

Loden

HOTEL

Out & About

NEIGHBOURHOODS

Gastown

Gastown, Vancouver's oldest neighbourhood, is the epicentre of the urban revolution. Designated a *National Historic Site* in 2009, Gastown was established the same year Canada became a nation. Block upon block of grand Victorian buildings hold memories of Gastown's reign as Canada's third-largest city and one of the most cosmopolitan. Today, these Old World aesthetics prove a glorious backdrop for today's urban lifestyle.

Gastown is one of Vancouver's most hip and distinctive shopping and lifestyle neighborhoods with over 180 shops, restaurants, bars, cafes and clubs. Gastown is the hub of creative talent, independent businesses, award winning bars and restaurants and fashion forward boutiques. Few neighborhoods offer such a *complete Vancouver experience.*

West End

A high-density residential neighbourhood in the heart of downtown, the West End is an engaging mix of retirees, immigrants, urban youth and gay residents. The epicentre of the scene is the stretch of Davie Street between Burrard and Jervis, known as Davie Village with its cluster of cafes, casual eateries, pubs, nightclubs and shops offering designer clothing and sleek house wares. The beautiful beaches of English Bay are also popular attractions in this area. For more information, please visit: www.westendbia.com

Yaletown

Yaletown is Vancouver's trendy and upscale renovated warehouse district. This fresh urban neighbourhood is just an easy walk from the centre of downtown Vancouver or a quick ferry ride from Granville Island. Yaletown's converted heritage buildings are home to some of the city's top fashion and design shops, as well as cutting edge restaurants and bars. Old loading docks act as giant side walks and create a unique setting for wandering, shopping, or lounging at one of the many outdoor patios. Visit: <http://yaletowninfo.com/>

Commercial Drive

Commercial Drive, known locally as "The Drive", is a popular neighbourhood for Vancouver's thriving lesbian community. This funky, East side neighbourhood is packed with reasonably priced ethnic restaurants, cafes, shops and services. The Drive can be easily accessed by car and transit. For more information, please visit: www.thedrive.ca

BARS & PUBS

Fountainhead Pub

Located centrally in Davie Village with a large outdoor street level, heated patio, pool table, video monitors and off sales beer and wine. This upscale pub offers a relaxed atmosphere, with diverse clientele, good food at reasonable prices, friendly attentive staff and great people watching. 1025 Davie Street. No Cover. 604.687.2222 (Gay owned)

Oasis Ultra Lounge

A unique entertainment venue with sexy, friendly service, fresh menu, daily cocktail specials to complement the high quality sound system, late night DJ's and live entertainment. An attractive year-round covered patio, and refreshing new look in the main room, gives Oasis Ultra Lounge a smart casual, stylish atmosphere. 1240 Thurlow Street.

1181

A stylish venue centrally located in Davie Village, 1181 highlights music, culture, drinks and atmosphere with specialty theme nights, DJs and big screen events. Friendly, attentive service. Also available for private functions. No Cover. 1181 Davie Street. 604.687.3991 (Gay owned and operated)

Canvas Lounge

CANVAS Lounge is a world class, full service event venue located in Gastown. The timeless architectural design and stylish décor is the perfect backdrop for unique events, including weddings. It doubles as a sexy high energy Ultra Lounge on weekends... check for special gay and lesbian nights. 99 Powell Street, 604.609.9939 www.canvaslounge.c

CLUBS

The Junction

A laid-back and relaxed neighborhood bar along uber-gay Davie Street in Vancouver's West End, the Junction (1138 Davie St., 604-669-2013) is more of a pub and casual restaurant (think burgers, pizza, and light tavern fare) on weekdays and a full-fledged (if compact) gay dance club on weekends. Patrons also play darts, shoot pool, watch campy videos and gay-popular TV shows, and mingle on the festive patio.

Numbers

Multi-level levi style bar with live DJs, dance floor, pool, darts, and specialty theme nights including regular Karaoke and Karaoke Dance Party nights and monthly Latino Nights. Vancouver's longest operating gay club is still going strong after more than 25 years. 1042 Davie Street. 604.685.4077

Celebrities

This landmark Vancouver nightclub Features the largest dance floor in the Davie Village, state of the art sound and lighting equipment, a line up of the most sought after Vancouver DJs, visiting international DJs, and a list of specialty performers and fan feature nights. Cover most nights. 1022 Davie Street. eature



EVENTS

Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival Dates TBA



Pride is not just a celebration for gays and lesbians. It's a celebration of diversity and anybody who shares the 'life is a cabaret' spirit will feel right at home! Parties, tea dances, cruises, a parade and a spectacular final event makes this an unforgettable celebration every summer. For more information on dates and locations visit www.vancouverpride.ca or call 604.687.0955.

