

## Drake's Estero Half-Day

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### Nature Tour

Welcome to Blue Waters kayaking on Drake's Estero! We welcome experienced and first time kayakers alike to join us on this beautiful paddle. Surrounded by acres of verdant coastal farmland, a half-day paddle in this inspiring wilderness estuary gives us the chance to see harbor seals, abundant shorebirds, waterfowl and a variety of hawks including Northern Harriers, Osprey, and Red Tails.

**Itinerary:** We'll meet at the parking lot of Drake's Bay Oyster Farm. After unloading gear and going over basic kayaking instructions and safety procedures we'll launch our boats. We'll paddle along Schooner Bay and into Home Bay looking for bat rays and leopard sharks. We'll go paddling rain, fog or shine.

**Equipment:** Our double kayaks track well, are difficult to capsize, and are easy to maneuver. All the necessary gear such as life jackets, paddles, and spray skirts is provided.

**What to bring:** Come prepared for variable weather. Bring clothes that reflect your degree of sensitivity to heat and cold.

- Sun screen & lip balm
- Hat with sun visor
- Wool or fleece hat (for cold days)
- Sunglasses
- 1 liter (minimum) water bottle and high energy snacks
- Shorts or baggy pants that can be rolled up to your knees are best for paddling.
- Shoes you don't mind getting wet. Teva type river sandals, wetsuit booties, or aqua socks. Tennis shoes with wool socks or rubber boots are good in cool weather.
- Windbreaker jacket (most important item!)
- Wool, capilene, poly pro, or some other synthetic long sleeve, long underwear shirt that will keep you warm when it is wet. (Cotton or cotton blend clothing retains water and will keep you cold if it becomes wet.)
- Pile or fleece pullover or a wool sweater
- Change of clothes, including dry shoes

**Release Form:** Please read, sign, and **bring** the enclosed release of liability and assumption of risk form with you on our trip.

**Directions:** From Marin/San Francisco: Take Hwy 101 N to Sir Francis Drake Blvd. Head west on SFDB to Hwy 1 in Olema. Turn right and travel 1/4 mile to Bear Valley Road. Turn left and follow Bear Valley Road until it dead ends back into Sir Francis Drake. Turn left and follow through the town of Inverness heading for the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse. \*About 4 miles past Inverness you will see Drake's Bay Oyster Farm on your left (clearly marked with a sign). If you see a sign that says "Drakes Beach" you have gone too far. Turn left at the oyster farm road and proceed 1/2 mile to the Drake's parking lot. It takes about an hour and a half from Hwy 101 at Larkspur. From Points North: Drive to Pt Reyes Station via the Point Reyes/Petaluma Road or Hwy. 1. Just past Point Reyes Station, turn right on Sir Francis Drake Blvd through the town of Inverness heading for the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse. Follow above directions from \*. *Please arrive 15 minutes before the tour begins!*