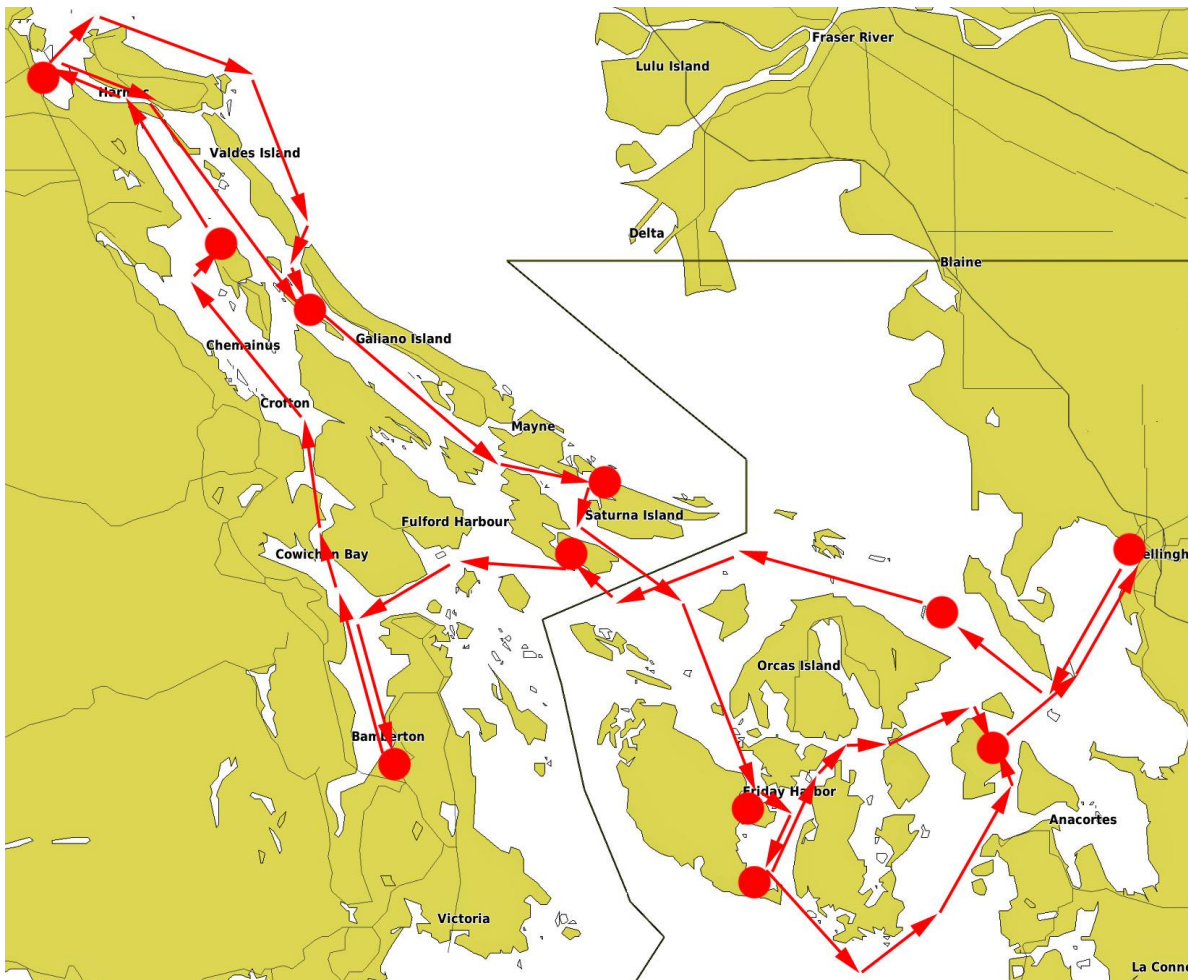


Additional Important Information about the Sailing in Portland 2026 Gulf and San Juan Islands Cruise

HOW TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE ON THE TRIP:

1. Email me (BrianStipak@gmail.com) your **phone number** and **email address**.
2. Pay me a \$190 deposit (I have already paid a \$3,720 deposit to the charter company). Deposits are generally refundable until close to the cruise date. I take Venmo or checks:
 - Venmo name is BrianStipak. Email address is BrianStipak@gmail.com. Phone number is 503-502-6034.
 - Mailing address for checks: Brian Stipak, 448 N Bridgeton Rd, Portland, OR 97217.

CRUISE ROUTE 2026:



Description of the 2026 Itinerary

Overview: This will be a Canadian and US cruise with an emphasis on the Canadian locations. Participants need to have a passport, and be admissible to Canada.

Some of our overnight stops are in ports and some are on islands.

