

# Haida Gwaii vs. The Gulf Islands

One property type always in high demand are island properties. In British Columbia, there are many islands throughout the province, and it can be hard to pick just one set to visit or invest in. To assist you in making this decision, we're comparing two well-known island chains in BC: mystical Haida Gwaii and the popular Gulf Islands. We'll examine several key factors to consider before deciding which set of islands is right for you.

## Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands)

## The Gulf Islands



### Assessed Value (Average 2011)

The Gulf Islands follow the assessment trend of the sizzling Lower Mainland market and as no surprise properties are valued significantly higher than those in Haida Gwaii.

**Detached:** \$139,095  
**Vacant Land (+5 Acres):** \$107,653

**Detached:** \$504,305  
**Vacant Land (+5 Acres):** \$560,415

(Source: Landcor Data Corporation)

### Affordability – Sales Price (Average 2011)

With higher assessments come higher prices. Haida Gwaii is still significantly more affordable than the Gulf Islands.

**Detached:** \$179,797  
**Vacant Land (+5 Acres):** \$116,000

**Detached:** \$509,172  
**Vacant Land (+5 Acres):** \$425,333

(Source: Landcor Data Corporation)

### Transportation from the Lower Mainland

While it may be more expensive to get to Haida Gwaii due to its location, you'll be able to soar above the long summer BC Ferries line-ups for the Gulf Islands.

Pacific Coastal Airlines: Vancouver to Masset, QCI (round-trip): \$739  
Minimal wait time at Vancouver International Airport

BC Ferries: Tsawwassen to Gulf Islands (round-trip) - Oversized vehicle + 1 passenger: \$170  
Traffic gridlock at ferry terminals on weekends and holidays

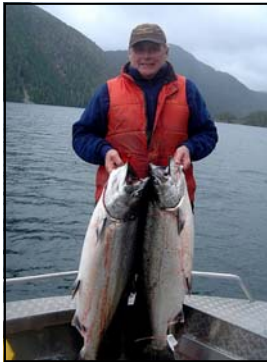


### Recreation

The appeal of Haida Gwaii is in its rustic, natural beauty. The popular activities in Haida Gwaii take place in the pristine outdoors amidst ancient rainforests & the wild Pacific Ocean. You may also immerse yourself in cultural experiences of the proud Haida culture. The appeal of the Gulf Islands is similar to the amenities of the Lower Mainland within a beautiful natural setting. Golf courses, spas & sail boating throughout the various islands are the key draws here.

Eco-Adventures  
Fishing lodges & charters - deep sea fishing  
Freshwater fly fishing - salmon  
Open water kayaking  
Backwoods hiking  
ATV use (North Beach)  
Haida cultural sites, craftsmen

Spa/wellness centres  
Chartered boats - deep water fishing  
Sea kayaking  
Day trip hiking/biking trips  
Sail-boating  
Art galleries & artisan communities  
5 golf courses



### Types of Property Available

There still are large, affordable properties on Haida Gwaii, set amidst untouched wilderness. The undiscovered nature of this chain means that the majority of properties are on private lots. The high demand for the Gulf Islands means you either compete with the crowds for a smaller piece of the region, or pay significantly higher prices for your private ocean frontage.

Large acreages (over 5 acres)  
Private waterfront lots  
Single family dwellings

Fractional units, Time shares  
Cottage homes  
Trophy waterfront properties

