

Vancouver Coast & Mountains REGION

TOUR PLANNER

Student & Youth Travel

With an abundance of educational discoveries, from museums, to historic sites, to wildlife and the ecosystems of the Pacific Ocean- there are a variety of ways to create an interesting environment that allows for both learning and hands-on experience.

Our region offers a diverse range of world class cultural, recreational, natural and wildlife attractions year-round. Our scenic location between ocean and mountains enables a spectacular range of experience for the student & youth traveller. By the end of your visit, you'll understand why we say all things are possible!

Performance Venues

Canada Place: Located in the heart of Vancouver's downtown harbour front with unsurpassed views of Vancouver's picturesque harbour with seaplanes, passenger ferries and yachts right in the heart of downtown. www.canadaplace.ca

Capilano Suspension Bridge & Park: Vancouver's oldest tourist attraction, originally built in 1889, stretches 450 feet (137m) across and 230 feet (70m) above Capilano River. www.capbridge.com

Christ Church Cathedral: The Cathedral is located at the corner of Georgia & Burrard Streets in the heart of downtown Vancouver, B.C., Canada across the street from the historic Hotel Vancouver. www.cathedral.vancouver.bc.ca

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Gardens: The first classical Chinese garden built outside of China provides a tranquil and peaceful backdrop for your choir group. www.vancouverchinesegarden.com

Gateway Theatre - Richmond: The Gateway Theatre is Richmond's only live professional theatre and the Lower Mainland's third largest theatre company. Located in Richmond's city centre overlooking beautiful Minoru Park, the Gateway is an easy 20-minute drive from Vancouver. www.gatewaytheatre.com

Granville Island Public Market: One of Vancouver's busiest visitor destinations, Granville Island offers specific outdoor locations for performances including the Public Market Courtyard, Triangle Square, Ocean Art Works, and the Amphitheater. www.giculturalsociety.org

Metropolis at Metrotown: Metropolis at Metrotown is British Columbia's largest shopping centre with open spaces for choir groups to perform. www.metropolisatmetrotown.com

Richmond Olympic Oval: The Richmond Olympic Oval is a venue like no other. This 33,750-square-metre multi-use complex, features amazing architectural details. You might be able to see how the roof looks like the back of a speed skater rushing across the ice. Or maybe you'll notice some hidden native carvings in the wings. But most likely you won't miss the artwork along the dyke or the sculpture suspended over the pavilion. www.richmondolympicoval.ca

St. Andrew's-Wesley Church: A designated heritage building, the Church sports a mock 14th-century-style Gothic tower, a high vaulted nave, deep transepts, and abundant light. Both the traditional leaded glass and the more recent dalle de verre are represented in its magnificent stained glass windows. www.standrewswesleychurch.bc.ca



Vancouver Art Gallery: A wonderful location for students to perform, the Art Gallery's distinctive feature of the building is its central interior rotunda, which is topped by a dome, sheathed in copper and with a glass opening in the center. Encircled by an ornamental iron railing on the third floor, this 16-foot interior opening allows light to filter down through the rotunda to the floors below. A beautiful environment enough to make any performer feel inspired! www.vanartgallery.bc.ca

VanDusen Botanical Garden: With its excellent collections and the beauty of their display, VanDusen Botanical Garden provides an inspiring and enjoyable environment for performances. Landscape settings are set amidst rolling lawns, tranquil lakes and dramatic rockwork with vistas of the mountains and Vancouver cityscape. Open evenings. www.vandusengarden.org

Evening Options

Arts Club Theatre Company

The Arts Club Theatre Company, now in its 43rd season of producing professional live theatre in Vancouver, is a non-profit charitable organization which operates two theatres on a year-round basis. Our popular productions range from musicals and contemporary comedies to new works and classics. Ask about "behind the scene" tours. www.artsclub.com

H.R. McMillan Space Centre: Lazer Shows: Evening Lazer shows use a brand new 360 degree Digital Dome Surround Scene panorama technology, 300 special effect projectors, giant format high-resolution video, all digital 16 track audio playback system, full concert sound, the biggest full colour 7 scan set Planetarium Laser system in Canada, and the Ziess star projector to create a fantastic 360 degree deep space environment. www.spacecentre.ca

Cliffhanger Richmond: Cliffhanger Richmond is a first class bouldering and tope-rope climbing gym located in Richmond, BC. With over 80 boulder problems and 80 routes up at all times, our gym offers something for every level of climber. Cliffhanger Richmond offers an exciting climbing environment with friendly staff and professional instructors. www.cliffhangerichmond.com

