

Trail Information

Please take the time to read the following before beginning your hike.

Be Prepared:

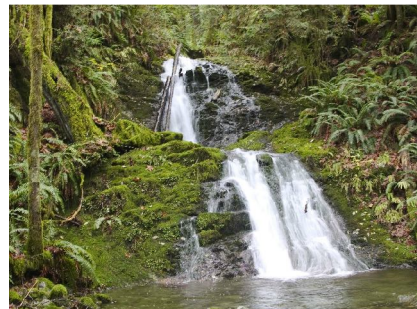
- This is a back country trail and is not without hazards.
- Weather conditions may change without warning.
- The surface is rough and there are some steep hills.
- There are only two access points to Stage 1 at Ship Creek Road and China Creek.
- Wildlife sightings and interactions are likely. Expect the unexpected at all times when encountering animals; provide distance and do not feed.

Be Safe:

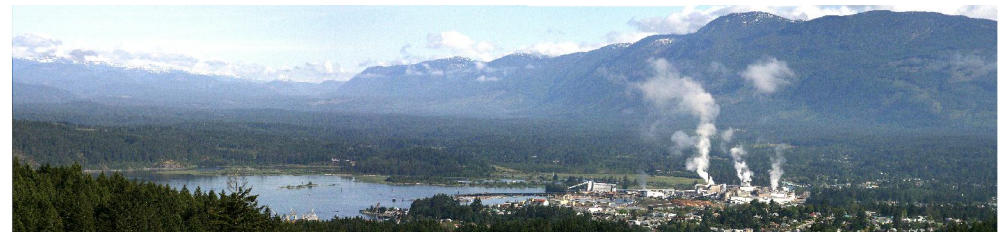
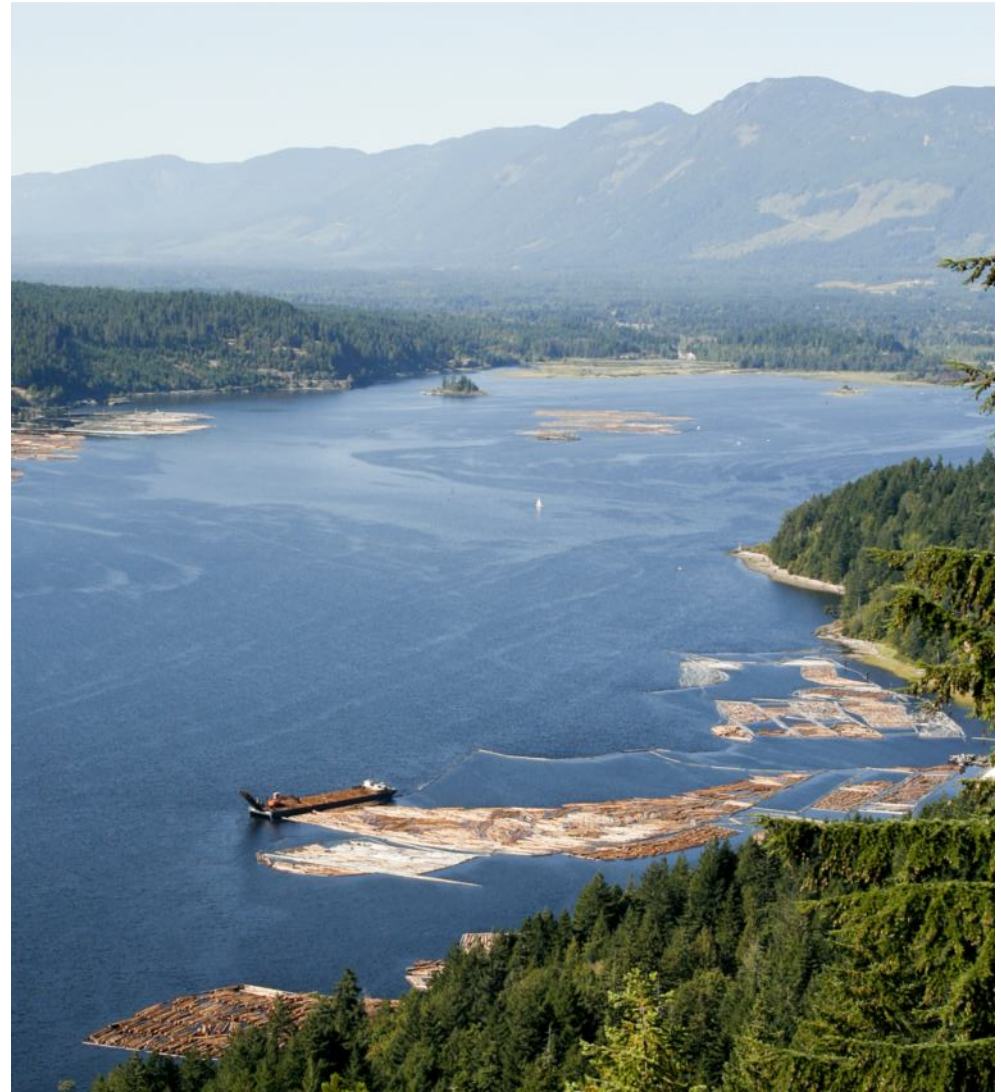
- It is recommended that trail users wear sturdy footwear and carry sufficient water and food for the length of the trip planned.
- Cellular phones work at most locations between Ship Creek and China Creek.
- Evacuation sites are marked with GPS coordinates. (See the map.)
- Watch for heavy equipment; do not approach without the operator's signal.
- Use extreme caution when crossing or nearing logging roads. Logging equipment and vehicular traffic have the right-of-way.
- Be aware that the trail, or sections of it, is subject to closure from time to time for safety reasons, such as during fire season or forestry operations.

