

MAP  
INSIDE

Texada's long mining history included the production of lime by wood-fired kilns until the 1940s. Steam powered machinery used in the sawmills and quarries required an economical fuel which was provided in the form of cordwood. Many thousands of feet of Number One Fir was cut and hauled by horse and wagon to sawmills and lime kilns found at the north end of the island. This area is criss-crossed with moss-grown trails that were once these wood roads.

PHOTO: TEXADA ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY

Texada Island is easily accessible from both Vancouver Island or Powell River. The ferry terminal at Westview in Powell River berths both the ferry from Comox and the ferry to Texada.

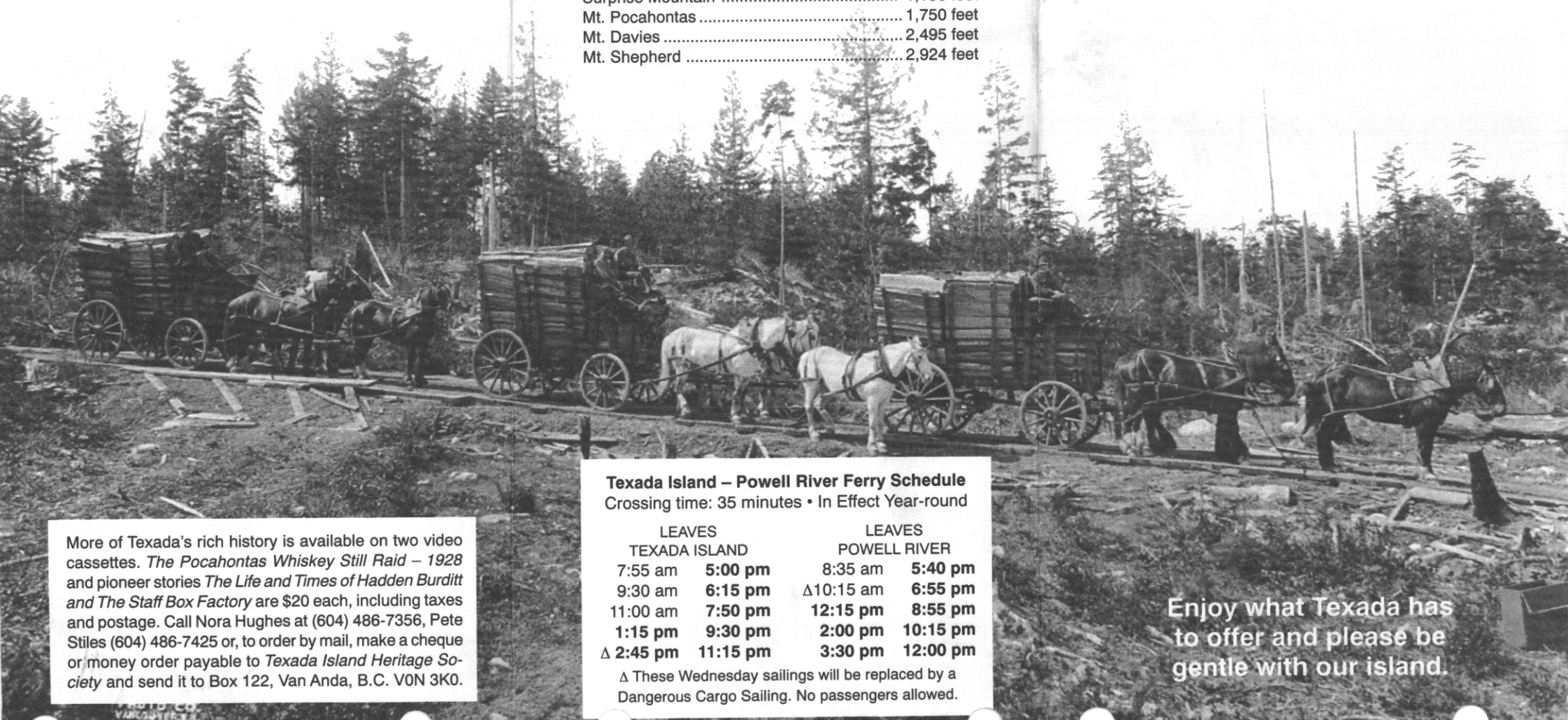
Daily scheduled flights are available from Vancouver and Vancouver Island to the 3,000 foot paved runway at Gillies Bay on Texada Island. Telephone the airport on Texada Island at (604) 486-7268.

