

GETTING AROUND

From your hotel in Richmond, it is easy to access Metro Vancouver's public transit system. Most tourist destinations throughout Metro Vancouver can be accessed via its vast network. See the website <http://www.translink.ca> for routes, schedules, fares, and a trip-planning function. Translink is comprised of: Skytrain, Bus, Sea Bus, and Westcoast express trains. See below for a map of the entire system. To get your bearings, your hotel is in the area inside the close-up inset map of Richmond, near the "Lansdowne" Hub serviced by buses 403 405 410 C96.

http://infomaps.translink.ca/System_Maps/133/MVTM-Apr%202017.pdf

Within Richmond:

Steveston Village and Fisherman's Wharf -

How to get there: from the Richmond-Brighouse skytrain station, take the #402 bus south.

What there is to see/do: Steveston's Heritage has been well preserved here. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery, the Britannia Heritage Shipyard and the London Heritage Farm have all been preserved so visitors can see what life was like at the time. Steveston Village is worth a visit just to wander around town and take in the sights. The ABC TV show Once Upon a Time was filmed here, so if you are a fan you will recognize a lot of the town. (<http://www.visitrichmond.bc.com/entering-storybrooke/>) Save some time to check out the Fisherman's Wharf. This is a popular place for the locals to get the best and freshest regional seafood. Once there, you can also rent bikes to get around, see <http://www.village-bikes.ca>. Steveston is the departure point for Metro Vancouver-based whale-watching tours, which need to be booked in advance. see links below. For more information on things to do in Steveston:

*<http://gulfofgeorgiacannery.org>

*<https://www.tourismvancouver.com/plan-your-trip/day-trips/steveston/>

*<http://www.visitrichmond.bc.com>

*<http://www.vancouverwhalewatch.com>

*<http://www.visitrichmond.bc.com/things-to-do/whale-watching/>

Richmond Night Market -

How to get there: go to Bridgeport Station on the Canada Line of Skytrain (public transit network), the market is adjacent.

What there is to see/do: An Asian summer night market with entertainment (carnival games, live performances), 140 food stalls, and over 400 retail vendors with such diverse offerings as jewelry, clothing, and cell-phone accessories at inexpensive prices. For more information, see <http://richmondnightmarket.com>

Hiking:

How to get there: Each trail starts from a different location. Use the links provided to determine where you want to go.

What there is to see/do: Wildlife, nature, some of Canada's natural beauty (or as close to it as you can get within an hour of downtown Vancouver) There are dozens of walking trails in Richmond. Check out the city's website for a complete list. (<http://www.richmond.ca/parks/trails.htm>) Many of the trails are part of the Richmond Dyke System so they offer excellent water views. Here are a few of the most popular:

*West Dyke Trail Head and Terra Nova <http://www.richmond.ca/parks/trails/trails-map/westdyke.htm>

*Middle Arm Waterfront Greenway <http://www.richmond.ca/parks/trails/trails-map/middlearm.htm?PageMode=HTML>

*Garry Point Park <http://www.richmond.ca/parks/parks/SigParks/parkinfo/park.aspx?ID=17>

*Imperial Landing Park <http://www.richmond.ca/parks/parks/SigParks/parkinfo/park.aspx?ID=7>

*Iona Beach Regional Park -actually in Vancouver, this park is immediately adjacent to the airport and provides an interesting place for watching aircraft <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/ParksPublications/IonaBeachParkMap.pdf>

Shopping Malls (Food Courts)

How to get there:

*Richmond Centre ~900m walk from hotels, east on Westminster Hwy, south on No. 3 Rd

*Lansdowne Centre ~1km walk from hotels, east on Westminster Hwy, north on Minoru Blvd, east on Lansdowne Rd, north on No.3 Rd

*Aberdeen Centre ~2km walk from hotels, east on Westminster Hwy, north on Minoru Blvd, east on Alderbridge Way, north on Hazelbridge Way

What there is to see/do: Food courts in these malls have some of the cheapest food in the area

Shopping malls (outlet mall, high end shopping)

How to get there:

take Canada Line Skytrain from Richmond Brighthouse (650m from the hotels) to Templeton.

