

## Things to remember

- **Park hours** – 6:30 a.m. to dusk.
- **Winter schedule** – 8 a.m. to dusk.

Although most parks are open year round, some parks or portions of parks are closed during the winter. For a winter schedule and information about seasonal closures, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call the information center at (360) 902-8844.

- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Hunting, feeding of wildlife and gathering firewood on state park property is prohibited.
- Collecting fossils at Sucia Island is strictly prohibited.



The **Discover Pass** is required for day visits to state parks and access to other state-managed recreation lands. The pass provides access to millions of acres of parks, wildlife areas, trails, natural areas and water-access sites. The annual pass is transferable between two vehicles.

- Annual pass: \$30
- One-day pass: \$10 (transaction and dealer fees may apply)

The Discover Pass can be purchased online, by phone or in person. For details, visit [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov) or call (866) 320-9933.

**Thank you for supporting Washington state recreation lands.**



**Sucia Island Marine State Park**  
Eastsound, WA 98245  
(360) 376-2073

**State Parks information:**  
(360) 902-8844

**Reservations:** Online at [www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688

**Other state parks located in the general area:**  
Patos Island



## Connect with us on social media

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Share your stories and photos: [AdventureAwaits.com](http://AdventureAwaits.com)



If you would like to support Washington State Parks even more, please consider making a donation when renewing your license plate tabs. You also may place a check in a donation box when you visit state parks.

Donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating. For more information, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us/donations](http://www.parks.state.wa.us/donations)

## Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8500  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)



### Commission members:

Ken Bounds      Mark O. Brown  
Patricia T. Lantz      Steve S. Milner  
Douglas Peters      Rodger Schmitt  
Lucinda S. Whaley  
Agency director: Don Hoch

*All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.*

To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call (360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications

Relay Service at (800) 833-6388. **P&R 45-57003-01 (05/17)**



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[www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us)

Washington State Parks

# Sucia Island

## Marine State Park





### Overnight Accommodations

Sucia Island Marine State Park offers 60 campsites, including four reservable group camps, plus five picnic shelters, composting toilets and potable

drinking water at Fossil Bay early April through September, and at Echo Bay and Shallow Bay from

May through September.

Visitors with disabilities may call the park at (360) 376-2073 for moorage and camping accommodation assistance.

For those who prefer to sleep in their vessels, Sucia Island has 48 mooring buoys, two linear moorage systems, and 2 docks. They are found at six locations around the island (Echo Bay, Shallow Bay, Fossil Bay, Ewing Cove, Fox Cove and Snoring Bay). Dock Two is removed late October through early April. Anchorage is available in all of the bays and coves, and there is no fee for boats riding on their own anchor. The bottoms are generally sandy mud, but in some locations eelgrass and seaweed may make setting anchor difficult.

### History

This island park sits within the traditional territory of several Coast Salish tribes, who occupied the area for several thousand years.