The June 1996 census lists Texada's population as 1,155. The annual rainfall is 992 mm (39 inches). The average temperature in summer ranges from a low of 52°F to a high of 74°F and in winter from 30°F to 40°F. Texada Island is approximately 31 miles long and, at its widest, 6 miles across.

Surprise Mountain ..... 1,150 feet  
Mt. Pocahontas ..... 1,750 feet  
Mt. Davies ..... 2,495 feet  
Mt. Shepherd ..... 2,924 feet

# Welcome to TEXADA ISLAND

British Columbia, Canada



### Texada Island – Powell River Ferry Schedule

Crossing time: 35 minutes • In Effect Year-round

LEAVES TEXADA ISLAND		LEAVES POWELL RIVER	
7:55 am	5:00 pm	8:35 am	5:40 pm
9:30 am	6:15 pm	Δ10:15 am	6:55 pm
11:00 am	7:50 pm	12:15 pm	8:55 pm
1:15 pm	9:30 pm	2:00 pm	10:15 pm
Δ 2:45 pm	11:15 pm	3:30 pm	12:00 pm

Δ These Wednesday sailings will be replaced by a Dangerous Cargo Sailing. No passengers allowed.

More of Texada's rich history is available on two video cassettes. *The Pocahontas Whiskey Still Raid – 1928* and pioneer stories *The Life and Times of Hadden Burditt* and *The Staff Box Factory* are \$20 each, including taxes and postage. Call Nora Hughes at (604) 486-7356, Pete Stiles (604) 486-7425 or, to order by mail, make a cheque or money order payable to *Texada Island Heritage Society* and send it to Box 122, Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0.

Enjoy what Texada has to offer and please be gentle with our island.



PHOTO: TEXADA ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY

Marble Bay Hotel, built in 1902, was situated high on a hill overlooking the entrance to the bay.

### BY THE YEAR 1900 TEXADA WAS BOOMING

Names such as *Rumbottle Creek*, *Pocahontas Bay*, *Alladin*, *Smelter*, *Midas*, and *Copper Queen* streets, *Blubber Bay* and *Bucket of Blood Saloon* are descriptive of the town's past. Discovered and named in 1791 by Spanish explorers, Texada Island was soon used by the whaling industry. In 1876 a whaler named Harry Trim discovered iron ore which precipitated the boom of exploration on Texada. In 1886 the first iron mine was opened, in 1890 copper was found and in 1898 copper and gold were mined at Marble Bay. Captain Sturt purchased the first lot in Van Anda in 1878 and by 1898 Van Anda had become a boom town. In 1900 real estate advertisements promoted the town saying it had "the only smelter on the B.C. coast" and was "the mining centre of western North America". The town boasted the only opera house north of San Francisco, had three hotels with saloons, a hospital, several stores and businesses, and an illegal distillery flourished in Pocahontas Bay supplying booze to the United States during prohibition.

Powell River's growth was just beginning at this time and residents from the Myrtle Point area on the mainland used to row for an hour across Malaspina Strait to Deighton's store in Van Anda for supplies or to catch the Union steamship to Vancouver.

In 1910 the first of three serious fires completely destroyed the major buildings of Van Anda in only forty minutes. The optimism of the boom town led to rebuilding larger, more imposing structures — only to be destroyed by fire again in 1912. The third fire struck in 1917 leaving only Al Deighton's store which was saved by a bucket brigade.



