

Genoa Bay spur

ride by John Scull, February 2008

The trip branches off at the corner of Maple Bay Road and Herd Road, (km 6.1 on the [Quamichan Lake loop](#)) on the spur to Maple Bay Beach. Continue east on Maple Bay road for 0.1 km to Chisholm Trail, the next road after Herd Road. Chisholm Trail and Genoa Bay Road are both very narrow in places, often without enough width for two cars and a bicycle. There are blind hills and curves. Therefore, it is recommended that when you hear a car coming and there doesn't seem to be room, stop, get completely off the pavement, and enjoy the scenery until the traffic passes. While it is a quiet road, it can be busy, especially on weekends and especially in the summer.

0.1 km (8 km). Right (south) on Chisholm Trail.

0.7 km (7.4 km). Junction between Chisholm Trail and Genoa Bay Road. Bear left. On the return trip, stay on Genoa Bay Road (there is a bike lane on this side of the road). When you get back to Maple Bay Road, turn right to continue on the Quamichan Lake loop or the Maple Bay beach, turn left to return to Duncan by the shortest route.

1.8 km (6.3 km). Maple Bay Yacht Club.

2.1 km (6.0 km). Birds Eye Cove Marina

(2.7 km (5.4 km). Maple Bay Marina. In addition to the marina (with public toilets), chandlery, and yacht brokerage, the marina complex includes the terminal for Harbour Air and Saltspring Air floatplanes, The Market for groceries, ice cream, and coffee, and the Shipyard Restaurant.

4.6 km (3.5 km). Green gate on the left. This is an the entry point for the North Cowichan Stoney Hill hiking area. [Download a trail brochure and map](#). There is another access point, somewhat obscure, about 0.3 km south. At the summit of the road, look for a narrow Telus box on the left. The trail is just to the left.

8.1 km. Genoa Bay. This pleasant waterfront village features the Genoa Bay Marina (with public toilets) which has a small store, the Genoa Bay Cafe, Coleen Irwin's floating Genoa Bay Gallery, and Captain Morgan's Bed and Breakfast. Outshining all these amenities, however, is the incredible beauty and charm of Genoa Bay itself. On the return trip the rider will have dramatic views of cliffs which weren't obvious on the ride in.