

# Happy Campers

2020 NORTHWEST YACHTING SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

COMPILED BY EVIN MOORE



Summer is coming! And now is the time to make summer camp plans for your kids! To make it easy for you, we've assembled this Happy Campers Guide that features wonderful aquatic, sail, and boating programs to engage your kids and get them boating!

Inside you'll find a lot of ideas to get your kids out on the water, learning to sail in Optis, Lasers, Lidos, and Splashes or taking to the surf in kayaks,

canoes, or stand up paddleboards. Why not give windsurfing a go or try rowing on a crew team? And if water sports aren't your child's thing, try one of the science camps in our guide, where kids can learn about marine life at the aquarium, or collect water samples and spend time in the lab at the Science Center. Regardless of age or interest, *Northwest Yachting's* Happy Campers Guide will have something that will pique your child's interest!



# Happy Campers

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SCIENCE CAMPS



## ADVENTURESS SUMMER CAMPS

Ages: 7th grade to 12th grade

Sound Experience, the non-profit that owns the schooner *Adventuress* hosts two different summer camps for teens. The Fantastic Voyage camp brings teens on the schooner overnight for five days where they learn about being a crew on a large ship and perform science experiments. The Girls at the Helm camp focuses on girls learning about sailing, Puget Sound, leadership development, and STEM.

Location: 211 Seton Rd, Port Townsend, WA 98368  
Contact: soundexp.org | (360) 379-0438

## NOAA SCIENCE CAMP

Ages: 6th Grade to 12th Grade

NOAA's Sand Point center in Seattle hosts several camps for both middle-schoolers and high-schoolers. The middle-schoolers learn about marine animals, diving, marine science, nautical charts, and interact with NOAA scientists. A separate camp gives middle-schoolers the chance to build a Remotely Operated Vehicle and pilot it as they learn about robotics and underwater physics. High-schoolers focus on science research, communication of scientific ideas, and leadership.

Location: 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115  
Contact: wsg.washington.edu | (206) 543-6600

## PORT TOWNSEND MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Ages: 3 to 15

Camps at the Port Townsend Marine Science Center focus on the marine environment and are broken down by age. At camps for younger children, they explore local beaches and play games while learning about marine animals. Kids ages 10 to 12 can become junior scientists while spending time on field trips and in the lab. Students 13 to 15 can join a long-ship crew and learn about the Salish Sea as they take a two-day expedition. Another camp for students 11 to 13 has them sailing on a Science Center vessel as they perform experiments.

Location: 532 Battery Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368  
Contact: ptmsc.org | (360) 385-5582

## SEATTLE AQUARIUM

Ages: 4 to 14

The Seattle Aquarium hosts a variety of science-focused camps that will bring your child up close with nature and marine animals at the aquarium. Camps for kids ages 4 to 5 get them interacting with tide pools and learning about fish of the Puget Sound, plus games, stories, and crafts. Kids 6 to 7 can learn about marine mammals or learn about the Puget Sound through the eyes of a salmon. Eight to 9-year olds learn more about sharks or underwater kelp forests and the animals that live there. Ten to 12-year-olds spend their days at the beach learning about marine invertebrates or sustainability. The oldest campers learn about careers in conservation at the aquarium.

Location: 1483 Alaskan Way, Seattle, WA 98101  
Contact: seattleaquarium.org | (206) 386-4300

## VANCOUVER AQUARIUM 🍁

Ages: 4 to 12

The camps at the Vancouver Aquarium are centered around hands-on activities for kids ages 4 to 12. Campers will interact with marine animals, both local and exotic, and learn about their diets, habitats, and life cycles.

