

OFFICIAL MAP+GUIDE

parks

beaches • gardens • golf • recreation

vancouver



Vancouver has a natural outdoor experience waiting for you. Residents and visitors can find neighbourhood parks, urban sanctuaries, forested trails, ocean beach, riverfront strolls and, of course, world-class destination parks. With some of the most temperate weather in Canada and plenty of rain, Vancouver is a gardener's paradise. Everywhere you look is lush, green forest and colourful floral displays. While many parks have small though stunning flower beds, don't miss the following impressive display gardens:



dr. sun yat-sen classical chinese garden

The first of its kind outside of China, the tranquil garden is an authentic representation of Ming Dynasty tradition. An enchanting experience with winding paths, rocks, plants and beautiful vistas. Built in 1986 using 14th century methods, it has been named the world's top City Garden by National Geographic.

stanley park Originally home of many village sites for Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, Stanley Park is a National Historic Site of Canada and covers 400 hectares (1,000 acres) of forested peninsula. Named for Lord Frederick Stanley, Governor General of Canada when the park officially opened in 1888, it is one of the world's great urban parks. Nature in the city, just steps from downtown

queen elizabeth park Perched atop Vancouver's highest point, QE Park offers incredible views of the city skyline as well as beautiful gardens and an arboretum. Bloedel Conservatory contains a tropical rainforest, freeflying birds and desert plants inside a large geodesic dome.

vandusen botanical

garden Opened in 1975, the garden is renowned as one of North America's top ten botanical gardens. It is open year-round and features spectacular floral gardens and a gorgeous new visitor centre.

parrots at

hungry?

604.669.2737

the teahouse

604.669.3281

604.879.3301

604.676.2337

604.687.6455

tapshack.ca

prospectpoint.ca

vancouverdine.com

blue parrot coffee

blueparrotcoffee.com

tapshack burrard bridge

tapshack coal harbour

quick bites Park Board-run concession stands can be found at beaches, outdoor pools and attractions and offer everything from a cup of coffee to fresh fruit or a gourmet panini sandwich. Most operate seasonally, weather permitting. Vancouver's street food vendors serve a wide variety of cuisines such as pulled pork, dim sum and croissants. Park food carts open for business each summer.

picnicking Pack your own or buy take out from a concession stand and dine al fresco. Barbecues should be off the ground and coals disposed of properly. Groups of 50 or more are welcome to reserve at large picnic sites. Visit

dining Enjoy stunning views and delicious meals in our parks. Each restaurant offers a unique dining experience. Reservations are recommended.

stanley's bar & grill (seasonal) 604.602.3088 stanleyparkpavilion.com

vancouver.ca/parks for rates and booking information.

shaughnessyrestaurant.com the boathouse at kits beach

604.505.4961

tap & barrel creekside

get active, have fun! Located conveniently across the city, our

ueen elizabet

community centres, indoor and outdoor pools, ice rinks, fitness centres, and skate parks offer countless ways for people of all ages, incomes, interests and abilities to stay healthy

play time

Vancouver's parks have a never-ending supply of things to see and do, no matter your age. There are more than 160 playgrounds, almost 150 playing fields, a dozen spray parks, and 13 indoor and outdoor pools.

all aboard!

Ride one of Vancouver's most popular attractions, Stanley Park Train - the train travels a 2 km winding journey amongst the Stanley Park forest highlighting the flora and fauna of the park. Open all summer and for special events including Easter, Halloween and Christmas. Kids of all sizes welcome, including the adult ones!

Phone: 604-257-8531

Website: stanleyparkrailway.ca Facebook: Stanley Park Railway Instagram: stanleyparkrailway (@StanleyParkRailway)



Arrange a meeting place in advance, in case you get assistance? Witnessing a bylaw offence? Call 3-1-1 to reach Park Rangers (cell phone coverage may be spotty in heavily treed areas.) Watch for fire safety information during hot, dry summers.

Aquarium, 604-681-6728.

Raccoons, skunks and coyotes can be found in every neighbourhood. Remember, they are wild: do not approach them and never feed them

First aid is available at seasonal lifeguard stations at beaches and pools. Call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Vancouver's parks, beaches and golf courses are smoke-free are smoke-free.

