

American Celebration of Music in Canada Vancouver, British Columbia

Standard Tour #2 (4 nights / 5 days)

Day 1 **Vancouver** **(D)**

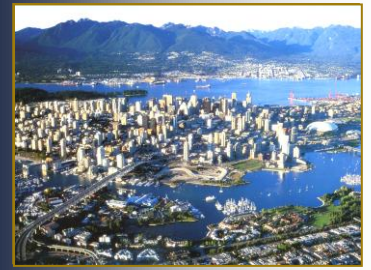
Arrive in Vancouver
Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will be with and assist the group for the remainder of the tour
Check into hotel
Dinner included at the hotel or nearby
Alternative evening options; Symphony tickets, IMAX or OmniMax at Canada Place, Theatre Show (tickets/entrance fees optional and not included. Options are subject to availability and schedules)

Day 2 **Vancouver** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at hotel
Enjoy a city tour of Vancouver with highlights including Stanley Park, Chinatown, historic Robson St., Queen Elizabeth Park, English Bay and more
Afternoon visit to Granville Island, lunch and shopping time here on your own
Performance or clinic in Vancouver as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada
Dinner included tonight at hotel or local restaurant
Evening walking tour of Gastown

Day 3 **Vancouver** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
Start the day at Capilano Suspension Bridge, where you can walk the world's greatest suspension foot bridge
Experience both a guided park tour and a guided nature tour. The nature tour provides guests with a highly interactive introduction to the ecology of the West Coast Rainforest. Learn about the flora and fauna found in this ecosystem, as well the climatic characteristics that make the West Coast a unique environment. The Park also offers live entertainment beginning at the end of May, running through to beginning of September daily. The performers sing every hour on the half throughout the day. Each set lasts about 30 minutes. Lunch can be here on your own. Admission here includes the suspension bridge, Treetops Adventure and new in 2011: Cliffhanger!! Cliffhanger juts out from the granite cliff face above Capilano River, taking you to previously unexplored areas of the park on a series of unobtrusive cantilevered and suspended walkways. In some sections, the glass floors are all that separates you from the canyon floor far below. Treetops Adventure offers a squirrel's eye view of a thriving coastal forest. You can venture from one magnificent Douglas fir tree to another on a series of elevated suspension bridges, some reaching as high as 100 feet (30m) above the forest floor
Next, it on to Grouse Mountain with the exciting Skyride – North America's largest aerial tramway system, 3700 feet above sea level.
Admission also includes Theatre in the Sky, Grouse Mountain's high-



definition cinema experience, "Born to Fly" takes you up close on a dramatic journey through the scenic beauty of BC. This stunning documentary reveals the highest peaks of BC's mountains, the sparkle of ocean whitecaps and the lushness of rainforest, all from an eagle's perspective. Take part in a guided Interpretive Walk (starts in May) and learn about local flora and fauna, the history of Grouse Mountain and the local geology of the North Shore mountains. This 45-minute walk with a knowledgeable Grouse Mountain guide will take you across the mountain plateau and the serene Blue Grouse Lake area, home of the hívus feasthouse and cultural centre. The world famous Lumberjack Show, scenic chair rides and Bird in Motion available during summer months only

Performance or clinic in Vancouver as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada

Dinner included along trendy Robson St or along the waterfront

Afterwards, stroll the shops along Robson Street

Return to hotel for overnight

Day 4

Vancouver / Victoria

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Meet your coach and depart for ferry terminal to Vancouver Island

Coach and passengers will depart on ferry to Vancouver Island to the city of Victoria. Crossing time is 1 hour, 35 minutes

In Victoria, tour the Royal BC Museum

Your self-directed visit may begin at the spectacular river delta and seashore exhibits, complete with live marine animals in a tidal pool. Then on to the wonderful Pacific Rainforest diorama. The third floor offers a ceremonial Big House, see carved poles from various First Nations and an impressive collection of masks and carvings. Stroll along the cobbled streets of Old Town then finish with the 20th Century gallery, presenting the great story of BC in modern times with interactive news stations and exhibits of recent treasures

Lunch here on your own

IMAX can be included for \$7 pp extra

Next leave Victoria, taking the scenic hour-long drive along gorgeous coastline and farmland to The Butchart Gardens

Arrive at the Gardens and enjoy a leisurely stroll around 55 acres of breathtaking gardens (two hours). Butchart Gardens is now a National Historic Site of Canada, and still privately owned by family descendants

Continue sightseeing on your return back to Victoria and view Craigdarroch Castle, Christ Church Cathedral, the Fairmont Empress Hotel, the Parliament Buildings and more in the Inner Harbor

Performance in Victoria as part of the American Celebration of Music in Canada

Check into your hotel

Dinner included tonight nearby

Afterwards, wander down the narrowest street in North America in the continent's oldest Chinatown and/or walk along the Inner Harbour area and waterfront

Horse drawn carriage rides is also an option (additional cost)

Option instead of Butchart Gardens: experience an exhilarating tour to see the Orca whales. Victoria's spectacular coastal waters teem with an abundance of marine wildlife, including seals, sea lions, porpoises, and of course over 80 resident killer whales (additional cost)



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Concert Tours With Integrity

Day 5

Depart for home

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel and check-out
Transfer to the harbor for a ferry back to Vancouver
Afternoon departure for home

***This is a very flexible itinerary.** Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.*

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