Location: 845 Avison Way, Vancouver, BC V6G 3E2, Canada  
Contact: vanaqua.org | (604) 659-3400



Clockwise from top of page: Seattle Aquarium; NOAA science camps; Vancouver Aquarium Aquacamps

# Happy Campers

## BOATING & SAILING CAMPS

### ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB 🍁

Ages: 5 to 17

The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club offers several different camps for kids and teens. Campers ages 5 to 7 can join the 'Wet Feet' camp where they will be introduced to boat safety and grow more comfortable being around water. There are several levels of camps where students will hone their sailing skills in Optis. More advanced camps will get students out in RS Feva dinghies to master doublehanded sailing skills. The most advanced sailors can take racing camps that will introduce them to the rules and strategies of racing.

Location: **3811 Point Grey Rd, Vancouver, BC V6R 1B3, Canada**  
Contact: [royalvan.com](http://royalvan.com) | (604) 224-1344

### MACSAILING 🍁

Ages: 6 to 16

MacSailing of Vancouver, B.C. is a sailing school that offers a wide variety of summer camps. Their Beach Kids camp gets students ages 6 and 7 on sailboats and canoes to learn about safety on the water. The Sail Optis course is for beginner sailors, while the CanSail course is more rigorous and for more experienced sailors. If your child is not interested in sailing, the canoe camp might be the right fit, or the Marine Ecology camp where they will learn about aquatic life in the area.

Location: **1300 Discovery Street, Vancouver V6R 4L9, British Columbia**  
Contact: [macsailing.com](http://macsailing.com) | (604) 224-7245

### WEST VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB 🍁

Ages: 6 to 17

Campers at the West Vancouver Yacht Club can choose from several different types of camps depending on their interests. The multi-activity camps lets students try a variety of water activities like kayaks, sailboats, and stand up paddle boards. Or try the multi-level Opti programs where sailors of all skill levels can find something to suit their abilities. The 'Learn to Sail' courses take the most experienced sailors and introduce them to the world of racing.

Location: **5854 Marine Dr, West Vancouver, BC V7W 2S2, Canada**  
Contact: [wvyc.ca](http://wvyc.ca) | (604) 921-7575

### HOLLYBURN SAILING CLUB 🍁

Ages: 10 to 17

The Hollyburn Sailing Club offers an in-depth and structured sailing camps for beginners all the way to advanced, introducing them to double-handed sailing, advanced maneuvers in all kinds of conditions, and racing. There are also more casual cruising camps, and an Intro to Opti camp for 6 to 10 year olds.

Location: **1326 Argyle Ave, West Vancouver, BC V7T 1C1, Canada**  
Contact: [hollyburnsailingclub.ca](http://hollyburnsailingclub.ca) | (604) 926-5744

### BC SAILING 🍁

Ages: 6 to 14

The camps from BC Sailing will take place in various locations throughout the summer, and will generally be hosted by local sailing clubs. Campers will learn to pilot sailboats, usually 7' Optis, sailboats and kayaks. Kids will learn the ins and outs of sailing and kayaking.

Location: **195-3820 Cessna Drive Richmond, BC, Canada**  
Contact: [bcsailing.bc.ca](http://bcsailing.bc.ca) | (604) 333-3628

Photos, Clockwise from top: the Youth Sailing Association's JAM regatta (Photo: Dave Shemwell); The Center for Wooden Boats; Sail Sand Point (Photo: V. Owen, SSP Staff).



### BELLINGHAM YACHT CLUB

Ages: 8 to 18

The Bellingham Yacht Club offers two camps; one for beginner sailors and one for more advanced sailors. Campers will have the opportunity to sail on a keelboat in courses that emphasize boating skills and teamwork. Membership at Bellingham Yacht Club is not required to attend camps.

Location: **2625 S Harbor Loop Dr, Bellingham, WA 98225**  
Contact: [byc.org](http://byc.org) | (360) 733-7390

### COMMUNITY BOATING CENTER

Ages: 9 to 18

The Community Boating Center offers several different camps, the first being Adventure Camps, which allow campers to try out kayaks, paddleboards, and sailboats. There are also camps that emphasize sailing skills, with beginner and intermediate camps for youth, and beginner and intermediate camps for teens. Campers will be learning on RS Quests.

