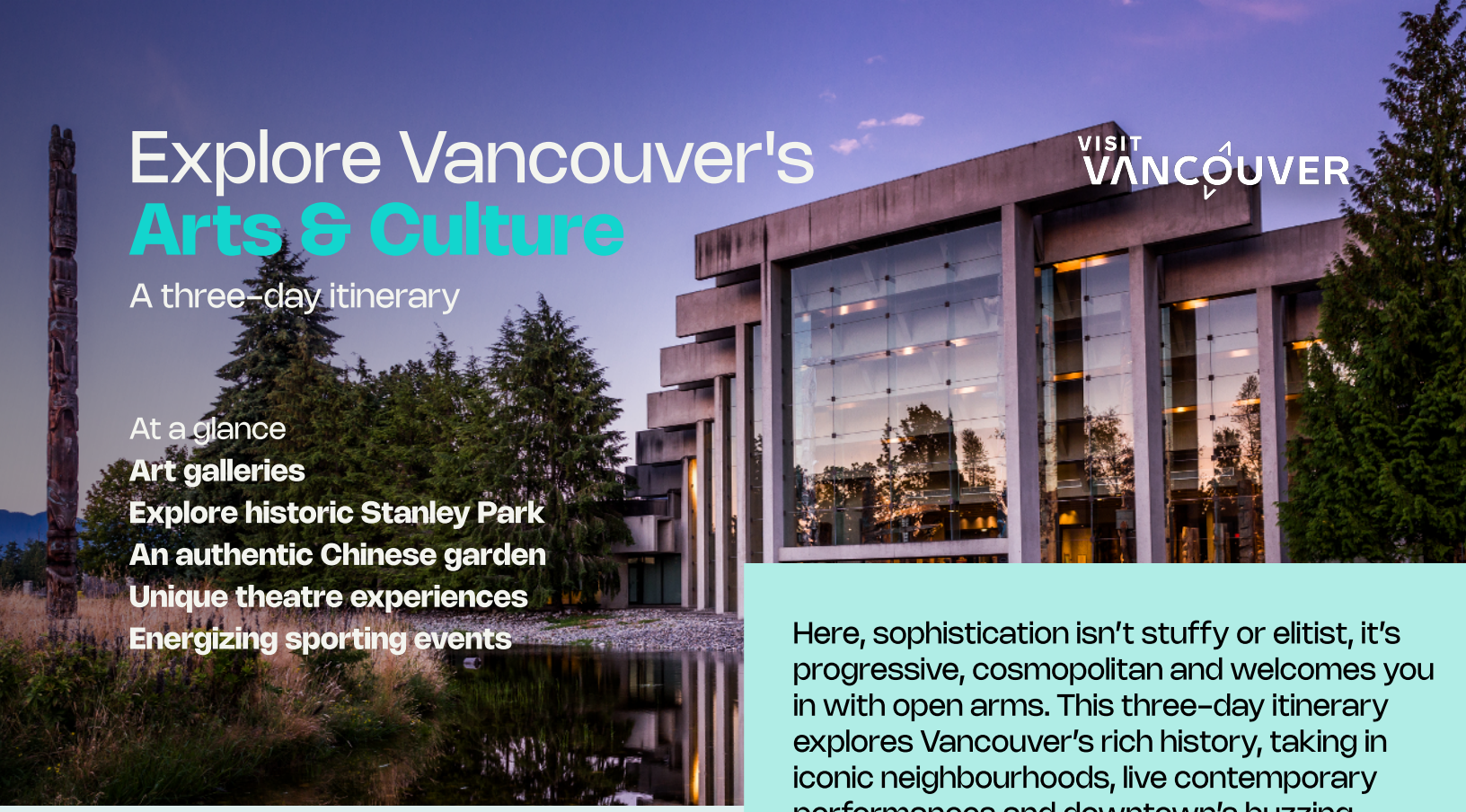
Explore Vancouver's Arts & Culture

A three-day itinerary



At a glance

Art galleries
Explore historic Stanley Park
An authentic Chinese garden
Unique theatre experiences
Energizing sporting events

Here, sophistication isn't stuffy or elitist, it's progressive, cosmopolitan and welcomes you in with open arms. This three-day itinerary explores Vancouver's rich history, taking in iconic neighbourhoods, live contemporary performances and downtown's buzzing energy when there's a sporting event.

DAY ONE

Start with art

For culture vultures there's no better place to start your day than at the **Vancouver Art Gallery**. Located in the heart of downtown, the eclectic exhibition space is home to work from French Impressionists which hang alongside Indigenous artworks and groundbreaking contemporary Canadian collections.

Appreciate our history

Take a break at **1931 Gallery Bistro**, a hidden gem offering beautiful views over bustling Robson Street below, before strolling to **Stanley Park**. This 1,000-acre urban oasis boasts stunning scenery alongside some spectacular public art. From historic statues to contemporary sculptures and totem poles, it's a place where arts, culture and stunning natural scenery come together in one place.

