

Guidance on Package Delivery to Bald Head Island

The information below is designed to help you understand the logistics of receiving packages on BHI and to set realistic expectations on how quickly you may be able to pick up your packages on the island at the Island Package Center/Post Office (IPC/PO).

If you have not yet signed up for e-mail notification from IPC that your package has arrived and is available for pickup, please come by the IPC/PO and sign up for that feature. As detailed below, you may well first receive a notification from UPS or Fed Ex that your package has arrived in Southport. That is not a notification that your package has arrived on the island, nor is it available for pick up.

Please keep in mind the following:



For USPS packages typically add 1-2 days from the time your package has arrived in Southport before it can be picked up at IPC. All USPS packages arrive first at the Post Office in Southport, then to the Village Post Office via the ferry. The Village IPC/PO does not necessarily receive from the Southport Post Office all the packages that have arrived in Southport on the same day. If you have tracked your package on the USPS website, and see that it has arrived in Southport, it can take 1-2 days before it is received and processed on the island and ready for you to pick up.



For Fed Ex packages typically add 2-3 days from the time your package arrived in Southport before it can be picked up at IPC. Usually, you will receive a notice from Fed Ex or the seller that your package has arrived. That means the package has been delivered to the BHI Transportation Warehouse at the Deep Point Ferry Terminal. Fed Ex packages then come to the IPC via the barge. Fed Ex packages typically arrive after the scheduled barge that delivers packages to the island has departed. That means if you have tracked your Fed Ex package and it shows delivered on Monday, IPC may not receive it until Tuesday afternoon. Depending on how busy the IPC/PO is, it may well be possible that the package will not be available for your pick up at the IPC until Wednesday. Further, there are no barge deliveries to the island on Saturdays, so any Fed Ex package arriving on Friday may not be available for pick up until Monday afternoon at the earliest.



For UPS packages typically add 1-2 days from the time your package has arrived in Southport before it can be picked up at IPC. Usually, you will receive notification from UPS or the seller that your package has arrived. That means the package has been delivered to the BHI Transportation Warehouse at the Deep Point Ferry Terminal. UPS packages then come to the IPC via the barge. Typically, the IPC receives UPS packages on the same day they arrive at Deep Point. But depending on the volume of packages, and the time of day the UPS packages are received at IPC, it may well not be until the next day that your package is available for pick up.

The information above is typically valid for "normal" operating conditions. Further delays may occur when the barge does not run due to weather conditions, maintenance situations, or heavy volume on the barge.