

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance - Fire - Police.....911  
 Coast Guard.....1-800-567-5111  
 Cortes Medical Clinic.....250-935-6718  
 (Manson's Landing)  
 BC Ferries.....250-286-1412  
 (Campbell River)  
 Weather Forecast.....250-287-4463  
 Marine Weather.....250-286-3575

Post Offices: Whaletown, Manson's Landing & Squirrel Cove  
 Medical Clinic: 945 Beasley Rd. Manson's Landing



Manson's Landing

To order additional copies & submit a listing contact:

Discovery Islander Publications  
 Ph: 250-285-2234 Fx: 250-285-2236  
 eMail: info@quadraisland.ca

printed on Quadra Island by Castle Printing 250-285-2724  
 Starfish & crab: William Van Orden. Cortes Logo: Elizabeth Anderson

## Ferry Schedules

### Campbell River - Quadra Island

Leave Campbell River		Leave Quadra Island	
Mon-Fri	Sat-Sun	Mon-Fri	Sat-Sun
6:40 am		6:20 am	
7:30 am	7:30 am	7:05 am	7:05 am
8:30 am	†8:20 am	8:00 am	†7:55 am
9:30 am	9:20 am	†9:00 am	8:55 am
**10:30 am	10:15 am	10:00 am	9:50 am
11:30 am	11:15 am	11:00 am	10:45 am
12:30 pm	12:15 pm	12:00 am	11:45 pm
1:30 pm	1:15 pm	1:00 pm	12:45 pm
2:30 pm	2:15 pm	2:05 pm	1:45 pm
3:30 pm	3:30 pm	3:00 pm	3:00 pm
4:30 pm	4:30 pm	**4:00 pm	4:00 pm
†5:25 pm	5:25 pm	5:00 pm	5:00 pm
†6:15 pm	6:15 pm	5:50 pm	5:50 pm
7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm
9:45 pm	9:45 pm	9:15 pm	9:15 pm
*10:45 pm	†10:45 pm	*10:15 pm	†10:15 pm

### Quadra Island - Cortes Island

Leave Quadra Island		Leave Cortes Island	
Mon-Fri	Sat-Sun	Mon-Fri	Sat-Sun
9:05 am	†8:50 am	7:50 am	†7:50 am
**11:05 am	10:50 am	9:50 am	9:35 am
1:05 pm	1:05 pm	11:50 am	11:35 am
3:05 pm	3:05 pm	**1:50 pm	1:50 pm
5:05 pm	5:05 pm	3:50 pm	3:50 pm
6:45 pm	6:45 pm	5:50 pm	5:50 pm

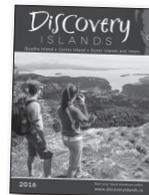
† Local Commuter Sailings, Please Avoid. † Daily except Sundays. \*Fridays only  
 \*\* Tuesday sailings are for Dangerous Cargo, no passengers or cars

Start and end your visit hassle free  
 by taking the ferry off peak commuter sailings.  
 CHECK OUT THE Q-COVE & CR FERRY CAMS AT QIHA.CA

For fare information and schedules for all of  
 BC Ferries routes visit [www.bcferrries.com](http://www.bcferrries.com)

## For More Information

Pick up a copy of the  
 Guide to the Discovery Islands for  
 more information about Cortes  
 & the surrounding Discovery Islands.



Available at the Cortes Museum along with lots of other local  
 information - 957 Beasley Rd, Manson's Landing.