Dogs must be on a leash and under control at all times and handlers must pick up after their pets. Do not let dogs chase wildlife or go into environmentally sensitive areas. There are more than 30 dog off-leash areas in our parks-visit vancouver.ca/parks for a complete list.

Support your favourite city park Help preserve Vancouver's urban parks for generations

to come by making a tax deductible donation today. vancouver.ca/donate



tapshack.ca

cactus club cafe at english bay 604.681.2582 cactusclubcafe.com prospect point bar & grill shaughnessy restaurant

604.261.0011

604.738.5487 boathouserestaurants.ca

seasons in the park 604.874.8008 vancouverdine.com

truffles cafe at vandusen trufflesfinefoods.com

604.685.2223 tapandbarrel.com

Vancouver parks contain a wealth of art and culturesome obvious and some well-hidden. Our parks are home to historical monuments, art installations and major sculptures. As part of the 2010 Olympics legacy, new indigenous artworks were added to the Park Board collection. Listings of public art in parks and park facilities can be found at vancouver.ca/explorepublicart

sacredness of fo

by ray natraoro. trout lake community of

sand and surf

Spanish Banks, Locarno, Jericho, Kitsilano, English Bay. To some, these names speak of our history. To others, they mean summer 18 km of sand, beach vollyball and barbecues. From Victoria Day weekend

in late May to Labour Day in early September our 11 beaches are open and staffed by lifeguards. Bring a picnic or take-out from the beach concession and soak up the views. Don't forget sunscreen!

Looking for water activities to enjoy when visiting our beaches? Contact our watersport partners:

watersport partners vancouver water adventures 604.736.5155

vancouverwateradventures.com creekside kayaks

604.616.7453 | creeksidekayaks.ca dragonzone

604.688.2382 | dragonzone.ca

outdoor art

jericho sailing centre 604.224.4177 | jsca.bc.ca kitsilano yacht club 604.730.1646 kitsilanoyachtclub.com royal vancouver yacht club 604.244.1344 royalvan.com vancouver rowing club 604.687.3400 vancouverrowingclub.ca

knife edge-two piece,

by henry moore,



the seawall

Four million visitors can't be wrong. That's how many people walk, jog, blade or cycle Vancouver's world famous seawall every year. Originally built around Stanley Park (9 km) the seawall now connects Canada Place with Kitsilano Beach and beyond. At 26 km, it is the world's longest uninterrupted waterfront walkway. Most of the seawall path is divided between walkers and rollerbladers/cyclists. In Stanley Park the cycle path is one-way (counterclockwise).



fore!

golf The Park Board has three 18-hole championship golf courses and three pitch & putt courses offering year-round golfing opportunities for every level 18-hole golf courses

Book online at vancouver.ca/golf Or use the app VANGOLF raserview 7800 Vivian Dr 604 langara 6706 Alberta St. 604.713.1816 mccleery 7188 MacDonald St. 604.257.8191

pitch & putt courses (summer only) reservations not required queen elizabeth park enter off 37th Ave. 604.874.8336 rupert park 3402 Charles St. 604.681.8847

stanley park Park Dr. near Beach Ave. 604.257.8364

Google Play Download on the App Store



GOLL

welcome!

Vancouver has more than 230 parks. Each is unique. Lush rainforest, quiet trails, magnificent ocean vistas, sandy beaches, shaded playgrounds and noisy skate parks. Whether you are here for the first time, or the hundredth welcome! Discover the magic of nature. It's as close as the nearest park.

people amongst the people, by susan point, stanley park





our history

terminal city bike club, prospect point, 1892

Parks and recreation in Vancouver has a long and colourful history. Since time immemorial, home to Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, the City of Vancouver was founded in 1886. Stanley Park was dedicated two years later, in 1888. Already, residents showed a love of outdoor public space and recreational pursuits that would later become known as the "west coast lifestyle."

Today, Vancouver's Board of Parks and Recreation is responsible for a rich inventory of green space and amenities—more than 230 parks, 24 community centres, as well as numerous beaches, tennis courts, playing fields, skate parks, ice rinks, fitness centres and food concessions.



above: kitsilano beach, 1927 below: bathhouse at english bay, 1925