

Paddle Canada Level 1 Instructor

This course is designed for individuals wanting to become professional sea kayak instructors and join a national standard of instructors across Canada. This 5-day, sea kayak Level 1 Instructor program provides an opportunity to test the knowledge and skills necessary to becoming a Level 1 Instructor for Paddle Canada.

The course demands your full attention and commitment. You will review your boat handling skills and knowledge about weather, tides, currents, and navigation. The course is an ongoing assessment with a focus on the art of teaching on land and on the water.

Paddle Canada

More detailed information about Paddle Canada, the benefits of membership, and its standards are available through the organization's website at www.paddlingcanada.com.



Program Objectives

- ❑ Develop the skills necessary to organize and teach a 1-2 day sea kayak beginner and intermediate sea kayak course.
- ❑ Develop and practice your own skills set.
- ❑ Become familiar with Paddle Canada's administrative procedures and protocols.
- ❑ Develop and practice leadership skills, risk assessment and safety management, decision making, applying judgment, group management and general seamanship.
- ❑ Plan a day trip.



The Details

This instructor course will help guide you over a 5-day period.

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

- Consistently self-rescue with confidence
 - Paddle in moderate sea conditions
 - Plan and execute a day tour
 - Demonstrate good judgment and seamanship when dealing with navigation and weather
- Clearly and confidently communicate with groups of participants in a teaching environment
 - Prepare and organize on land and on water kayak related classes
 - Create lesson plans, with objectives and learning outcomes
 - Demonstrate paddling skills as required of a level 1 instructor

A minimum of 3 candidates is required to run this program. The final decision to run a course will be made 30 days in advance. The ratio is one instructor for 6 participants.

The evaluation will comprise of continual ongoing assessment throughout the class and a final written and practical evaluation.

The fees do not include Paddle Canada membership, immersion gear, personal equipment, or a kayak.

You will need:

- Touring kayak
- PFD
- Paddle
- Pump
- 15 meter buoyancy heaving device
- Tow line
- Spray skirt
- Whistle
- Immersion clothing (for extended periods of time)
- Gear and equipment necessary for a day trip

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



The Weather

The weather is variable at all times on the west coast; over the 5 days we can expect sun, rain, and wind in varying amounts. Please come prepared. You will also spend a good deal of time in the water during rescue practice and scenarios. The water temperature varies from 6°Celsius to 15°Celsius. Bring lots of clothing and immersion gear.

Meals

You are responsible for all meals during the program. Participants are encouraged to bring extra snacks to fill in the holes and satisfy personal tastes.

Prerequisites:

- 18 years of age
- Basic First Aid
- CPR Level C
- Paddle Canada Level 2 Skills Award

Candidates must have Paddle Canada Level 2 Skills certification prior to take the program. If you do not have your level 2 Paddle Canada skills award, you will need to take one of the following, prior to your Level 1 Instructor course:

- 4-day Level 2 Skills course
- 2-day assessment

Logistics to and from Victoria

BC Ferries provides several links to Vancouver Island from the BC Mainland. Schedules and fare information are available on line at www.bcferrries.com, or you can call 250-386-3431 and 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779).

Gray Line provides bus service between most destinations and Victoria. For fares and schedule information visit

www.grayline.ca/victoria/schedules/main_schedule.shtml or phone 1-800-318-0818 or 250-388-0818.

Pacific Coach Lines provides bus service from the mainland to Victoria. For fares and scheduling information, check out their website at www.pacificcoach.com.

There are lots of accommodation options in Victoria. For detailed listings, check out the Tourism Vancouver Island website at <http://www.vancouverisland.com>.

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 the evacuation. Depending on the urgency of the situation, we will either arrange for transportation through local resources or through the Canadian Coast Guard. Travel and personal insurance is always recommended.

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.



Thanks for considering our instructor training program. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact us. Until then, see you on the water.

The folks at SKILS