

Explore Harbourside Geocaching Challenge

DESCRIPTION: The Explore Harbourside Geocaching Challenge was created by guiders in the Harbourside Area. We all know that girl guides love to go hiking so why not add a treasure hunt to the hike through geocaching! A geocache has been hidden in each of the 6 districts in the Harbourside Area and published to geocaching.com. The districts are:

Hammonds Plains

St. Margaret's Bay

Timberlea – Prospect

Halifax South

Shoreview

Windsor Park

The crest is divided into seven sections and will earn a piece of the crest for each district cache you find. If it is the first of the series found, you will also earn the



Size - 4.8" x 4.16"

main section of the crest. Each piece of the crest can be ordered separately and you do not have to complete all of the district caches prior to ordering.

WHAT IS GEOCACHING?: Geocaching is an outdoor, real-world treasure hunt. People hide “caches” along hiking trails, in public parks, or even at a busy street corner and publish the GPS coordinates of the cache to geocaching.com. Once it is published, anyone with access to the app, or a GPS unit can try to find it using the posted coordinates. A cache is a container that can be a tiny micro container, a film canister, a peanut butter jar, an ammo can all the way to large lockboxes. It is often camouflaged in some way so that “muggles” (non geocachers) don’t happen upon it and move it from its hiding place. They contain a logbook so you can record that you have found the cache, and often some small tradable items which is great for kids. Geocaching is a great addition to outdoors adventures and a great reason to get outside!

GEOCACHE LOCATIONS: Each of the geocaches have been named using either song titles or lyrics from songs commonly sung by Girl Guides that was fitting for the cache location.

Hammonds Plains – GC67B05 “Swinging Along the Road”

N 44° 46.526' W 063° 47.264'

This cache can be accessed from the cul de sac at the end of Daisywood Drive in Hammonds Plains, NS. The trail is an old watershed access gated road which requires an approximately 1km hike to the cache from parking.

St. Margaret’s Bay – GC74ZQ7 “There Ain't No Flies on Us”

N 44° 41.824' W 063° 53.256'

This cache was placed on the Rails to Trails in St. Margaret’s Bay which can be most easily accessed by the Bike and Bean Café. It is located less than 0.5km from parking.

Timberlea – Prospect – GC74V63 “There was a Great Big Moose”

N 44° 39.733' W 063° 46.083'

This cache is located along the Bluff Wilderness Trail which can be accessed via the BLT Rails to Trails. Parking can be found next to Bay Self Storage at 2894 St. Margaret’s Bay Road. It is an approximately 1km or less, hike to the cache from parking.

Halifax South – GC74RW8 “Tall Trees”

N 44° 37.317' W 063° 34.367'

This cache is located in Point Pleasant Park which has numerous hiking trails to enjoy. The cache can be quickly located from parking along the road on Chain Rock Drive but likely better accessed via a hike from the Tower Road Parking area. There are several other caches in the area as well.

Shoreview – GC74FXC “Blue Lake and Rocky Shore”

N 44° 37.617' W 063° 36.300'

This cache is a short hike on the Frog Pond Trail Parking lot off of Purcell’s Cove Road. Hiking the entire loop is only 1.4km or you can branch off and make a trip to see the Dingle Tower which is sometimes open to climb and view the Northwest Arm.

Windsor Park – GC74TD8 “Ging Gang Gooli”

N 44° 39.248' W 063° 39.348'

Part of the Mainland Commons Trail system, this cache is best accessed by parking in the lot for the ball field/dog park at the end of Westridge Drive in Halifax. A short hike from the parking lot will find this cache and a couple of others that are nearby.

CHALLENGE DETAILS: To receive credit for each geocache find your unit must:

1. Sign the log book
2. Take a picture of your unit with the cache (facing away from the cache location please)
3. Email the picture to exploreharbourside@gmail.com

4. Optional: Upload your picture to twitter or facebook with the #exploreharbourside tag

Once confirmed, you can then order the district crest piece and the main crest piece using the order form attached.

PROGRAM CONNECTIONS:

Sparks:

- Going Outside Keeper – Nature Walk, Additional Activities
- In My Community Keeper – Neighbourhood Walk, Additional Activities

Brownies:

- Key to My Community – Community Scavenger Hunt, In My Neighbourhood
- Key to Active Living – Outdoor Action, Special Interest Badge (fits as a STEM topic)
- Key to the Living World – Wondrous Walks

Guides:

- Exploring Badge – fits part of this badge
- Outdoors in the City Badge – fits part of this badge
- Discovering You: Stay Fit and Healthy #6
- Beyond You: Discover Your Community #6
- Beyond You: Explore the Outdoors and Nature #1, #6
- Beyond You: Try New Things #1, #6

Pathfinders:

- Let's Take it Outside – Finding Your Way
- Exploring a Theme – Everything Comes from STEM

Rangers:

- Community Connections – Your Interests
- Environment, Outdoors and Camping – Hide and Seek

TO ORDER CRESTS: Complete the order form below and email it and your unit picture to exploreharbourside@gmail.com . Each crest piece is \$0.50 each. If you choose to have the crests mailed to you, Please add \$3 for shipping. Alternatively we can make arrangements to get them to your District Commissioner and you can pick them up from there.

Hammonds Plains District Crest Piece	
St. Margaret’s Bay District Crest Piece	
Timberlea – Prospect District Crest Piece	
Halifax South District Crest Piece	
Shoreview District Crest Piece	
Windsor Park District Crest Piece	
Explore Harbourside Geocaching Challenge Main Crest Piece	

Total number of crests _____

x \$0.50/crest \$ _____

Shipping \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Payment can be made via cheque (Girl Guides of Canada) by either dropping off at Guide House in Halifax with “Attention Harbourside Area Geocaching Challenge” or by mailing to:

Girl Guides of Canada Provincial Office

Attention: Harbourside Area Geocaching Challenge

3581 Dutch Village Rd, Halifax NS B3N 2S9

Once payment was been confirmed, we will mail out the crests.