Black Tailed Deer

### INDUSTRIES

Besides three limestone quarries, Texada hosts logging, small sawmills, a fertilizer business and numerous small home-based businesses including gift and jewellery shops, crafts, designer clothing, pottery, artists, imported sweaters, graphics and design, silva culture and forestry supplies.

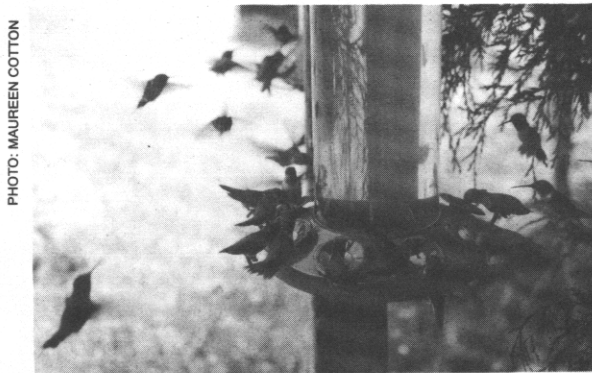


PHOTO: MAUREEN COTTON

How many hummingbirds can you count at this Terrace Park feeder?

### ABUNDANT WILDLIFE

Texada does not have predators such as bear or cougar, however, there are ample black-tailed deer and racoon.

The waters around Texada, especially near Shelter Point, offer possible sightings of wolf eel, octopus, otter, seal and sea lion and a variety of other sea life for scuba divers.

### BIRD NOTES

The last printing of the Texada Bird List was in January's *Grapevine*. I'm sure there are more than 200 different species of birds visiting or living on Texada, but the list has only 151 names so there are many more to try to identify. Well over 250 bird species are recorded quite frequently in the Vancouver area, and even the Nanaimo area has 258 species on the naturalists checklist.

One that will be added to the Texada list next time is the *Western Bluebird*. The male has blue on the head, back and wings, and red on the breast. The female is less colourful, mostly grey and brown with blue only on the wings. We are at the northern end of the normal range for this bird, but they don't migrate very far and might be seen at any time of the year.

The *flycatchers* and their relatives the *Pewees* and *Phoebes* are all so alike in shape, size and colouring, that it is really difficult to distinguish between the species. One way to identify them is by their song. Listen for a "su-wheet" two note call with the second note higher and longer than the first.

In Gillies Bay the old male *Osprey* with missing wing feathers is back catching fish for it's mate. I watched it drive a young *Bald Eagle* from a comfortable spot at the top of a big Fir in my yard — eagles are lazy about fishing and love to steal fish from working ospreys! Also the pair of *Bald Eagle* have at least one young in their nest beside the bay this year.

The Great Blue Heron and Kingfisher also frequent the bays of the island while Brant Geese stop off in Gillies Bay for a few weeks during March and April before flying north. Rufous Hummingbirds abound from April to August. *John Dove*

### ACCOMMODATION TO SUIT ALL BUDGETS

— hotel, motel, bed and breakfast, beach cottage and an undiscovered gem, the regional campground at Shelter Point (with hot showers). A private full-service campground has opened at Davies Day. There are two primitive forestry campsites, one at Bob's Lake and the other at Shingle Beach. There is a variety of outdoor recreational activities to choose from — hiking, scuba diving, biking, boating, fishing, rock hunting, and bird watching.

### NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Main roads are paved. To travel back roads you should have a reliable vehicle with good ground clearance. There may be active logging on backroads, so use caution.

### FIRE SEASON

April 15 to October 15 on Texada. Please be careful.

### FARMER'S MARKET

Sunday afternoons, mid-June to mid-October — bake sales, organic produce and gift items at the Gillies Bay Ball Field.

### BOAT LAUNCHING

At Marble Bay, Van Anda and Shelter Point Park. Good moorage can be found in Marble Bay and Blubber Bay.



