



Tule Elk Tour on Tomales Bay

Welcome to Blue Waters Kayaking along the northern peninsula of Tomales Bay! We invite experienced and first time kayakers alike to join us on this beautiful paddle. Tomales Bay is a picturesque coastal inlet that is protected from the sea by the Point Reyes Peninsula. It is also home to herds of Tule Elk, once common to the San Francisco Bay Area. It is not uncommon to see osprey, harbor seals, pelicans, bat rays and other species of wildlife, including Tule Elk from the water.

Itinerary: We will meet at Miller Park (also known as Nick's Cove). After organizing gear and going over basic kayaking instructions and safety procedures, we'll launch our boats, and paddle across the bay. We'll explore along the Pt. Reyes shoreline, enjoying the wildlife and beautiful scenery. We'll go rain or shine.

Equipment: Our double kayaks track well, are difficult to capsize, and are easy to maneuver. Life jackets, paddles, and spray skirts are provided.

What to bring: Come prepared for variable weather. Bring clothes that reflect your degree of sensitivity to heat and cold.

- Sunglasses, sun screen & lip balm
- Hat with sun visor
- Wool or fleece hat (for cold days)
- 1 liter (minimum) water bottle
- Shorts or baggy pants that can be rolled up to your knees are best for paddling.
- Shoes you don't mind getting wet. Teva type river sandals, wetsuit booties, or aqua socks. Tennis shoes with wool socks or rubber boots are good in cool weather.
- Windbreaker jacket
- Wool, capilene, poly pro, or some other synthetic long sleeve, long underwear shirt that will keep you warm when it is wet. (Cotton or cotton blend clothing retains water and will keep you cold if it becomes wet.)
- Pile or fleece pullover or a wool sweater
- Change of clothes, including dry shoes
- Potluck lunch - please bring picnic items that you can share with other people.

Release Forms: Please read, sign and **bring** the enclosed release of liability and assumption of risk form with you on our trip.

Directions: Please see attached directions document.

Please arrive 15 minutes before the tour begins!

Administrative offices: 12938 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, P.O. Box 983, Inverness, CA 94937,
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TOUR/CLASS INFORMATION

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES.

Date: _____

Tour: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Can we add you to our email newsletter to be used only by Blue Waters: ___ Yes ___ No

How did you hear about Blue Waters: _____

Are you interested in: _____ Sea Kayaking Basic Class _____ Other classes
_____ Group trips for your organization _____ Youth Summer Camps

Summer Destinations: _____ Alaska kayaking

Winter Destinations: _____ Baja: Whales and Eco-resort and Expedition kayaking
_____ Yucatan (Mayan culture, great barrier reefs, warm water)

Blue Waters will have a place for tour/class participants to leave their keys while on the tour. We recommend that you leave them with us and not take them on the water.

Parking: Parking in each of our locations has certain restrictions.

Marshall: Please do not park in front of the fences to the NORTH of our facility. This is where our neighbors park.

Inverness: Parking is more restricted here. We encourage car pooling. There is parking in our parking lot for only about 12 cars, then on the street. For large tours we can arrange parking at the South end of the Golden Hinde Inn and Marina.

Thanks for paddling with us. Please come back soon.

Please complete the attached Release Form.



**TOURS and CLASSES,
RELEASE, AND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK**

In consideration of the services of Blue Waters Kayaking, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "BWK"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify and discharge BWK, on behalf of myself, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that sea kayaking and hiking entail known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include, among other things: boat capsizing; tidal conditions and currents; travel in remote areas; collision with objects or other watercraft; prolonged exposure to cold water, hypothermia, accidental drowning; mental anguish or trauma, illness in remote areas; adverse weather conditions, exposure to sun, strong wind, cold storms, large waves, eddies and whirlpools, and lightning; aggressive and/or poisonous marine life; wrist, arm, shoulder, and/or back injuries; slips and falls while hiking; and rapidly changing weather and water conditions.

Furthermore, BWK guides have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, the elements, or the terrain. They may give inadequate warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

- 2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.
- 3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless BWK from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of BWK's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of BWK.**
- 4. Should BWK or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.
- 5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.
- 6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against BWK, I agree to do so solely in the state of California, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

AUTHORIZATION: I hereby authorize any medical treatment deemed necessary in the event of any injury while participating in the activity. I either have appropriate insurance or, in its absence, agree to pay all costs of rescue and/or medical services as may be incurred on my/our behalf. I agree that any film or photographs of me/us, as participants, become the property of BWK and may be used for promotional or commercial purposes.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against BWK on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein. I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Print Name _____ Signature of Participant _____

Date _____

**PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION
(Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)**

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by B.W.K. to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless B.W.K. from any and all Claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.

Parent or Guardian _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

Directions for Tule Elk North Bay Tour at Miller Park in Nick's Cove

Miller Park launch site is located on the east side of Tomales Bay on Hwy. 1, approximately 4 miles south of the town of Tomales and about 13 miles north of Pt. Reyes Station.

From San Francisco/Marin County:

- Take the Golden Gate Bridge and go north on Highway 101 for 8.5 miles to the Sir Francis Drake Blvd exit.
- Exit at Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and go 22.8 miles through Ross, San Anselmo, Fairfax to Olema.
- Turn right (north) on Hwy 1 and drive through Pt. Reyes Station and Marshall, following Hwy 1 for about 15 miles.
- Miller Park will be on the bay side 3-4 miles past Marshall.

From Santa Rosa and other points north:

- Take Highway 101 to the E Washington St. exit toward Central Petaluma.
- Turn west onto E Washington St.
- E Washington St. becomes Bodega Ave. after 1.5 miles.
- Bodega Ave. becomes Valley Ford Rd. after 8 miles.
- After 0.1 mile, turn left onto Tomales Rd.
- Tomales Rd. becomes Tomales-Petaluma Rd. after 1.7 miles.
- Take Tomales-Petaluma Rd. for 5.4 miles and turn left onto CA-1/Shoreline Hwy.
- After 3.7 miles you will arrive at Miller Park.

There is a \$5 fee for Miller Park. We'll meet you at the far (north) end of the parking lot.