Be Respectful:

- This trail passes through a working forest which is privately owned.
- Please stay on the developed trail; pack out what you pack in and set no fires.
- Obey all posted signs.
- This is a back-country trail for non-motorized use only.



Alberni Inlet Trail Stage 1 Port Alberni to China Creek



ALBERNI INLET TRAIL - STAGE 1: PORT ALBERNI TO CHINA CREEK

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

Vehicle Access: 2WD

Driving Time: 15 min

Trail length: 12 km

User Profile: Non-motorized recreation

Difficulty: Moderate

Elevation Gain: 300 metres

Time: Approx. 6 hours one way

Access to Trailhead on Ship Creek Road

From the Visitors Information Centre, take Highway 4A, following the signs to Bamfield. Drive 3.8 km to the traffic light on 10th Avenue. Turn left onto 10th and continue a further 1.2 km to the four-way stop at Argyle. Turn left on Argyle, then 0.3 km ahead turn right on Anderson for a further 2.2 km to where it meets Ship Creek Road. The parking lot for the trailhead is directly opposite the junction.

Trail Features

The Alberni Inlet Trail is one of the most scenic trails in the Alberni Valley, with spectacular views over the Alberni Inlet, Mount Arrowsmith and the City of Port Alberni. It is also a living demonstration of past and present human activity. The trail is located on a privately owned working forest in the traditional territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth people. In the 19th century, the area was host to the mining industry - both copper and gold were extracted. As it has done historically, the Alberni Inlet itself continues to play a significant role within the region as a transportation corridor and recreational destination.

Most of the trail is in the working forest, but the route follows logging roads at three locations (shown in green on the map). It is signposted throughout.

From the parking lot at Ship Creek Road, the trail rises through the working forest to a lookout with a panorama from the City of Port Alberni across to Mount Arrowsmith. Approximately 2 km from the start, it connects up with a logging road and turns west towards the Alberni Inlet. Another 0.6 km further at the next signpost, there are two route options descending to the Inlet: the first along Follinsbee Creek; the second by way of the Lookout and the old Copper Mountain Trail. Follinsbee is the less demanding of the two. The Lookout provides views up the inlet to the north over the Somass Estuary and across to Cous Estuary on the south west. The trail continues south along the water with several changes in elevation along the way. This section of the route provides a variety of view scapes across the inlet both from the water's edge and from rocky bluffs above the shoreline. Near the south end of Stage 1, the trail swings east away from the water with views across China Creek Dryland Sort and China Creek Marina.

Stage 1 ends at a private industrial road. All trail users are requested to approach this area with caution and provide right-of-way to any industrial traffic they may encounter.

