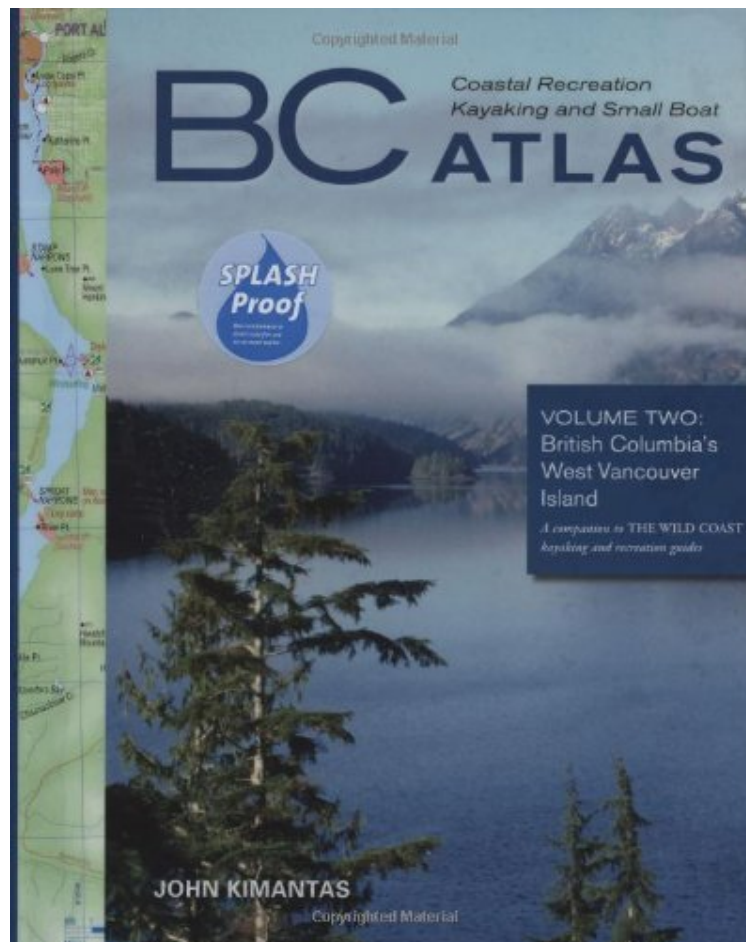


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B.C. Coastal Recreation Kayaking and Small Boat Atlas, Vol. 2: British Columbia's West Vancouver Island

John Kimantas

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John Kimantas : B.C. Coastal Recreation Kayaking and Small Boat Atlas, Vol. 2: British Columbia's West Vancouver Island before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised B.C. Coastal Recreation Kayaking and Small Boat Atlas, Vol. 2: British Columbia's West Vancouver Island:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must have for kayaking vancouver island By EnthusiastI had previously kayaked using the standard canadian nautical maps. Even for the smallest trips, I would need a couple of them. Constantly need to refold them during the day. These atlases solve all those problems. Big scale but with plenty of detail. I have had both nautical and these atlases on one trip and I kept turning to the Atlas - clearer and get a bigger picture. The fact that they are waterproof is a big plus for that time you do need to flip the page in roughish water. I used one of the atlases for a 3 week trip last year and the pages did get slightly damp between the laminate. Water will

eventually seep through the not perfect seals. I just use the atlas with a map case, no further issues. Adding in all the extra info these maps have, eg campsites, towns, current speeds, hazards etc. they are a must have for any Vancouver Island trip. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Epic Trip in the BC By WENDY NAVARRO Awesome detailed map. This actually made our trip epic! Worth every penny! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great resource, but does not replace a Hydrographic Chart. By Peter An excellent tool for planning your next trip. I would consider using a BC atlas for shorter trips. But for the extended excursions, you still cannot go wrong with a good old Hydrographic Chart.

An essential tool for kayaking British Columbia's coast. BC Coastal Recreation, Kayaking and Small Boat Atlas, in two volumes, provides splashproof and manageably sized collections of detailed maps of British Columbia's shorelines. Numerous land-based features are identified, among them campsites and launch locations. These colorful books are ideal for kayakers who want a detailed overview in a format much easier to use than bulky charts. Recreational boaters will also appreciate the convenience of these maps. Together these two volumes cover every mile of British Columbia's south coast in a format, and with a degree of detail, not currently available. They augment the Wild Coast series of guidebooks (also by John Kimantas), with links that provide information not supplied by the maps. Volume 1, South BC Coast and East Vancouver Island This volume provides an overview of British Columbia's south coast from Victoria to Port McNeill, and from Howe Sound to the Broughton Islands. Volume 2, West Vancouver Island This volume provides an overview of West Vancouver Island from Sooke to Port Hardy.

