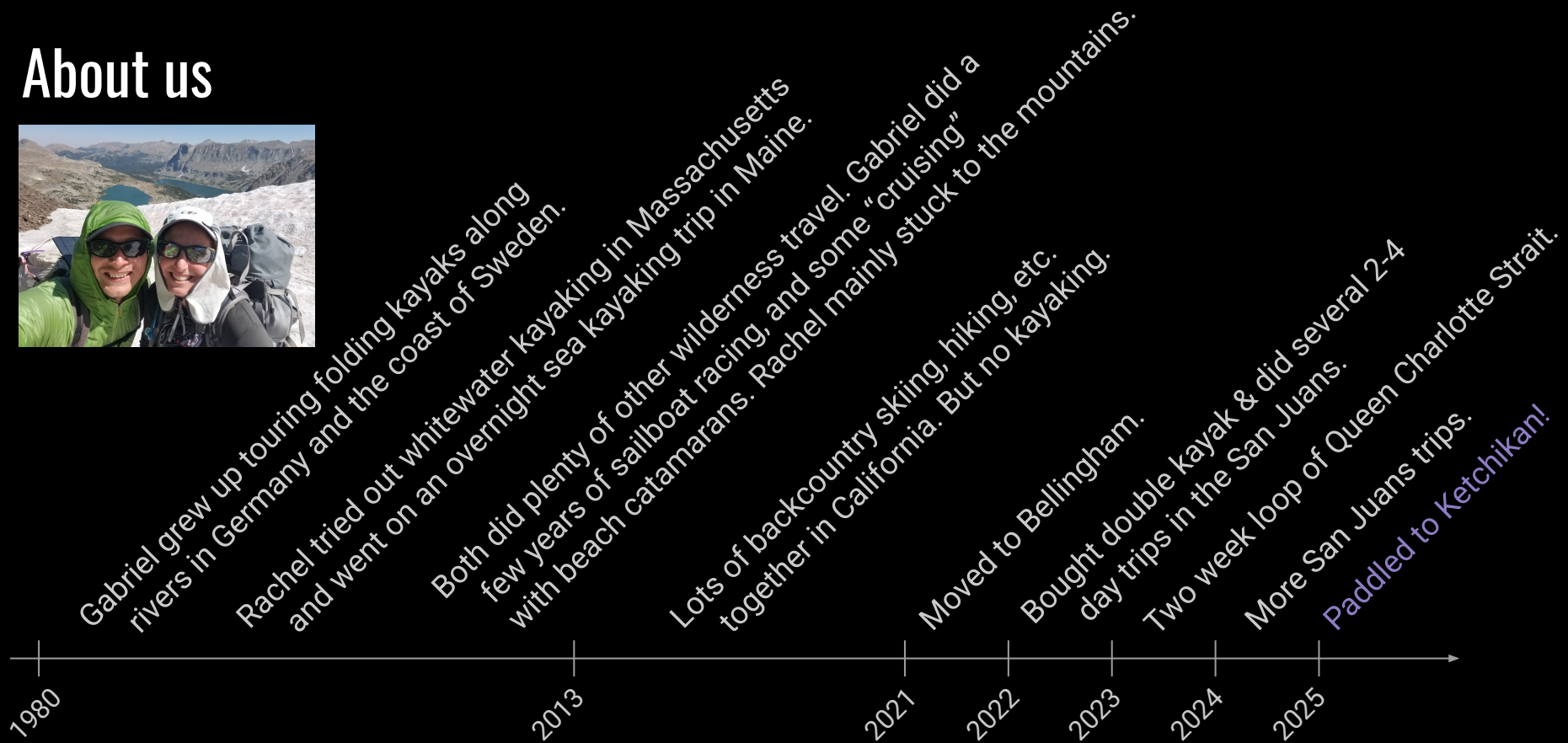
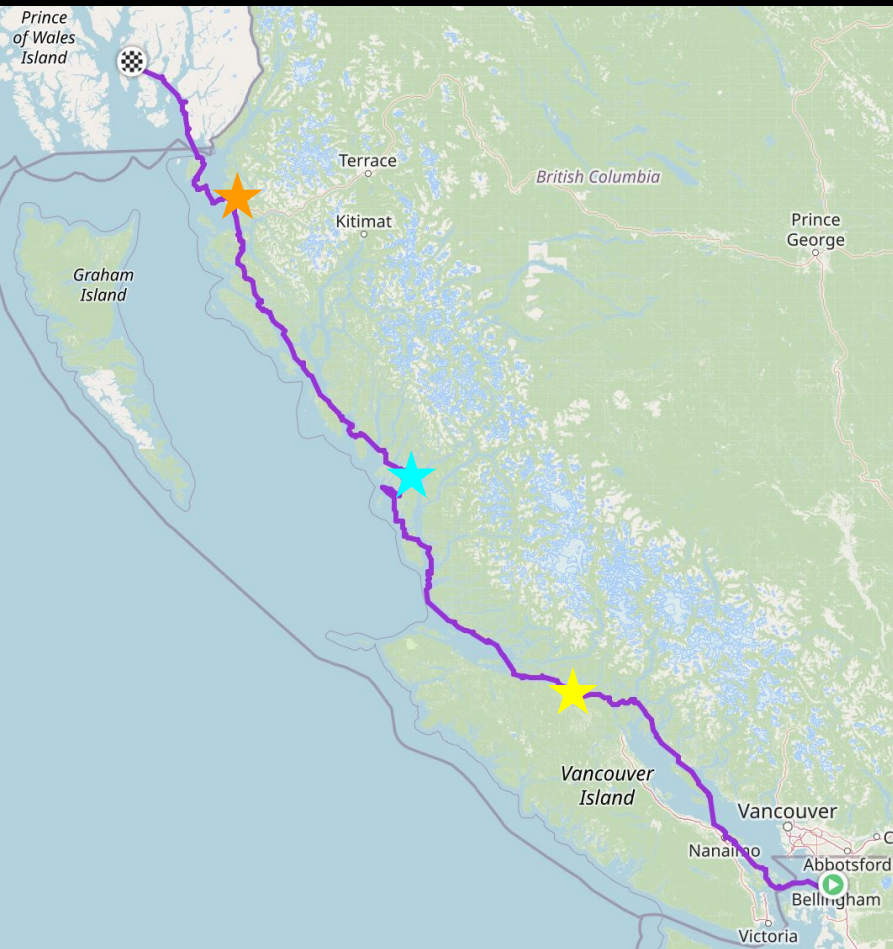


