



Boys & Girls Clubs
of South Coast BC

CAMP POTLATCH

Spring Family Camp

Handbook

June 16 – June 18, 2017



City Office

7595 Victoria Drive

Vancouver, BC

V5P 3Z6

604-324-2267

www.camppotlatch.ca

Boys and Girls Clubs of South Coast BC

Boys and Girls Clubs, founded in 1936, is a leading provider of programs that support the health, physical and social development of 4,000 young people and their families in the community. Dedicated, trained staff and volunteers offer programs in physical and social recreation, nutrition, technology, the arts as well as summer camp, substance abuse support services and parent support programs. The Clubs and Camp create a safe, supportive environment where children, youth and families can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills in life.

Welcome to Camp Potlatch!

Camp Potlatch is located on the northern shore of the Howe Sound. After a 45 minute water taxi ride from Horseshoe Bay, you will arrive at a picturesque camp surrounded by pristine coastal wilderness. Upon arrival at Camp you will see a beautiful sandy beach, lush forests and a glacier-fed creek. Camp Potlatch is truly a unique and beautiful place; however, it is important to be prepared for your two-night stay, so please review the following preparation guide so that you may fully enjoy your weekend at Camp!

This information package features information regarding transportation, Camp facilities, Camp activities, meal schedules, packing tips and additional useful information.

Transportation

Friday June 16: The water taxi will depart from Horseshoe Bay at 7:00 PM sharp. It is very important that all families arrive between 6:30 – 6:45 PM and are loaded on the boat(s) by 7:00 PM, as the water taxi operates on a tight schedule. There will be a Camp Potlatch representative, wearing a staff shirt, to greet you at the appropriate dock.

The dock that the water taxi departs from is separate from the BC Ferry terminal docks. It is a small dock adjacent to the Boathouse restaurant. Please refer to the attached maps for driving directions and the location of the departure dock.

Upon arrival at Camp, Camp Potlatch staff will help you find your cabins. We advise you to have dinner prior to your water taxi departure, though light snacks will be available during our Family Camp Welcome Orientation before an evening campfire led by Camp staff.

Sunday June 18: The water taxi will depart Camp Potlatch at 2:00 PM. The trip to Horseshoe Bay from Camp is about 45 minutes long, so plan to be **back in Horseshoe Bay around 2:45 PM.**

If you have additional concerns or questions prior to Family Camp, please feel free to contact Yvonne “Kiki” Kirkpatrick, Outdoor Centre Coordinator, at the Camp office, 604-290-CAMP or by email at adventure@bgcbc.ca.

Driving Directions to Horseshoe Bay

Driving instructions from Vancouver:

1. West on Georgia Street, through Stanley Park
2. Cross the Lions Gate Bridge
3. Follow Highway 1 (Upper Levels Highway), to Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal
4. Take Exit #3 to Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal, follow signs towards “ Village”
5. Continue onto Keith road, turn left onto Bay Street. An Impark parking lot will be at the end of the road.

*Total estimated driving time from downtown Vancouver: 25 minutes depending on traffic conditions.

For driving instructions from an alternate location, please [click here](#).

Parking

The water taxi departs from a small dock adjacent from the Boathouse Restaurant. We suggest parking in the Impark Sewell’s Marina parking lot, at the end of Bay Street. From the parking lot, walk towards the water with the Boathouse Restaurant on your left, towards the public dock – Camp staff will be there to greet you.

For information about parking your car at the Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal, please visit http://www.bcferries.com/at_the_terminal/parking/#hsb



Camp Potlatch Features

Cabin Accommodation

- Rustic cedar cabins with bunk beds that can accommodate a maximum of 12 guests. Please note that some cabins have power and some do not, so please come prepared with a flashlight for nighttime.
- All Family Camp guests will be assigned a cabin for the duration of their stay. We ask that groups of 2-3 be willing to share a cabin with another small family.

The Dining Hall

- A spacious hundred and fifty seat dining hall facility, generously built by the Canada Safeway Foundation.
- We serve all of our meal here at times that will be posted on the daily schedule. Coffee, tea, water and fruit are available throughout the day.

The Health Center

- A first aid center, featuring 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a capacity of 13 beds.
- This cabin can be requested by groups with 10 – 13 guests.

The Kitchen

- A fully equipped 1400 sq. ft. kitchen – don't worry, we do the dishes!

Shower and Washroom Facilities (“The Tesh”)

- A modern washroom and showering facility centrally located in the Lower Village cabin area.
- During the overnight hours, there is no power in the washrooms, though hot water still runs.

The Lodge

- Accompanied by a large fireplace, our spacious lodge provides additional meeting and educational space.



Program Activities Offered at Camp Potlatch

During our Family Camp weekend, guests do not have to engage in all the activities that are presented, and will have the opportunity to relax and set their own daily pace; however, tailored programs will be offered at set times, and participants will have a choice as to what activity they wish to do.

