



There are many great things to do in Vancouver, and hopefully some of these suggestions will suit your interests and/or give you some ideas. This guide will be written from the perspective of travelers going by bus, and websites are given for many of the places so that you may find more details if need be.

We hope you enjoy the University of British Columbia and Vancouver!

I. Arriving at UBC

Vancouver Airport to UBC

There are no shuttles that run from the airport to UBC. With luggage, a taxi is probably the easiest. Taxi's are typically around \$35-40 (CAD, cash or credit card) to go from the airport to Gage Towers at UBC.

By bus:

Take "424 Bus" to Airport Station, transfer to the "98 B-Line UBC Bus", which will take you down Granville St. Get off at Broadway (also called 9th Avenue) and take either the "99 B-Line UBC Bus" or the "17 UBC Bus" all the way to the end, which will bring you to campus.

Adult bus fares are \$2.50 and must be paid in cash with exact change. Books of 10 tickets can be purchased at UBC for the discount price of \$19.00.

http://www.translink.bc.ca/Transportation_Services/Fares_Passes/fare_pricing.asp

Flying into Sea-Tac Airport in Seattle and Driving to UBC in Vancouver

Quick Shuttle - Travelling from SEATAC to Vancouver

Many of us from UBC have used the "Quick Shuttle". It provides affordable and reliable transportation from Seatac Airport to Vancouver Airport, Broadway and Granville in Vancouver, or downtown Vancouver. Schedules, fares and reservations are all available on line (<http://www.quickcoach.com/schedule.htm>)

The Quick Shuttle does not stop at UBC. You will need to take a bus or taxi from a Vancouver destination to UBC.

One option is to take the Quick Shuttle to the Vancouver Airport and a taxi to UBC.

If you choose to take the Quick Shuttle to Vancouver and the bus to UBC, we recommend you get off the Quick Shuttle at Broadway and Granville. From there, take either the “99 B-Line UBC Bus” or the “17 UBC Bus” all the way to the end, which will bring you to campus.

Crossing the Border

Many may choose this option to reduce the price of airline tickets or to cross the border without needing a passport. If you're an adult US citizen, you'll need a passport if you are flying to Canada. If you are not flying, you will need one of the following:

- Birth Certificate and government issued photo ID such as a driver's license (Costco cards don't count)
- Baptismal Certificate and government issued photo ID
- Voter Registration Card, if you live in a state that issues them, and photo ID
- Valid Green Card for permanent residents of the United States

NOTE: A Driver's License by itself does NOT constitute sufficient identification.

Check for more information in the border-crossing website:

(<http://www.bcpassport.com/vancouver-vital-information/crossing-the-border.aspx>)

II. Travelling within Vancouver

The Vancouver bus system runs under Translink, which provides a few services to make traveling by bus easier. With Translink, you can find out the best route to take in order to reach a given destination, using the trip planner. This can be found on the right hand side of the window at the website: <http://www.translink.bc.ca/default.asp>

There is also a phone number listed on every bus stop (604.953.3333), which can be called for the same purpose (finding out how to get from A to B) while out and about in Vancouver. If you are ever at a bus stop and wondering when the next bus will come, and you have a cell phone, look for the stop number (five yellow numbers at the very top of the sign) and type that number into a text message and send it to the number 33333. You will receive a text message back that gives you the next five busses (of any number) to arrive at that stop.

Adult bus fares are \$2.50 and must be paid in cash with exact change. Books of 10 tickets can be purchased at UBC for the discount price of \$19.00.

III. Places to Eat at UBC and in Vancouver

Food on Campus

<http://www.food.ubc.ca/campusdining/locations/index.html>

Restaurants on campus are found in two major areas, the Student Union Building (SUB) and the Village (5 minute walk from campus). The SUB is fairly quiet during the summer, but offers Subway, Bernoulli's bagels, the Delly (a healthy place in the basement of the SUB with samosas, sandwiches, soups, different curries, as well as prepackaged food to go), a burger place (also downstairs in the basement), a sushi place (the Honour roll, downstairs in the basement), the Pendulum (which has quesadillas and bagels and other tasty food, in the basement as well) Pi-R-Squared, a fairly creative pizza place on the main level, and a few other places. There's also a Starbucks in the SUB.

