

ROBERTS BAY (Sidney)

First, check the tide table at <http://waterlevels.gc.ca/eng/station?sid=7260> and make sure that the tide is lower than 2 metres, otherwise this route won't work!

Parking can be in three locations: a) at the tennis courts the north end of Tsehum Park, off Resthaven Drive; b) anywhere on Harbour Road; c) in the smallish parking area at the end of Bowden Road off Harbour Road. This is a one boater – unless you choose to follow the shoreline further south than the main route (black arrows).

1. Make your way to the parking area at the end of Bowden Road and go down the stairs to the beach. Turn right and follow the shoreline. About 150 metres after the access point on Ardwell Road, you will come to a creek at 'B'. There are some stones set in the water which allow you to miss getting your feet wet!
2. Follow the beach and walk around the small headland. After crossing under a disused wharf structure, turn up the short flight of stairs at 'C'. Turn left on Beaufort Road and then next right on Surfside Place at the end of which you'll see a short path down to some steps leading to the beach at 'D'.
3. Follow the beach a short distance until to reach another set of stairs at 'E' that will lead you up to Amherst Avenue.
4. If you want a longer shoreline walk stay on the beach. Be aware, however, that it can get a bit tricky when you come to rocks and boulders along the route. You can take a flight of stairs at Shoreacre Road ('1') or Rothsay Avenue ('2'). Both routes lead you to Third Avenue where you turn right and carry on down to Amherst and the main route.
5. If you are staying on the main route, continue up Amherst to Fifth Avenue where you turn left. Cross Malaview, stay on Fifth, and look for a footpath on the right at 'F' which will lead you past the library. Cross Resthaven and head up Mills Road to 'G' where on the right you'll find a pathway through a linked green space to Bradford Avenue and then on to Malaview.
6. Cross Malaview and keep going straight on until you reach Amelia Avenue where you turn left. At the small roundabout on Bowerbank Road turn right. At the next junction you will see a children's playground on the right at the top of a long park. There is a pathway that runs down through the park. Continue on until you come to a T junction cross the path and, at 'H', keep right as you cross the grass. You will see a pathway between the trees directly ahead.
7. The short path brings you out to the end of a cul-de-sac and, just over to the left, you'll see another short pathway that will bring you out to Ardwell Avenue. Turn right, cross Resthaven Drive, and continue on to the beach access point. Turn left and retrace your route back to the stairs at Bowden Road.
8. An alternate route back to Bowden would take you left on Resthaven and turn right on Allbay Road. Or, you can stay on Resthaven and follow it back to Harbour Road and on to where you left your vehicle.