McArthurGlen Designer Outlet mall is adjacent to the airport

What there is to see/do: Shop for Armani, Coach, and Ralph Lauren at outlet prices. For more information see <http://www.mcarthurglen.com/ca/mcarthurglen-vancouver/en/>

Richmond Art Gallery

How to get there:

~950m walk from hotels, east on Westminster Hwy, south on Minoru Blvd

What there is to see/do: To see the scheduled exhibit go to: <http://www.richmondartgallery.org/exhibition/eternal-return/>

Downtown core of Vancouver:

To access downtown Vancouver from the area of your hotel, we highly recommend taking public transit; the station is a ~650m walk: east on Westminster Hwy and south on No.3 Rd from the hotels. Canada Line Skytrain from Richmond-Brighouse Station to Vancouver City Centre takes 24 minutes. Once downtown there are many things to see and do, here are just a few:

Hop On Hop Off City Tours

How to get there: Multiple locations, you will need to go to a website below for information

What there is to see/do: These circular tours allow you to see the sights of Vancouver from a tourist bus, with the ability to get off and have a closer look at anything you want to see in more detail. The buses run all day at intervals, and you just get back on to complete your circuit.

*<https://westcoastsightseeing.com/hop-on-hop-off/sightseeing-pass/>

*<http://vancouverrolley.com/tours/hop-on-hop-off>

Self Guided Tours

How to get there: Multiple locations, you will need to go to a website below for information

What there is to see/do: These tours allow you to see the sights of Vancouver on foot, at your own pace, and while getting some exercise.

*<http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/city-guides/vancouver-walking-tour-2/>

*<http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/gastown-walking-tour.aspx>

Bicycle Rental

How to get there: There are multiple companies in various downtown locations:

*<http://www.seawalladventurecentre.com/vancouver/> is located next to the Olympic Cauldron, Waterfront Skytrain Station, and Canada Place

*<http://www.spokesbicyclerentals.com> is located at the entrance to Stanley Park, at W Georgia and Denman

*<http://www.englishbaybikerentals.com> is located at Denman and Davie Streets, at the English Bay entrance to Stanley Park

What there is to see/do: These tours allow you to see the sights on Vancouver at your own pace, but covering distance in a faster way than walking. You can travel the full Sea Wall, continue along English Bay, or explore neighbourhoods. Many of the companies have maps with suggested routes on their websites.

Bike Share Program - Vancouver's Mobi bike share system is meant as a transportation system, and not as a bike rental for pleasure purposes. Fees are charged in 30 minute increments, so for rentals that would involve continuous use of a bike for more than 30 minutes you should use one of the above rental companies. <https://www.mobibikes.ca>

How to get there: Multiple pick-up and drop-off all over the city, once you've registered online you simply walk up to any stand of bikes, enter your code, and leave with the bike.

What there is to see/do: As this is best used for transportation within the limited areas of Downtown, Kitsilano, and Mount Pleasant, this is not a 'thing to do' but a 'how to get there' option.

Horse-Drawn Tours: *stanleypark.com

How to get there: Once you are downtown, catch the "Stanley Park" bus #19 on Pender Street. Disembark at the first stop in the park (just before the roundabout) at the foot of Pipeline Road. Follow the road that leads under the overpass. A 2 minute walk on that road will lead you to our Horse-Drawn Tour kiosk located beside the information booth.

What there is to see/do: A professional guide fully narrates the 60 minute tour of Stanley Park

Granville Island Public Market

How to get there: From the downtown side of False Creek, take the whimsical small ferries, equal parts commuter transport and tourist photo-op; there are 2 companies, Aquabus <http://theaquabus.com>, and False Creek Ferries <http://www.granvilleislandferries.bc.ca>. From the south side of False Creek take bus “#50 Waterfront Stn” to W.2nd & Anderson, look for the large Granville Island sign.

What there is to see/do: Granville Island Public Market houses produce markets, fresh-caught seafoods, and fresh baked goods. The site is also home to artisan stalls, the Kids’ Market, a theatre, many restaurants, the Emily Carr University of Art And Design (with exhibits), and canoe and kayak rentals. For more, see granvilleisland.com

Vancouver Art Gallery

How to get there: located at Georgia and Hornby, the Art Gallery is in the centre of downtown Vancouver and is easily accessible from the Granville or Burrard Skytrain stations and virtually any downtown bus.

What there is to see/do: The temporary exhibit will be Claude Monet’s Secret Garden http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/the_exhibitions/exhibit_claudemonet.html. The permanent collection includes the largest and most significant group of paintings and works on paper by the modernist landscape painter [Emily Carr](#).

VanDusen Botanical Garden

How to get there: from the hotels, take the Canada Line Skytrain to Oakridge-41st Ave Station and then get on bus “#43 UBC” at W 41st Ave & Ash St. Get off at Oak St. Trip time: 24 minutes.

What there is to see/do: a 22 hectare (55 acre) urban botanical garden, Van Dusen has many plants in beautiful bloom in late September <http://vandusengarden.org/bloom-calendar/fall-bloom/>

Bloedel Conservatory in Queen Elizabeth Park

How to get there: from the hotels, take the Canada Line Skytrain to Oakridge-41st Station and then walk for ~15 minutes north on Cambie to 35th, northeast on 35th into the park, and then along park paths in the northerly direction to the apex of the hill to the Conservatory.

What there is to see/do: An indoor garden inside an acrylic triodetic dome containing tropical plants and birds. <http://vandusengarden.org/explore/bloedel-conservatory/>

Into the waters off Vancouver : some short cruises

How to get there: cruises leave from Denman street adjacent to Stanley Park

What there is to see/do: View Vancouver from the harbour on a 60 minute narrated tour

<http://boatcruises.com/tour.php?pv=p5> ****Please note: these tours shut down for the season on September 30, 2017****

Kid-Friendly Adventures: Metro Vancouver is family-friendly with many attractions for children.

*Kids Market on Granville Island, as previously mentioned above

*Science World, across from Main St- ScienceWorld Skytrain Stn <https://www.scienceworld.ca>

*Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park see vanaqua.org

*Terra Nova Adventure Play, 10 min drive due east of hotels, or 30 min on bus #401, 402, 407 see <http://www.richmond.ca/parks/parks/about/amenities/park.aspx?ID=116>

Vancouver Island or the Gulf Islands:

How to get there: best via BC Ferries; rent a car and plan yourself, or book on a tour coach such as <https://www.viator.com/Vancouver-tourism/Vancouver-to-Victoria-Tours-tours-tickets/d616-t929?pref=02>

What there is to see/do: scenic trip via ferry to Vancouver Island, coastal wildlife, Victoria (the provincial capital city), Butchart Gardens For more information see *bcferries.com The website has schedule and fares, and also has vacation packages (ferry and accommodations).

Areas outside of Metro Vancouver: can be reached by long-distance buses

*<http://www.pacificcoach.com> highly recommended on TripAdvisor, tours: Whistler, Victoria, etc

*<http://charterbuslines.com/Services.html#aCharter> Charter your own bus & driver for group city sightseeing

*<http://www.islbus.com> Charter your own bus & driver for your group custom city tour or for travelling by group to destinations like Whistler or Victoria

*<http://www.wilsonstransportation.com/group-travel/> Charter your own bus & driver like the two companies above, or you can rent the bus if you have the appropriate driver's licence.

*bcfconnector.com Subsidiary of above company specifically for travel between Vancouver and Victoria via BC Ferries