The Village offers many different restaurants. Many of the ones on the main level are fairly visible, such as the burrito place (name?), Pitapit, and Vera's Burger Shack. Next to copysmart, downstairs, there is an area with many different options, including an Indian place, a Malaysian place, a sushi place, a few Chinese places, and a few Mediterranean places. There's a Starbucks in the Village as well.

An out of the way but charming coffee place, Salt Spring Coffee Co, can be found at the Southwest end of main mall, near the Forest Sciences Center. There's a Starbucks on Main Mall on the way to Salt Spring.

Food in Vancouver

To list all of the top quality restaurants in Vancouver would be quite the task. The Georgia Straight is a free newspaper that we will supply at the conference. It is a good source for information on restaurants as well. A few restaurants with reputations for being the top places to try are:

The Banana Leaf- Malaysian cuisine with many different interesting dishes, such as rice and chicken in a pineapple boat and more. The closest Banana leaf is on Broadway and Carnavaron, before Macdonald. To get there easily, take the 17 bus to Carnavaron. A slightly faster route that requires a bit more walking is to take the 99 B-line and get off at Macdonald, then walk back towards Carnavaron. <http://bananaleaf-vancouver.com/index2.html>

Cloud Nine- Has a great view, being at the top of a skyscraper downtown, but is bit pricey, and not always the most praised for food and service. Might be a good place to get a small meal of dessert and tea, or the like, if you are interested in seeing the view, which is spectacular. Can be found by taking the 44 bus downtown, getting off at Georgia st, crossing Burrard and walking down Georgia to board the 240 "15th Street" bus, and getting off at Broughton. From here, cross Georgia and head west down Broughton until you reach Robson St. Cloud Nine will be at the top of the Empire Landmark Hotel on the

corner. You'll see a large circular structure on the roof, and to get there, go inside and take the elevator all the way up. <http://www.cloud9restaurant.ca/aboutus.htm>

The Naam- An amazing vegetarian restaurant. Be warned, they do not take reservations and are very popular, so going early or very late can be a good idea. They are open 24 hours, and the food is spectacular, as is the atmosphere, if you enjoy cozy and natural. Located on 4th ave close to Macdonald, the easiest way to get there is to take the 99 B-line and walk up the hill a little ways. Another option is to take the 4, which will drop you off a bit closer at Stephens St.

Broadway and Alma- There are a few good places right around this area, All of which can be found by taking the 99 B-line down Broadway and getting off at Collingwood (right after Alma, stop is temporary due to construction). For a drink, the Wolf and Hound <http://www.thewolfandhound.com/> is a homey, celtic pub which has live music almost every day of the week, including a jam session of local celtic musicians on Wednesday nights. For tasty, high end South American food, Barú Latino, on Alma, provides a good atmosphere and interesting dishes, as well as some incredible deserts. <http://www.baru.ca/>. The Dharma Kitchen on Broadway has delicious vegetarian food and a warm atmosphere that is quiet and peaceful.

There are many high quality sushi places; the Eatery has a good reputation for having good variety and good quality food. It is located on Broadway between Collingwood and Waterloo, and taking either the 99 B-line and walking down a little ways would probably be the fastest route. <http://www.theeatery.ca/main.php>

III. Things to do at UBC

The Nitobe Memorial Gardens are beautiful and peaceful, located near the Museum of Anthropology in the Northwest corner of UBC campus. The summer hours are from 9am to 5pm daily, with varying fees that can be found on the website. Can be located on a UBC campus map. <http://www.nitobe.org/>

Between UBC and the rest of Vancouver is Pacific Spirit Park, with many trails winding through it. This is a good place for walking through the forest which is close to UBC and relatively natural. <http://www.gvrd.bc.ca/parks/maps/Pacificspiritmap.pdf>

The Rose Garden is a popular place to walk through, at the end of Main Mall. Has a good view of the ocean, and to either side, you may find a few trails to interesting places if you feel like exploring a bit.

The UBC Botanical Gardens are also another nice place to see. The living tree that was a result of the graft of the Golden Spruce lives there, which has quite the tale behind it, as well as other interesting and beautiful plants. Hours are 9am to 5pm everyday, adult tickets at 8\$. <http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org/>

Beaches

Wreck beach at UBC is a famous beach on the western shore of Point Grey, where clothing is optional. Beach Trail 6 leads to the most popular section of Wreck beach, and is located behind Place Vanier (see UBC map). The stairs are quite long, so be ready for a trek on the way back up.

