

Heart's Desire Beach – Tomales Bay

1100 Pierce Point Road, Inverness, CA

<https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-hearts-desire-beach.htm>

Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ysDY8w3smLXHKfnT7>

Thanks to the generosity of the California Coastal Commission and the Whale Tail Grants Program, BORP Adaptive Sports & Recreation is proud to share resources that help paddlers with disabilities plan accessible kayaking adventures.

Overview

Heart's Desire Beach is located within Point Reyes National Seashore and Tomales Bay State Park. Two organizations hold permits to operate guided programs here: Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC) and Blue Waters Kayaking. Paddlers may also launch their own boats from this site.

Facilities (October 2025)

Path of Travel and Access: From the parking area, there is one non-curbed path that can have some erosion and sandy spots but has been successfully traversed by people using both manual and power wheelchairs.

This path leads you to a large flat hardpacked area with picnic tables. While largely hardpacked dirt, there are some sandy spots.

Ramp & Dock: There is no dock at this location, but a beach that changes significantly with the tides. It is sand and it can be very challenging to traverse for those using mobility aids. When we visited, we brought the mat in the pictures. ETC may have a mat they are able to bring by request.

Water Conditions and Traffic: Conditions on Tomales Bay can vary widely. While often suitable for recreational kayaking, winds, tides, and weather can significantly affect water safety and ease of paddling.

Parking: There is a medium-sized parking lot adjacent to the beach that fills quickly on weekends. Several accessible parking spaces are available. Overflow parking is located approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away.

Restrooms : Accessible restrooms are available on site, along with an accessible portable toilet.

Operators

Environmental Traveling Companions has been offering adaptive kayaking, river, and snow programs for more than 50 years. They specialize in group trips serving people with disabilities and use double and triple sit-inside fiberglass kayaks. If you have a disability and are interested in paddling on Tomales Bay, reaching out to ETC is highly recommended.

If you do not require adaptive support and are interested in renting boats, Blue Waters Kayaking offers both sit-on-top and sit-inside solo and double kayak rentals for independent paddling.

Summary

This location might be right for you if:

- You have your own boat, can arrive early, and are capable of self-managing tides and weather.
- You are interested in joining ETC guides on an ETC trip and can ask for any assistance you require.
- You are interested in renting a boat and paddling independently.