders and visitors test their skills in a challenging, rocky, steep and heavily wooded terrain. During the summer weekends the park is often full. There are plenty of places to rest along the course, and an inviting club house with picnic tables, garbage and recycling cans, a drinking fountain and an outhouse. The rest of the park has a number of interconnecting trails (#11, #49, #67) that wind through a variety of areas from a rainforest with huge trees to delicate wetlands.

The Disc Park is operated by The Pender Island Youth Sports Association under licence from PIPRC.

Disc Park

Lively Peak Park #7

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard
Distance: 250 Metres, 43 Metre Climb
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: 3 Benches
Beach Access: No

Lively Peak Park starts on Ketch Road, near Sailor Road. To reach the trailhead you have to walk up a portion of gravelled access road.

This rough trail climbs steeply through a shady and heavily forested area, using steps to help you up to the summit. Near the top the canopy opens up and includes many Arbutus trees. There are 2 benches at the top, the first showing you Port Browning and Saturna Island, and the second sporting a view of the San Juan Islands with Vancouver Island in the distance. A short trail to the west takes you across the skid road again, and out to a third bench with another spectacular ocean view.

Lively Peak

Compass Crescent / Starboard Crescent Trail #8

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 70 Metres
Parking: Side of Road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This is a very short and steep path leading directly from Compass Crescent to Starboard Crescent. It directly connects to trail #66, and allows a loop walk if you take Galleon Way.

Heart Trail / Prior Park #9

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 230 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

Offering a nice long walk through a forested area, the Heart Trail can also be used as a short cut to Canal Road. It starts at Ketch Road, and connects with Prior Park camp ground in the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. Some areas are rough and steep. The Heart Trail was constructed with the assistance of the First Open Heart Society of B.C. in appreciation for continued community support. On the other side of Ketch Road there is an extension of the Heart Trail, #49, which will take you to the Disc Park.

Schooner Way / Chart Drive Trail #10

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 110 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: Bench
Beach Access: No

Connecting Schooner Way and Chart Drive, this short and slightly steep trail offers the option of walking a loop by taking trail #79.

Bosun Way / Galleon Way Trail #11

Magic Lake Area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 0.89 Km
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

Entering from Bosun Way you will descend through a canopy of Western Red Cedar, Red Alder and Big Leaf Maple trees down into a rich wetland. Once the trail levels out it is an easy walk. This area can be quite muddy in the rainy season. Part of this trail edges the disc park, and you will exit into the Disc Park parking lot on Galleon Way. There is a junction along the trail at the edge of the disc park where you can choose to take trail #49 to Ketch Road, or #67 to Schooner Way instead.

Magic Lake Picnic Site Park #14

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Parking: Lots of easy roadside spots **Amenities:** 2 Picnic Tables, Small Boat Launch and Storage, Bike Rack, Dog Clean Up Station **Beach Access**: Lake Access

Magic Lake Picnic Site

This well used parkland is a favourite place for lakeside picnics and for launching kayaks and canoes.

Please store your small boat only in the designated area. The reeds at the water's edge provide one of the few Red Winged Blackbird nesting sites on the Penders. Dog walkers are asked to keep their dogs under control and to pick up after them, as the lake is a source of drinking water.

Harpoon Road / Panda Bay Ocean Access #25

Harpoon Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 60 Metres
Parking: Side of road at trailhead
Amenities: None
Beach Access: Yes

This ocean access trail leads to stairs down to a small pebble beach with views across Swanson channel to Prevost Island.

Boat Nook Ocean Access #26

Schooner Way, Magic Lake area, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 10 Metres
Parking: 1 spot at trailhead
Amenities: Bench with an ocean view
Beach Access: Stairs with a handrail leading to rocks at the water. No beach.

Boat Nook

In the early 1970's prospective purchasers of Magic Lake Estate lots were flown into a dock at Boat Nook. A group of large rocks directly in the ocean view is often a resting place for seals, river otters and cormorants. To the right of the rocks is a significant kelp bed. This is more of a viewpoint than an ocean access, so use extreme caution at the foot of the stairs as the rocks can be slippery.