Beach Trail 4, near the Museum of Anthropology, leads to a more rocky, somewhat less popular area of Wreck beach. Also nearby the trailhead of 4, before heading down the stairs, is a pathway to an area behind the Museum of Anthropology where there are totem poles, a clover-covered hill and a good view of the ocean.

Beach Trail 3 is on the ocean side of the Chan Centre at the intersection of Chancellor Blvd and East Mall, where NW Marine Drive branches off to hug the coast line. This trail goes down to Tower beach, which is quite rocky. One enjoyable short hike is to go down either Trail 3 or Trail 6 and walk along the beach until you reach the other trail, and go up there.

Following NW Marine Drive down from the intersection with Chancellor and East Mall, a long walk or ten minute drive will bring you to Spanish Banks, a very nice beach area with picnic tables and views of North Vancouver, downtown and the mountains.

Farther down the same coastline, but far enough that it would probably warrant a bus ride on the number 4, there is Jericho beach, which is another nice beach area with picnic tables, a pond or two, lots of open grass and some facilities such as outdoor showers and washrooms. To get off the stop is just after the forest on the left runs out, before Wallace St.

There is also Kitsilano beach, for which you would take the 99 B-line to Macdonald, and then catch the 22 “Knight” bus heading North, then along Cornwall, and get off at Yew St. You can walk or bike all along this coastline until you reach Granville Island.

III. Things to do in Vancouver

Whale Watching

Vancouver Whale Watch: Located in Richmond at Suite 210 – 12240 Second Avenue. Easiest way to get there is to take the 480 from UBC to Richmond centre, board the 401, and take that until Chatham road.

http://www.vancouverwhalewatch.com/whale_watching.html

Lotus Land Vancouver Whale Watching Safari: Will pick up customers from hotel/residence.

<http://www.lotuslandtours.com/wildlife.html>

Ocean Kayaking

Lotus Land Tours has a seakayaking tour, which also includes pick up directly from hotel or residence.

<http://www.lotuslandtours.com/galiangroups.html>

Ecomarine Ocean Kayak Centre rents kayaks and gives tours and lessons. There are three centres in Vancouver. The closest to UBC is on Jericho Beach, for which the number 4 bus would be the best way of getting there. Another fairly close centre is on Granville Island, for which the 4 bus would also be best.

<http://www.ecomarine.com/index.html>

Stanley Park and the Aquarium

Stanley Park is a gorgeous park of 400 hectares of evergreens. Getting there can be done in a few ways, the easiest of which is probably to take the number 4 bus downtown to Dunsmuir St, which will come after Georgia St. Get off at Dunsmuir and keep walking down Seymour until you hit Pender St. Turn left down Pender, find a bus stop on the far side of the street, and get on the number 19 “Stanley Park” bus. Take this all the way to the Stanley Park bus loop. <http://vancouver.ca/parks/parks/stanley/>

The same exact route will also take you to the Aquarium, which has some very neat exhibits, including one with many kinds of jellyfish. Upon arrival at the bus loop within Stanley Park, you’ll want to head downhill, mostly East. The maps at the bus loop are slightly scratched out, but there are some signposts at the intersection of pathways which give an indication of which way to go. A note: food is not cheap at the Aquarium.

<http://www.vanaqua.org/home/>

Biking

For a long, beautiful ride, you can bike around Stanley Park, around the Burrard inlet, through Kitsilano Beach, through Jericho and up to UBC at Spanish Banks. A map for part of this route can be found here:

<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/newsreleases2001/NRfalsecreekwalkway.htm>

And other bike routes: <http://vancouver.ca/engsvcs/transport/cycling/routes.htm>

Bikes can be rented at Bikes N’ Blades or Bayshore Bicycle rental, both at Georgia and Denman. To get there, take the 44 bus to Georgia st, then cross Burrard and take the 240 “15th Street” bus to Denman.

Granville Island

Taking the 4 bus from UBC and getting off at Pine brings you close to Granville Island. A short walk across the street and following the bridge downhill will bring you to the island (which is really a peninsula) and the market which is open til 7pm daily. There are many art galleries at Granville Island, some nice restaurants like the Cat’s Meow, the market itself with fresh produce and many interesting shops with pastries, tea, soup, and other things. <http://www.granvilleisland.com/en/node>

Hiking the Grouse Grind

Currently closed due to weather conditions, it is scheduled to reopen sometime soon. Checking the website would be a good idea before scheduling a hike up the Grind. This is a well-known, fairly grueling hike with an ascent of 853 m and a trail 2.9 km long. The fastest way to get to the bottom of Grouse Mountain is to take the 44 bus, which will eventually turn onto Seymour, then get off at Hastings and head towards the water where there will be the Seabus at the Waterfront Station. Board the Seabus, and you will be let off at the Lonsdale Quay Station, where you take the 236 “Grouse Mountain” bus to the Grouse Mountain Skyride stop.