Museum of Anthropology at UBC: The Museum of Anthropology houses one of the world's finest displays of Northwest Coast First Nations art in a spectacular building overlooking mountains and sea. Peruse collections from around the world, including European ceramics, Asian textiles, Greek and Roman pottery, and African masks. Tuesday nights until 9 pm. www.moa.ubc.ca

Planet Lazer - Lazer Tag: PLANET LAZER™ combines hide & seek with hi-tech heart-pounding fun. Up to 44 players move and hide in our 3 level 14,000 square foot award-winning arena. Ages 5 through 95 earn points as they tag their opponents electronic Pack and Phaser, while they avoid being tagged. As they move through the obstacles, black lights, cool graphics, fog, specialty lighting and futuristic music the Pack speaks to the player and tells them what is happening throughout the game. www.planetlazer.net

Vancouver Art Gallery: Right in the centre of downtown Vancouver, and one of the largest Galleries in Canada, Featuring four floors of inspirational pleasures complete with free family guides and daily guided exhibition tours. There are rotating exhibitions of both historical and contemporary artwork featuring local and international talent. The Gallery boasts a permanent collection of over 8,000 artworks, including the world's largest collection of Canadian art icon Emily Carr. Tues & Thurs until 9 pm. www.vanartgallery.bc.ca

Vancouver Lookout at Harbour Centre

View the city lights from high above Vancouver. Take a ride up the exterior glass elevator and arrive a top of Vancouver 50 seconds later to a breath-taking view, which you will hold in your memories forever. www.vancouverlookout.com

Vancouver TheatreSports Improve Comedy

Vancouver TheatreSports® League brand of improvisation is a highly theatrical fusion of the dramatic elements of comedy and tragedy coupled with the enthusiasm and edge-of-your-seat excitement of professional sport. www.vtsl.com

www.hellobc.com/vcm

Your online source for planning your visit to
Beautiful British Columbia

Attractions

Vancouver

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden: The first classical Chinese garden built outside of China, the Garden is a tranquil and inviting space for student and youth groups. The Garden offers regularly-scheduled guided tours that are complimentary with admission ticket to provide interesting perspectives on Chinese culture, life during the Ming Dynasty, architecture, and horticulture. Customized student itineraries available. www.vancouverchinesegardens.com

Granville Island Public Market: Explore the many artisan workshops of Granville Island. Most workshops & studios have large windows at street level to watch a variety of activities on the Island, from the ever-popular glass blowing, to traditional printmaking. www.granvilleisland.com

H.R. Macmillan Space Centre: Meet an astronomer, uncover the mysteries of the night time sky and learn what's new in the world of astronomy and space exploration in a unique customized program. www.spacecentre.ca

Museum of Anthropology: A place of extraordinary architectural beauty. A place of provocative programming and vibrant, contemporary exhibitions. A place of active exploration and quiet contemplation. A place of world arts and cultures. www.moa.ubc.ca

Vancouver Lookout: Your best first stop in Vancouver. Visit the Lookout observation deck at Harbour Centre Tower for a 360 degree view of Vancouver, the North Shore and Burnaby. Free tours are every hour highlighting landmarks visible from the top and interesting facts about the city. www.vancouverlookout.com

Vancouver Maritime Museum: Explore the many exhibits from pirates, shipwrecks, lighthouses, to the early fur trade, fireboats, warships named Vancouver, to deep-ocean exploration, shipbuilding, to coastal and transpacific steamship lines, cruise ships and more. www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com

Burnaby

Burnaby Village Museum: Offering a living snapshot of the area circa 1925, Burnaby Village Museum features unique educational programs such as "Business as Usual" focusing on the lives and jobs of working people pre-1925 society; and "Home Sweet Home", where students explore various types of homes found in the area in the 1920's. www.burnabyvillagemuseum.ca

Metropolis at Metrotown: With 450 stores, metropolis at metrotown is British Columbia's largest shopping centre. millions of individual shoppers find what they're looking for and have a great time doing it. It's a destination in itself with must-see attractions like one-of-a-kind events, world-class restaurants and theatres, not to mention great shopping. www.metropolisatmetrotown.com

Richmond

Gulf of Georgia Cannery Historic Site: Located in the historic fishing village of Steveston, the Gulf of Georgia Cannery tells the story of the West Coast fishing industry. www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.com

International Buddhist Temple: The Kuan Yin Temple of the International Buddhist Society is the most authentic temple of traditional Chinese architecture in North America. Inside you'll discover examples of traditional Chinese Art and Culture, while outside, wander the courtyards to view bonsai plants and ceramic murals and relish in the peaceful surroundings. Free admission. www.buddhisttemple.ca

Richmond Go-Kart Track: This is one of the top facilities in the Lower Mainland that includes one of Western Canada's largest kart tracks at a half mile long. Come check out the best outdoor go-kart track around. Fun for all ages! www.richmondgokarts.com

