



Lake George

Each year high tides and fresh water run off into drains that fill the Lake and encourage weed growth, which is both good and bad. The good point is that as Summer comes the Lake gradually recedes and leaves huge areas of the lake with weed close to the surface. At this time the sailing is unreal, the water like a mirror, not a ripple and the wind blowing at an average 20-25 knots, the conditions don't get much better. Down wind speed or reaching is FAST and arching into a carving gybe is just great, no hassle. This information will come as no surprise to the regulars who like a change from the chop or wavesailing, found in Adelaide and Melbourne. We often have visitors from both come down at Easter and Christmas.

Camping

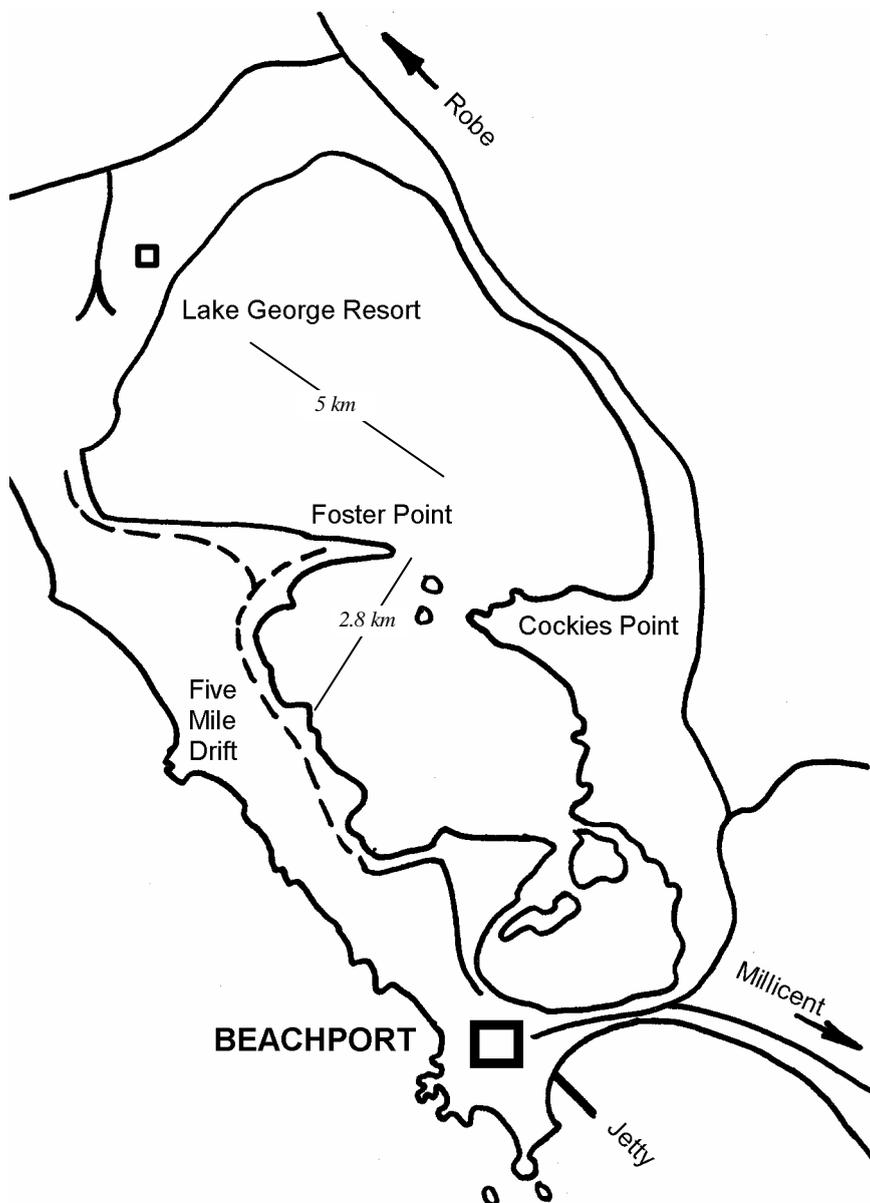
Fosters Point has great camping areas and you can always find a peaceful spot under large tea-trees. When camping here you must 1) Bring your own fire wood, and 2) Remove all rubbish from your area

Getting there

The track to the Lake is corrugated and full of holes, but can be navigated by most cars -- Even in wet conditions as the ground is always hard underneath. To get there you drive into Beachport and turn right, keep going past the "5 mile Drift" sign and through the gate. Keep to your right until coming out onto Fosters Point, which is a small peninsula dividing Lake George.

The Sailing

Fosters Point has a weed reef on either side about 400 metres off shore which is under water when the Lake is full. As the Lake drops part of this weed reef becomes exposed and white salt foam forms on it, normally from whichever way the wind is blowing. No matter which way the wind blows either one side of the Lake or the other is always smooth. There are two islands on the southern side of the lake which you need to keep at least 100 metres from due to sharp rocks. When coming into shore you need to slow down or get off early as the water is shallow in close. Wind is either strong enough for a 4.0-4.5m sail or light enough for a 6.0-6.5m sail.





SURFBEACH

This spot is in front of the car-park, found as you enter Beachport. The beach is known as "Surfbeach" as it has the best surf in the area. The cross shore winds are not normally brilliant, but it does have its moments. These are usually during Summer when a southerly or south-easterly wind blows onto shore with a swell.

The Sailing

Sailing is parallel with the beach, on the inside of a chasing wave, you can travel a couple of kilometres in either direction while only 150 metres off shore. As you get chased in you need to pick your spots to cross over into the next section between waves. Or if it is a slight cross-on you need to jump, but then you normally have a wide space to gain speed before the next wave

– I like it!

Also when the swells are huge you can start near the jetty and tack out to one kilometre off the end, then cross ride the huge swells, the locals refer to as "Demole Break", it's great fun.

I enjoy sailing my slalom board in these conditions. The wind needs to be reasonable otherwise don't bother. Move on to Lake George. Those who fear sharks, I have never seen one in the many years I've been sailing in the South East waters. The water is too cold, they live near Adelaide.

BEACHPORT JETTY to SOUTH END JETTY

This 14km trip is great on North-easterlies. Because of the wind direction it tends to be a straight reach. Slightly upwind coming back to Beachport - Fairly flat water with roly swirls and ramps - company required or let someone know where you're going. Take a flare as it is several Kms off shore in the middle of bay. Clean clear water with lots of cray buoy markers and on a good day there are plenty of small boat fishermen for company

Lake George Boardsailing Club

A division of Windsurfing SA Inc.

No racing as such just social sailing most weekends at 5 Mile Drift or Fosters Point, Lake George. There are about 30 sailors in the group.

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