About us



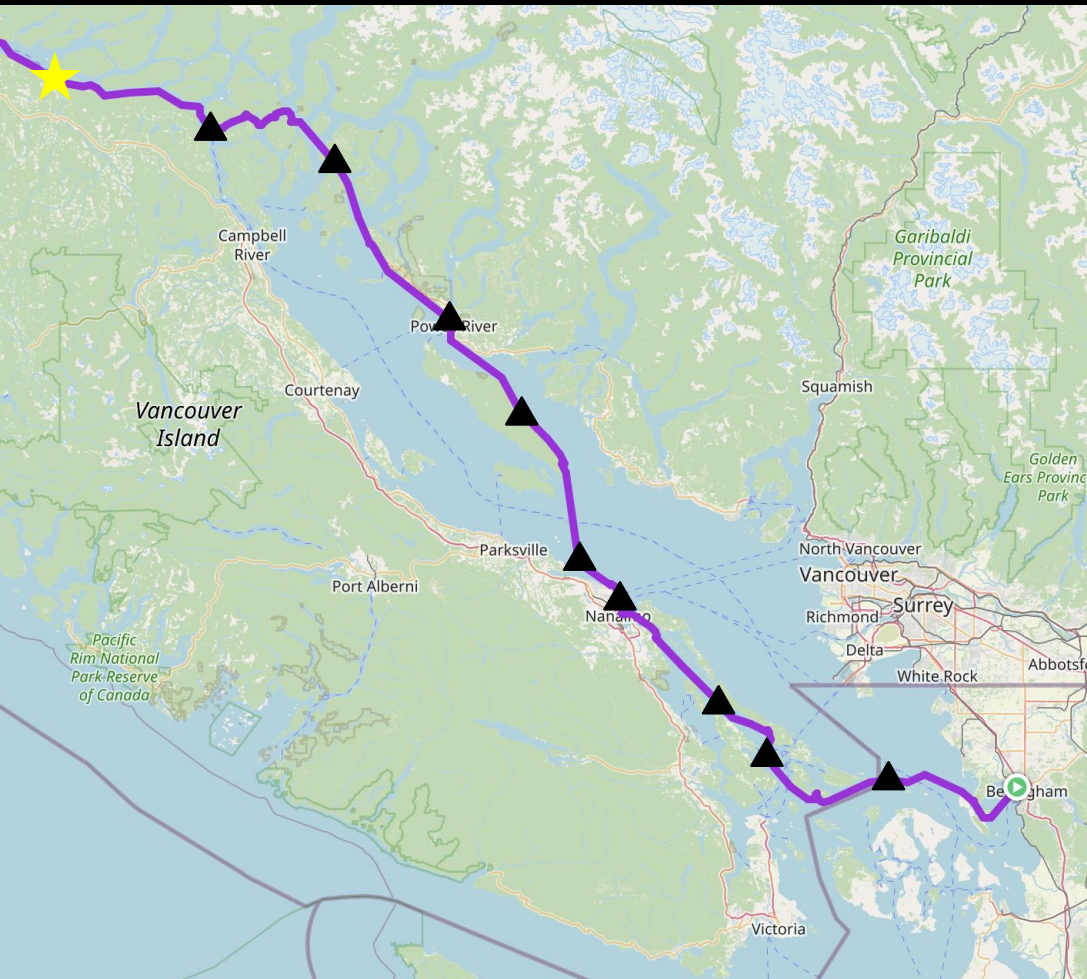
*not to scale



Trip summary

- 700 nmi
- 45 days (36 moving)
- 3 resupplies
- 10kg chocolate
- more whales than people
- roughly equal measures of Type I & Type II fun