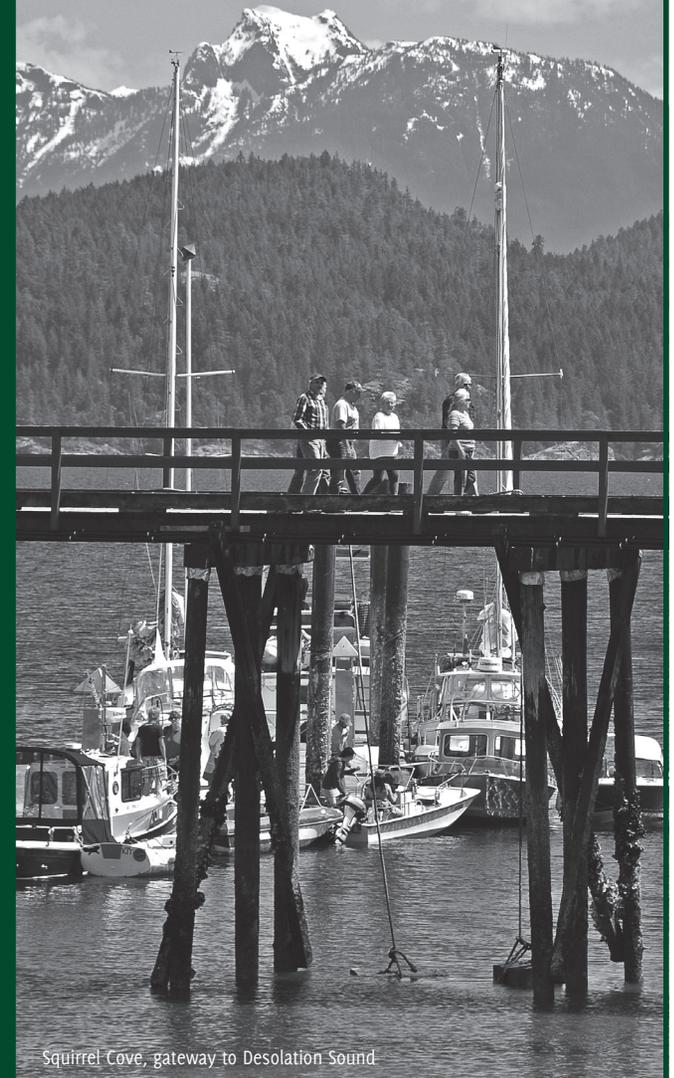


[www.ourcortes.com](http://www.ourcortes.com)



# Cortes ISLAND

Wonderfully Natural



Squirrel Cove, gateway to Desolation Sound

## About Cortes Island

Cortes is an island paradise, with beautiful lakes, lagoons, forests, and white sandy beaches. Known for its abundant wildlife, delicious shellfish, and self-sufficient people, Cortes offers visitors a wide variety of things to see and do.

The island is situated at the northern end of the Salish Sea (Strait of Georgia), on Canada's west coast, between Vancouver Island and the British Columbia mainland amongst the Discovery Islands archipelago.

Long before the Spanish and English explorers reached the Pacific coast of North America the region was home to the indigenous Coast Salish First Nation. The Klahoose First Nation's traditional territory stretches from Cortes Island to Toba Inlet. The Klahoose had winter campgrounds on the island and settled in Squirrel Cove permanently in the 1800s after their Toba village was flooded. The island currently has about 1050 full-time residents, and most live on the southern portion. Cortes is approximately 25 km long and 13 km wide.



Hernán Cortés

Cortes was mapped by Spanish explorers in the late 1700s notably by Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra a contemporary of the English Captain George Vancouver who first circumnavigated neighbouring Vancouver Island. It was named for Hernán Cortés de Monroy y Pizarro, 1st Marquis of the Valley of Oaxaca, infamous as the conquistador of Mexico.

## Things to Do...

Those who enjoy spending time in the outdoors have their choice of numerous recreational activities on Cortes. Hague Lake is perfect for swimming, sunbathing, and fishing for an ancient strain of trout (no motor boats allowed). The island's trails are great for hiking and mountain biking, and there is a campground and expansive, sandy beach in Smelt Bay Park.



Desolation Sound

Cortes is at the gateway to world-famous boating destination Desolation Sound. The area is a sailing and sea kayaking mecca, and boasts incredible views of the mainland mountains and inlets.

Nearby Mitlenatch Island is a Provincial Marine Park protecting a unique eco-system created by the same rain-shadow effect Cortes enjoys from the high Vancouver Island mountains. Mitlenatch is an excellent destination to enjoy with a local naturalist/ boat charter. Depending on the time of year there may be sea lions, nesting gulls, cormorants, harbour seals, eagles and abundant blooms of wildflowers, even cactus and swimming garter snakes!

Gorge Harbour Resort has a full-service resort-marina, and there are government wharves at Cortes Bay, Whaletown, Squirrel Cove, Manson's Landing, and Gorge Harbour. Services vary but may include, shore power, garbage drop and of course moorage, Gorge Harbour Resort campground has an RV sani-dump.

