

A Hike on Bowen Island (Faye Brownlie)



The Bowen Island Ferry arrives at the marina at Snug Cove

Walk onto the Bowen Island Ferry at Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver and ride for 20 minutes. You will arrive in Snug Cove on Bowen Island. Here you will find many hiking trails that wander through the temperate rainforest.

You can start your hike right at the marina. If you are lucky enough you might spot a heron, standing still as it watches for fish. You certainly will see ducks and Canada geese as they paddle around the boats. Of course, seagulls will be swirling about, screeching as they search for food, and diving to catch French fries.

As you begin the trail in the rainforest, there are tall fir trees and ferns on both sides of the trail. They make the path dark and damp. Watch for an unusual sign that says,

BE CAREFUL.
Camp for the blind nearby.
People you see walking may be blind.

Continue hiking and you will see a Memorial Garden. Here are many benches with signs on them. The signs name people who once lived on Bowen Island and who are now remembered by their families.



Fish swim up these steps and many more to reach the top of the ladder

Next, you come to several fish ladders. These have been built to help fish swim upstream, one step at a time, when they return to lay their eggs. The water coming down makes lots of noise as it tumbles from one step to the next.

Keep walking and you will arrive at the lake. This is a great place for a picnic lunch before returning down the trail and back to the ferry.

Enjoy your hike!