Bellingham to Sayward

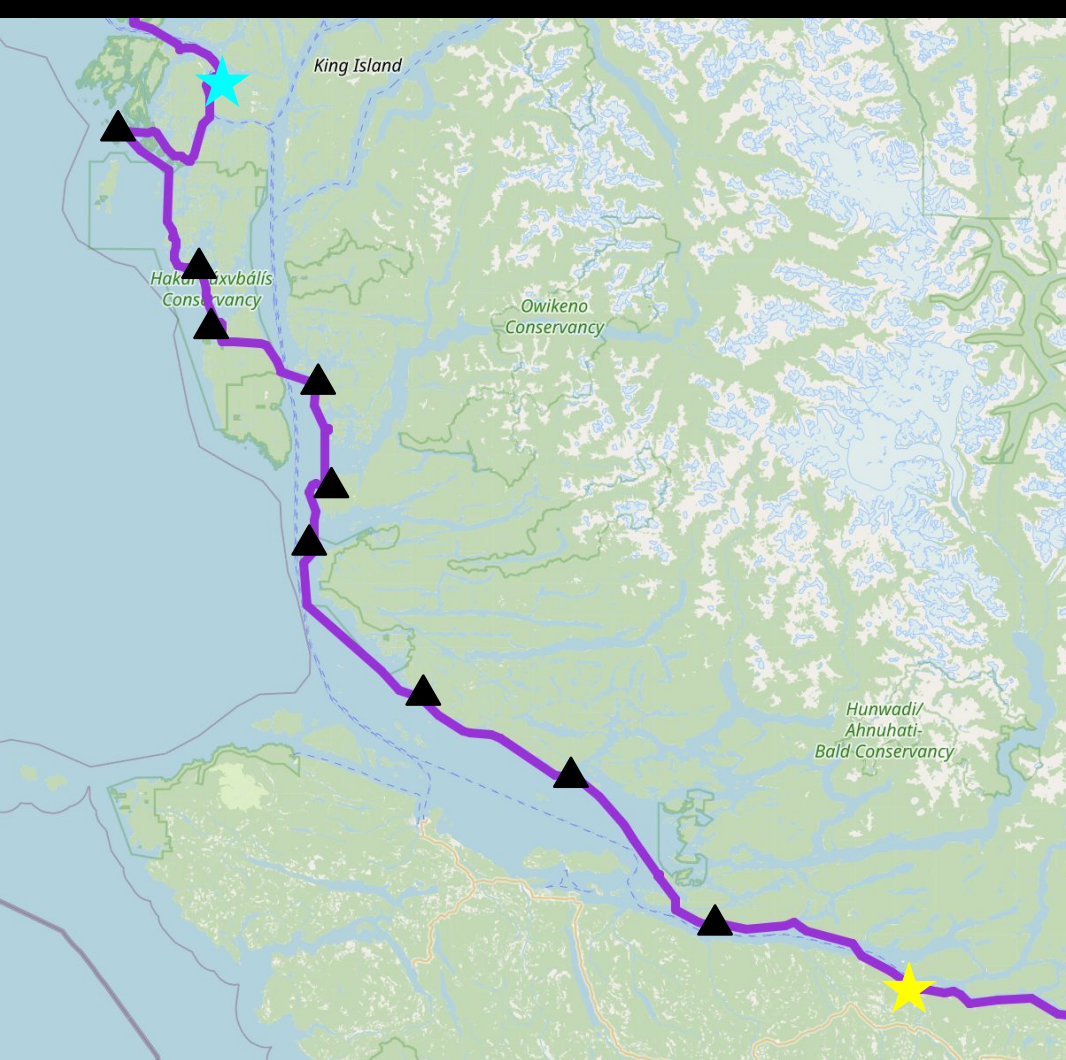
- 208 nmi
- 11 days (10 paddling, 1 rest/repair in Powell River)
- mostly southeast winds with some rain and fog
- ferry traffic, log booms, and tidal rapids

Bellingham to Sayward



Sayward was a great location for a resupply





Sayward to Shearwater

- 199 nmi
- 10 days
- Cape Caution was the crux of this section
- We included a side trip to Hakai and several outer islands

Getting the boat above high tide was not always easy



We avoided surf landings around Cape Caution by rounding it in one nonstop 28 nmi leg



Detouring to the outer islands was worth it, especially given a window of calm sunny weather