Salmon fishing attracts many visitors to the region, and charter boat operators are available for fishing or wildlife viewing excursions. It's easy to catch sight of wildlife on ruggedly beautiful Cortes. Many species of birds and marine creatures live on the island or off its shores, and the observant visitor will no doubt be impressed by the diversity of life. The island boasts many beautiful beaches and lagoons that are perfect for bird watching.

## Our Community...

Cortes has a thriving arts and crafts industry. Drum makers, potters, painters, carvers, wood-crafters and other artisans live and work on the island. Cortes Craftshop in Squirrel Cove, a co-op of island artists and craftspeople, showcases local work. Island galleries and gift shops also sell local art and crafts.

The Cortes Waste Management/Recycling Centre is also well worth a visit. This well-maintained site includes a comprehensive recycling depot and a free store open Thursday to Sunday, 9 am to 1 pm. The Cortes Island Museum is situated on Beasley Road next to the Manson's Landing firehall.

Cortes is home to Hollyhock, Canada's leading educational retreat centre, world-renowned for life-long learning and skills development programs.

There are a number of highlight events and festivals on Cortes Island throughout the year. Recent springs have been kicked off on the May long-weekend with the gourmet extravaganza - the Cortes Island Seafood Festival this year at Gorge Harbour Resort. The Creative Spaces Tour, a fundraiser for the Cortes Island Museum is in mid-June. Cortes Day, an annual festival held in mid-July at Smelt Bay Park, is a fun event for the whole family with a parade, competitions, games, and food booths. Another event to watch out for is the sandcastle competition in August.

To find out what events are coming up pick up a copy of the Discovery Islander free throughout the islands or check in online at [www.DiscoveryIslander.com](http://www.DiscoveryIslander.com)

Provisions and hardware supplies are available at the island's general stores, and fuel and propane are sold at Squirrel Cove and Gorge Harbour. Manson's Landing is the main community and commercial centre: there is a community hall, health-clinic, shops including: book & wool shop, the Cortes Market and the Cortes Natural Food Co-op which carries organic, natural, GMO-free, fair-trade foods and lots of local crafts and produce for members and non-members.

At Squirrel Cove the General Store carries groceries, hardware and fuel. There is also a craft shop, restaurant, launch ramp for boats and kayaks, high water dock, picnic tables, food take-out and tenting area at this gateway to Desolation Sound. There are three post offices on Cortes, in Manson's Landing, Whaletown and Squirrel Cove.

Cortes has a number of cafes and restaurants to suit a variety of palates. To truly soak up the island's atmosphere, it's a good idea to stay a few days. Accommodation options on the island include campgrounds, bed and breakfasts, holiday rental homes & cottages, plus resorts.

**For more info visit:**

**[www.CortesIsland.com](http://www.CortesIsland.com) or [www.ourcortes.com](http://www.ourcortes.com)**

## Getting Here...

Cortes Island can be reached via a 40-minute ferry ride from Quadra Island which in turn is accessed by a shorter 10 minute ferry crossing from the city of Campbell River on Vancouver Island.

Look online at [www.discoveryislands.ca](http://www.discoveryislands.ca) for ideas on making travel plans to reach Campbell River by air, land and sea.



## 2016 Cortes Calendar

**SEAFEST - SEAFOOD FESTIVAL** is Saturday, May 21, 11:30 am until 4 pm at Gorge Harbour Marina. ALL KINDS of seafood to taste and eat, crafts, displays and more food. Food tickets available at the event.

**CREATIVE SPACES - GARDENS, STUDIOS & WORKSHOPS** is Saturday, 23 June, 9:30 am -- 4:30 pm -- \$12 tickets available at all Cortes general stores, Hollyhock and the Museum. Great variety of studios, workshops and gardens to visit.

**CORTES DAY** this year is Saturday, July 16 – a very full day at Smelt Bay Park by the beach, with an evening dance at one of the Cortes Halls. Parade, games for all ages, food, music, crafts, displays, Nail-Sail-Bail and lots of fun!

