



Camp Narnia

Information for Families

“Why, it is just like branches of trees!” exclaimed Lucy.
And then she saw that there was a light ahead of her;
not a few inches away where the back of the wardrobe
ought to have been, but a long way off.

Something cold and soft was falling on her.

A moment later she found that she was standing in the middle of a wood
at night-time with snow under her feet and snowflakes
falling through her hair.”

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis

Camp Office: 887 Harbour View St, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 4V4

Summer 2024 Location: Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre, Hornby Island
6050 St Johns Point Rd, Hornby Island, BC, V0R 1Z0

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CAMP NARNIA FAMILY HANDBOOK

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About Our Camp

1.1 WELCOME TO CAMP NARNIA!

We are so pleased to have your child attending Camp Narnia this year! This Information Handbook contains details that all campers and families should understand before camp begins. However, we know that not all questions can be answered in a handbook, so we encourage you to call or email us with your questions.

1.2 About Camp Narnia

Camp Narnia is an independent, secular camp for children 6-12 years old, and teens from 13-15 years old. Camp Narnia operated from 1986-2006 first on Salt Spring Island and then near Shawnigan Lake under previous ownership. The current owner operators are all staff and campers from the old camp; we re-opened the camp in 2011 at Seven Springs Camp near Nanoose Bay. This year we are happy to have the chance to run our camp at the Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre on Hornby Island.

We believe in the saying “it takes a whole community to raise a child.” Our philosophy is drawn from the belief that children will thrive and grow when they are given the chance to be contributing members of the community that forms in a camp setting. Feelings of self-worth, confidence and a sense of belonging emerge when children can offer their own unique talents and skills to the real-life experiences they have at camp. The basic human values of loyalty, respect, responsibility, compassion, courage, and joy that are found in C.S. Lewis *Chronicles of Narnia* provide a foundation for the camps program. Our activities encourage self-reliance, independence, and an awareness in campers of the role they play in creating their own experiences.

1.3 Narnian Themes

There are seven stories in the Chronicles of Narnia:

The Magician’s Nephew; The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe; The Horse and His Boy; Prince Caspian; The Voyage of the Dawn Treader; The Silver Chair; and The Last Battle.

At each camp session, one of these exciting tales is chosen as a vehicle for our activities and to be performed in an all-camp drama production. Campers are encouraged (not required) to read the story before coming to camp since they will be joining in the fun. Together with counsellors, they will take on roles, get into costume and act out the story all around the farm and forest settings of Camp Narnia.

Check our website www.campnarnia.com for this year’s story themes.

1.4 Staff

Camp Narnia is run by a dedicated team of staff, all volunteers who return year after year to make Narnia possible. The majority of our staff are former campers, who have come to us through the Leaders in Progress (LIP) training program, or as work experience for aspiring teachers and educators. They are an excellent group of young people dedicated to upholding the philosophy of Camp Narnia and to providing all campers with a high quality of care and camp programming.

We believe our staff are living role models for our campers. While at camp we follow the same rules set out for campers whenever possible, and for the same reasons. Staff do not carry mobile phones or electronic devices, they eat the same meals as the campers, and treat each other with the same respect expected of campers. We strive every week to live together as the kind of community we hope our campers will emulate.

We run a full week of training for all staff before camp starts, for staff to brush up on all the skills necessary for caring for their campers and providing them with the camp experience they deserve. Our camp staff are thoroughly screened and vetted, including criminal record checks, interviews, and reference checks.

2. The Camp Experience

2.1 Cabin Groups

At Camp Narnia, cabin groups sleep on bunk beds or platform bunks in cabins or yurts. A camper's cabin is their main social group while at camp; however, there are many opportunities to do things with campers from other cabins.

One of the best parts of coming to camp is that children have the chance to meet new friends and enjoy new experiences. All the same, campers may request a friend to have as a cabin mate when they register. We will do our best to accommodate these requests. Campers are advised that our camp program is set up to allow contact amongst all campers throughout the day, so not to worry if all their friends are not in their cabin group.