Serpent Island had amazing tide pools and scenery



The hidden beach inlet on Serpent Island was a favorite campsite

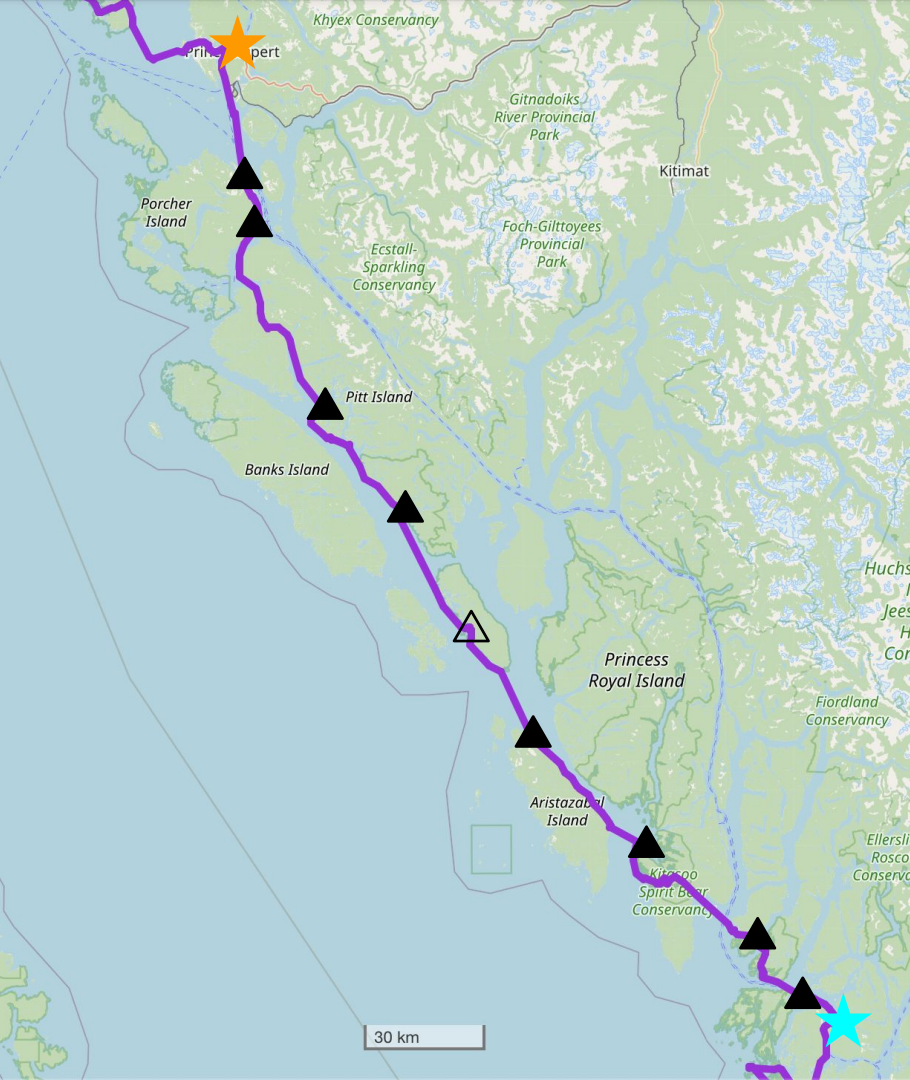


Beautiful beaches in the
McMullin group make it a
locally popular destination



In Shearwater we reunited with the kayakers we'd camped with near Cape Caution, plus met another trio





Shearwater to Prince Rupert

- 185 nmi
- 17 days (!)
 - 9 moving
 - 8 waiting out weather
- We traveled mostly outside of the Inside Passage, bypassing Princess Royal and Grenville Channels
- Rainy southwesterlies followed by a sunny northwesterly gale

We saw few people, but were rarely alone



Much of the BC coast is First Nations land, including this
Heiltsuk cabin



This section had the longest white sand beaches, but ...



Beware the habituated wolves on Campania Island



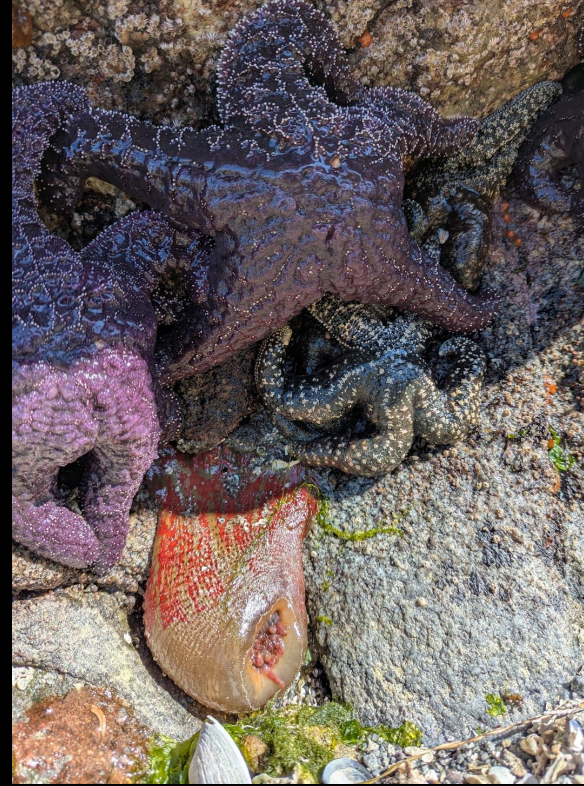
Anemones were our entertainment while sitting out a gale