<http://hiking.grousemountain.com/grousegrind>

Capilano Suspension Bridge

Incredible views of the rainforest can be had from the height of the treetops themselves (or just about). Getting there is similar to getting to Grouse Grind, taking the 44, seabus, then the 236 bus, except that you get off sooner at the Suspension Bridge stop on Capilano road.

<http://www.capbridge.com/>

Lynn Canyon

Lynn Canyon has a free short suspension bridge 50ft over Lynn creek, as well as many trails around the area. To get to Lynn Canyon from UBC, it is similar to getting to the Grouse Grind or Capilano: take the 44 bus to Dunsmuir, go to the Waterfront Station and board the Seabus, but at Lonsdale Quay Station board the 229 “West Lynn” bus. Get off at Duval Rd, right when the bus turns the corner after going down Peters Rd for a while. Continue to walk down Peters Rd and follow the signs to the Lynn Canyon Park.

<http://www.lynncanyonparkguide.bc.ca/>

Science World

Has many neat exhibits, both permanent and changing. Can be reached by taking the 84 bus from UBC to Quebec St, which will come after Ontario St but before Main. Once at Quebec St, walk in the direction of downtown (you’ll see the skyscrapers) down Quebec St and you should see the giant globe that is Science World.

<http://www.scienceworld.bc.ca/>

Vancouver Art Gallery

To get there, take the 44 bus downtown and get off at Robson St. Without crossing the street walk down Robson until you reach Hornby St, cross Hornby and you will see the art gallery. For information about what exhibits will be on, here is the website:

<http://www.vanartgallery.bc.ca/>

Farther down Hornby, towards the water, there is the Bill Reid gallery, which showcases some beautiful Haida art by Bill Reid. <http://www.billreidgallery.ca/>

Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

The Fairmont Hotel serves afternoon tea and is located here in Vancouver at 900 W Georgia St. To get there, take the number 4 bus to Robson and Seymour. Continue down Seymour to Georgia, and turn left down Georgia St. Walk down until Hornby St. and you'll find the hotel close to there. <http://www.fairmont.com/hotelvancouver/>

Music

It so happens that the Vancouver International Jazz Festival is going on during the week of the conference, and this means many different concerts will be playing at various venues in Vancouver. <http://www.coastaljazz.ca/>

There is also live music in many restaurants and cafés on different evenings. Many of these can be found in the Georgia Straight, and there will be some copies available at the conference and around campus.

Poetry

Café deux Soleil can be found on Commercial Drive, which is about an hours bus ride from UBC (on a bad day). They have various events, including a weekly poetry slam on Monday nights with an open mic slam for the first part of the evening. Be advised that it would be safer not to be out alone on the Drive during the later hours of the night. Café deux Soleil is currently reworking their website, but a transitional one can be found here: <http://www.cafedeuxsoleils.com/>

IV. Planning a Trip to Victoria?

Several people have asked about day- or weekend trips to Victoria on Vancouver Island. Below are links to websites that offer a range of interesting and exciting tours:

<http://www.victoriatours.org/>

<http://www.victoriabcguide.com/eco-tours.htm>

If you plan to travel to Victoria by car, we strongly recommend you make a reservation as the ferries are extremely busy in June and July. For ferry schedules and reservations, this is a useful website: <http://www.bcferries.com/schedules/mainland/tssw-current.html>

By bus from UBC, use the translink website to plan your route from UBC LOOP, UNIVERSITY BLVD @ EAST MALL, UBC to TSAWWASSEN FERRY TERMINAL, DELTA <http://www.translink.bc.ca/>

The easiest way to get from the Swartz Bay Ferry terminal to central Victoria is to take the number 70 bus all the way into downtown Victoria and get off around Pandora and Douglas St. From there it's fairly easy to walk around the area, but for information on the transit system, there are free maps on the ferries, and the Victoria transit website is here: <http://www.bctransit.com/regions/vic/schedules/map.cfm?p=map.rname&®ion=15>