2.2 Activities

You should know what your child will be involved in at camp. All campers will enjoy our cornerstone activities:

Challenge Course — a team challenge course in the forest.

*Campfire building and outdoor cooking*¹ — an absorbing session in which campers learn to build their own fires and to prepare and cook food for themselves. Involves chopping wood with a small hatchet.

Wading and beach time— The Tribune Bay Beach is on our doorstep for plenty of fun splashing around, building sandcastles, and exploring nature. All time spent at the beach is supervised.

Talent Show — A chance for all campers to show off their many talents. A virtuoso on the nose flute? An experienced juggler? A dancer, violin player, baton twirler, martial artist, actor, or speed-drawer? Be sure to bring your instruments and sign up for our friendly show.

Narnia Play — An all-camp play that happens on Thursday night. Everyone participates, no practicing necessary and it's lots of fun! This summer's themes: *The Horse and His Boy* and *The Silver Chair*.

Stargazing — An overnight sleep out on the camp property where campers get to watch for shooting stars, and experience what it's like to sleep under an open sky.

¹ This activity will be adapted should there be a fire ban in effect.

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The program also includes *Archery, Arts and Crafts, Forest Games, Fencing, Culinary Arts, Shelter building, Campfires and Special Events*. More information on our program is available on the camp website.

2.3 A Typical Day at Camp Narnia

7:30 a.m.	Wake up to the sound of the morning music
8:00 a.m.	Morning 'Mile' — "Do your Best and Enjoy Every Step"
	Flag-raising ceremony — The Narnian Flag rises
8:30 a.m.	Breakfast — a hearty and healthy selection of tasty breakfast foods
	Cabin clean-up — the cleanest cabin group will win the Golden Dustpan!
9:30 a.m.	Morning activities — campers head off for a morning of fun in the forest, at the river, making a craft, and much more
12:00 p.m.	Lunch — kid-friendly fun and filling lunches!
1:00 p.m.	Quiet time — campers take time to relax, read, write letters, or play quiet games
2:00 p.m.	Thought for the Day — one cabin group presents a skit demonstrating values drawn from the Narnia stories
2:30 p.m.	Afternoon activities — more to explore
5:00 p.m.	Free Time
5:30 p.m.	Dinner — hot and home-style and lots of it, always with salad, main course, and dessert
7:00 p.m.	Evening program — wide games, Narnian plays, talent shows, campfires
8:30 p.m.	A snack before bedtime
9:00 p.m.	Bedtime flag lowering brings the day to a close
	(The Night Watch song signals that all is quiet)

2.4 Camper Behaviour

We anticipate that when campers choose to come to camp, they do so wanting to participate in the activities we offer. If campers do not want to take part in an activity, their concerns will be listened to, and they may be excused from the activity. They will, however, be encouraged to participate.

Camper behaviour that is harmful to themselves or others, that or interferes with others' enjoyment of camp may result in their removal from the activity, and in some cases, even being sent home. In these instances, every effort will be made to sort out the difficulty at camp, and families will be consulted by phone when appropriate. If a camper is sent home in these

circumstances, there will be no refund of fees, and families are responsible for all travel to and from Hornby Island to pick-up their camper.

2.5 Food

The camp kitchen serves wholesome foods that are “kid friendly;” we do not serve typical “junk foods.” Granola, fruit salad with yogurt, and a fresh baked scone or muffins are regular daily supplements to the breakfast entree. Lunches may be home-made soups, quesadillas, pita sandwiches or pizza. Typical dinners may be lasagna, spaghetti or casseroles, beef stew, chicken pot pie with dumplings, or pork with rice or potatoes. Salads are served at every supper, as well as desserts. There is an evening snack provided.

Campers are asked not to bring snacks or extra food from home. Any candy or snacks will be asked to be handed in at check-in to be returned at the end of camp. Campers must not have food in their bags, as this can attract wild animals. We will have snacks ready for all of our bus trips to-and-from camp this summer, in case of ferry delays.