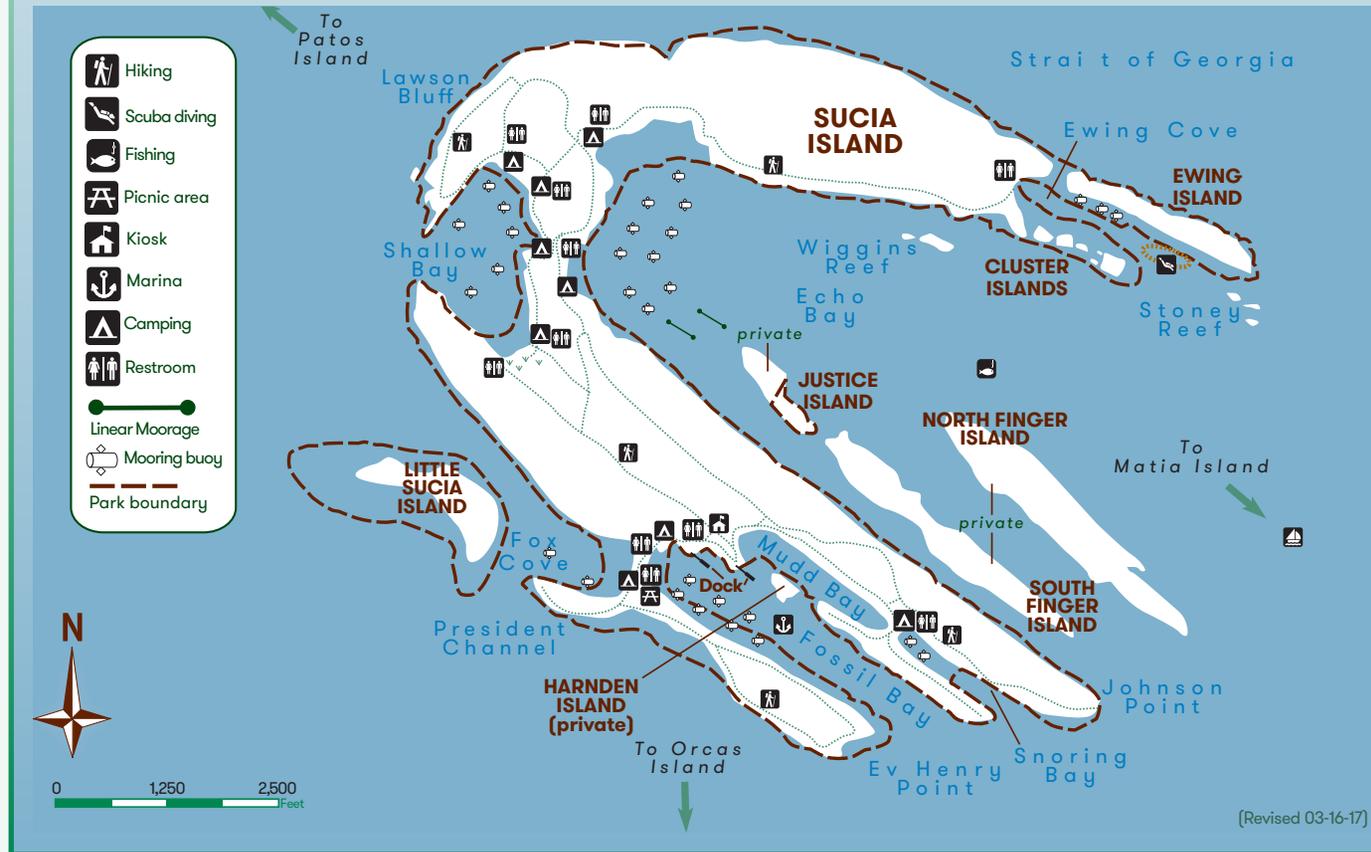
In 1791, Spanish explorer, Captain Francisco de Eliza, labelled the island as "Isla Sucia" on his map. In Spanish "sucio" means "dirty" or "foul." Interpretations vary as to whether this name refers to the poor weather the crew encountered or challenging navigational conditions presented by the reefs and rocks surrounding the island. Sucia was declared a Federal Lighthouse Reserve after the "Pig War" between England and the U.S., but white homesteaders still settled the land illegally.

Washington State Parks acquired 115 acres of Sucia Island in 1952. Later, developers wanted to parcel up the remainder into vacation lots. Seattle yachtsman Everett (Ev) Henry spearheaded a drive to raise money and the Interclub (now the Recreational Boaters Association of Washington) was formed. The club paid \$25,000 to purchase the

# Welcome to Sucia Island

Sucia Island Marine State Park, one of the northernmost San Juan islands, is considered the crown jewel of the state's marine park system. The 564-acre park with 77,700 feet of shoreline and many anchor spots is consistently ranked one of the top boating destinations in the world. The main island is part of a cluster of smaller islands called the "Sucia group."

Known for its pristine trails and beaches, abundant bird life and wildlife, sandstone formations embedded with fossils and excellent kayaking, the park is accessible only by boat and is prized by locals for its off-season beauty and solitude.



land, which was donated to Washington State Parks in 1959. The agency acquired the remaining parcels of private property in 1972, and the entire island became a state marine park.

On April 10, 2012, part of a femur bone from a theropod dinosaur was discovered in a rock on the island. (Theropods are a group of meat-eating, two-legged dinosaurs, including T. rex and

Velociraptor.) The fossil was spotted and excavated by paleontologists at the Burke Museum. The fossil is around 80 million years old and the dinosaur lived south of today's Washington state. The rocks that make up Sucia Island are believed to have been moved slowly north by geological events. <http://www.burkemuseum.org/blog/introducing-washingtons-first-dinosaur>

[Revised 03-16-17]