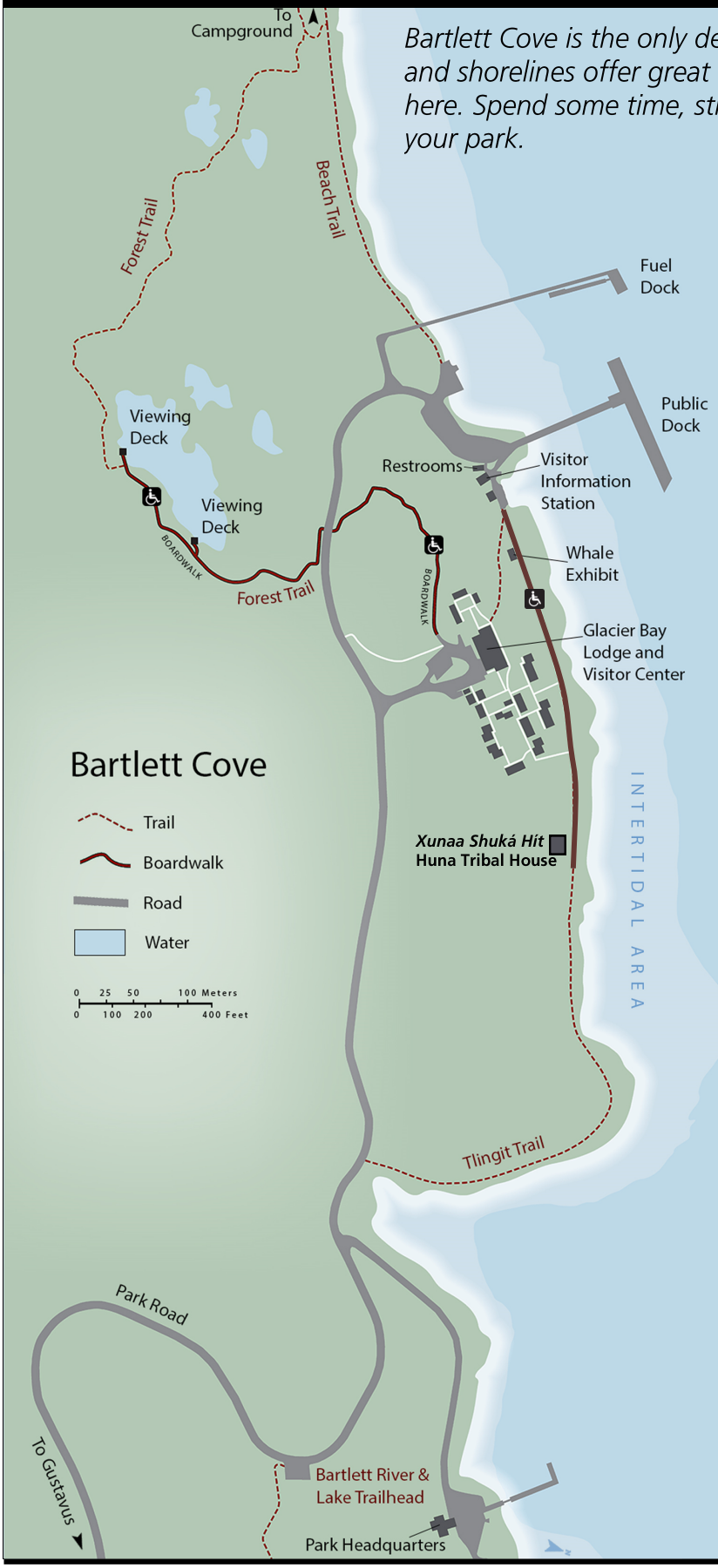
Bartlett Cove Trails

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Bartlett Cove is the only developed area within Glacier Bay. The forests and shorelines offer great hiking opportunities. Several easy trails begin here. Spend some time, stretch your legs, and discover the wonders of your park.



Explore the Shore

Distance and time varies

The shoreline beyond the docks continues for many miles past the campground. You may observe land and marine wildlife. Watch for sea otters and listen for the blow of humpback whales. Watch your time and head back when you choose. Let the magic of Glacier Bay draw you in for an hour, or even a day.

Forest Trail

Distance: 1 mile
Time: 30 min-1.5 hours

This leisurely stroll meanders through a lush forest which grows atop a glacial moraine. A wheelchair accessible boardwalk takes you part of the way, leading to two viewing decks that overlook a serene pond. Return along the shore for an easy one-mile loop.

Note: Park Rangers lead guided walks on this trail daily at 1:30 pm. Meet at the Lodge desk.

Tlingit Trail

Distance: 1/2 mile one way

An easy stroll along a forested shoreline. Enjoy nice views of Bartlett Cove. See a traditional Tlingit canoe, gaze at a complete whale skeleton, learn about common native plants and experience Tlingit culture and art at the Huna Tribal House.

Bartlett River & Lake Trails

See reverse

Bartlett River & Bartlett Lake Trails

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Bartlett River Trail

Distance: 4 miles round-trip
Time: 4-5 hours

Explore a dense spruce-hemlock rain forest. The maintained trail through the forest ends at an estuary near the mouth of the river. Many choose to keep hiking further up the river. Each summer spawning salmon attract hungry otters, eagles, seals, and bears. Anglers enjoy fishing there too.

Bartlett Lake Trail

Distance: 10 miles round-trip
Time: 7-8 hours

About 3/4 mile down the Bartlett River Trail you'll find the lake trail, a branch trail that climbs the moraine. This primitive trail is a rugged day-hike. During this full-day journey, you may be richly rewarded in wilderness solitude and perhaps the call of loons. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear.

This trail is also accessible from the Towers Trail at the park boundary. The first 1.7 miles provides an opportunity for biking down the old roadbed that once serviced an airport tower beacon.