

Marlene's Guidebook Text

You have one new voice message.

Hey, it's Marlene, just wanted to let you know that my bus came in tonight on schedule. Can't wait to see you tomorrow! We're meeting at the first lookout on the boardwalk of the Rotary Marsh. I think. Anyways, just shoot me a text if anything changes. See you tomorrow. Bye!

(Footsteps are heard running up to the bench)

Hey! Oh man, I'm so sorry I'm late. I was on my way here but I saw the Kelowna Visitor Centre, it's right on the highway, and I thought I'd take a peek at what they had. Well, I found a great guidebook. It has a whole section on this area, can you believe it? Anyways, I'm dying to check some of the sites out. Alright, let's see...

(Sound of flipping pages)

Oh, it says the view is actually best from the railing. I think the one in front of us is fine. Come on, get up, you didn't just run all the way from the 97.

Wow, would you look at that? Uh, behind you. The Rotary Marsh is nice and all but I didn't come all the way out here for some pond water! Discovery Bay Resort, now that is a sight to behold.

(Reading from the guidebook)

Discovery Bay Resort is one of Kelowna's few luxury resort accommodations and a great place to spend time in the city of Kelowna. It is home year-round to all kinds of people and depending on the time of year you can see all kinds of interesting waterfront activity.

You know spring has arrived when the Millers and the Johnsons come down for a stay. Both usually frequent the northerly Alberta region but, sick of the long, cold, and bitter winters, will travel down for a luxury stint for a few weeks in the milder, more temperate Kelowna. Keep your eyes peeled— a Miller female may often be seen up top in the Executive Suite preparing to bathe and a male Johnson can be spotted strolling across from the ground floor Classic Suite for a swim. You can tell a Johnson by the grey tufts of hair covering the body and a bulging stomach.

Other couples will also arrive around this time, with families settling in later into the summer. If you're lucky you can catch sight of the McDougall family. They don't come for very long, usually only staying for about two weeks sometime in August. Their arrival will vary from year to year, based on the male McDougall's work schedule and family

commitments. Worry not, though, for Discovery Bay is populated with all types coming and going until the beginning of winter.

Hmm, I think there's a complete list of different people you can see in Appendix 10 but we can take a look over that in a bit. Man, what a diverse little bay this is! Definitely don't have that where I'm from.

Oh, look, check out that fire hydrant! The yellow one straight ahead, can't miss it. Apparently they're pretty uncommon in this area, according to the guidebook. I've got to get a picture of this.

(Sound of iPhone photo being taken)

Awesome. Can't wait to post these on Facebook. If you see someone in the window, you should try to grab a photo of them. Just remember to tag me.

(Loud bird calls)

Geez, what a racket those birds are making! It's a wonder all these people in the bay even come around with these mallards partying it up all day. Although, I think I saw something in the book about optimum sound-proofing, so thank goodness for that I guess. I mean, look at this marsh. Just look it! They try to make it look like it's always been here, but it was actually only built in 1995. It says in the book that some creek

feeding into it was carrying a lot of waster and run-off and this Rotary Club wanted to restore it. And some people think it's just such a nice place to go, but you know it's all fake. And for what? Some birds that come flying through a couple months of the year? Hah. Sure, maybe I would stay here but the people who built this place clearly weren't catering to our type, you know? I mean, look at that fancy penthouse nest up there. Pretty swanky.

(Sound of flipping through pages)

Oh, there's actually a little note in here about this. Says that a pretty well-known couple lives up there, the Ospreys. Says they don't stay year-round though. Figures. Sometimes you can see the Goose family or Mr. Heron housesitting for them. It's hard to know when they're in though. Quite quiet and usually keep to themselves if they're not hunting. Apparently, some people actually sit out here for hours hoping to get a glimpse of Mr. or Mrs. Osprey. What a waste of time, eh? I could just look up a picture anytime, it's basically the same.

Hey, the guidebook says we can get a better view of the lake further down the boardwalk. Come on, follow me. I have the map.

(Footsteps)

It's just to the right, down the boardwalk.

(Footsteps continue)

Oh, take a look to the left! I think those are cattails.

(Footsteps stop)

I think they house some of the more permanent residents.

(Sound of flipping through pages)

Hmm. Yep, this is where the Red-winged Blackbirds live. They are very private though. They like to keep their nests deeper into the cattails. A little more humble than those Ospreys, eh? But would you just look at that magnificent building. What gorgeous red roofs. Truly a spectacle of mankind. But let's keep going. The lookout shouldn't be much further.

(Footsteps continue)

Oh, wait, wait!

(Footsteps stop)

See the buildings through the trees? Beautiful. Just another quick picture, okay?

(Sound of iPhone photo being taken)

Thanks. Let's go.

(Footsteps)

Just imagine when all the windows are lit up at night. The Ospreys have a great view, I'll tell you that.

Huh. I guess the lookout's a little farther up than I thought. Looked like a shorter distance on the map. Oh, and we could have just taken the paved path up here. Stupid map. Looks like the lookout is pretty close though.

Hey cool, it's a beach over there! We've gotta check that out after.

Okay, so it's another right down this dirt path– fricking marsh makes all these paths so windy– and it should be down at the end.

“No Trespassing, Wildlife Sanctuary”? Get a load of that, will yah? The ducks have the whole lake, like they need a separate sanctuary too. Geez.

Wow, would you take a look at that bridge? What a gorgeous, gorgeous bridge. The city of Kelowna sure knows how to build stuff, eh?

So, this is supposed to be a great lookout.

Let's sit here. "This is Bob's Bench". Well Bob, you're just gonna have to share.

This is pretty sweet, huh? One hundred percent natural, no Rotary Marsh B.S. I mean, it's no Discovery Bay but I can see why so many people love it. Even if it doesn't have a fitness centre. Ah well, I'm just a tourist, eh? Just here for the—

(Sound of phone ringing)

Sorry. Hello? Oh, shoot, I totally forgot. I'm so sorry. Okay, I'll be there in ten minutes.

Okay, see you in a bit. Bye.

Man, I'm so sorry, but a friend of my cousin's— we went to junior high together— he found out I was coming to Kelowna and I guess he lives here now but he wanted to go for coffee, even though I haven't seen him in like ten years. Anyways, I totally forgot, so I have to go now. Really, really sorry. Hey, I'll text you later today, alright? 'Kay, see you later!

(Sound of footsteps running away)