Location: **555 Harris Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225**  
Contact: [boatingcenter.org](http://boatingcenter.org) | (360) 714-8891

### WWU LAKEWOOD JUNIOR SAILING CAMP

Ages: Grades 6 to 12 (minimum age 11)

The Western Washington University hosts several camps, with an emphasis on either sailing or windsurfing. The sailing camps are designed for both beginner and intermediate sailors. Campers must be at least 11 years old, 100 pounds, and know how to swim.

Location: **Lakewood Watersports Facility, 2410 Lake Whatcom Boulevard, Bellingham**  
Contact: [oce.wvu.edu/youth-programs](http://oce.wvu.edu/youth-programs) | (360) 650-3308

### SAIL ORCAS

Ages: 8 to 18

The camps at Sail Orcas are designed for both beginner and intermediate sailors. Campers will have the chance to sail on Vanguard Prams, Lasers, and 6 Bics. Lessons will focus on basic sailing skill and incorporate some classroom education.

Location: **876 Deer Harbor Rd, Eastsound, WA 98245**  
Contact: [sailorcas.org](http://sailorcas.org) | (360) 376-5577

### SAN JUAN ISLAND PARKS AND REC

The San Juan Island Parks and Rec Department hosts a summer sailing camp and information will be available starting in April.

Location: **580 Guard St. Friday Harbor, WA 98250**  
Contact: [islandrec.org](http://islandrec.org) | (360) 378-4953

### LOPEZ ISLAND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Ages: 9 to 18

The sailing camps at the Lopez Island Family Resource Center will accommodate beginner, intermediate, and advanced sailors. Campers must have completed the preceding camp to move to the next one or have an instructor's permission. Campers will be sailing in either Lidos or Splashes.

Location: **23 Pear Tree Lane, Lopez Island, WA**  
Contact: [lifrc.org](http://lifrc.org) | (360) 468-4117

### CITY OF ANACORTES PARKS AND REC

The City of Anacortes Parks and Rec Department offers summer sailing camps. More information should be available in the spring.

Location: **Parks and Rec 904 6th Street, Anacortes, WA 98221**  
Contact: [cityofanacortes.org](http://cityofanacortes.org) | (360) 293-1918

### OAK HARBOR YOUTH SAILING

Ages: 9 to 15

The camps sponsored by Oak Harbor Youth Sailing are for beginner, intermediate, and advanced sailors. Campers must have instructor permission to take the more advanced sailing camps. Camps will focus on basic sailing skills and build from there.

Location: **1401 SE Catalina Dr. Oak Harbor, WA 98277**  
Contact: [oakharboryouthsailing.org](http://oakharboryouthsailing.org) | (360) 675-1314

### PORT ANGELES YACHT CLUB

Ages: 12 to 17

The camps at the Port Angeles Yacht Club are designed for beginner sailors and introduces students to basic sailing techniques and gets them comfortable on the water. A Friday Family Day let's them show off their new skills to friends and family.

Location: **1305 Marine Dr, Port Angeles, WA 98363**  
Contact: [payc.org](http://payc.org) | (360) 457-4132

### NORTHWEST MARITIME CENTER

Ages: 5 to 17

The youth summer camps at the Northwest Maritime Center can be broken into two programs: Messing About in Boats and Learn to Sail. The Messing About in Boats program is aimed at kids ages 5 to 10 and involves getting out on the water in boats, field trips to the beach and Marine Science Center, arts and crafts, and meeting real sailors and captains. The Learn to Sail program is designed for students 8 to 17 and focuses on sailing skills, safety, and more advanced sailing when they are ready. Campers will be sailing in Optimist Dinghies or Vanguard 15's.

Location: **431 Water St, Port Townsend, WA 98368**  
Contact: [nwmaritime.org](http://nwmaritime.org) | (360) 385-3628

### SOUTH WHIDBEY YACHT CLUB

Ages: 12 to 17

The South Whidbey Yacht Club hosts sailing camps for both beginner sailors and intermediate sailors. Beginners will learn on their own 8' El Toro, and intermediate sailors will practice on Pelicans, Lasers, or Lido 15s.

