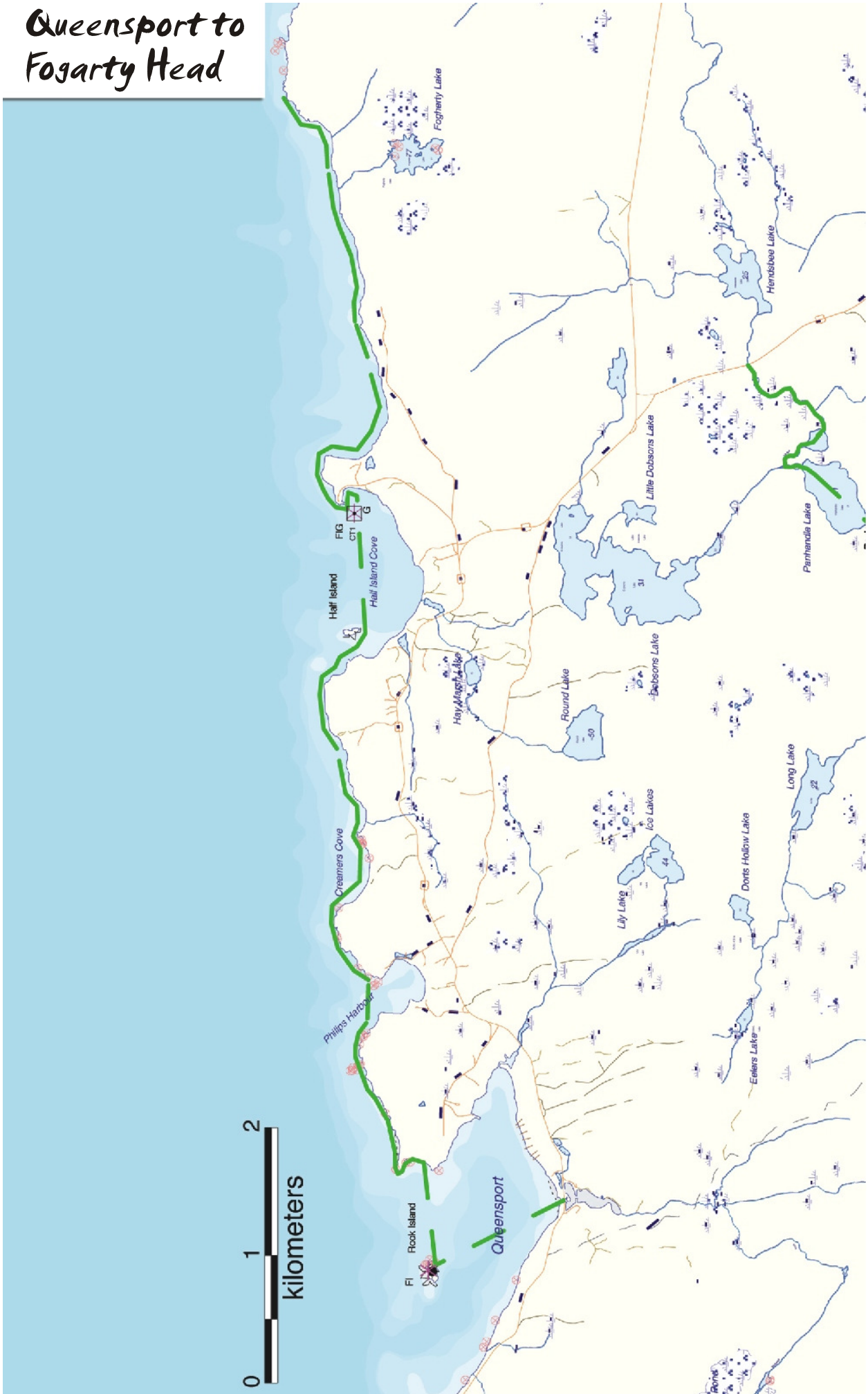


Queensport to Fogarty Head



Queensport to Fogarty Head

Length: 20 km, return

Time: 7.5 hrs

Type: tidal, saltwater, ocean

Facilities: port-a-potties, garbage cans

Closest Amenities: town of Canso,

village of Guysborough

Rating: experienced



Access Information: From the village of Guysborough, travel east on Route 16 to Queensport. The Queensport Beach is located off the main road on the left and can be recognized by an interpretive panel and rest area. This will serve as both the launch and exit point.

Special Features: Queensport Beach is an interpretive site dedicated to the history of the Queensport light station located 2 km off Queensport, on Rock Island. Originally erected in 1882, the light station was manned until 1968. It was one of the earlier light stations to become fully automated and still flashes a beacon to welcome travelers to Chedabucto Bay. Only a few kilometers away the Out of the Fog Lighthouse Museum displays the history and tales of this light station and others in the area.

Description: Entering the water at Queensport Beach, paddle eastward along the granite shores to Brody Point. Cranes and sandpipers may be seen, as well as a multitude of seagulls and other waterfowl. The Queensport Beach marks the mouth of a small tributary, which offers a spectacular view in fall, with its surrounding deciduous trees. Looking back across Chedabucto Bay you may be able to identify the communities of Port Shoreham and St. Francis Harbour. Continuing on you will enter a small cove at Philips Harbour. A picturesque area, the harbour itself is protected by Philips Head. A few kilometres along the coast, you will arrive at Half Island Cove. A very wide cove, this area boasts not one, but two separate sand beaches. Rounding Gaulman Point, continue paddling along the shore toward Fogarty Head, which has become a more widely recognized name over the past decade due to the popularity of Stan Rogers' music and the annual Stan Rogers Folk Festival that is held in Canso. In more recent years, efforts are being made to preserve a portion of this route as a natural retreat. From Fogarty Head and nearby Black Point you will be able to look to the northeast toward Cape Breton, with a view of Isle Madame and Petit-de-Gras Island. Upon reaching Fogarty Head, you may retrace your route to Queensport Beach, or having made transportation arrangements, continue on past Black Point and Fox Bay Beach exiting the water at Fox Island Main Beach. It is important to take a map along this route to help identify the many coves and inlets. Please note that the water along the shore of Chedabucto Bay can be rough during times of inclement weather.