PHOTO: PATRICIA GOOD

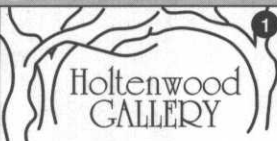
A beautiful beach at Shelter Point Park.

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance .....	485-4211
Texada Medical Clinic, Gillies Bay .....	486-7525
Fire .....	485-4321
R.C.M.P. ....	486-7717
Search and Rescue .....	call R.C.M.P.
Crimesoppers Tip Line .....	485-8477




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**Murphy's Restaurant & Store**

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**Texada Type**

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texadatyp@aisl.bc.ca  
Phone/Fax (604) 486-7545

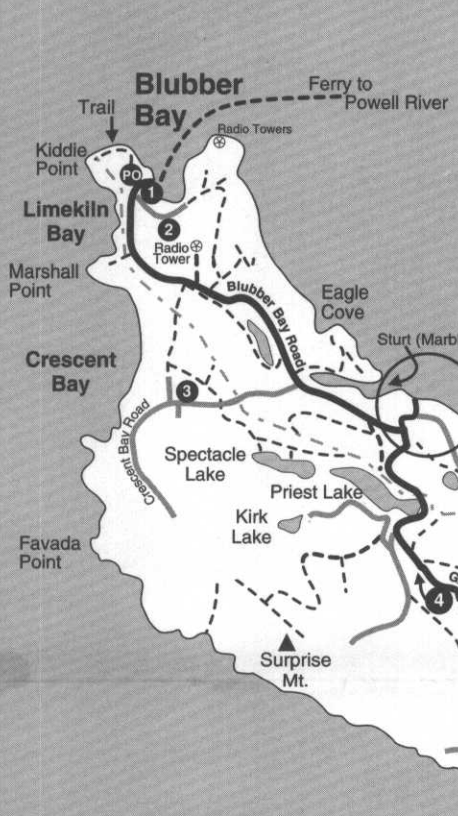
**Texada Shores Bed & Breakfast**

Self-contained suites  
Waterfront, Gillies Bay

(604) 486-7388

**The Retreat**

604 486 7360  
Kitchen units at Shelter Point  
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**Powell River**

**Marine Traders**  
485-4624

See us on the Westview wharf

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- Marine hardware

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Help support our local wildbird rescue centre.

Find an injured bird?  
Call Nan 483-9224

**Powell River & District S.P.C.A.**

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Lower level  
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**Keep Texada Green**

There are no public garbage disposal sites on Texada.

Please act responsibly — use recycle bins & the metal dump.  
Powell River Regional District

**Books & Stationery**

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John Zaikow 485-6898



**Van Anda**

**Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232**

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**WELCOME HARVEST FARM**  
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**Texada Island Sandcastle Weekend**

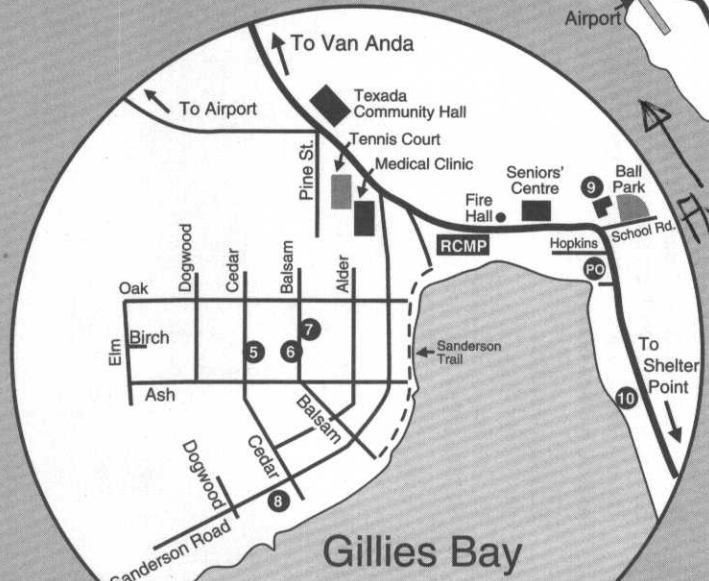
Simply a weekend of family fun!