10 am



11 am



12 pm

Anemones were our entertainment while sitting out a gale



10 am



11 am

There was always something new to see on the beach

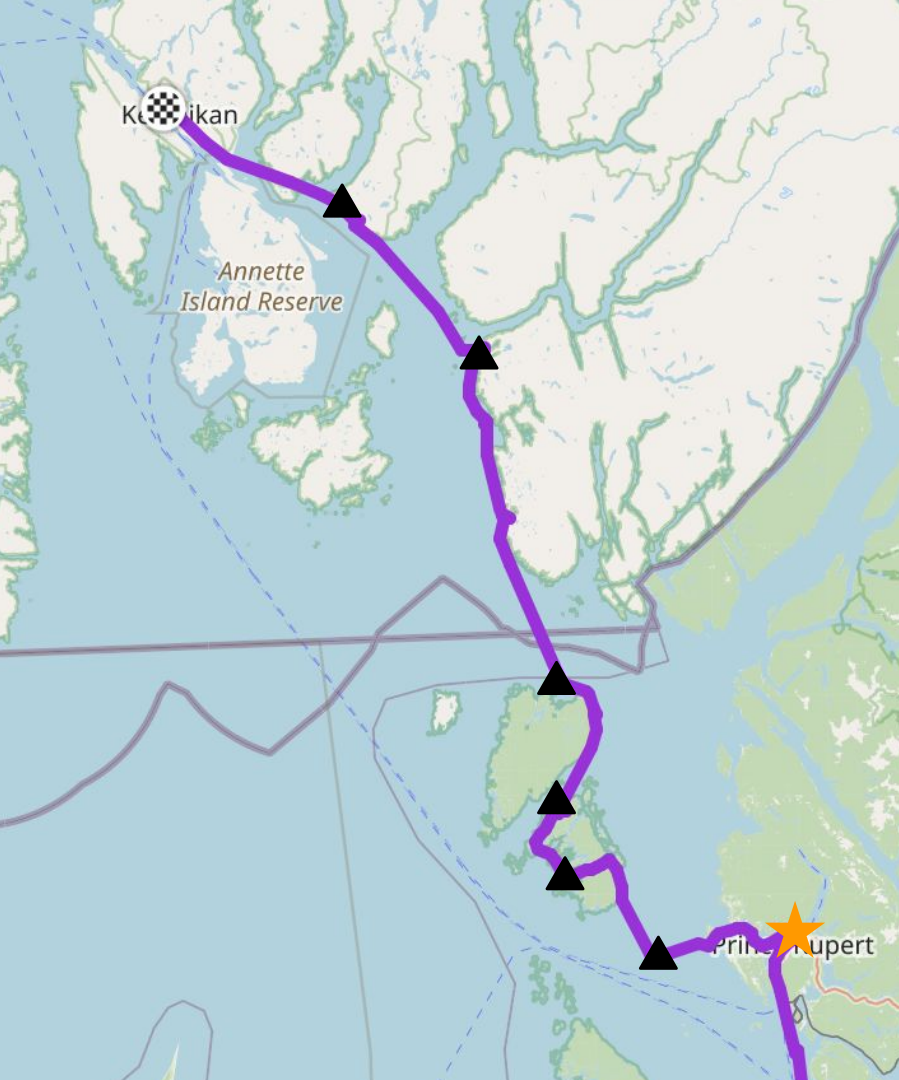


Local foods upgraded our utilitarian supplies



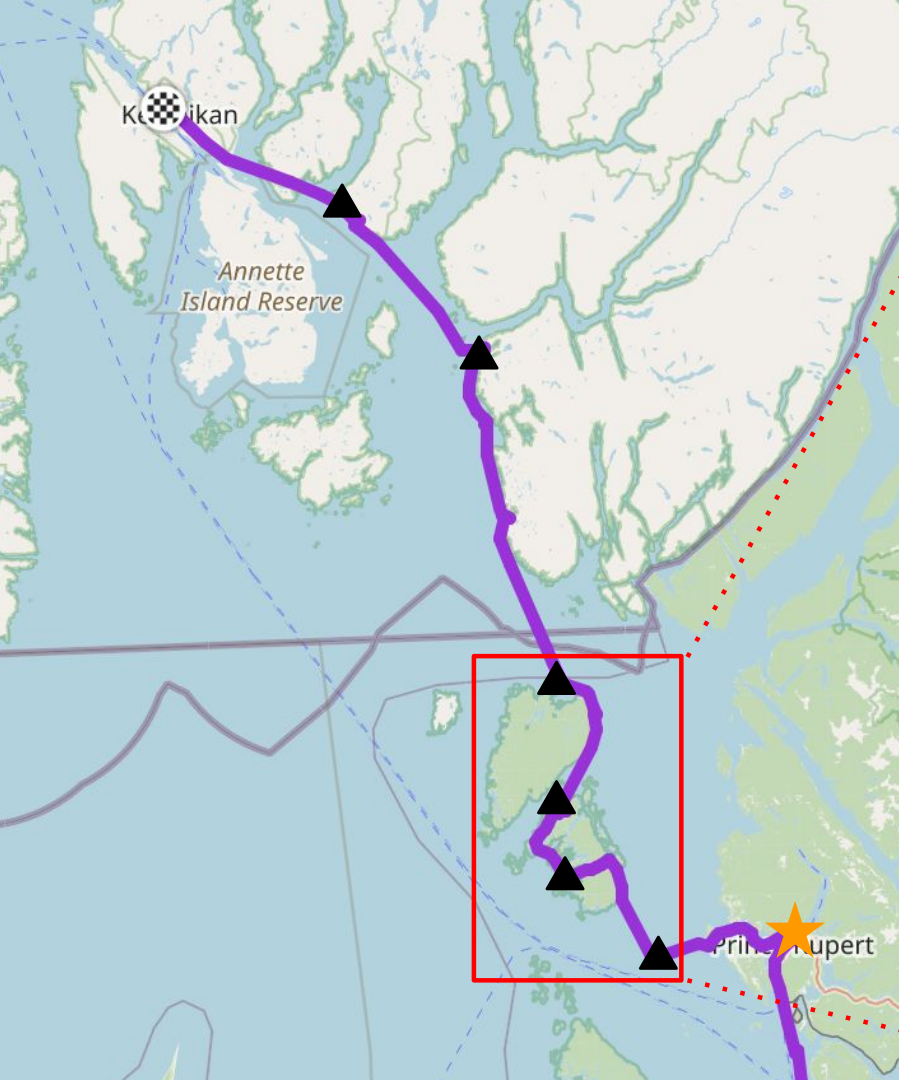
Oona River's small community gave us a warm welcome, which was a relief after weather challenges



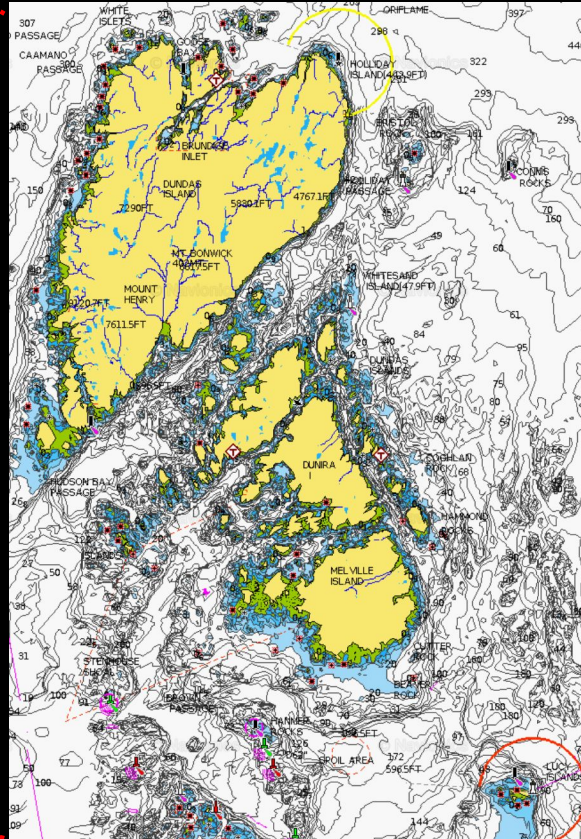


Prince Rupert to Ketchikan

- 104 nmi
- 7 days