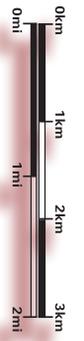
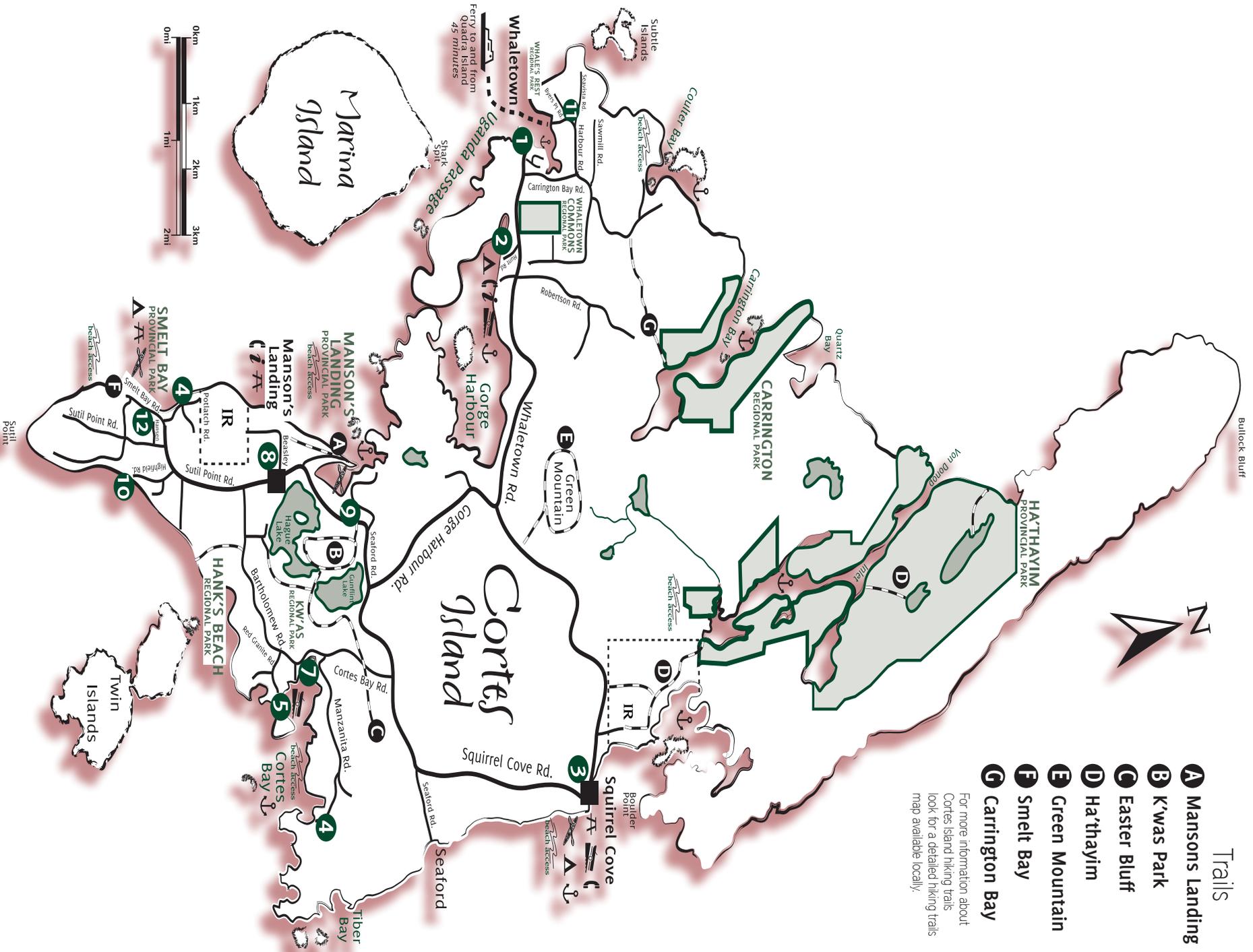
**SANDCASTLE DAY** is held in mid-August on a low tide at Smelt Bay beach. Sand sculpting and vendors. Check online or locally for a firm date this summer

Cortes logo design by Elizabeth Anderson

# Trails

- A** Mansons Landing
- B** K'was Park
- C** Easter Bluff
- D** Ha'thayim
- E** Green Mountain
- F** Smelt Bay
- G** Carrington Bay

For more information about Cortes Island hiking trails look for a detailed hiking trails map available locally.





