Tahsis Short Walks and Hikes

Tahsis Original Townsite
Just before the A-frame Tahsis Christian Church is the foot of the Cardiac Climb stairs, a steep and demanding climb. Walking around this section of the old town site is very rewarding for those interested in architecture, as this area features old float homes from the 1940s (the oldest in Tahsis) and the Heritage Building housing St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church.

Continue on down South Maquinna Drive to Tipperary, then walk around the original town site to see homes from the 1950s plus a spectacular view of the inlet from Tipperary Park at the top of Princess Victoria View.

As South Maquinna heads down toward the Public Boat Launch, there is a picnic table and sign marking Ubedam Trail... a short hike up to Discovery Crescent and a popular shortcut for residents. Don’t forget to drop by Captain Cook’s Pub at the Maquinna Resort to see the carved and painted murals created in the 1970s by local First Nation artist Art Nicolaye.

To accompany you on your walk around Tahsis, pick up the Tahsis Historical Walking Tour online at www.tahsis.ca/guides or from the Tahsis Recreation Centre or Tahsis Chamber of Commerce Info Centre (open in summer) and learn about Tahsis heritage sites as you explore.

West Bay Park
A short drive past the Maquinna Resort is the turnaround and parking lot for West Bay Park. There are washrooms, and stairs down to the rock beach at West Bay. This sheltered little bay is an exception to the deep waters of Tahsis Inlet, and is shallow and southwesterly facing to catch the sun and warm up to comfortable swimming temperatures. Locals love to come down here to swim, sunbath and walk the short trails in this area.

Tahsis Heliport and Tahsis River Bridges
Back at the head of Alpine View is the Tahsis Heliport, and a very walk-able waterfront section that is popular with locals walking their dogs. There is an expansive panorama view of the head of the Inlet, lots of local marine bird life and convenient parking. The bridge close by is a great spot to view spawning salmon going up the river in the fall. Stroll down North Maquinna to the 2nd bridge over the Tahsis River, another great spot to view wildlife, bird life, and spawning salmon.

Leiner River Campsite
3K (2 miles) out of Tahsis towards Gold River and just before the Leiner River Bridge is the Leiner River Campsite. Walk around and explore this section of the river, where it expands out into a picturesque little swimming hole with a swing rope.

Leiner River Estuary Trail
This 2 kilometre long trail — under construction in the winter of 2004/2005 — provides excellent wildlife viewing opportunities right on the doorstep of Tahsis. This route is a level trail with boardwalks and viewing platforms on the salt marshes and along the Leiner River where it meets the sea.

Wildlife often seen here include Trumpeter Swans, hawks, eagles, seals, salmon and bears. Many birds stop over here on their annual migrations. The trail access is from the Tahsis road, just 500 metres short of town and is well marked. There is a parking lot and washroom at the trail head. This makes an easy afternoon stroll close to town.

For more challenging hikes close to Tahsis, see our Tahsis Hiking Guide. Please note: all activities and routes described in this guide and other guides are followed at your own risk.