



[Pirates Cove Trading Company. Com](http://PiratesCoveTradingCompany.Com)

An off-grid company creating nourishing products using traditional techniques

Pirates Cove Trading Company has established a market for their products at Community Markets on Gabriola Island, locally on DeCourcy Island, surrounding Mudge and Ruxton islands, as well as direct sales to boaters moored in Pirates Cove. The consumer response has been remarkable. They believe in selling only healthy products that promote better well-being, and do this through using ancestral techniques like fermenting their grains, which is unique to the area. This ancestral way of baking has allowed many gluten intolerant people to be able to enjoy traditional products like bread once again. They also do ferments like Kimchi, Sauerkraut, Beet Kvass and Kombucha and use organic ingredients and source supplies locally from Gabriola Island Organic Farms as much as possible. They have established a high-demand, speciality business since 2019 that can support a low-impact lifestyle while living on DeCourcy Island. The company was even featured in the December 2020 issue of Pacific Yachting magazine (see scan below) with a business write up on page 4.

Included is:

- Established business with loyal clientele on Gabriola Island, DeCourcy and surrounding islands (Mudge, Ruxton) as well as boats moored in Pirates Cove during the summer.
- All equipment, materials and ingredient lists etc.
- Recipes for all products.
- Website, with own domain that is set up for online sales, Facebook, Instagram and a customer subscriber list.
- Bake Stand for local pick-ups (honor payment system and clientele IOU book). Demand has proven that it could be expanded upon to include other products like a general store or café style for the local community during the busy season.



The Pirates Cove Trading Company sells baked goods and other locally made products.

ply putting lines through the various links in the chain. Dowling reminds skippers to be sure to set their anchors before stern tying as, over the years, he has seen considerable mayhem when that is overlooked. He also points out that stern lines should be flagged or have a fender tied to them as some of the lines can extend a long way out and can inadvertently be run over by boaters.

The snug anchorage is protected from all seas but one can't say the same about winds. The northwesterly wind can wreak havoc in here and we've frequently seen boats drag anchor. Not all holding ground is created equal, which is why we pay particular attention to local knowledge and head for the stickier mud.

HAVING COOLED OFF in the south beach's warmish waters, and then warmed up in the sun, we headed back via the road. (A fence separates the private headland from the park.) Soon, we came to the Pirates Cove Trading Company on our left; it's a small farm stand advertising that it's an off-grid company creating nourishing products using traditional techniques. Did that include cin-

namon buns, I wanted to know, and grabbed one of the business cards I found there. The stand was deserted that day but the couple who run it, Sabrina and Dane Clark, confirmed that yes, cinnamon buns and many other goodies are on offer, including their own sauerkraut, kombucha, cookies, banana bread and more. "We believe in only eating healthy nutrient-dense ancestral foods and one way we do this is through sprouting and fermenting. This traditional way to prepare grains is used in all our baking.

We can deliver to boats too but many like the excuse to get off their boats and go for a walk." Order in advance from their website at piratescovetradingcompany.com.

To while away the time as we waited for our cinnamon buns and kombucha to be delivered, I walked a bit farther along the road to check out both of the book swap stalls. One is at the bulletin board near the marina and the other is at the farm stall. Unfortunately, there were no eggs, fruit or veggies on

WHEN YOU GO

REMEMBER

- Do NOT tie stern lines to trees.
- Do NOT discharge holding tanks or grey water.
- Do NOT trespass or go past the gate to the farm. Stay on the road and respect private property.
- Do NOT build campfires at any time.

ADDITIONAL ANCHORING

If Pirates Cove is full, mooring is available at the south beach anchorage near the campsite. Watch for a drying rock. It offers good protection from the northwest in depths of three to eight metres (10 to 30 feet) in good holding in sand and mud. Another overflow anchorage is also nearby, just north of Pirates Cove off Link Island.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Formerly known as Gospel Cove or The Haven, Pirates Cove also was named after Brother XII, who had a home built beside the cove, according to Andrew Scott (*The Encyclopedia of Raincoast Place Names*). De Courcy was named after Captain Michael de Courcy, who served on the Pacific Station from 1859 to 1860 as commander of the HMS Pylades.

PARK HOSTS

The dock located near the southwest dinghy dock is solely for the Maple Bay Yacht Club park hosts. Kudos as well to the K2 Park Services staff who do a stellar job of keeping the park and campsite maintained.

WHERE'S THAT MACHINE GUN SITE?

Well, Naylor told us it was about 30 metres (100 feet) east of the composting toilet and was marked by a circle of stones. We think we found it, but who knows?

offer, but it's worth keeping an eye out on the local farm offerings in season.

Books swapped, food order placed, legs exercised, bodies refreshed, souls nourished, we made our way back to the dinghy dock down the narrow trail along the cove.

Oh no! We started to laugh. We forgot our dinghy was at the other side of the cove. Oh well, if we hurried, we could still make happy hour. ▶