Our camp program includes a number of activities that involve campers in preparing their own meals. Campers in the teen program will be cooking several meals for themselves.

We will accommodate vegetarian and vegan diets and some restricted diets due to allergies such as Celiac Disease or lactose intolerance. Our kitchen is nut-free. Please include all relevant dietary needs on your medical form when registering – if you need to add any information to your child’s registration later, please email us at office@campharnia.com.

3. Important things for Parents (and Campers) to know

3.1 Things to Bring (and NOT to bring)

Please make sure that campers bring the essential items. Items should be marked with the child's name and a list of contents placed inside the bag.

Essential Items

WARM sleeping bag and pillow	Swimsuit
An extra blanket for warmth (if necessary)	Sun hat and sunscreen lotion
A week's supply of clothes to wear	Towel
Pajamas	Toiletries – hairbrush, soap, shampoo,
Waterproof jacket	toothbrush and toothpaste
Two pairs of shoes, one with closed-toes	Bag for soiled laundry
and good for walking or hiking, and one	Flashlight and batteries
appropriate for wading at the beach	Water bottle

Optional Items

Camera (please do not send expensive ones in case of loss or damage)
 Small back-pack to carry belongings at the beach
 Musical instruments (for our Talent show) or books
 Prescription or nonprescription medicines (to be kept in the medical room)
 Mail from home to be delivered to the camper throughout the week (to be dropped off at check-in)

Please Do Not Bring

Candy or food²
 Electronics, i.e.: cell phones, handheld gaming devices, smartwatches, etc.
 Cigarettes, vapes, or matches
 Make-up or hair dryer
 Cash
 Valuable items that are unnecessary at camp

A Note about Cellphones: We are seeing an increasing number of campers being given mobile phones in their suitcases “just in case.” In our experience these devices become a distraction from camp, particularly for teenage campers, and can get also get lost or stolen. If families wish to send a cellphone with their child, it must be turned into the office at check-in to be stored securely throughout the week.

² If your child has specific dietary requirements, please contact the Camp Office

3.2 Dropping Off and Picking Up

- Drop off for the bus from Buckley Bay on the first day of camp is between **1:00-1:30pm**.
- Pick up from the bus at Buckley Bay on the last day of camp is between **3:00 and 3:30pm**.

We are very happy to have found a home this summer at the Tribune Bay Outdoor Centre on Hornby Island! This new location does come with the additional step of catching two ferries, so we are arranging our drop-off and pick-up routines to help this travel step go smoothly, and minimize costs to families. We ask for your help and understanding in regards to these new pick-up and drop-off times and routines. Taking the ferries across to Denman and Hornby will be the first part of the Narnian adventure for all our campers this summer!

First and foremost, make sure to leave yourself plenty of time to reach the ferry terminal at Buckley Bay on the first and last days of camp. Drop-off this year will be a brisk process, allowing us to ensure all campers have arrived and boarded one of our buses with sufficient time to catch the **2:00pm** sailing from Buckley Bay. Follow the directions of camp staff near the Petro-Canada to our sign-in location at the lower level, sign-in, and then escort your camper to the bus to meet our counsellors, help your camper load their belongings, and then say goodbyes prior to campers boarding the bus. Please help your camper to make sure all their belongings are fully packed and ready for boarding the bus prior to drop-off.

If there is any additional information that needs to be passed along to a camper's counsellor, please contact our office ahead of time so that our staff can be informed before pick-up starts. You can always reach our office at 250-268-7642 or at office@campnarnia.com, both prior to drop-off, as well as during sessions.

At pick-up time, our busses will disembark from the ferry and park near the Petro Canada at Buckley Bay. Campers will unload from the busses prior to us beginning the sign-out process. It is very important that all campers are signed-out prior to families departing Buckley Bay.

This is a whole new experience for us, and we thank all our families for their understanding as we help our campers travel safely to and from Camp Narnia this summer.

3.3 Camp Store

Pre-ordered t-shirts will be ready and waiting at camp for when campers arrive. Extra t-shirts will be on sale at pick-up time at the end of each week for \$20 each (payable in exact change or charged to the same card used for registration).

We **do not** have a store for campers during the week and ask that campers **do not bring cash** to camp. There are no opportunities to spend money while at camp, and in an emergency the camp has petty cash that can be used to provide for a camper's needs. Cash in bags and suitcases can too easily become a distraction, and it is easily lost or stolen.

In cases where campers need money for after camp ends (for example purchasing ferry tickets to the lower mainland), cash can be checked-in to the camp office upon arrival for safe keeping, to be returned to the camper at check-out.

3.4 Visiting

The policy of camp is that there are no visiting days. Also, spontaneous drop-in visits are not allowed as we have found them to be disruptive to the campers in their activities. We encourage families to check out www.tribunebayoutdoored.ca/facilities/ to see the beautiful facilities we will be using this summer.

3.5 Phone Calls and Mail

Telephone contact between families at home and a camper is reserved for only exceptional circumstances; i.e. if a child has a birthday while at camp or in cases of severe homesickness. More often than not, a telephone call can be an upsetting and frustrating experience rather than a happy event. Please discuss with your camper ahead of time the fact that phone calls will be restricted to these circumstances. In case of emergency, families may, of course, give a message to staff which will be delivered to the camper at once. Families are free to call the camp office at any time to discuss with the camp director or the camper's counsellor about their child's experience at camp.

We encourage families to have a letter (or letters) ready to pass along to our check-in team at drop-off, to be delivered to your camper later in the week. This is a great way to make sure your child gets a letter or two from home – they love receiving them! The Royal Narnian Post is delivered once a day, Monday-Friday, just after lunch. Due to limited internet on site, we will not be able to reliably print and deliver emails like we have in the past, and we have found that campers enjoy handwritten ones best anyway!

In addition to the Royal Narnian Post, some families also choose to send small "good-night" cards along with their child in their own bag. Especially with younger campers, we encourage you to let your child know where you have packed the cards, and that their counsellor would be happy to help by reading the note out loud at bedtime.

3.6 Policy on Smoking and Alcohol

Camp Narnia is a non-smoking, non-vaping and alcohol-free site. This extends to everybody on the camp site at all times without exception, including staff, campers, and families. We ask that families picking up and dropping off children smoke off the property, and we do not tolerate consumption of alcohol or adults coming for check-in or check-out while under the influence.

Details and Logistics

4.1 Registration

The details you provide on the registration form are vital for an enjoyable camp experience. Please fill in all the sections, especially medical information. We require this information before the camper arrives. Please let us know if any information has changed so that we can update your child's forms online.

4.2 Fees and Payment

To reserve a space, camp fees are required to be paid before the session begins. The camp reserves the right to cancel a registration if fees are not received by the start of the camp. Receipts can be accessed by logging into your family account at campnarnia.campbrainregistration.com.

4.3 Cancellations

We offer full refunds up to two weeks before the start of a camper's registered session. Cancellations less than two weeks ahead of a session will receive a refund of registration fees, minus a \$100 deposit. Refunds are not issued for campers who leave camp early. Fees are transferable to other camp dates offered this year or can also be applied to siblings' fees.

4.4 Release Authorization

If an adult other than the parent/guardian will be picking up the camper, the parent or the legal guardian is required to provide these permissions when registering their child. If an additional authorized person must be added at later time, please email the camp office and provide their name, phone number, and relationship to your child.

4.5 Medical Matters

The health and safety of every camper is of primary concern to us. The camp has a qualified first aid attendant to attend to minor medical problems. BC Ambulance Service and Hornby Island Fire Rescue provide care in cases of emergency. In instances where your child requires medical care we will first attempt to notify you or your alternate emergency contact by phone. We do not call for minor injuries that are easily treated at camp. You can be assured that we will call you in the event of a more serious or prolonged illness or injury.

The Campers' Medical Information form must be completed before the session begins. It is the parent's/guardian's obligation to notify the camp director of any health or behavioural matter that might affect their child's stay at camp. Failing to do this may result in problems that lead to the camper having to leave camp early. There is also a medical release authorizing the camp to obtain emergency medical treatment in the event that they cannot be reached. Please contact Camp

Narnia to update health information ahead of camp check-in to ensure we have all the relevant details to keep your child healthy and safe.

The camp is not responsible for medical expenses incurred by campers during their stay. All families are required to have medical insurance coverage; the standard coverage from provincial health programs is usually adequate. Please ensure you have given us your child's health care number in case of emergency. Non-Canadian residents should consider purchasing extra coverage for hospital emergency room treatment. Any extra medical expenses not covered by insurance will be passed on to the family.

4.6 Medications

Any medications taken by campers should be sent in the original packaging and should be clearly marked to indicate your child's full name, the name of the medication, prescribed dosage, and expiration date. All medication, both nonprescription and prescription will be collected at our on-site check-in table and will be kept in the medical office. Be sure to include all necessary information and please send sufficient quantities of all prescription medicines. We ask that you help your camper to pack their medication so that it is easily accessible from their bag at check-in time.

It is not necessary to send such items as ibuprofen or antihistamines as our medical room is stocked with such everyday remedies. Only certain medications, such as prescription inhalers and epipens may be kept with the camper. Creams, ointments, and vitamins that are not toxic may be kept by the child who is able to administer them themselves, or with supervision from their counsellor.

5. In Conclusion

Our goal at Camp Narnia is to provide every camper with an experience that is safe and happy, one that they will remember with fond memories for a lifetime. To ensure that we meet this goal, we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Camp Narnia!

6. Map: Getting to and From the Camp

BY CAR TO BUCKLEY BAY & CAMP BUS

Take Exit 101 from Highway 19 and travel east onto Buckley Bay Rd. There is short-term parking at the Petro-Canada, as well as kitty-corner across the intersection in the gravel lot (see map). Follow directions of camp staff to sign-in and bus boarding. Please be courteous to other drivers and members of the public – we are a big group and will be doing our best to share parking space with others. Campers will be signed-in, learn which cabin group they are in, and then walk to the bus with their families to load their belongings. Please help us get ready to board the ferry efficiently by saying goodbyes before your camper boards the bus.

To help ensure your child has a comfortable ride on the bus, please ensure they have eaten a hearty lunch prior to drop-off (camp staff will provide snacks if campers get peckish), and have a full water bottle ready and accessible for the trip.

A reminder about drop-off procedures will be sent out a week prior to your camper's session.

BY CAR: After catching the ferries to Hornby Island, head north on Shingle Spit Rd, which then becomes Central Rd. At the intersection near the Hornby Island Co-op, turn left onto St Johns Point Rd, then a right turn to stay on St Johns Point Rd. Follow signs for Camp Narnia, and staff will meet you at the gate.

Site Address:

Camp Narnia, Tribune Bay Outdoor Centre, Hornby Island
6050 St Johns Point Rd, Hornby Island, BC
V0R 1Z0

BY SHUTTLE: We run a shuttle to and from Camp Narnia for campers on check-in and check-out days from **Duke Point** ferry terminal in south Nanaimo. A reminder about ferry times serviced by the shuttle will be sent out a week prior to your camper's session.

The shuttle costs \$40 per trip and can be added via the Camp Narnia Registration system. Please email the camp office if you need to book the shuttle at short notice.

Please note: our staff are only able to pick up campers on the Nanaimo side of the ferry route, and families must follow BC ferries regulations around children riding unaccompanied on the ferry. Many parents choose to take the ferry across with their child and then return to the mainland on the following sailing.

Drop-off & Pick-up at Buckley Bay



Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre

BY CAR

