



Walking over the Granville Street Bridge

TourismBC/Patrice Halley

TRIP IDEAS

48 HOURS IN NORTH VANCOUVER AND VANCOUVER

North Vancouver is a sporty burb tucked under Vancouver's North Shore peaks. Make the most of life on the coast by enjoying the nearby Stanley Park Seawall and public markets, then ride the gondola for a view of the big city from atop Grouse Mountain.

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Vancouver Activities

North Vancouver is located on the edge of Vancouver. Take advantage of its proximity to the Stanley Park Seawall, and enjoy a sunny afternoon circling the 9km/5.6mi route around the park with views of the city and English Bay. While in Vancouver, explore Granville Island, a public marketplace just south of downtown, to check out the craft studios and galleries and shop for organic fruits and veggies at the lively public market.

North Vancouver Activities

A great day in North Vancouver starts with browsing the shops and food stalls at Lonsdale Quay, a public market across Burrard Inlet from downtown. Follow up time at the market with a look at the latest local art exhibit at nearby Presentation House Gallery, a theatre and gallery space in the up-and-coming Lower Lonsdale neighbourhood.

For active pursuits, go hiking at seaside Lighthouse Park or explore the trails and cross the swaying suspension bridge at Lynn Valley Park or at the Capilano Suspension Bridge. A ride to the peak of Grouse Mountain, on North America's largest aerial tramway, is a must. At the top, relax over Saltspring Island mussels on the deck of Altitudes Bistro, 1,128m/3,700ft above the city.

North Vancouver and Vancouver Restaurants

Celebrating a special occasion? Try classic French cuisine at La Régalade in North Vancouver, or the handmade ravioli at Gusto di Quattro.

Visitors with a sweet tooth will savour the rhubarb rhapsody (chocolate ganache with local organic rhubarb) at Chocolate Arts on Fourth Avenue in Vancouver's Kitsilano neighbourhood, and the chocolate sparkle cookies at Thomas Haas Fine Chocolates and Patisserie on the North Shore. The fresh and chewy doughnuts at Honey Doughnuts and Goodies, a hangout in Deep Cove, are also popular with residents.

And yes, Vancouverites are a coffee-crazy bunch. Caffè Artigiano, where baristas create original designs in each foam-topped latte, is a favourite coffee shop for many locals.

Shopping

Follow the lead of well-dressed Vancouverites and browse among the designer clothes at Holt Renfrew's lavish downtown store. Lululemon athletica offers hugely popular locally designed yoga gear. Another favourite is called just that: Favourite. It's a Lonsdale Quay shop offering locally designed clothes, jewellery and accessories.

North Vancouver Hotels

The Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier and Lonsdale Quay Hotel are both handy to Lonsdale Quay and just minutes from downtown Vancouver via the SeaBus – a floating extension of public transit. Choose the affordable Comfort Inn & Suites North Vancouver to be close to attractions such as Grouse Mountain and the Capilano Suspension Bridge.

Transportation

The SkyTrain, Vancouver's rapid transit system, also reaches most downtown sites, with ferries, buses and cabs filling in the gaps. SkyTrain's Canada Line whisks visitors from the airport to downtown Vancouver in just 25 minutes.

For Granville Island, hop aboard Aquabus or False Creek Ferries, little foot-passenger boats that criss-cross False Creek between downtown, Granville Island and Kitsilano every few minutes. The SeaBus makes the 12-minute crossing from Waterfront Station in downtown Vancouver to Lonsdale Quay on the North Shore every 15 to 30 minutes throughout the day.



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