

Vancouver - North Island 01
(Added:12.14.2015)

Route Notes

Scenery Needed: ORBX PNW

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Suggested Altitude: 1200 Feet

Landing zone is: Water and Land

Aircraft Type: Amphibian/Helicopter

Distance approximately: 90 Miles

Route Overview

FROM: CYZT Port Hardy
BACK TO: CYZT Port Hardy

Leg: From CYZT Port Hardy to Port Hardy Bay
Initial Course: 279
Leg Distance: 5.8 Miles
Leg Altitude: 1200 Feet

Information: Fly out of Port Hardy Airport on a heading of 279°. In a short time you will fly over Port Hardy Bay, look for the marina on the far shore.

Leg: From Port Hardy Bay to Georgia Lake Hatchery 1&2
Initial Course: 262°
Leg Distance: 7 miles
Leg Altitude: 1200

Information: Over the marina, select a course heading of 274° for 3 miles. You will be flying over Port Hardy.

Located at the northern tip of Vancouver Island, BC, Port Hardy (pop. 4,500) is nestled on the edge of the Queen Charlotte Strait, in the small Hardy Bay. It was the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations who first settled here some 8,000 years ago, drawn to the region by its shelter from the harsh storms farther north, as well as the rich aquaculture. First Nations culture still abounds in this cozy seaside town. Totems, wood carvings and art galleries throughout town display the talent and legends of native bands

still living in the community.

Leg: From Port Hardy Bay to Georgia Lake Hatchery 1&2

Initial Course: 274°

Leg Distance: 3 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200

Information: As you leave Port Hardy, turn to a course of 274° for about 3 miles. You will come to Georgia Lake. Look for the two fish hatcheries on the port shoreline.

Leg: From Geo. Lake Hatcheries to Cape Scott Wind Farm

Initial Course: 237°

Leg Distance: 10 miles

Leg Altitude: 2800 Feet

Information: Increase your Altitude to 2800 feet. Set a course of 237° and fly to the Cape Scott Wind Farm area. It is about 10 miles ahead. There is no place to land in this area, but you may want to circle and see all of the windmills, it is quite an extensive wind farm.

Leg: From: Cape Scott Wind Farm to Holberg

Initial Course: 199°

Leg Distance: 5.4 miles

Leg Altitude: 2000 Feet

Information: Over the Wind Farm, turn to a heading of 199° for 5 miles. You will see a body of water just over a ridge, Holberg will be on the starboard shore. There is water to land on at Holberg. It is worth stopping and looking around.

Leg: From Holberg to Winter Harbour

Initial Course: 166°

Leg Distance: 9 miles

Leg Altitude: 2600 feet (to clear ridge)

Information: Leaving Holberg, set a course of 166° for Winter Harbour. You will need about 2600 feet altitude to clear a ridge, then you can drop down quickly to see the little Winter Harbour community. Here again, there are docks on the water where an amphibian or float can land.

Leg: From Winter Harbour to Mahatta River Logging Area

Initial Course: 097°

Leg Distance: 11 miles

Leg Altitude: 2400 feet (a ridge)

Information: Leaving Winter Harbour, set a course of 097° for 11 miles to reach the Mahatta River Logging Area. You will find large log floats, and just further upstream the actual logging facility. Once

you see the river, you can come down to a lower altitude over the water to view the area better, 1200 feet suggested altitude.

Leg: From Mahatta River to Port Alice Logging Port

Initial Course: 070°

Leg Distance: 10.2 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200 Feet over the water

Information: Leaving Mahatta River Logging, follow the starboard shoreline for 7 miles, then turn to starboard and follow it another 3 miles. You will see Port Alice Logging on the port shore, make a turn to port across to the other shoreline and follow it back up to Port Alice Logging Port.

Leg: From Port Alice Logging to First Nation Settlement

Initial Course: 289°

Leg Distance: 7 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200 Feet

Information: Leaving the Port Alice Logging port, set a course for 289° for the First Nation Settlement Area. You will be flying with the shoreline to starboard. You will see the First Nation Settlement Area in about 7 miles.

Approximately 8000 years ago, groups of First Nations began harvesting salmon in the Fraser Canyon, and for 3000 years they exploited the resources of the future Vancouver area. One of the three Salishan groups that have overlapping claims to the Vancouver area as a traditional territory is the Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh), whose territory expanded from Howe Sound to include False Creek and Burrard Inlet. Their major settlements were Whoi Whoi (Xwáýxway) in Stanley Park, Snaug (Senakw), near the present day Burrard bridge on False Creek, and Xwemelch'stn at the mouth of the Capilano River. The other two groups, which shared the Halkomelem [Salishan] language, were the Tsliel-waututh and the Musqueam (Xwméthkwyiem). The Tsliel-waututh, whose plankhouse village was at the mouth of Taylor Creek on the north side of Burrard Inlet, shared the resources of the area through marriage or other uniting relationships. The complex social organization of the first peoples was based on an accumulation and redistribution of wealth. Such wealth and potentially sticky political issues were kept in check by intermarriage and potlatching. Failing that, occasional armed conflict was resorted to.

Leg: From First Nation Settlement to Coal Harbour Quarry

Initial Course: 031°

Leg Distance: 7 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200 Feet

Information: Over the First Nation Settlement Area, turn to starboard to a new course of 031°. You will fly over the Coal Harbour Quarry in 7 miles.

Now a hub for marine traffic, Coal Harbour was once a thriving whaling station, the last one on the North American coast when it closed in 1967. Then, in the 1970s it became a mining town again when the Island Copper Mine was in operation until it closed in 1996. Today the residents rely on fishing, logging and aquaculture.

During World War II, the village was a bustling base for the Royal Canadian Air Force and their “flying boat” coastal reconnaissance missions.

Leg: From Coal Harbour Quarry to Rupert Inlet Cabins

Initial Course: 104°

Leg Distance: 8 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200 Feet

Information: Over the quarry, turn to starboard to a heading of 104° for 8 miles. This will take you over the Rupert Inlet Cabin area.

Leg: From Rupert Inlet Cabins back to CYZT

Initial Course: 002°

Leg Distance: 7.5 miles

Leg Altitude: 1200 feet down to landing altitude

Information: From the Rupert Inlet Cabin area, turn to a heading of 002° and head back to CYZT (Port Hardy Airport). Land. (Safely!)