Location: **SWYC P.O. Box 316 Greenbank, WA 98253**  
Contact: [swyachtclub.org](http://swyachtclub.org) | Phone Not Listed



### SAIL KINGSTON COVE

Ages: 8 to 17

The camps from Sail Kingston Cove are for youth beginner and intermediate sailors, teen beginner and intermediate sailors, and the 'guppy' program for kids 5 to 7. These camps will cover rigging, sail and tiller control, and handling the equipment. Campers will be learning in Optis.

Location: **23976 S. Kingston Road, NE, Kingston, WA 98346**  
Contact: [sailingkingstoncove.org](http://sailingkingstoncove.org) | (808) 282-8839

### CITY OF POULSBO YOUTH SAILING

Ages: 5 to 16

Campers at the City of Poulsbo Youth Sailing camps are divided into 5 to 7 years and 8 to 16. Sailors of all skill levels will be together and campers will be paired up with the partner best suited to their skill level. Students will learn on Optis.

Location: **19540 Front Street, Poulsbo, WA 98370**  
Contact: [cityofpoulsbo.com](http://cityofpoulsbo.com) | (360) 779-9898

### POULSBO YACHT CLUB

Ages: 10 to 15

The Junior Sailing Program at the Poulsbo Yacht Club is divided into the Learn to Sail program and the Double Handed. The Learn to Sail program is for new sailors and covers points of sail, basic tacking and gybing, sail trim, and other introductory topics. The double-handed program is for students who have passed the previous program, and has them working in teams on larger sailboats.

Location: **18129 Fjord Dr NE # T, Poulsbo, WA 98370**  
Contact: [poulsboyachtclub.org](http://poulsboyachtclub.org) | (360) 779-3116

### BAINBRIDGE ISLAND PARKS AND REC

This summer sailing program offers keelboat classes for teens and adults and dinghy classes for ages 6-adult using fleets of Optis, RS Teras, and Flying Juniors. . Beginner and intermediate-level camps run all summer, and special camps include all-female week for teens and adults, a multisport week, and intermediate-advanced weeks to learn racing skills. All instructors are certified in teaching their sport as well as 1st aid/CPR/AED.

Location: **7666 High School Rd NE Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**  
Contact: [biparks.org](http://biparks.org) | (206) 842-2302

### SAIL SAND POINT

Ages: 5 to 17

Camps at Sail Sand Point are broken down into three age categories; 5 to 7, 8 to 12, and 12 to 17. The youngest sailors will sail in Hobies with a parent or in a Junior Opti with a partner. Campers 8 to 12 can join an Explorer camp where they will take to the water in kayaks, SUPs, and catamarans, or they can attend an Opti sailing camp. Campers 12 to 17 can take different levels of sailing camps, plus other camps like the Sailing to STEM camp, which combines sailing instruction with science education.

Location: **7861 62nd Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115**  
Contact: [sailsandpoint.org](http://sailsandpoint.org) | (206) 525-8782

# Happy Campers

## BOATING & SAILING CAMPS

### GREEN LAKE SMALL CRAFT CENTER

As the new Green Lake Small Craft Center is under construction, their summer program has been cancelled for 2020. Please check back in Summer 2021.

Location: 5900 West Green Lake Way N, Seattle, WA 98103  
Contact: <https://bit.ly/32okkRF> | (206) 684-4074

### LAURELHURST BEACH CLUB

Ages: 8 to 14

The Laurelhurst Beach Club hosts camps for students ages 8 to 14. Campers 8 to 10 can take half-day Opti sailing camps, and campers 11 to 14 can take full-day beginner Opti camps or advanced sailing camps with introductions to racing.

Location: 5041 NE Laurelcreech Ln, Seattle, WA 98105  
Contact: [laurelhurstbc.com/sailing](http://laurelhurstbc.com/sailing) | (206) 524-2010

### QUEEN CITY YACHT CLUB

Ages: 9 to 14

The Queen City Yacht Club offers a sailing camp for students of all skill levels, ages 9 to 14. Campers will learn boating safety, small boat handling, rigging, sailing fundamentals, and knot tying while using the club's in-house fleet. Camps are small and each camper can expect to receive at least one individual session with an instructor.