Vancouver Queer Film Festival August 16-26, 2012



Vancouver's second largest film festival brings film lovers and filmmakers together to celebrate the best of independent queer cinema. Experience unexpected performances, celebrate queer community, participate in workshops and panel discussions and meet filmmakers and artists. This August, come flirt, chat and get a little wild at the hottest parties, galas and cinematic spectacles this side of the Pacific. For more information check out our website: www.queerfilmfestival.ca

SHOPPING

Downtown & Gastown

As a cosmopolitan, coastal city, Vancouver's style ranges from haute couture to cozy flannels and fleece. Shopping in Vancouver offers this same diverse range with high fashion boutiques, designer label, accessory and jewelry stores, to extensive shop-til-you-drop malls offering something for everyone. There are unique areas all around Vancouver for clothing, art, ceramics, furniture and much more waiting for you to discover

The downtown area of Vancouver from Burrard to Howe and West Hastings to Georgia is a made up of many fantastic stores mixed with commercial buildings, making this area a great place to wander and explore! High fashion, jewelry, shoes, home wares, and much more can be found and it makes for a lovely walk through the downtown streets with coffee shops and restaurants also readily available. Access to Sinclair Centre, a restored landmark heritage building, now housing many upper-end clothing, accessory, gifts and arts stores, Royal Centre offering a extraordinary assortment of underground shops and



restaurants, or at Pacific Centre where there are over 100 stores including the flagship Holt Renfrew store all within a few minutes walk.

If you continue past Hastings towards the water, you'll find Cordova Street which leads you past the beautiful Waterfront Station building and down to Water Street - the main road of historic Gastown. The area is rich with history and culture as there are many outstanding art galleries, antique shops, and native art stores that are a must see for visitors. As well, you can pick up great gifts and souvenirs in the many specialty shops. Wool sweaters, cozy fleece jackets, attractive jewelry, fun T-shirts, or how about a 'moose in a can'? They have it all at Gastown, along with countless excellent restaurants - and return here at night for some fantastic nightclubs, pubs and live music!

Robson Street

Robson is Vancouver's leading shopping and strolling thoroughfare - high fashion mixed with souvenir shops, music stores, beauty products, book stores and so much more. For serious shoppers, this is the place to go. For those less serious, this is the perfect street for having lunch or a coffee and people watching!

Of course it's hard not to buy when you're surrounded by so many great stores - Salvatore Ferragamo is internationally famous for fine leather footwear and eye-catching accessories. Make sure to check out Roots - Canada's flagship store offering a popular range of casual wear from college-style leather jackets to bright-red retro-runners. And for active life-styles, see Lululemon Athletica for trendy yoga apparel with a designer West Coast twist.

Yaletown

Many of Yaletown's former industrial brick warehouses have been converted into super-hip clothing stores, designer furniture outlets and even a trendy showroom for the new Mini Cooper - a postmodern reinvention of a design classic that mirrors the stylish redevelopment of the Yaletown area.

This is the leading downtown spot for locating the latest fashions for clothing, shoes, accessories, and even homes - stores like the multi-floored Chintz & Company cater to those who want their apartments to look as cool as they do!

Priape

Canada's favourite gay store is celebrating five years since opening their stylish storefront location in the heart of Davie Village. Check out some of the best window dressing on the strip, and venture inside for great personal shopping for yourself, or a special someone back home. Stylish clothing, underwear, Leather, DVD, Bookstore and more, all in one convenient location. 1148 Davie Street. 604.630.2330 www.priape.com

Little Sister's Bookstore

Everything from exotic to erotic can be found at Little Sister's. A great starting point for visitors to Vancouver, this focal point for the GLBT community offers a community bulletin board, magazines, the world's best selection of GLBT literature, gift items, clothing, videos and more. 1238 Davie Street <http://littlesisters.ca>