Camp Potlatch offers visitors with a wide range of program options. Programs can be customized to the age, interests and abilities of the individual or group. Program availability is dependent on weather, age of participants, and qualifications of leaders.

Land Activities

- Hiking
- Rock Climbing
- Archery
- Rappelling
- Ropes Courses
- Interpretive trails

Water Activities

- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Row Boating
- Swimming
- Fishing
- Marine Walks

And More!

- Arts & Crafts
- Field Games
- Frisbee Golf
- Campfires
- Ecology

Meals at Camp Potlatch

The kitchen staff will prepare nutritious and tasty meals, and provide light snacks and refreshments throughout the day.

Meal Times: Breakfast: 8:15 AM Lunch: 12:30 PM Dinner: 5:30 PM

We can accommodate the following dietary restrictions without supplementary food brought by guests:

- Vegetarian
- Lactose Intolerance
- No red Meat Diets
- No Pork Diets

However, Camp Potlatch is **NOT a nut-free site**, and while we do not serve nut products we cannot guarantee that guests will not come in contact with nut products during their stay at Camp.

Please advise Camp Potlatch of any dietary restrictions or allergies at least 2 weeks ahead of Family Camp so the kitchen staff can plan the food service to accommodate these restrictions.

Camp Potlatch does not recommend that guests keep food in their cabins to reduce animal risks. Where food goes, animals seem to follow - if you feel the need to bring snacks, please ensure they are in a sealed Tupperware container or cooler that animals can't get into.

The kitchen is closed each night, so any snacks stored with the kitchen staff will not be available during the overnight hours.

Additional *but* Useful Information

Power

If you are new to Camp Potlatch, it is important to know that we operate “off the grid” which helps us provide a unique and memorable wilderness experience. Our site runs on a series of generators that we turn off between the hours of 10:30 PM and 6:30 AM. During these hours, there is no power running to any of the buildings. However, hot and cold drinking water still flows from the washrooms and sinks.

Communication

Due to the remote location of Camp Potlatch we are unable to have phone lines installed. We do have cellular phones on site, which are limited to emergency use only by guests. Family Camp guests are welcome to bring their cell phones to Camp, through it should be noted that reception is extremely limited.

In emergency situations, individuals can relay messages to Camp by calling our Camp Potlatch city office at 604-324-2267 (weekdays between 9:00AM- 5:00 PM). If you call after hours, your message will be forwarded to the Camp Director the next business day.

Lost and Found

Camp Potlatch makes every effort to return lost items to their rightful owner before each camper departs the site. Making sure you have everything before you leave is very important!

Items that are not reclaimed at Camp will be sent to the Camp Office, located at 7595 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC where items will be held for a maximum of ten days. After this time, all lost and found items will be donated to charity. If you are searching for lost items, please call our office at 604-324-2267 to inquire and arrange to pick them up.

Contact Information

As mentioned before, if you have any additional concerns or questions prior to Family Camp, please do not hesitate to contact the Camp office by phone or email.

Yvonne “Kiki” Kirkpatrick, Outdoor Centre Coordinator

Onsite Telephone: 604-290-2267

Email: adventure@bgcbc.ca

Katie Ellison, Summer Camp Coordinator

Onsite Telephone: 604-290-2267

Email: summer@bgcbc.ca

Ashley Hadland, Registrar

City Office: 604-324-2267

Email: Campreg@bgcbc.ca

Packing Suggestions

Please review the packing suggestions below to assist you in preparing for your weekend at Camp Potlatch. Making sure that all of the necessary clothing and equipment comes to camp with you is essential for an enjoyable camping experience. Here are some suggestions to make the task of packing easier:

Equipment

- Flashlight*
- Extra batteries
- Sleeping bag*
- Pillow
- Daypack
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Water bottle
- 2 big towels (one for shower and one for beach)

Toiletries

- Tooth brush
- Tooth paste
- Soap (in container)
- Shampoo
- Comb/brush
- Hand towel
- Hygiene products

**Camp is able to provide a limited number of sleeping bags with advance notice. Please note that our cabins are not heated, so it is important to have warm clothing for the night-time.*

**Once the generators are shut down for the night Camp gets very dark- please be sure to pack a flashlight!*

Clothing

- Sun hat
- Rain Jacket
- 2 pairs of pants
- 2 pairs of shorts
- 1 light sweater
- 1 warm sweater
- Pajamas
- 3 pairs of underwear
- 4 pairs of socks
- Swim suit (2 is best)
- 3 t-shirts
- 1 pair of rubber boots
- 2 pairs of shoes
(broken in- sandals and runners)

Optional

- Camera
- Notebook
- A good book
- Hiking boots
- Fishing gear (basic gear available at Camp)
- Backpack