

# Taylor Head

## Provincial Park Trail System



Welcome

Taylor Head Provincial Park is a natural environment park occupying a rugged wind-swept peninsula jutting six and a half kilometres (4 miles) into the Atlantic Ocean. The park provides spectacular coastal views and offers 16 kilometres (10 miles) of unspoiled coastline. Discover the majesty of enduring rock versus the tumultuous power of the sea.

### Natural Habitats

Taylor Head features a variety of natural habitats. The white spruce, balsam fir, red maple, white birch forest found along the coastline is typical of Nova Scotia's often foggy Eastern Shore.

Rocky barrens covered with dwarf shrubs such as crowberry, and lichens such as reindeer lichen are found in the southern portion of the park.

Several peat-filled bogs are scattered throughout the park and a small freshwater marsh is located within the northern boundary. Fields, once farmed by early settlers, now lay

abandoned behind Pyche Cove and Bull Beach.

The coastline is dotted with rocky and cobble shores composed of boulders and smaller stones. Several coastal fresh water marshes have also formed here.

### Wildlife at Taylor Head

The wildlife found here are as varied as the habitats found within the park. Gulls, Arctic and common terns, black guillemot, Leach's petrel and common eider are known to nest in the shelter of the trees along the coastal headlands. Considerable numbers of waterfowl migrate through the park in spring and fall including scooters, black ducks, long tailed ducks and Canada geese. Small mammals on the peninsula include red squirrel, red-backed vole, short-tailed shrew, hare and mink. White-tailed deer may be seen grazing in the old fields, while raccoons, porcupine, otters and muskrats visit the various bogs.

### Park Rules and Regulations

To ensure everyone has a pleasant stay, please note the following:

Removing or defacing any park structure, sign or natural features such as plants, trees and rocks is not permitted.

Pets must be kept on a 2 m (6 ft.) leash. Owners must clean up after their pets.

Fires are permitted only in the provided grills. No other open fires are permitted in the park.

Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted within the park.

Hunting, trapping or carrying firearms within the park is prohibited.

The Parks Act & Regulations are in force at all times. A copy is posted at the Park office for your reference. Failure to comply with the regulations may result in your being asked to leave the park.

