



SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP NEIGHBOURHOOD TOUR

Pick one or all of the following Vancouver neighbourhoods to explore. Each has a unique feel, but all are guaranteed to make your luggage a little heavier and your wallet a little lighter.

Yaletown

Located just 10 minutes walk from most hotels in Vancouver, Yaletown is a former warehouse district transformed into a hip neighbourhood full of one-off boutiques, cafes and gourmet grocery stores. Essentially, the area takes up little more than six or eight blocks.

Start at the corner of Davie and Hamilton Streets and head north up Hamilton until you get to Nelson (2 blocks). Turn right, walk down one block and turn right onto Mainland Street. When you hit Davie Street again, turn left and continue down towards the water. These are some stores that you'll definitely want to stop at:

- **BeautyMark – 1120 Hamilton Street**
Cutting edge cosmetic and skincare lines for women and men.
- **Mala Kuja – 1067 Hamilton Street**
Local fashion designer Marina Mikulic puts together sexy, funky pieces.
- **Vasanji – 1012 Mainland Street**
Hip international clothing lines for men and women.
- **Coastal Peoples Gallery Fine Arts Gallery – 1024 Mainland Street**
An exquisite collection of museum quality First Nations artwork.
- **Barbara-Jo's Books to Cooks – 1128 Mainland Street**
A whole store dedicated to anything written about food.
- **Urban Fare – 177 Davie Street**
Excellent supermarket carrying exotic produce and gourmet items.

Downtown/Robson Street

Robson Street is Vancouver's most popular shopping artery, and the shopping district stretches for a couple of blocks either side of Robson. Here you'll find all of the big chains: the Gap, Banana Republic, Levi's etc. But you'll also find plenty of gems hidden within the mix.

Start at the corner of Robson and Hornby Streets and head down Robson until you get to Bute Street. Then turn around and go back up Robson, turning left

when you get to Thurlow, right when you get to Alberni. Continue up one block and turn right onto Burrard, bringing you back to Robson. Those with stamina may want to continue east on Robson to Pacific Centre mall. Some highlights:

- o **MAC Cosmetics – 908 Robson Street**
Canadian professional cosmetics brand that is cheaper here than in the US or UK.
- o **Blue Ruby – 1089 Robson Street**
Funky fashion jewellery from local and international designers.
- o **Lululemon – 1148 Robson Street**
Yoga and active wear that has developed a cult-like following worldwide.
- o **Salmon Village – 779 Thurlow Street**
Salmon, any way you can think of, packaged for you to take home.
- o **Bruce – 1038 Alberni Street**
Hip lifestyle store carrying a selection of the coolest apparel, eyewear & furniture.
- o **Holt Renfrew – Pacific Centre**
Canadian high end department store with an emphasis on international labels.

Main Street

Main Street is what people refer to as an “emerging neighbourhood”, which is to say that while it’s now very hip and crammed with neat stores, cafes and restaurants, it wasn’t that long ago that it was a bit rough around the edges. First young artists and clothing designers moved in, and now the area is seeing its first condo developments. Clothing from new designers, vintage clothing and antiques are all plentiful around these parts.

Start at Main Street at King Edward Avenue and work your way north to Broadway (16 blocks). Some blocks have nothing except a Vietnamese noodle house and a gas station, while other blocks sport hip boutiques cheek-by-jowl. Those interested in outdoor gear might want to turn left when they hit Broadway to visit a virtual ghetto of camping and adventure stores. Some places not to be missed:

- o **Front Consignment Clothing and Collectibles – 3746 Main Street**
Great collection of vintage and secondhand clothing, and vintage housewares.
- o **Eugene Choo – 3683 Main Street**
Stylish local and Canadian clothing and accessories for men and women.
- o **Narcissist – 3659 Main Street**
Vancouver designer with beautiful classic pieces for women.
- o **Smoking Lily – 3634 Main Street**
Charming little store with eccentric screen printed clothing.
- o **Motherland Clothing Company - 2539 Main Street**
Edgy streetwear for either sex including their own in-house label.
- o **Mountain Equipment Co-op – 130 West Broadway**
The mother of all outdoor adventure stores.

South Granville

Neighbouring the tony Shaughnessy neighbourhood, South Granville south of the Granville Street Bridge from the downtown peninsula, and just up the hill from Granville Island. Getting a cab from Robson and Burrard Streets should cost no more than \$10. The area is peppered with private galleries, high-end boutiques and gourmet grocery stores.

Start on Granville Street at 15th Avenue, and continue north down the hill until you get to the base of the Granville Street Bridge. Some neighbourhood gems to check out:

- **Meinhardt Fine Foods – 3002 Granville Street**
Supermarket full of specialty foods and gourmet products.
- **Caban – 2912 Granville Street**
Lifestyle store spin-off of Club Monaco. Fuses fashion, interiors and kitchen items.
- **Sate – 1520 West 13th Avenue (@Granville Street)**
Modern Vietnamese design – antiques, silk clothing and Vietnamese coffee.
- **Bacci's – 2788 Granville Street**
Women's designer labels. Next door, Bacci's at Home offers home accessories.
- **Oscar's Art Books – 1533 West Broadway (@Granville Street)**
Art, photography and architecture books and posters, all at great prices.
- **Mihrab – 2229 Granville Street**
South Asian antiques and carpets.

Gastown

Vancouver's historic Gastown neighbourhood abuts downtown Vancouver, and has recently started undergoing a renaissance. It plays host to some of Vancouver's best furniture stores, hippest boutiques, and of course, many souvenir shops!

Start at end of Water Street where it branches off West Cordova, and head east. Turn right when you get to Carrall Street (this is where the statue of Gassy Jack stands), go up a block and turn right onto West Cordova. Continue down until you have completed your loop. A few places you won't want to miss:

- **Richard Kidd – 65 Water Street**
High-end streetwear in a stunning glass atrium.
- **Inform Interiors – 97 Water Street**
Vancouver's best collection of modern furniture – big names and local gems.
- **Pigeon – 227 Carrall Street**
Hip men's streetwear from local and international designers and artists.
- **Deluxe Junk – 310 West Cordova**
Glam vintage pieces for men and women.
- **Small Medium Large – 334 West Cordova**
The very best of locally handcrafted modern design gifts and furniture.
- **The Block – 350 West Cordova**
Casual sportswear for both sexes, along with lovely formal pieces for ladies.