

DAY GUIDE TRAINING PROGRAM

Victoria, BC

Our 4-day, sea kayak Day Guide training programs provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become a confident and competent sea kayak Day Guide recognized by the SKGABC.

This course is designed for:

- ❑ People aspiring to become guides
- ❑ Guides aspiring to become certified by the SKGABC
- ❑ Recreational kayakers wishing to increase their knowledge, skills and understanding of sea kayaking

The course demands your full attention and commitment. You will challenge your boat handling skills and learn about weather, tides and currents, and navigation. Leadership skills are emphasized through hands on practice and scenarios.

Fees include specialized equipment such as flares and VHF Radios, SKGABC membership, group equipment such as tarps, and safety equipment such as first aid kits and kayak repair kits. The fees don't include immersion gear, kayaks and kayak accessories for participants.

Payment

A deposit of \$300 is required to secure your spot. No refunds will be issued within 30 days of the beginning of the course. The balance is due 30 days before the start of the program. Please make your payment by cash, money order or cheque to SKILS, Box 727, Ucluelet, BC, V0R 3A0

Program Objectives

This 4-day program is designed for aspiring sea kayak leaders. Candidates are being assessed on their ability to organize and lead an extended one-day sea kayak program in Class 1 waters. Successful candidates will be awarded SKGABC Day Guide status / Level 1 guide status and Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills

The Sea Kayak Guides Alliance of BC (SKGABC)

More detailed information about the Sea Kayak Guides Alliance, the benefits of membership, and its standards are available through the organization's website at www.skgabc.com.

The Details

The general skill training included in this course is designed to polish existing skills; it is NOT an introduction to these skills. Applicants seeking an introduction to basic navigation and paddling skills are encouraged to take a basic skills course.

In particular, successful candidates for this award will be able to:

- Consistently self rescue with confidence
- Paddle in moderate sea conditions
- Clearly and confidently communicate with groups of participants
- Exhibit strong leadership skills

The evaluation will comprise of a written test, on-water general paddling skills assessments, and on-water leadership assessments.

Our Classroom

The course takes place in Ucluelet. We will meet at 8:30 in the morning at the Ucluelet Secondary School on Day 1. Over the duration of the course and depending on weather, we will be on the water in a variety of locations.

The Weather

The weather is variable at all times on the coast; over the 5 days we can expect sun, rain, and wind in varying amounts. Please come prepared. You will also spend some time in the water during rescue practice and scenarios. The water temperature varies from 9°Celsius to 15°Celsius. Bring lots of clothing and immersion gear.

General Course Outline

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Day One	Introductions Paperwork Weather	Kayak basics Strokes and Rescues	Route plan and pre-trip planning
Day Two	Weather Navigation	Strokes and Towing	Group Management and Leadership
Day Three	Weather Navigation	Leadership Scenario's	Environmental Awareness
Day Four	Currents: Theory and Practice	Leadership scenarios	Exam

This is a general outline for the Day Guide Course. Depending on location, class size, and availability of the classroom, the schedule will change. The course covers a lot of material in a very short period of time; candidates are discouraged from planning anything else during this period.

Meals

You are responsible for all meals during the program. On days 2 through 4, plan on having lunch on the water. Participants are encouraged to bring extra snacks to fill in the holes and satisfy personal tastes.

Evacuation Policy

Occasionally, we will need to evacuate a participant from the program due to health or behavioral concerns; in this event, you are responsible for all costs associated with your evacuation. Depending on the urgency of the situation, we will either arrange for transportation through local resources or through the Canadian Coast Guard.

Changes to Itinerary

At our discretion, based on the conditions and the group, we may have to modify our itinerary. Every reasonable attempt will be made to meet the program objectives; any changes in itinerary and objectives will be discussed with the group.

Course Preparation Package

Prior to the courses, 3 training books are given to the participants to help them prepare for the course. Participants are required to read the three training books at least twice prior to the course. Reviewing this material will help you study and succeed on the written exam.

Thanks for considering our Day Guide Training Program. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact SKILS at info@skills.ca. Until then, see you on the water.

The Folks at SKILS