If you're hungry for more local knowledge, join **Talaysay's Talking Trees Tour**, where your guide and cultural ambassador will teach you about the park's history and its importance to the region's Indigenous communities.

Contemporary culture

Arts and culture in Vancouver doesn't end at art and culture — our city is collaborative, a place where everyone is welcome. Inclusivity is at our core. You'll see it in our food, in our people and in the diverse tapestry of neighbourhoods that crisscross our downtown peninsula. Tonight, you'll experience it firsthand with a unique taste of Vancouver at the **Salmon n' Bannock Bistro**, where the cuisine is delicious and the atmosphere enlightening.

Then experience **The Arts Club Theatre Company** which produces shows on three stages in the city. Each season offers a mix of classics, musicals, contemporary works, and new works written specifically for the company. And all three stages are located in areas filled with local dining options, and spots for a post-show.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Vancouver is situated on the traditional unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples — the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam First Nations. While non-Indigenous visitors are here in Vancouver, they have an opportunity to learn and reflect on the impacts of colonialism, to be respectful of Indigenous Peoples and cultures, and to appreciate those who still live on and care for the land.

DAY TWO

A fresh perspective

This morning, you'll explore cultural history at the **Museum of Anthropology** on the **University of British Columbia** campus. Here, you'll immerse yourself in traditional and modern Indigenous Northwest Coast Art, as well as ethnographic objects from around the world. The MOA strives to preserve donated objects and make them publicly accessible in order to advance research and education, as well as to offer assistance and access to originating communities.

A feast for the senses

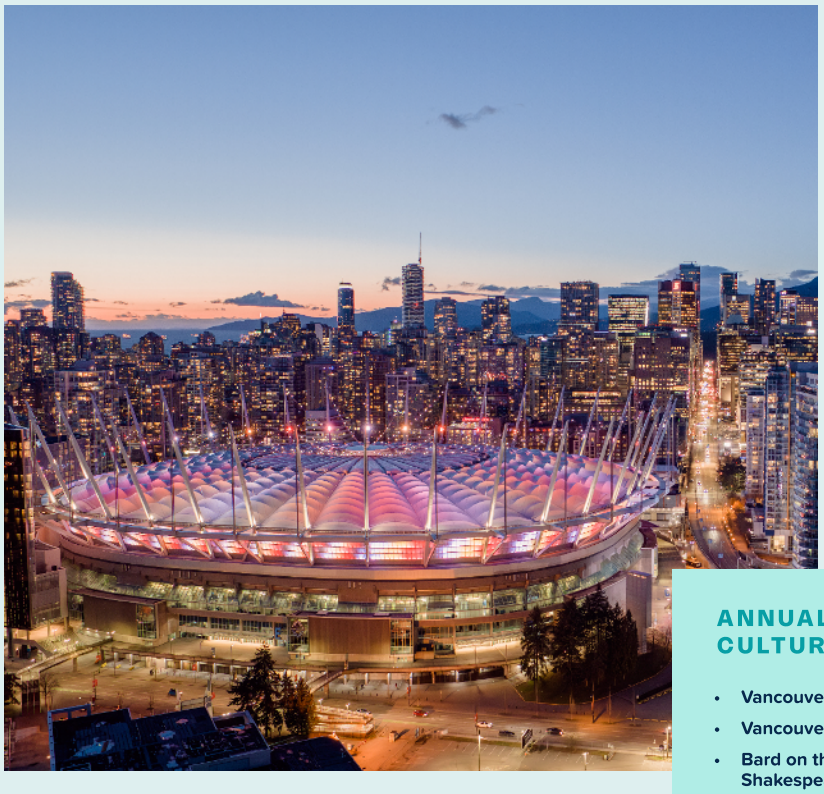
In Vancouver, we don't just embrace diversity, we exist because of it, and that goes for our arts and culture too. Nowhere is Vancouver's cultural harmony more apparent than in **Chinatown**, a historic neighbourhood that's stood for more than a century.

Here, you'll stop for lunch and experience some traditional dim sum at **Jade Dynasty**, a beloved local restaurant. After experiencing the sights and smells of this vibrant community, head to the iconic **Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden**, which was the first classical garden of its type built outside China when it opened in 1986.

