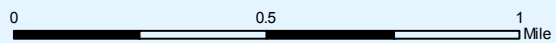
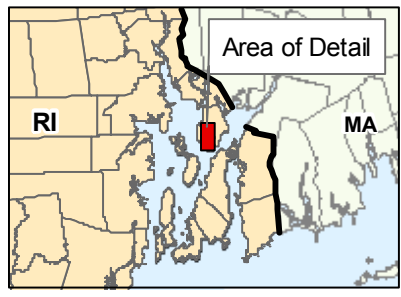


★ Put-in ◆ Caution
- - - Ferry Route
● Point of interest
Water Trails
— Hog Island
— Usher Cove



BRISTOL HARBOR KAYAK TOURS

Bristol, Rhode Island is one of New England's famous historic ports. The well-preserved waterfront district and surrounding areas contain wonderful old buildings, churches, mills, mansions and ship building facilities that tell the history of Bristol's development since its founding in 1680. Today, restaurants, shops and public parks provide visitors with many options to make Bristol the ideal spot to launch your next paddling experience. RI Blueways Alliance has put together two tours that we feel will offer you the opportunity to experience Bristol from the proper perspective, on the water...

Usher Cove Trail

Novice to Experienced - 3 miles round trip.

Launching at the Northwest corner of Bristol Harbor from the RI DEM launching site on Poppasquash Road provides easy access to the harbor while allowing for parking vehicles at Colt State Park. Paddlers will enjoy the harbor's activities, seeing many beautiful boats in the harbor and waterfront homes along the western shore. The Bristol Yacht Club, which is quickly visible, is home to many active boaters and the host to numerous yachting events. Paddling south towards Usher Cove will provide an opportunity to view wildlife and fisherman working the harbor. While Usher Cove is a calm area and good trip turn around point, there are no picnicking or bathroom facilities available and landing is discouraged. During the winter months seals sometimes play amongst the rocks.

Hog Island Trail

Intermediate to Experienced – 7 miles round trip

Following the same route as Tour # 1, paddlers will head SE toward Hog Island. Leaving Poppasquash Point to starboard, you will experience more open water and wind. Head directly for Hog Island's north end, then keep Hog's eastern shore on your right. Paddlers now have a straight shot to a "U" shaped beach in the crook along the eastern shore. This is a good stop to relax, swim and recharge before heading back. If you head farther to the east or south of Hog, be prepared for rough water, wind, currents and increased boat traffic.

HELPFUL HINTS

Several good launching sites are available along Bristol's working waterfront. The DEM launch site on Poppasquash Road or Independence Park on Thames Street are both ideal. Paddlers will enjoy the character and charm of this historic town and the variety of activities taking place. Numerous public parks offer safe and comfortable spots to take a break and walk ashore. Clam shacks to fine dining are all within easy reach. Check out the world famous Herreshoff Marine Museum/America's Cup Hall of Fame, and the Blithewold Arboretum in Bristol as well.

Bristol Harbor is always busy with pleasure boats and commercial activities. Please respect other craft and remember that larger boats have the right of way.

A very predictable Southwest wind picks up every afternoon, which can make sea conditions uncomfortable. Paddling in the morning is advisable.



Always wear your life jacket. Remove what you bring, clean up more if you can. Please respect private property. Report any problems you encounter to the RI Blueways Alliance and local authorities if appropriate.