- Waiting for a calm weather window to cross Dixon Entrance gave us time to explore islands on the way



Prince Rupert to Ketchikan



The archipelagos west of Prince Rupert are a fantastic destination, also possible for shorter trips.

Lucy Island is a rhinoceros auklet nesting ground



The area around Dundas and Melville Islands has an abundance of beautiful beaches and campsites



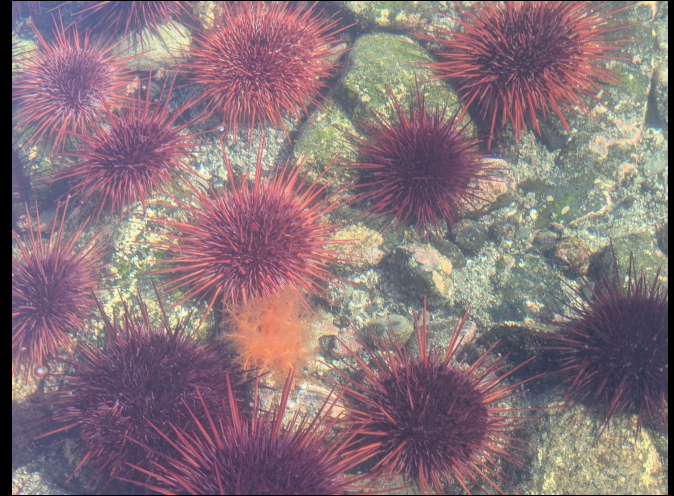
The area around Dundas and Melville Islands has an abundance of beautiful beaches and campsites