Capstan Lane Park #29

Capstan Lane, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 110 Metres
Parking: Side of Road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This short trail links lower Capstan Lane with the Capstan/Rope Trail #3. It is a bit steep in places, and takes you through a high canopy forest down to boardwalks through a wetland. Swamp lanterns abound here in Spring.

Heart Trail Extension/Ketch/Disc Park #49

Ketch Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 420 Metres
Parking: Side of road across the street
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This trail starts across from the Heart Trail on Ketch Road, and can be steep in places. Stairs and boardwalks help you over a sunny slope and down into a small valley that drains into Magic Lake. You will enter the Disc Park #6 at the junction where trails #67 and #11 also meet up, and you can choose any of these as your exit point.

Sandy Sievert Park #52

Spyglass Road / Gunwhale Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 175 Metres
Parking: Side of road at either end
Amenities: Bench
Beach Access: No

This shady, forested trail meanders through a wetland with Salal and Sword ferns all around. Boardwalks help you over the wet areas, and the Spyglass Road end of the trail has a very steep staircase.

Sandy Sievert Park

Yardarm Road / Shingle Bay
#60

Galleon Way / Yardarm Road, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Hard
Distance: 230 Metres, 54 Metre Climb
Parking: Roadside spots available at Shingle Bay, No parking on Yardarm
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This is a very steep, rough trail heading uphill from Shingle Bay to Yardarm Road. Being heavily forested, this is a shady and sometimes slick trail. A loop can be made starting and ending at Shingle Bay by using this trail with the Masthead Crescent Trail #61. Leave yourself an hour to do the whole loop.

Buck Lake Trail #63

Spyglass Road / Privateers Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 320 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This trail links Privateers Road with Spyglass Road, and lets you out directly in front of Buck Lake. There are roots and rocks in the trail as you walk along the stream, and a couple flights of stairs. At the right time of year there are two little waterfalls.

Schooner At Reef Park #65

Schooner Way, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 20 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: One Bench
Beach Access: None

This extremely short trail simply provides a bench with a view for people walking in the area. It is just off the road where Schooner and Reef meet.

Compass Crescent / Tiller Crescent Trail #66

Compass Crescent / Tiller Crescent,
North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 150 Metres
Parking: Side of road
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

Although it is short, this trail is steep in places. It will take you from Compass Crescent down to Buck Lake where the trail follows along the water for a short while before sloping up to Tiller Crescent. Trail #8, Compass/Starboard , links up easily with this one as its trailhead is just across Compass Crescent.

Fire Hall / Disc Park Trail #67

Schooner Way/Galleon Way, North
Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 210 Metres
Parking: Side of road on Schooner, or in Disc Park lot on Galleon
Amenities: None
Beach Access: No

This trail runs from Schooner Way across a small bridge and along the side of the Fire Hall property into a forested area. It is seasonally quite wet. Eventually you will arrive at a junction point where you can branch off to the Disc Park #6, take #11 to Bosun Way, or #49 to Ketch Road.

Schooner / Privateers Trail #69

Schooner Way / Privateers Road, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Easy
Distance: 220 Metres
Parking: Side of road at either end
Amenities: Bench
Beach Access: No

Following a creek that runs from Buck Lake to the ocean, this trail links Schooner Way and Privateers Road. At the Schooner end there is a small wetland, and some rock steps leading up into a forested area. A bench is provided for you to enjoy the creek and waterfall before you climb back up to Privateers Road. This trail links easily with #26 Boat Nook Ocean Access, #29 Capstan Lane Park, and #3 Capstan/Rope Trail.

Schooner/Privateers Trail

Ursula Poepel Park #79

Schooner Way / Chart Drive, North Pender Island

Difficulty: Moderate
Distance: 130 Metres
Parking: Side of road at either end
Amenities: Bench
Beach Access: No

This trail leads uphill from Chart Dr. to Schooner Way, taking you through a heavily forested area, and up a few sets of steps. There is a bench overlooking Shingle Bay to your left before you take the trail to the right and on up to Schooner. A loop can easily be walked using #10 Schooner/Chart Trail.