Vancouver's North Shore

Capilano Suspension Bridge & Park: Vancouver's oldest tourist attraction, originally built in 1889, stretches 450 feet (137m) across and 230 feet (70m) above Capilano River. Voices from Vancouver's past mingle with the sounds of nature, beautiful gardens skirt colourful totem poles, British Columbia First Nations artisans chisel legend into cedar and **Capilano Suspension Bridge** takes you to the serenity of a West Coast rainforest and Canada's award-winning attraction, **Treetops Adventure**. www.capbridge.com

Grouse Mountain, The Peak of Vancouver: Ride one mile aboard the Super Skyride Aerial Tram to the Top of Grouse Mountain, 3600 ft. above the city and Pacific Ocean. www.grousemountain.com

Whistler Village

Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
Designed in the forms of a Squamish Longhouse and a Lil'wat Istken (earthen dwelling with fire pit), this 30,400 sq. ft. complex has been created to share their living cultures with the world. This is a fantastic opportunity to experience some local culture while in Whistler. www.slcc.ca

Whistler Peak 2 Peak Gondola: Spanning the distance between Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains, the new world record-breaking PEAK 2 PEAK Gondola is a breathtaking, 4.4-kilometre journey to infinity possibilities. Redefining the Whistler summer experience by creating limitless new ways to get up-close-and-personal with the mountains, this engineering marvel breaks three world records. www.whistlerblackcomb.com

Worth The Drive

BC Museum of Mining: Step back in time at one of BC's most unique attractions. The BC Museum of Mining offers students a unique opportunity to tour Britannia Mountain for an Underground Adventure - a safe, fun and educational experience for everyone! The BC Museum brings history alive with activities, displays and guided underground tours. www.bcmuseumofmining.org

Fort Langley Historic Site: Visit the Fort Langley National Historic Site, where costumed characters recount the days of fur trading. Fort Langley is the exact location where, a century and a half ago, a huge fur trade organization called the Hudson's Bay Company established a small post to trade with the First Nations of the West Coast. www.fortlangley.com

Hell's Gate Airtram: An excellent opportunity for students to learn about some of the fascinating history of BC including: the explorer Simon Fraser, Hell's Gate, and the lifecycle of the spawning salmon. A school visitation program is available prior to arrival. There are great rates on the Airtram, lunch and goldpanning packages. www.hellsgateairtram.com

Xa:ytem Longhouse Interpretive Centre: Xa:ytem offer students & youth the opportunity to experience and explore Sto:lo history, culture and archaeology at a 9000 year-old village site that features a sacred transformer stone. Hands-on activities and presentations offer an understanding of traditional Sto:lo technology and the importance of cedar, salmon and the oral storytelling tradition. www.xaytem.ca

Outdoor Experiences

Deer Lake Boat Rental

Students will love kayaking, canoeing, rowing or pedal boating on the spectacular Deer Lake Park. Boat amongst blue herons, beavers, turtles and ducks. All equipment and basic instruction provided. www.deerlakeboatrentals.com

Hyak River Rafting: Fed by the melting snow pack of Mount Baker, the Chilliwack River is at its best from May through July and is an exhilarating day trip from Vancouver. Hyak offers the longest rafting trip available, 18 km (12 miles) including the Tamahi, Sawmill and Swamp rapids. Trip includes 4 ½ hours of rafting, riverside buffet lunch, wet suits and changing facilities with hot showers. www.hyak.com

Whale Watching: Passengers can choose to start their journey either in the historic fishing village of Steveston, located at the mouth of the Fraser River, or from downtown Vancouver. Whatever your departure point, it won't take long to find what you are looking for.

Bike Rentals: Cycling is a great way to explore the Vancouver, Coast & Mountains region. The most popular routes are the easygoing, flat paths found in and around Steveston Village just south of Vancouver, as well as the Stanley Park Seawall, one of the world's most beautiful urban bike paths.

Kumsheen Rafting Resort: Offering fun, adventure and student programs, surrounded by mountains and desert temperatures. Action-packed educational activities include whitewater rafting, kayaking, hiking & fishing. Students will receive memories that will last a lifetime. Student/Youth packages available. www.kumsheen.com

Sewell's Marina Sea Safari Eco-Tour: Cruise along the BC coast, getting up close to wildlife onboard highspeed inflatable-hulled boats. You'll find yourself racing beside steep cliffs, exploring caves, viewing harbour seals at play and more. www.sewellsmarina.com

Takaya Tours: Located in scenic Deep Cove, students will experience paddling in a traditional First Nations canoe or kayak while listening to First Nations songs and legends and learning about traditional plant use. Fully trained First Nations guides safely transport students to adventures across our waters and back through time. www.takayatours.com



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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