

FACTSHEET: DESTINATION GREATER VICTORIA



Victoria is a timeless capital where you find grand, classic architecture standing alongside a harbour of houseboats and sailing ships. Stately homes feature manicured gardens, but they overlook the clear, untamed waters of the Salish Sea. Victorians savour their way of life, moment by moment. Encounter a city ready for your kind of adventure at a pace that you choose. It is a place to breathe the sea air and enjoy the feeling, nature and culture so different from everyday life.

Fun Facts

- Victoria is the capital city of British Columbia and is located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island off the west coast of Canada.
- Vancouver Island has an area of 31,285 km² and is comparable in size to countries like Belgium, Moldova and Taiwan.
- Victoria resides on the unceded traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples of the Songhees Nation and Esquimalt Nation.
- Victoria is surrounded by the Salish Sea, which comprises the Juan de Fuca Strait, Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia.
- Victoria's Chinatown is the first in Canada and second oldest in North America. Fan Tan Alley is Canada's narrowest street.
- Greater Victoria is home to 17 craft breweries, including Canada's oldest licensed brewpub, Spinnakers Brewpub, which opened in 1984.
- Victoria has the most restaurants, bars and eateries per capita in Canada.
- The start of summer is signified by the hanging of 1,600 flower baskets around the city, a tradition that began in 1937.
- The Butchart Gardens, a National Historic Site, has over 1 million bedded plants from over 900 varieties. 2024 will mark the 120th anniversary of the Gardens.
- Victoria has been recognized as the Cycling Capital of Canada, with the highest proportion of the population (at 6.6%) cycling to work.
- Goldstream Provincial Park, 16 km outside of downtown Victoria, contains old-growth trees known to be over 600-years old.
- Friendly is an understatement: Victoria has been named both the Most Romantic City in Canada and one of the top 15 Friendliest Cities in the world.
- Hatley Castle, part of Royal Roads University in Colwood, has appeared in several movies and TV shows, including X-Men, Deadpool, Smallville and Arrow, to name a few.

Picturesque Spots in Greater Victoria

CITY: Lower Johnson Street, Fan Tan Alley, Government Street, Customs House, Fernwood Square, Rock Bay murals, Fisherman's Wharf.

ARCHITECTURE: BC Parliament Buildings, Fairmont Empress, Christ Church Cathedral, Belfry Theatre, Craigdarroch Castle, Hatley Castle, Government House, Gonzales Observatory, Victoria Public Market, Victoria Chinese Public School, Royal BC Museum, Fort Rodd Hill and Fisgard Lighthouse.

NATURE: Beacon Hill Park, Abkhazi Gardens, Horticulture Centre of the Pacific, East Sooke Park, Gowlland Todd, Juan de Fuca Trail, Goldstream Provincial Park, Mount Douglas, Dallas Road, Ogden Point Breakwater, Avatar Grove, Botanical Beach, Kinsol Trestle, Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Sandcut Beach.



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