Here is our tentative itinerary:

0. [Bellingham](#) – We leave from Bellingham and have the option of overnighting on the boats on Friday prior to our Saturday departure.
1. [Clark Island](#) (Alternatives are Matia or Sucia) - A nice sailing distance from Bellingham for our first day. I think this island is a jewel because it is lightly visited, has great on-shore camping, dramatic limestone formations, a long beach facing the mooring balls, and views across the Strait of Georgia.
2. [Poets Cove](#), South Pender Island - A Canadian gem. We check in through customs at the marina, and then have available the outdoor spa over-looking the marina and the luxury resort with an excellent restaurant. Bicycles may be available.
3. [Butchart Cove](#), At the famous [Butchart Gardens](#), there is a cove where we can use the mooring balls. There is a dinghy dock for gaining access to see the gardens. If all our boats are not able to use the mooring balls, then we can anchor in the nearby [Todd Inlet anchorage](#).
4. [North Cove, Thetis Island](#) – This is new location for our group cruises. This is a pretty location with a summer camp on the shore. There is room for a number of boats. When I anchored there before I had a little trouble setting my anchor on a rocky bottom.
5. [Nanaimo](#) – Reaching Nanaimo requires timing the current to pass Dodd Narrows. Nanaimo has lots of amenities.
6. Anchorage at Clam Bay, Reid Island, Hall Island, or Secretary Island. Getting there requires either transiting again Dodd Narrows, or alternatively timing the transit of Polier Pass.
7. [Winter Cove, Saturna Island](#) – Another new anchorage for us that we are excited to visit.
8. Friday Harbor stop on the way to Griffin Bay. 2-3 hour stop for showers, groceries, and exploring. [Griffin Bay Anchorage, near American Camp, off of San Juan Channel](#) –There is good hiking ashore; see the link above. An interesting possible option for camping is [Griffin Bay State Park](#); this is a 3-campsite area accessible for overnight use only by motorless watercraft. We could row a dinghy from our anchorage, leaving the other dinghy(ies) for use on the boats. Also, the rules allow us to visit the park for day use using motorized dinghies. Here is [more information on this little park](#), including photos of the campsites. This is a [campsite photo from our 2025 cruise](#), and [here is another camping photo from our 2025 cruise](#). The park is between two beachfront houses but you can see the campsites and large state park sign from the water (Lat/Lon: 48°, 28.567' N, 123° 0.603' W).

9. [Pelican Beach, Cypress Island](#) (Alternatives are Eagle Harbor on Cypress, or Clark Island) – This is a great stop for camping and for hiking. On some cruises we have dinner on the beach, depending on the weather.
- This island was proposed as a resort that was defeated several decades ago by environmentalists. Had the resort (including a big marina and an AIRPORT!) been built this island would now be one of the most developed islands, but instead it is one of the most pristine islands, despite its close proximity to Anacortes. What we often do is off-load people who want to hike at [Cypress Head](#), and then they hike northward on scenic trails to get to the boats at [Pelican Beach](#). Hikers - Take a look at the trail map for Cypress Island. For those who stay on the boat to Pelican Beach, rather than off-loading at Cypress Head, there is an excellent hike to [Eagle Cliff](#) (open seasonally), with a dramatic view towards the north.
 - The campsites on the beach at Pelican are great campsites and popular with kayakers. Campers from our group will need to rise early because the sailboats will depart early on Friday morning in order to make our Friday noon return time.
10. [Bellingham](#) - Return to marina by about 11:00 am. Turn over to charter company empty boats with full water tank(s) by 12:00 noon.

Dinner Meals Together (Final decisions to be made by the food committee): night 1 on Clark, night 3 at Butchart Cove, night 4 at North Cove, night 6 at Clam Bay (or other anchorage), night 7 at Winter Cove, night 8 at Griffin Bay, and night 9 at Cypress. In port (nights 2, 5) some of us will eat together at local restaurants, and you have the option to partake of food available on the boats.

TRY THE DIFFERENT BOATS!

On our past trips some people have tried sailing on different boats for a day. We encourage you to try the different boats because you can learn something different on the different boats.

We will have 3 boats. You are free to move among the boats for sailing during the day (Just talk to me or to the boat captains).

Here is information and photos for each of our 3 boats:

- [S/V Windwaker](#)
- [S/V Orca](#)
- [S/V Kipper Kite](#)

Their characteristics include:

- 3 "stateroom", 2 head interior configuration.
- Rain protection with dodger and bimini.
- Cutout transom (Windwaker, Orca) making it easy to get on the dinghy.
- Kipper Kite has a 1 helm configuration. Windwaker and Orca have a 2 helm configuration.

The leadership team (captain and safety officer) for each boat:

- **Leslie**, S/V Orca captain ([CLICK HERE for sailing resume](#)), has a loyal following who likes her steadiness and guidance. **Susan** has both cruising and racing experience and will serve as the safety officer.
- **Richard**, S/V Kipper Kite Captain, enjoys teaching others about sailing and continuing to learn about sailing. Xxx will serve as the safety officer.
- **Brian**, S/V Windwaker captain ([CLICK HERE for sailing resume](#)), enjoys helping new sailors to run the boat by themselves. Xxx will serve as the safety officer.

This photo shows your boat/captain options:



PLAN FOR INITIAL BOAT ASSIGNMENTS

Since you need to know which boat to go to when you arrive in Bellingham, we came up with an initial boat assignment plan below. If you prefer a different assignment, let us know.

As we discussed above, we encourage you, regardless of your initial boat assignment, to try going on the other boats. You do not need to, but if you are inclined then it might add to your boating education to have experience on the different boats.

If on the trip you think that you might like to move to a different boat for any reason, then talk to me and we will make changes if possible. Plus you can try sailing on the other boats for a day.

In the unlikely case that we experience conflict between 2 people on a boat, then I may arrange to shift people to solve that problem.

S/V Orca

Leslie (captain), Susan (safety officer), Jill, Bob, Sybille, xxx

S/V Kipper Kite

Richard (captain), xxx (safety officer), xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx

S/V Windwaker

Brian (captain), xxx (safety officer), Alison, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx