



Fact Sheet

Sea Star Cove

Public Use Cabin

Kachemak Bay State Marine Park



Alaska Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
May 2014

Sea Star Cove Public Use Cabin sits on a wooded knoll with a filtered view directly up Tutka Bay toward Eldred Passage. During the summer months, stay up very late for spectacular sunsets from the front porch. A short trail leads from the cabin toward a campsite and trailhead approximately ½ mile away. From there it climbs over a ridge and around a small lake approximately 1/2 mile from the Fish Hatchery in Tutka Lagoon. Hikers can walk down to the hatchery or around the lake and up about one mile to the Wilderness Park boundary.

Access: Sea Star Cove Public Use Cabin is located on the South shore of Tutka Bay, approximately 13 statute miles from Homer spit and approximately 1.2 miles from the entrance to Tutka Lagoon. A public mooring buoy servicing the cabin is at coordinates: 151 degrees 13.20' W X 59 degrees 26.05' N. There is no dock facility at the cabin. When boating into Tutka Bay from Eldred Passage, stay in the middle of the bay and away from the South side as there are many underwater rocks and spires along the shoreline. When reaching the cove, use the beach on the right side as one faces towards shore and be careful of rocks. From the right beach, a small staircase and trail lead to the cabin located on a small knoll above the beach approximately 300 feet.

The cabin is accessible at any tide, but always carry a tide book. Use the Seldovia Tide Tables for Tutka Bay. If beaching a small skiff, always pull it above the high tide line and be aware of what the next high tide level will be. Make sure the skiff is tied off to a tree or large rock and place an auxiliary anchor off the skiff, just in case!

Accommodations:

The Sea Star Cove Cabin is 16' x 16' with 1-1/2 double bunk beds, sleeping 6. The bunks are provided with 1" thick closed cell foam padding. The cabin is supplied with a wood stove for heat, and has a table, benches and counter for food preparation.

A fresh water stream nearby provides drinking water. **Please boil or treat water before drinking!**

The latrine is located approximately 50 yards behind the cabin on the North side. Plan on providing your own toilet paper should none be found at the latrine.

What should I take?

- Bug Repellent
- Cooking stove & fuel
- Dishes, cookware, and utensils
- Extra clothes & rain gear
- First aid kit
- Lantern / flashlight
- Lantern fuel (white gasoline)
- Sleeping pad or air mattress
- Sleeping bags
- Tide book
- Toilet paper
- Waterproof matches
- Firewood (may be available near the cabin)

Reservations/Changes/Cancellations:

Reservations can be made on line at www.alaskastateparks.org, in person at our Public Information Center offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau or at the nearest State Park office. Alaska residents can make reservations 7 months to the day in advance of the first night stay and non-residents 6 months to the day in advance, Monday through Friday beginning at 10:00 a.m. Alaska time. Advance reservations cannot be made on weekends or State holidays, but can be made the next business day. All other cabin reservations can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Reservations are from noon to noon.

Reservation requests can also be mailed or faxed. Credit cards (MasterCard/Visa/Discover) are accepted for payment when making reservations on line, mailing or faxing reservation requests or when paying in person at our Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau offices.

Reservations are not accepted over the phone. However, changes or cancellation can be done by phone or in person. A change to or cancellation of a reservation for a Public Use Cabin must be done at least 48 hours in advance of the start of the

reservation in order for the customer to receive a credit. If making a change or cancellation by phone, the cabin reservation number must be provided. If done in person, the original reservation must be presented. If the cancellation or change of a cabin reservation is due to a family emergency or severe weather conditions, the 48 hour notification requirement may be waived. Otherwise, without the 48 hour notification, a reservation cannot be cancelled or changed and a credit issued. Cabin credits are good for one year from date of issue. Refunds are not issued.

The cabin rental fee per night is \$70. Stay limit is seven nights per month. No tent camping is permitted near the cabins. Tent campers may camp on the beach, or in a designated campsite located approximately ½ mile NW of the cabin. Campsites are available on a “first come, first served” basis.

Miscellaneous Info: At low tides the beaches and rocks contain many species of sea stars, clams and mussels. Please do not collect the sea stars; examine or photograph but leave them alone so that others may enjoy.

Across Tutka Bay from the cabin is a trailhead for the Grace Ridge Trail. This trail goes to the alpine area, then over and along the ridge ending at Kayak Beach. Kayak Beach is just to the inside of the entrance to Tutka Bay on the northeast side. If boating in this area, be aware of submerged rocks along the south side of Tutka Bay, particularly around the small coves and bays.

Boaters and kayakers can explore Tutka Bay from this strategically located cabin. During fishing seasons, pink salmon can be caught near Tutka Lagoon. High tides are the only times to access or leave Tutka Lagoon. When leaving the lagoon be careful of a following tide and heavy seas as it is easy to swamp a boat in this entrance. It is not recommended to go into the lagoon unless experienced and with a functioning depth finder. There are many private properties within Tutka Bay, especially along the North shore. Please respect owner's rights and privacy.

Pets:

While pets are allowed in the park, they must remain on a leash while in developed areas. Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up after their animals. CAUTION: Pets off leash on trails are not recommended due to bears and other hikers.

For further information contact:

Alaska State Parks
Kenai Area Office
PO Box 1247
Soldotna, AK 99669
907-262-5581

Homer Ranger Station
907-235-7024

DNR Public Information Center
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1260
Anchorage, AK 99501-3557
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