A photographic exploration of the North American West. The photography is nothing less than stunning, and the narrative is compelling. Stunning colour panoramic shots leave no doubt about the beauty of this vast area. This one would be a perfect under-the-tree surprise for a nature lover or outdoor enthusiast. Wonder and awe best describe images... expressed in a coffee table book, Big Sky: Wild West Panorama. Captur[es] the immense beauty and diversity of North America's western landscapes... well-written narrative. There is no better way to see the magnificence of the landscapes... an iconic collection... brilliant color and wide perspective. Stunning... should dispel any doubts about the quality that digital photography can attain at the hands of a skilled practitioner. Breathtaking photos... Big Sky is an awesome art gallery that dazzles the eyes with some of Mother Nature's most glorious brushstrokes. Offers full-color spreads of such popular photographic topics as the Colorado River and Arches National Park, ...[and] more obscure locales. Magnificent... You'll find big sky in sunlit canyons, cactus-studded deserts, snow-capped mountains, impassable-looking badlands and endless beaches of the Pacific. About the Author John Kimantas has been a journalist for more than 18 years and has written for newspapers across Canada. He is editor and owner of Coast and Kayak Magazine (formerly Wavelength) and the author of the Wild Coast series and the BC Coastal Recreation Kayaking and Small Boats Atlas series. He lives on Vancouver Island. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Introduction It took several years of kayaking before I built up the nerve to kayak the west coast of Vancouver Island. Then in 2003 I was able to take an entire summer to kayak the coast and all five major sounds. It remains a highlight of my kayaking experiences, and affirms my belief (cultivated through many subsequent kayaking trips) that all areas of the coast can be safely navigated if attention is paid to a few simple safety rules. The first and most basic rule, naturally, is to stay off the water when conditions are questionable. Determining what's safe and what's a risk can be made by following weather forecasts and a good basic knowledge of the prevailing weather conditions. Some of these conditions are touched on lightly below; considerably more detailed attention is paid to them in the various volumes of The Wild Coast series of coastal guide books. They are a recommended companion to this series of coastal atlases, not only for the safety information, but for the additional information on camping, history, geography, ecology and services in each region. More information on The Wild Coast series can be found at www.whitecap.ca or the companion website, www.thewildcoast.ca. Keep an eye on the latter for updates that will help keep these atlases current for years to come. This atlas generally mirrors the geographic area covered in Volume 1 of The Wild Coast. Cross-references have been added throughout the atlas; the prompt "WC 1-273" will direct you to the first volume of The Wild Coast series, and to page 273 for more information on this region. When a mariner or kayaker builds up the confidence to travel the outer coast of Vancouver Island, it is an experience like no other. Each of the five major sounds has its own character, from the intricate passages of the Broken Group to the sand beaches of Kyuquot. But the greatest reward, in my mind, comes from travelling the outer coast. There is a raw wildness to places like Cape Scott and Brooks Peninsula that make them completely unique. While other coastal locations like the Gulf Islands have their charm, there is simply no comparison to the feeling of reaching a remote destination on the outer coast. There is also nothing quite like camping on a sprawling, perfect sand beach with no one else in sight. Add a parade of wildlife, including everything from humpback whales to tufted puffins, and you have the potential for a worldclass wilderness experience. These best locations are, not surprisingly, the most difficult areas to reach, but the reward matches the effort. Many of these places can be reached only by kayak due to a barrier of offshore rocks and a lack of coastal access points by road, keeping exceptional kayaking locations such as Checleset Bay, the Mission Group and Cape Sutil rarely visited. They are all among my favourite destinations. For those who aren't ready for the

challenge of open water, the outer coast presents sheltered options in each of the five major sounds, all of which can be reached, in varying degrees of difficulty, by vehicle. The most accessible is Clayoquot with paved road access to Tofino. Barkley Sound and the Broken Group also have good access off Highway 4, either by Ucluelet or by a short stretch of logging road to Toquart Bay. Farther afield is Nootka Sound, where road access leads through Gold River to reach Tahsis or Cougar Creek. A more difficult route is to Zeballos from Highway 19. Kyuquot is among the more remote of the sounds, with road access to Fair Harbour via a circuitous route of logging roads from Highway 19 that first passes through Zeballos. A more direct route by logging road is to a launch at Artlish River on Tahsish Inlet. Quatsino can be reached by road through Coal Harbour, Port Alice, or Winter Harbour. The latter provides good access to the outer north coast, though the road is famous for the toll it takes on tires. The north limits of the island can best be reached only by a launch through the San Josef River into San Josef Bay, or from a launch at Port Hardy. The Cape Scott Trail provides foot access to the north coast, and the completion of the North Coast Trail will increase the hiking range to Shushartie Bay near Port Hardy. Keep track of updates at www.thewildcoast.ca.