Location: 2608 Boyer Ave E, Seattle, WA 98102  
Contact: [queencity.org](http://queencity.org) | (206) 709-2000

### SEATTLE YACHT CLUB

Ages: 7 to 17

Seattle Yacht Club offers a variety of sailing camps for all experience levels. The Lil' Luffers camp gets kids ages 7 to 9 out on Vanguard 15s and 420s as they learn the ins and outs of sailing and safety. The Overboard Opti camp gets sailors in their own Opti where they further increase sailing skills and confidence. The Junior Jibber's camp has campers working in pairs to sail on Vanguard 15s and Lasers. High school camps and learn-to-race camps are also available for more advanced sailors.

Location: 1807 E Hamlin St, Seattle, WA 98112  
Contact: [seattleyachtclub.org](http://seattleyachtclub.org) | (206) 325-1000

### CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB

Ages: 7 to 18

The Beginner Opti 1 and 2 camp introduces young sailors to the fundamentals of sailing. The Intermediate Opti Camp is for sailors with several weeks of sailing experience from previous camps, with the end goal being to have all sailors comfortable sailing both upwind and downwind in medium breeze. The Advanced Opti Camp is geared to the most experienced sailors, where they will be introduced to the basics of racing sailboats and rules.

Location: 7755 Seaview Avenue Northwest Pier V, Seattle, WA 98117  
Contact: [cycseattle.org](http://cycseattle.org) | (206) 789-1919

### MERCER ISLAND PARKS AND REC

Ages: 7 to 12

The Paddle Camps from the City of Mercer Island Parks and Rec gets kids out on the water in kayaks, canoes, and stand up paddleboards. Kids will learn to maneuver all crafts and basic water safety.

Location: 2040 84th Ave SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040  
Contact: [mercergov.org](http://mercergov.org) | (206) 236-7321

### MY SAIL YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

The camps from the MY SAIL (Multihull Youth Sailing) Foundation take place at two locations and get kids out on multihull craft. One camp is based out of Corinthian Yacht Club and will bring campers out onto Shilshole Bay, which is known for its steady winds. Kids will learn on Hobie Cats. The other location is on the Olympic Peninsula at the Lake Quinault Rain Forest Resort Village Campground. Campers will sail on the lake and stay in tents at night.

Location: Corinthian Yacht Club and Lake Quinault  
Contact: [mysail.org](http://mysail.org) | (206) 992-6637

### MOUNT BAKER ROWING & SAILING CENTER

Ages: 8 to 18

The Mount Baker Rowing and Sailing Center offers several different camps featuring multiple water sports. Besides the sailing camps and rowing camps, the Youth Adventure Camp has campers ages 11 to 14 sailing, kayaking, canoeing, and windsurfing. The Junior Multi-Sport Camp for ages 11 to 15 covers the fundamentals of rowing, windsurfing, and paddling. The sailing camps are for all skill levels and will be utilizing V15s, FJs and Lasers. Rowing camps are available for students of all experience levels.

Location: 3800 Lake Washington Blvd S, Seattle, WA 98118  
Contact: [mbrsc.com](http://mbrsc.com) | (206) 386-1913

### CENTER FOR WOODEN BOATS

Ages: 8 to 14

The summer programs at the Center for Wooden Boats fall into two broad categories: woodworking and sailing. Woodworking camps are designed so kids can learn to use basic woodworking tools and make their own toolboxes. Teens will learn the basics of woodworking and work on more advanced wood working projects. Sailing camps are for ages 8 to 14 and gets kids out in El Toros in beginner, intermediate, and advanced sailing camps. There are also options for racing and basic keelboats.