The Gnarled Islands felt more tropical than gnarly



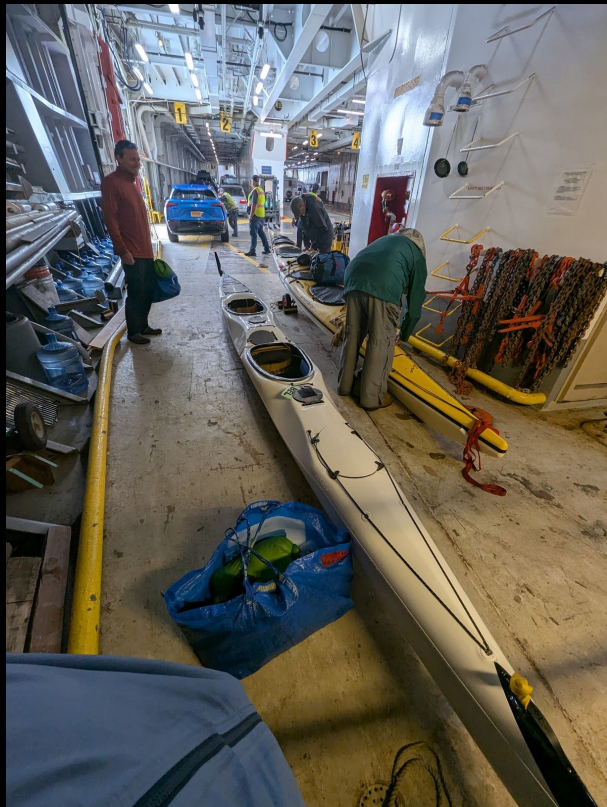
The Gnarled Islands felt more tropical than gnarly



After a calm Dixon crossing, Alaska welcomed us with sun and hospitality



The Alaska ferry was the perfect way to re-enter society



The Alaska ferry was the perfect way to re-enter society

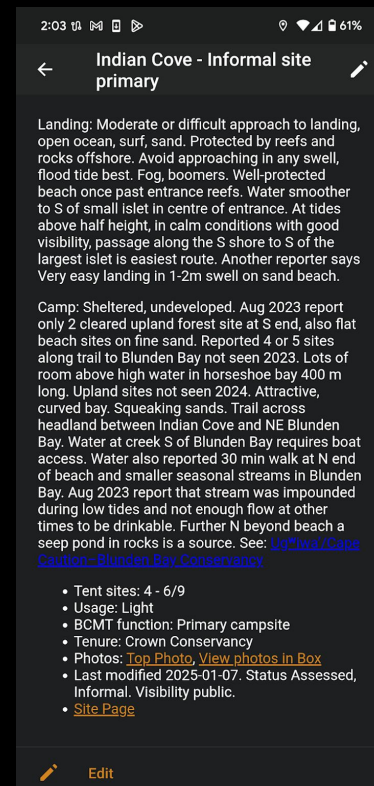
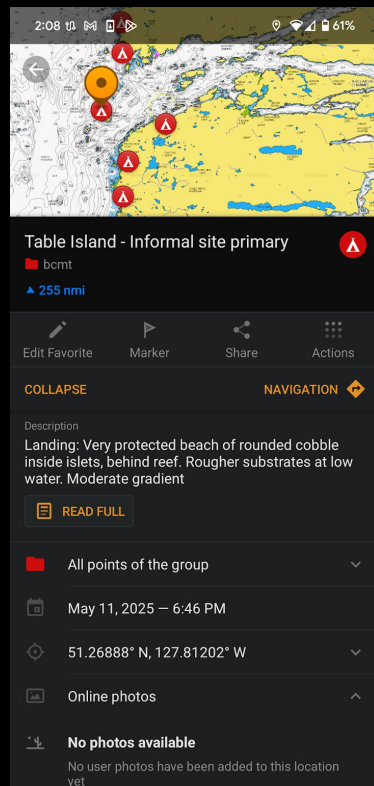
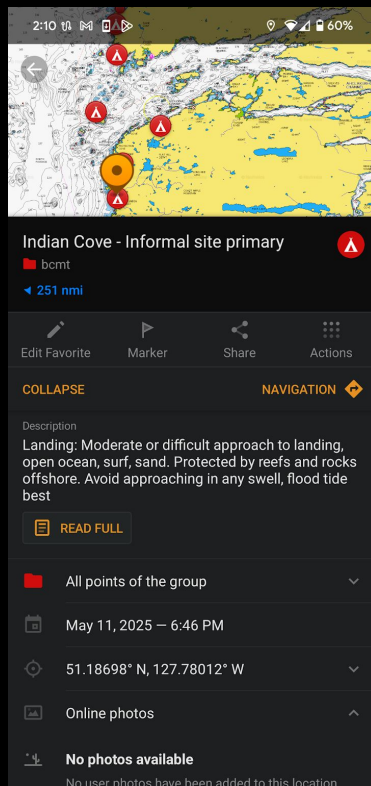
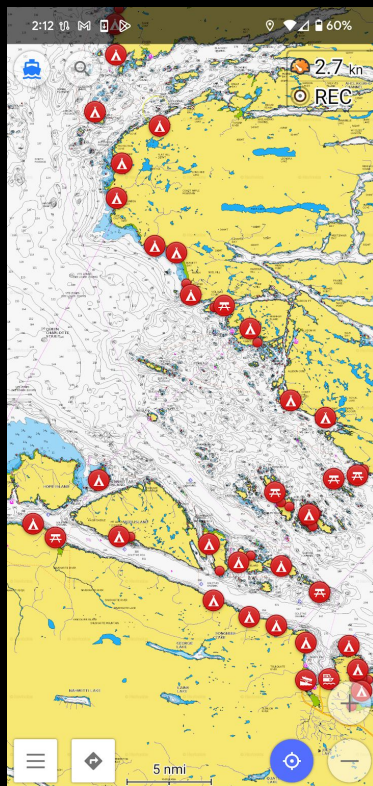


