Directions to the Pennsylvania Island from Woods Bay

Your trip in general will traverse a path in a north and westerly route around numerous islands and rock outcroppings for approximately 7 miles. Generally steer in the center of each channel. It is important to have a compass for direction and nautical charts of this area for reference. Nautical charts can be downloaded from the Club and Travel Information page on our website. This narrative will identify various island names, camps and points of interest along the way.

- Starting out of the Grisdale Marina in Woods Bay, you will travel in a westerly direction approx. 0.9 of a mile. Sight on the white cottage and boat house with red roofs on the tip of Fritz Island across the bay. About half way across the bay, keep the channel buoy on your left (port) side. This is a shallow rock area. You will pass Craven and Georgina Islands on your right (starboard) side.
- 2. After passing Georgina Island, soft steer to the right. You should observe a pole with a wind sock in a shoal on the right. This area is a shallow rock shoal. Stay to the middle of the channel. In the distance, about a half mile, you will see a gut with a small rock island in the center. There should be a cottage on the left that looks like an old chapel. Steer to the right of the rock island.
- 3. After passing the small rock island, hard steer to the left into the channel running east to west. You will pass a high rock wall on the right with an old cottage foundation on the top of the hill on Francis Island. Travel west until you get to a channel to the right.
- 4. Take this channel to the right. This will take you around Francis Island. There are a couple of new contemporary cottages on the right high bluff on the west side of Francis Island. There are also a lot of steps to climb to get to these cottages. At least they don't need flood insurance.
- 5. Steer around the point on the right (starboard) in a north direction. Head toward the opening between the islands into the large open bay in front of you. By the way, the island you have been traveling past on your left (port) side is Moon Island. Moon Island is the largest island in this area and is about 4.5 miles long. You will generally motor past Moon Island nearly all the way to camp. It will always be on your left.
- 6. Past Frances Island you will traverse across a large open bay about ³/₄ mile in a generally north direction. There is a big rock about 2/3 of the way across the bay. Steer to the left side of this rock. As you pass the rock you will observe a couple of smaller rocks to the left. Stay to the right of these rocks.
- 7. As you pass these two rocks, observe a channel marker (a large black square with a smaller white square in the center). Steer into this channel and around the island to the right.
- 8. You are entering the "S" curve. Slow down and steer around the right side of the small island on the left. Stay in the middle. You just passed the shallowest portion of the trip; about 3-4 feet deep. Steer to the left and then to the right keeping your boat in the center of the waterway. This completes the "S" curve.

- 9. There will be a big bay to the right. Steer to the small gut to the left. This gut is Coon Gap and is the entry into North Channel. North Channel is about a mile in length and is about half way to the Pa Club.
- 10. Continue in a north direction staying in the middle of North Channel. In about 2/3 mile steer to the left past the large rock in the center. Continue in North Channel past Halo Island on your starboard side. Miron Island is on your left.
- 11. Steer to the left around Miron Island. Bear Island and the channels into Port Rawson are to your starboard side. You should be travelling southwest at this point. You can travel on either side of Keele Island. This channel is wide and is about 75 feet deep. Follow this channel for about ³/₄ of a mile.
- 12. On your right (starboard), you will observe another white on black channel marker mounted on a pole. This is Burgess Point. The land mass on your right is mainland Ontario (not an island). You are about ³/₄ of the way to the Pa Island. Flint Island will be on your left. There is a large cottage at the top of Flint Island and a windmill.
- 13. Continue in the main channel to the right around Burgess Point and follow the channel. As you pass Dungeon Pt (port side) you will observe the green lattice cottage directly in front of the boat. The West Wind camp is on the left (port) side just past the green lattice cottage. Burgess Pt to Dungeon Pt is about ½ mile.
- 14. Steer left past the green lattice cottage (starboard) and West Wind (port) and travel in a westerly path past Vanderdasson Island on your right. Moon Island is again on your left. You will come to another narrow gap called Fry Point. Dungeon Pt to Fry Pt is about ³/₄ of a mile.
- 15. The gap at Fry Pt. is narrow and gets a lot of boat traffic, Slow down and stay to the right side of the large rock island as you enter the gap. Do not go to the left side of this large rock island. There is a nasty rock shoal to the left that has claimed many boats. Slow to nearly idle speed as you near the gut. This is the main water access point to the west and this gut gets a lot of boat traffic. Some of the boats are 40-50 feet long. In July, you will see a lot of big boats (both power and sailing yachts). Fry Pt is the northwest tip of Moon Island.
- 16. As you pass through the gap around Fry Pt, steer in a westerly route and motor to the left side of Fischers Island on your right. You are getting close to the Pa Club.
- 17. As you pass Fischers Island, Crooked Island will be on your left. Pennsylvania Island is on your right. The channel to the right is Pratt Channel, a great fishing habitat.
- 18. Continue in the main channel with Crooked Island on your left and Pa Island on your right to the Pa Club on the southern tip of the Pa Island. Steer into the bay; you have arrived at your destination.