Location: South Lake Union 1010 Valley Street Seattle, WA 98109 and  
Cama Beach State Park, 1880 SW Camano Drive, Camano Island, WA 98282  
Contact: [cwb.org/youth](http://cwb.org/youth) | (206) 382-2628

### MEYDENBAUER BAY YACHT CLUB

Ages: 8 to 18

The sailing camps at Meydenbauer Bay Yacht Club use Opti sailboats for kids ages 8 to 11, Vanguard 15s for ages 11 to 18 and Lasers for experienced solo sailors ages 11 to 18 and over 100 pounds. Weather conditions at Meydenbauer Bay mean that more serious sailing takes place early in the summer and more casual sailing takes place towards summer's end.

Location: 9927 Meydenbauer Way SE, Bellevue, WA 98004  
Contact: [mbycwa.org](http://mbycwa.org) | (425) 454-8880

Photos, Facing page: Bainbridge Island summer campers; Sail Sand Point boarding (Photo: V. Owen). Below: Happy campers on Bainbridge Island.



### TACOMA YOUTH SAILING

Ages: 6 to 18

Summer sailing camps at the Tacoma Yacht Club are broken down into three general age ranges: 6-8, 8-12, and 11-18. The youngest kids will sail with an instructor, learning the terminology of sailing and developing comfort with being in a boat. The 8- to 12-year olds will learn to sail independently in an Opti and learn sailing skills including tacking, jibing, sailing upwind and downwind. There are also camps for teens new to sailing, where they will learn the basics of sailing in a two-person 420 sailboat. Intermediate camps are available for youths and teens, and an advanced teen camp for those who would like to build skills through focused time with a coach.

Location: 5401 Yacht Club Rd, Tacoma, WA 98407  
Contact: [Tacomajrsail.org](http://Tacomajrsail.org) | (253) 242-3616

### GIG HARBOR YACHT CLUB

Ages: 6 to 18

Gig Harbor Yacht Club offers several sailing camps for campers between 6 and 18. The Guppies program, for kids 6 to 7, provides them with a mixture of land-based and on-water activities that teach them about safety, basic knots, wind and sails, and lots of games. Kids 8 to 12 can participate in sailing camps that cover all the basics of sailing. Teen introductory camps cover the same topics, while the Intermediate Opti camps get kids or teens to the next level of sailing in Opti sailboats.

Location: 8209 Stinson Ave, Gig Harbor, WA 98332  
Contact: [ghycjuniorsail.org](http://ghycjuniorsail.org) | (253) 214-6131

### OLYMPIA YACHT CLUB

Ages: 8 to 18

The Olympia Yacht Club teams up with the City of Olympia Parks and Rec Department to host several sailing camps. Students are divided into 8 to 12 and 13 to 18. Campers 8 to 12 can take either Opti 1, Opti 2, or Opti 3 depending on experience level. Teens can take either the J24 or Vanguard 420 sailing camps.

Location: 201 Simmons St NW, Olympia, WA 98501  
Contact: [olympiayachtclub.org](http://olympiayachtclub.org) | (360) 357-6767

### GORGE JUNIOR SAILING

Ages: 5 to 18

Sailing Camps at Gorge Junior Sailing are divided into Minnows, youth, and teens. Introductory classes cover basic sailing skills including rigging, knot tying, and safety. More advanced classes cover complicated boat designs and the basics of racing. Campers will learn on Optimists and Club 420s.

Location: 1000 E Port Marina Dr, Hood River, OR 97031  
Contact: [gorgejuniorsailing.org](http://gorgejuniorsailing.org) | Phone Not Listed

### WILLAMETTE SAILING CLUB

Ages: 5 to 18

The camps from the Willamette Sailing Club get students out on the water in Opti, Laser, and 420 dinghies. There are beginner and intermediate camps for both youths and teens. Willamette also has a river adventure camp that explores the Willamette River while learning sailing techniques.

Location: 6336 SW Beaver Ave, Portland, OR 97239  
Contact: [willamettesailingclub.com](http://willamettesailingclub.com) | (503) 246-5345

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