## Accommodation

- 11 Barbara's B&B** 250-935-6383  
Deluxe, full organic breakfast. Homemade breads, pastries and jams. Private entrance and patio. Water view. Very private location in Whaletown moments from the ferry. email: bbbuffingtonO@gmail.com
- 9 Cortes Island Motel** 250-935-6363 or 1-888-935-6363  
Located in a cedar and fir forest between Gunflint Lake and Hague Lake, 14 km from Whaletown ferry on Seaford Road. Quiet, comfortable housekeeping units. Children welcome. Reservations suggested. 1078 Seaford, Manson's Landing, BC, VOP 1K0. email: parkerre@telus.net [www.cortesislandmotel.com](http://www.cortesislandmotel.com)
- 2 Gorge Harbour Marina** 250-935-6433  
Pool side cottage. 2 bdrm fully contained cottage, pool and ocean view. Rustic lodge rooms with ensuite. Overlooking beautiful Gorge Harbour. Common lounge & kitchen facilities for room guests. Open year round. Beautiful RV park & campground. Laundromat & showers. Licensed waterfront restaurant. Full service marina. Bill and Tammy, Box 89, Whaletown BC, VOP 1Z0. email: gorgeoffice@gorgeharbour.com [www.gorgeharbour.com](http://www.gorgeharbour.com)
- 4 Juniper Bluffs B and B** 250 935 8559  
Charming private cottage above Cortes Bay near boat launch, yacht clubs, government dock and water taxi. Short walk to beach or spectacular view from Easter Bluff. Kitchenette with ample breakfast provisions, private bath, double bed. Prepared meals by special arrangement. email: elizabeth@twincomm.ca [www.juniperbluffs.wordpress.com](http://www.juniperbluffs.wordpress.com)
- 12 Lighthouse B & B and Vacation Rental** 1-888-246-5005  
Spectacular oceanview Smelt Bay. Heated therapeutic saltwater pool. Hi-Speed Internet, Satellite TV. Hearty breakfasts. Your Hosts Dennis & Eleanor Hansen, 887 Hansen Road, Smelt Bay. eMail denelly@twincomm.ca  
[www.vrbo.com/23072](http://www.vrbo.com/23072) or [www.HomeAway.com/72821](http://www.HomeAway.com/72821)
- 1 Nana Gumps Guest House** 250-935-6811  
Your executive accommodations in Historic Old Whaletown Internet, Satellite TV. Washer dryer all inclusive NanaGumps Bed and Breakfast. [www.nanagumps.com](http://www.nanagumps.com)



## Services

- 8 Cortes Island Tourist Visitor Information** 250-935-6340  
Booth located in Cortes Museum on Beasley Road between the firehall & health clinic. Open mid-June to Labour Day 10am to 4pm except Mondays. Some tourist information always available on the Museum porch. Find out more online: [www.ourcortes.com](http://www.ourcortes.com) or [www.cortesmuseum.ca](http://www.cortesmuseum.ca)

### Cortes Island Business And Tourism

Take a trip to the Edge of Wilderness at ourcortes.com where you will find maps, special events calendar, accommodation, trail guide, history, FAQ's, photos, services and more businesses. The official Info Centre is at the Cortes Museum, 250 935 6340. Cortes Island Business and Tourism (CIBATA) is a member of Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce (DICC). [www.ourcortes.com](http://www.ourcortes.com)



## Restaurants - Cafés

- 8 Cortes Natural Food Co-op Bakery & Cafe** 250-935-6505  
Come to the Co-op Cafe for quality food at affordable prices. We offer a breakfast and lunch menu to complement our espresso drinks, and we have a wide selection of fresh-baked goods using local and quality ingredients. Hours vary with the seasons; call for more information. Everyone welcome! [www.cortescoop.ca](http://www.cortescoop.ca)
- 3 The Cove Restaurant** 250-935-6350  
The Cove at Squirrel Cove serves fabulous food in a magnificent waterfront setting overlooking Desolation Sound. Open for lunch and dinner. Daily specials and a full range menu which includes a Children's Menu. Patio, take-out service, fully licensed. Call for reservations, hours, and special events. WiFi internet access available.
- 2 The Floathouse Restaurant** 250-935-6433 ext 2  
Delicious food & exquisite waterfront location at Gorge Harbour Marina (Hunt Rd). Licensed. Open Friday thru Monday for dinner March through December. Open for lunch and dinner July and August. Call (250) 935-6433 for reservations.