Some choices and resources

- Navigated with offline charts on phones (OsmAnd)
 - Importing BCMT sites and VHF forecast locations proved very helpful
- John Kimantas' *Wild Coast* series is a great resource for exploring areas beyond the classic Inside Passage route
 - We also relied on Denis Dwyer's *Sea Kayaking the Inside Passage*
 - Robert H. Miller's guide was popular with other IP paddlers we met, but is more limited in scope
- Transmitted our position with an AIS transmitter, which made us show up on ships' screens
 - Worked reliably with a range of many miles and very low power usage
- Powered phones, headlamps and VHF radios using 2x10w solar panels and ~70Wh batteries (2x 8.4v 21700s)
 - More battery is needed for overcast periods of more than a couple of days (e.g. Alaska)
- Water – carried one day's worth where fresh water was available, used pump desalinators on remote / dry islands
 - Pumping is slow, but overall saved weight and space, and added safety buffer in case of bad weather

See <https://winckster.org/kayaking/> for GPX files.

Campsite (e.g. BCMT) locations & info added to offline maps



Some take-aways

- “Light & fast” boat & gear worked well for us
 - Let us make the most of limited weather / tide windows
 - Shorter exposure on long crossings
 - But – less stable & robust gear requires more conservative decision making about when to paddle and where to land
- The San Juans are a great training ground
 - Crossings to islands like Patos include navigating strong currents and avoiding shipping traffic
- Weather information was limited at times
 - VHF forecast areas become very coarse farther north - “Hecate Strait North” etc.
 - Custom script to send more accurate HRDPS model wind forecasts via inReach worked very well for crossings; we hope to set this up for other locations in the future
- Only got a short glimpse of Alaska
 - Looking forward to going back & exploring farther north in the future!

Thank You!

<https://winckster.org/kayaking/>

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Extra Slides

Food			Per person day	ca. 750g per day: ~2625 kcal pure carbs (350kcal/100g), more with fatty nuts & chocolate	Energy: kcal / 100g	Energy per day (kcal)	Shipping weight
Breakfast	Rolled oats	875	125	150 for gabriel, 100 for rachel; buy locally	332	415	0
	Pumpkin seeds unsalted	140	20		559	111.8	140
		350		4 spoons / day / person = ~50g; +2 spoons / 25g for rachel; ~250g/ziploc	500	250	350
	Milk powder / creamer	63	9	2 spoons / day / person	0	0	63
Lunch / snack	Instant coffee powder	700	100	100 for gabriel, 50 for rachel	550	550	700
	Chocolate	210	30	buy locally	400	120	0
	Cheese	525	75	buy locally	350	262.5	0
	Lunch carbs (pretzels, tortillas, bars)	525	75	100 for gabriel, 50 for rachel	520	390	525
	Banana chips	350	50		600	300	350
Dinner	Nuts (hazel, cashews, peanuts)	105	15		166	24.9	105
	Miso soup powder, low sodium	630	90	buy couscous / potatoes locally, send soups	375	337.5	630
	Dinner Carbs: Couscous, Potatoes	420	60		375	225	420
	Dinner Carbs: Lentil, bean, pea soups	105	15		660	99	105
	Chili Crisp	35	5		0	0	35
	Tea / vitamin C drink powder	35	5		300	15	35
	Dried fruit (mango, apples, ginger)	49	7		0	0	49
	Dried veggies	0	0		0	0	0
	Water, max						
Food, total		5117	731			3100.7	3507



The tides determine when you go and when you wait



Campsites often required some brushing