### Latitude

(N) 44-50-39 | Longitude (W) 62-34-54

### GPS

UTM Nad 83 coordinates are  
Xutm 533059 | Yutm 4965754

### Tips for a Safe Trip

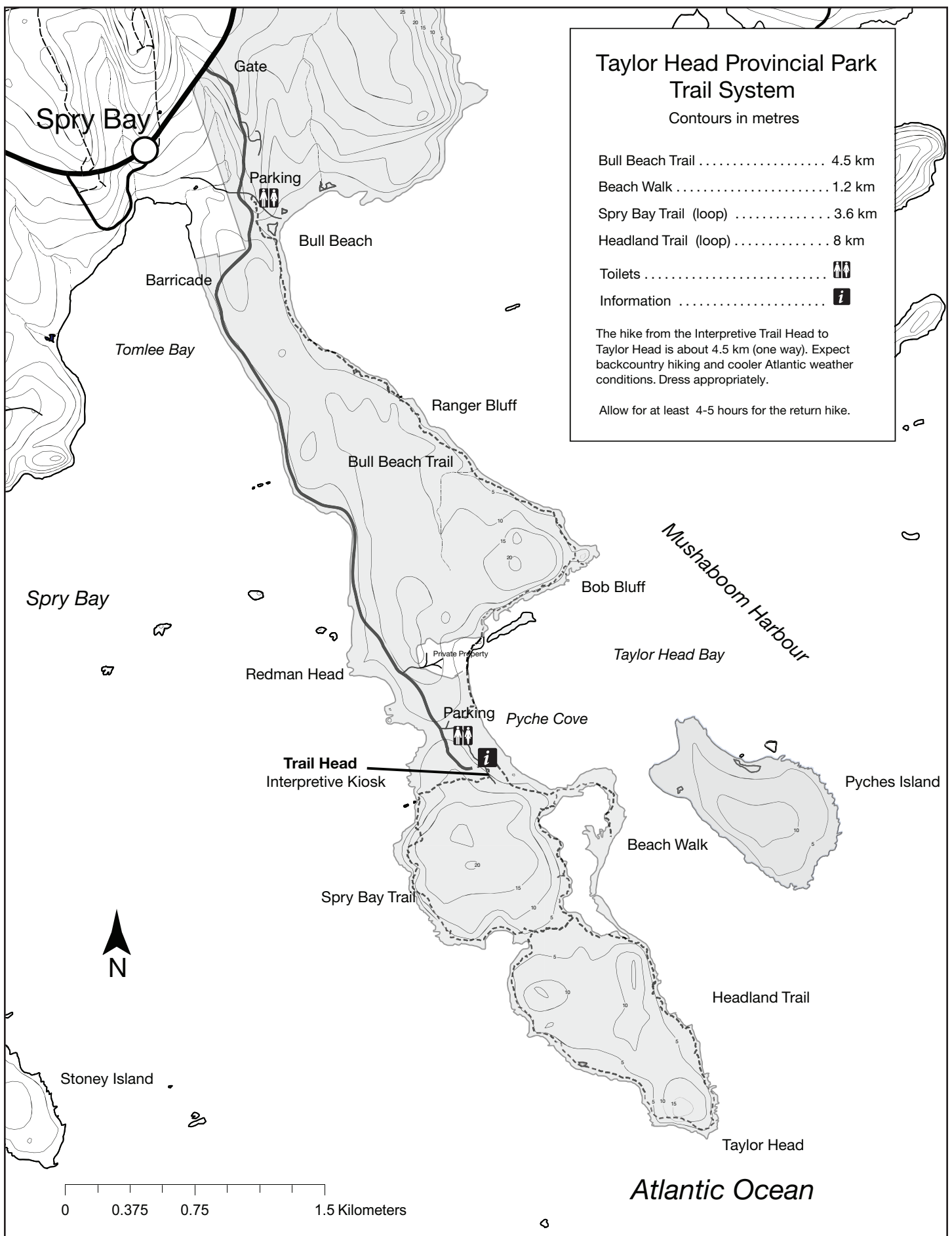
- Hikers should be physically fit. Comfortable hiking boots or other sturdy footwear is recommended.
- Carry a first aid kit.
- Cell phones will work in most areas of the park.
- Beaches are unsupervised. Children should be watched closely in or near the water.
- Approach cliffs only at designated viewing areas; other areas may be unstable.
- Stay behind the protective fencing. Obey all signs.
- Toilets tend to be situated only near the trail heads. Plan accordingly.
- Pack out all garbage. Do not put garbage in the toilets.

### In case of an emergency, notify park staff or call 911.

Taylor Head Provincial Park civic address is 20140 Hwy # 7. Park phone number is (902) 772-2218 (mid-May to mid-October).



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Hiking times are approximate and do not include time to appreciate nature and views from look-offs.

**Beach Walk**

2 km (1.2 mi.) • Easy trail • Time: 45 mins.  
Bird watchers should have lots to see as they follow this trail as it traverses the sandy shores of the Pyche Cove Beach system.

**Bob Bluff Trail**

3 km (1.8 mi.) • Basic trail • Time: 1 hour  
Select this trail for coastal views. The trail begins near the parking area and follows along the shore to the northern end of Pyche Cove providing several enchanting vistas of Mushaboom Harbour and its many islands along the way. The beach and sand dunes at Pyche Cove were formed by sand deposits from the erosion of glacial till and bedrock. The trail links with the Bull Beach Trail at Bob Bluff.

**Bull Beach Trail**

6 km (3.7 mi.) • Basic trail • Time: 2 hours  
Backed by a spruce-fir forest, the trail winds along the coast overlooking the harbour.

**Spry Bay Trail**

4 km (2.5 mi.) • Moderately challenging • Time: 1.5 hours  
Hikers wanting to experience a variety of habitats will enjoy taking this loop that passes through a coastal forest, coastal barren, wave-swept boulder shores, coastal freshwater marsh and an inland barren. The trail provides magnificent views of Spry Bay and the rugged coast line.

**Headland Trail**

8 km (5 mile) • Challenging trail • Time: 2.5 hours  
Select this trail for the maximum experience as provides a rugged, but rewarding, coastline trek to Taylor Head Point. The trail returns on the opposite side of Taylor Head where it rejoins the Spry Bay Trail.