



LOTUSLAND CULTURE CRAWL

The Vancouver arts and culture community reflects the diversity of the city. Start off at the Vancouver Art Gallery and then continue east down Robson Street to see our very distinctive public library. Next, head over to the University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology which houses one of Canada's most extensive Northwest Coast collections. Last but not least, get a feel of Vancouver's unique multicultural scene with a visit Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden in Chinatown.

Vancouver Art Gallery, 750 Hornby Street (Downtown)

The Vancouver Art Gallery is the largest art gallery in western Canada. It presents national and international exhibitions of works by a range of artists, from groundbreaking contemporary visionaries to historical masters. Founded in 1931, the Gallery houses more than 7,900 works in its collection, valued at over \$100 million.

The gallery is internationally known for one of its most important holdings: more than 200 major works by the British Columbia artist Emily Carr - the world's most significant collection of Carr's work.

Designed in 1907, the gallery is the site of the former provincial courthouse. With 41,400 square feet of exhibition space, the structure became the focal point of downtown Vancouver in 1983 when the Vancouver Art Gallery moved in. The renowned Vancouver architect Arthur Erickson undertook extensive redesign and reconstruction of the building, meeting international standards for climate control, security and display. (www.vanartgallery.bc.ca)

Vancouver Public Library, 350 West Georgia Street (Downtown)

Funded by the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Public Library is the third largest public library system in Canada, with over 395,000 cardholders and more than 8 million items borrowed annually. The library's origins go back as far as 1869.

Vancouverites liken the public library to the ancient Roman Colosseum, pointing to the look-alike circular walls and tiers of arches. The seven-level library is actually a square inserted within a circle with elegant bridges spanning the atrium and providing access to the reading galleries along Homer Street. (www.vpl.vancouver.bc.ca)

Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia

The Museum of Anthropology is located on the University of British Columbia campus. The post-and-beam form that characterizes West Coast Modernism is here rendered in concrete. A series of graduated frames, inspired by Kwakwaka'wakw (Kwakiutl) longhouses, encloses the entrance and glass walls of the Massive Carving Gallery. From within, they create a dramatic setting for artifacts, which include huge totem poles displayed against a spectacular backdrop of water and mountains. This is a not-to-be missed stop if you are curious about British Columbia's First Nations heritage. (www.moa.ubc.ca)

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, 578 Carrall Street (Chinatown)

The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden is the first full-sized classical Chinese garden outside China. Built in 1985-86, it employed the ancient techniques of the original Ming dynasty gardens. For the architect, the botanist, the student of history, the lover of beauty, the Garden provides insights into the subtle wonders to be found within the walls of this living treasure.

Originally designed by Taoist poets, classical gardens were meant to create an atmosphere of tranquility for contemplation and inspiration. The Chinese calligraphic inscription above the entrance to the Garden means "Garden of Ease." There are four major elements in the Garden: water, rock, plants and architecture. The relationship of these four elements reflects the Taoist belief in Yin and Yang--opposites that must be in balance to create harmony. (www.vancouverchinesegarden.com)

Other Cultural Highlights

Museums

- **Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut Street (Kitsilano)**
This museum is Canada's largest civic museum, showcasing permanent, temporary and travelling exhibits with an emphasis on regional history. Sub-teens and teens will be enthralled by the story behind Vancouver then, and Vancouver now. Peer through windows into a century-old home—and a world without TVs and microwaves. Through souvenirs and artefacts, track the story of the early explorers who started this city. (www.vanmuseum.bc.ca)
- **Vancouver Maritime Museum, 1905 Ogden Avenue (Kitsilano)**
This triangular glass structure was built around the historic St. Roch, the first ship to ever sail the Inside Passage across the top of Canada from west to east. Kids love to take a turn at the wheel and imagine they're ploughing through arctic ice. (www.vancouvermaritimemuseum.com)
- **Granville Island Museums, Duranleau Street (Granville Island)**
This kid's haven is home to the largest public display of toy and model trains in the world, housed here with a magnificent diorama and with stunning collections of sport fishing and model ship memorabilia. (www.granvilleislandmuseums.com)

Galleries

- **Buschlen Mowatt Gallery, 1445 West Georgia Street (Downtown)**
Since 1979, the Buschlen Mowatt Gallery has showcased work by some of the finest contemporary international and Canadian artists. The gallery is known for recognizing emerging talent and representing artists whose practice of their medium is among the best. (www.buschlenmowatt.com)
- **Marion Scott Gallery, 308 Water Street (Gastown)**
One of Canada's most respected Inuit art galleries, the Marion Scott Gallery is committed to presenting the finest in Canadian Inuit art. You will find a wide range of sculpture, prints, drawings and wallhangings from many regions of the Canadian Arctic, with a special emphasis on rare pieces from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. (www.marionscottgallery.com)
- **Coastal Peoples Fine Art Gallery, 1024 Mainland Street (Yaletown)**
Coastal Peoples is a leading gallery showcasing museum quality Northwest Coast First Nations and Inuit art. Founded in Yaletown in 1996, the gallery is set in an historic warehouse space, with a strong emphasis on representing the diverse and distinct carving styles relating to the numerous coastal communities in British Columbia. (www.coastalpeoples.com)
- **Bau-Xi Gallery, 3045 Granville Street (South Granville)**
The Bau-Xi Gallery was established in 1965. The showcases many emerging and established Canadian artists in need of a gallery on the West Coast, representing about 50 artists, from established senior artists, who form part of Canadian art history, to emerging talent. (www.bau-xi.com)
- **Diane Farris Gallery, 1590 West 7th Avenue (South Granville)**
The Diane Farris Gallery (founded in 1984) has developed into an internationally recognized showcase for contemporary Canadian and international art. (www.dianefarrisgallery.com)