

Big Harbour, Port Bevis, & Bevis Cove

CHS Chart No: 4277 – Great Bras d'Or, St Andrews Channel, & St Anns Bay

Amenities: none

Description: Port Bevis (Big Harbour), on the northwest shore gives excellent protection for small craft from either north or south winds. A small channel at the head of Port Bevis winds inland to a deep pocket of water almost completely surrounded by gypsum cliffs.

Navigation: The course into Bevis Cove is by favouring the sandbar at the entrance and then swinging south towards the gypsum outcrops, avoiding the rocky 4-foot shoal. At the first outcrop swing back northward heading for another tree shrouded outcrop approximately 2000 feet upstream. A marine railway, extending from the north shore, marks the turning point for the tree shrouded entry into Bevis Cove. Dredge material from construction of the marine railway extends from the shore, paralleling the railway. At this point the channel is about 35 feet wide, with the best depth close to the dredge bank, favouring the east shore until into the passage. The keep a sharp lookout and dead slow ahead.

Upon entry into the basin, swing to the west and round up in 30 feet of water. The basin is irregular in shape with an extensive mud bank intruding from the north. As swinging room is limited, it is suggested that the anchor be dropped on the mud bank and a stern line be secured to the gypsum outcrop.

The old ferry docks to the north are in disrepair, unsafe and not for public use.

The Great Bras d'Or Channel is extensively fished for lobster from mid May to mid July and numerous trap buoys will be encountered. After lobster season a lesser number of buoys for a crab fishery may be encountered throughout the summer. A sharp lookout is recommended at all times.

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