## Crafts/Galleries/Museum

- 3 Cortes Craft Shop Co-op** 250-935-6635  
All items are made by local craft person, artists and writers and include: jewelry, books by local writers, pottery, sewn items, soaps, natural items for the body, a wide assortment of greeting cards, etc. The spring schedule starts mid May and is limited to weekends, 12 - 4pm, the summer schedule starts July 1, is 7 days a week from 10 - 5pm, and the fall schedule starts in September, 12 - 4pm. email: cortescraftshop@gmail.com [www.cortesisland.com/tideline/show327b/Cortes\\_Craft\\_Shop\\_Co-op](http://www.cortesisland.com/tideline/show327b/Cortes_Craft_Shop_Co-op)
- 8 Cortes Island Museum & Archives** 250 935-6340  
Settlement and Natural History Exhibits, Heritage Garden and Museum Shop. Summer hours: mid-June to Labour Day, every day except Monday, 10am to 4pm. Winter hours are Friday & Saturday afternoons 12 - 4 pm. Located at 957 Beasley Road between the Firehall and the Health Clinic. Email: cimas@twincomm.ca [www.cortesmuseum.ca](http://www.cortesmuseum.ca)



## Tours & Attractions

- 2 Gorge Harbour Marina Resort** 250-935-6433  
Ideal base for kayakers and boat day trippers. New docks in 2009. Boat & vehicle rentals. Waterfront restaurant, pool side cottage rental, lodge accommodations, full service RV park & marina. Large stone fireplace with social area overlooking the water, weekly entertainment on the waterfront 5 night a week and much more! Bill and Tammy, Hunt Road, Box 89, Whaletown, BC, VOP 1Z0 fax (250) 935-6402 email: gorgeoffice@gorgeharbour.com
- 10 Hollyhock** 800.933.6339 or 250.935.6576  
Canada's lifelong learning centre. Visit for a program or holiday. Book in for excellent organic meals. Bodywork, sailing, kayaking. Gift store also available. [www.hollyhock.ca](http://www.hollyhock.ca)



## Tours & Attractions

- 8 Misty Isles Adventures** 250-935-6756  
Kayak rentals, instruction or guided day trips with spectacular scenery. Cruise
- 7 Desolation Sound & Mittenatch Island** onboard the 43 ft schooner Misty Isles. Transport Canada certified for 12 passengers. Large pilothouse and ample seating - great family boat! Visit us on the web at: [www.mistyislesadventures.com](http://www.mistyislesadventures.com)
- 13 Cortes Fishing Adventures** 250-202-3414  
Come fish in some of the best salmon grounds in the world, or go on a chartered trip out to Mittenatch marine park and see the amazing marine life, or if you are just in need of a water taxi to anywhere in the area. Everything provided, just bring camera. cortesfishingadventures@gmail.com [cortesfishingadventures.com](http://cortesfishingadventures.com)



## Stores - Provisions

- 8 Cortes Market** 250-935-6626  
Located in uptown Manson's. Largest selection on the island for groceries and produce. Coffee bar with deli. High speed WiFi DVD rentals. Liquor and Lottery Agent. Free delivery on minimum order. Publisher of the weekly Cortes Marketer. Summer hours: 8:30 to 9pm 7 days a week. Fax 250-935-6619 email: cmarket@twincomm.ca
- 8 Cortes Natural Food Co-op** 250-935-8577  
Building the local food economy on Cortes Island! Full-service, member-owned grocery store and cafe featuring fresh organic produce, dairy, meat, seafood, and bulk foods as well as supplements and body care products. Large selection of local foods, crafts, and gifts. Open 7 days a week. Everyone welcome! [www.cortescoop.ca](http://www.cortescoop.ca)
- 2 Gorge Harbour Marina Resort** 250-935-6433  
Open 7 days a week, year-round. On island grocery delivery. Full service grocery store with fresh produce, meat, baking, frozen foods, dairy, ice cream, ice, sundries, souvenirs, video rentals, car gas, propane. Liquor store. Fishing gear, licenses, charts. Laundromat & showers. Seasonal outdoor pool and spa. Internet. Boat & vehicle rentals. [www.gorgeharbour.com](http://www.gorgeharbour.com)
- 3 Squirrel Cove General Store** 250-935-6327  
Everything you need on Cortes including laundromat with wireless internet, showers, gas & oil, propane, hardware & marine essentials, groceries, dry goods, fresh meat, produce, organic produce, baking, in store post office, liquor agent, fishing gear & licences, ice, ATM. Diver for repairs, recovery and inspections available. Cortes Craft store and Cove Restaurant next door. Open every day. [www.cortesisland.com/squirrelcove](http://www.cortesisland.com/squirrelcove)