1999 - July 9, 10 & 11  
2000 - July 28, 29 & 30  
2001 - July 20, 21 & 22  
Call Neale(604) 486-7825

Locked out of your vehicle? Call ...

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*DUPE Aug 25/02*  
*talked with vic Tamba (Yakinder) - took samples for assay (esp. Au + Cu) - drilled made with hay wares who only drilled prog. for Falconbridge - plan to drill (if warranted) TOP*

**Coastal Salmon Charters**

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486-7504 Greg McMahon

**Farmers' Market**

June-October  
Sundays 1-3 pm  
Gillies Bay

**Terrace Park Campground**

Every site an ocean view!

- RV Hook-up • Flush toilets • Cottages •
- Canoe Rentals •

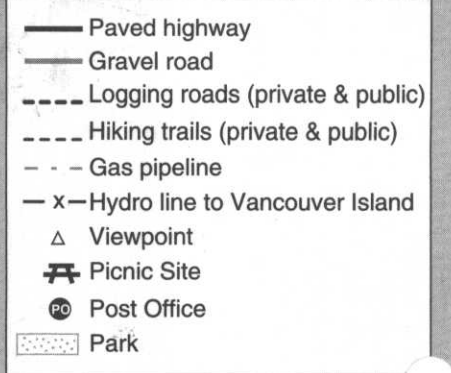
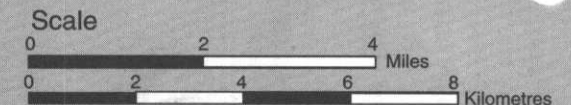
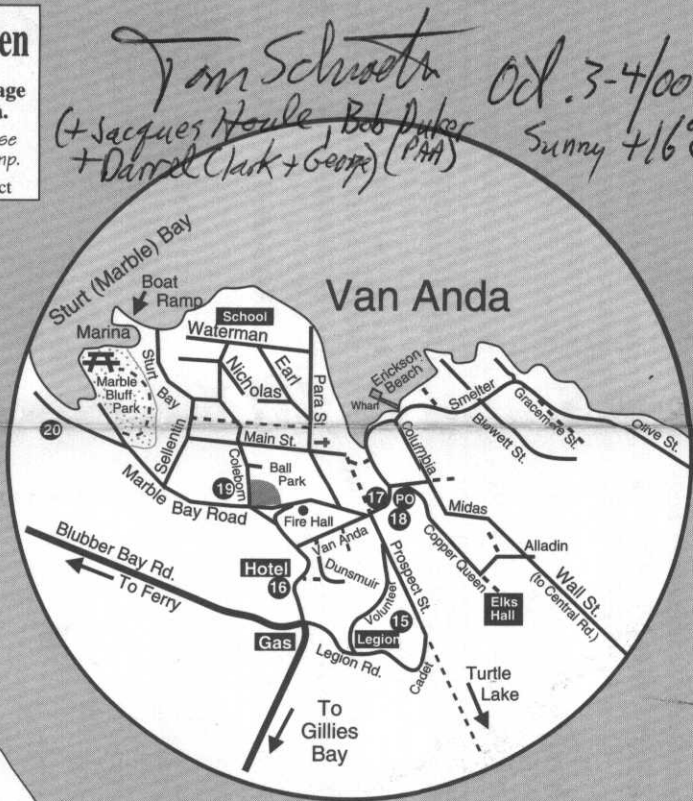
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Map updates courtesy John Dove.  
Historical information sources: Texada Island Heritage Society, Texada, Centennial Committee, 1960 and Powell River's First 50 Years, Windflower Books & Stationery Ltd., Powell River, B.C., 1960.

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