An energizing evening

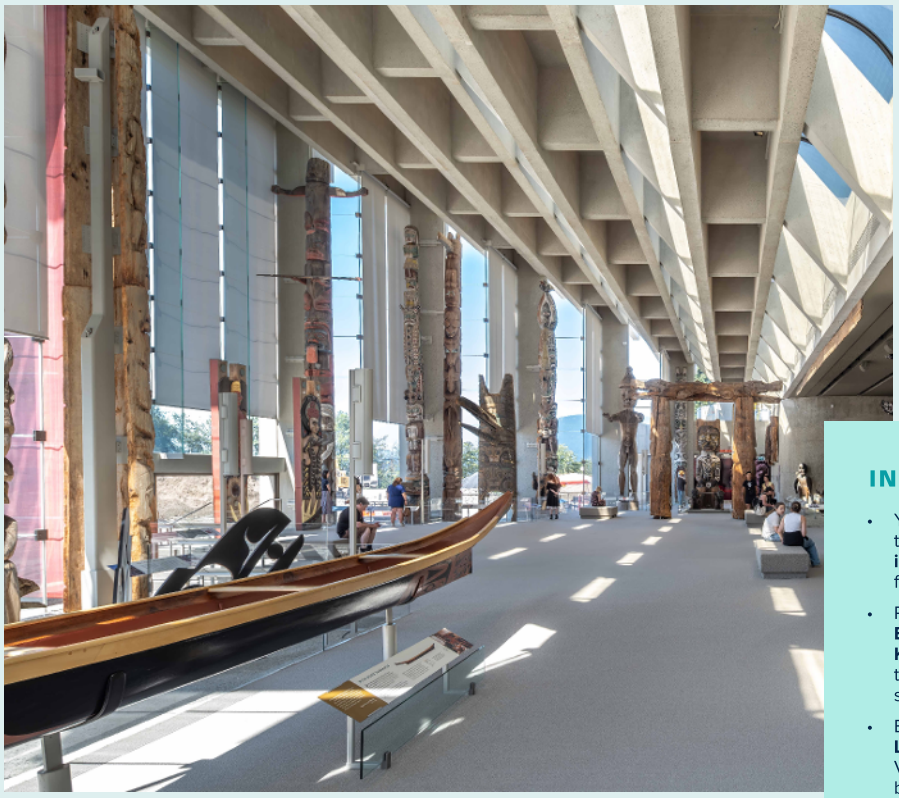
Feel the roar of the crowd and cheer on the home team with Vancouver's sports teams. Take in the beautiful game with the **Vancouver Whitecaps** soccer team, the Canadian Football League's **B.C. Lions**, or the **Vancouver Canucks** and get swept up in Canada's passion for hockey. These teams play downtown in **BC Place Stadium** and **Rogers Arena**, respectively, just a block apart. On a nice Vancouver day or evening, BC Place offers the extra treat of an open roof for a unique viewing experience.

Instead of a game, stop by one of our iconic concert venues in downtown Vancouver. See your favourite band or explore a new sound at the **Commodore Ballroom**, the **Orpheum** or the **Vogue Theater**.



ANNUAL ARTS & CULTURE EVENTS

- Vancouver Folk Music Festival
- Vancouver International Film Festival
- Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival
- PuSH International Performing Arts Festival



INSIDER TIPS

- You can experience art the moment you arrive thanks to **Vancouver International Airport's in-house art collection** which include world famous pieces by **BC artist Bill Reid**.
- Planning to visit the **Capilano Suspension Bridge Park**? Make sure you stop in at the **Kia'palano** educational centre to see one of the largest private collections of Indigenous story poles.
- Book a socially responsible stay at **Skwachàys Lodge**, the first **Indigenous arts hotel** in Vancouver. The 18 room boutique hotel building is also home to a fair trade Indigenous art gallery, and an urban Indigenous artist residence.

DAY THREE

More than morning coffee

Wake up like never before with **Toonie Tours**' Coffee tour. Sip the finest coffee while going behind-the-scenes of the coffee roasting house to learn the delicate art of coffee. Then you'll experience the unique art scene of **Mount Pleasant** with a guided tour of its grand murals and the whimsical **Beaumont Studios.**

Northwest coast culture

Explore and experience the masterworks of the legendary Haida artist, Bill Reid. **The Bill Reid Gallery** is in the heart of downtown Vancouver but will transport your mind and soul as you are immersed in Reid's collection along with the incredible diversity of contemporary Indigenous Northwest Coast Art.

Uniquely Vancouver

A short drive across the bridge, or a charming **False Creek Ferry** ride, you'll find **Granville Island**, one of the city's cultural hubs. Explore artisan shops, parks, galleries and grab lunch at the iconic public market.

Under the stars

Wrap up your arts and culture with incredible outdoor theatre experiences. It's Shakespeare like you've never seen before at **Bard on the Beach**, where you'll enjoy the Bard's plays at **Vanier Park** against the spectacular backdrop of mountains, ocean, and sky.

Or check out **Theatre Under the Stars** where you'll be treated to so much more than just a night at the theatre. At the outdoor **Malkin Bowl in Stanley Park**, Theatre Under the Stars is a kaleidoscope of setting, scenery, and art that has been hailed as Vancouver's quintessential summer experience.

Discover Vancouver's cultural side

Place your logo here.

ARTFUL ACCOMODATION

1. Skwachays Lodge
2. Opus Vancouver
3. The DOUGLAS
4. The Granville Island Hotel
5. Loden Hotel
6. Rosewood Hotel Georgia
7. The Burrard

ITINERARY ADD-ONS AND SPORTING VENUES

8. Vancouver Art Gallery
9. Commodore Ballroom
10. Vogue Theatre
11. Orpheum Theatre
12. Granville Island
13. BC Place
14. Rogers Arena

VISIT VANCOUVER