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PUBLIC ART RIDE IN VANCOUVER

17 MILES

PROMOTING TWO-WHEELED TOURISM IN CITIES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

HIGHLIGHTS

- A THE EAST VAN CROSS Erected just in time for the 2010 Olympic Games, this has long been the symbol of East Vancouver. The sculpture, created by Ken Lum, represents the cross that has been an expression of hope and defiance in East Vancouver for decades, and is what calls families like our home.
- B DUDE CHILLING PARK Also known as Guelph Park, this space adopted a new name thanks to neighbouring residents who rallied to change it to reflect the unique statue that resides there resembling, you guessed it, a "dude chilling". With lots of green space, a community garden and a playground, it's a great place to set up and have a picnic.
- C TRANS AM TOTEM Towering 33 feet above Quebec Street, Trans-Am Totem pays homage to Vancouver's indigenous past, its radical environmental roots, and contradictory consumer culture. It is truly a sight to behold, constantly turning the heads of passing drivers, pedestrians, Skytrain users, and cyclists alike!
- D TERRY FOX PLAZA Another installation by local artist Douglas Coupland, this series of commemorative statues offers a wonderful tribute to a local hero.
- E DIGITAL ORCA This playful sculpture by local author and artist Douglas Coupland is a fun stop for all ages. Stop by at night and watch it sparkle!
- E OLYMPIC CAULDRON One of the many legacies left behind from the 2010 Olympics, the Cauldron in Jack Pool Plaza is a great stop for photos and the kids love to walk along the pool of water that surrounds the structure.
- G TOTEM POLES AT STANLEY PARK British Columbia's Native Peoples have a rich history, and a must stop on a visit through the area is to the Totem Poles at Stanley Park. A tourist trap for sure, but worth a stop as you travel along the breathtaking Seawall.
- H A-MAZE-ING LAUGHTER This is a must stop for any public art tour. Located just near Vancouver's iconic English Bay, these statues made of patinated cast bronze offer fun and humour to the landscape. It is not uncommon to see tourists mimicking the funny faces, or for children to be found dangling from their sturdy arms!
- UNUKSHUK You can't visit Vancouver without a stop at the iconic Inukshuk, sitting at the water's edge at English Bay.
- U ENGAGEMENT Sculpture by Dennis Oppenheim, these massive rings are often overlooked when cycling through Sunset Beach but are a beautiful addition to the landscape. By night, the 'diamonds' sparkle and light up the surrounding area.
- U 217.5 ARC X 13- Located among the sands of Sunset Beach, the 217.5 ARC X 13, or more commonly known as 'The Whale Bone'', is a massive corten steel structure not only a fun place for kids to climb and play, but is the perfect frame to the mountains and setting sun.
- ROUNDHOUSE PARK & ENGINE 374 Offering a real-life perspective of one of Vancouver's old rail yards, Roundhouse park is a fun place to sit down and relax or climb and rearrange the plastic chair sculptures set under a large canopy. Don't forget to stop in to see Engine 374, housed in the adjacent building. Kids and adults can climb aboard and feel like a conductor would have 100 years ago!
- M THE BIRDS OF OLYMPIC VILLAGE Lovingly known by some as the "Angry Birds", the two giant bird statues have become a visual landmark for Olympic Village Square. Kids love to see how high they can climb up their backs, while parents can sip coffee from the nearby coffee shops.
- N HUMAN STRUCTURES VANCOUVER Nothing like a life-size human tower! Race in and out of the digital people, and look up as they climb higher and higher into the sky.
- O LOVE YOUR BEANS BY COSIMO CAVALLARO This installation, a part of the 2014-2016 Biennale, is a playful stop along the south False Creek Seawall. Kids love trying to climb on these colourful larger-than-life jellybeans!
- P GIANTS In the summer of 2014, the stark grey cement towers of OCEAN cement got a face lift, creating this unique and fun set of public art. If you catch it on an open house day, you can get up close to the towers, but if not, they are visible from both sides of False Creek and add a lot of colour to an otherwise grey scene.
- ECHOES At first glance, they simply look like patio chairs left out from the nearby cafe. But look closer and you'll find each strategically placed chair includes a message to get you thinking. Enjoy a peaceful moment as you stare off into the horizon, or share a moment with a friend!

ABOUT THE ROUTE CURATOR





Melissa and Chris are co-owners of Modacity, a multi-service consultency, focused on inspiring healthier, happier, simpler forms of urban mobility through words, photography and film. They live in East Vancouver with their two children, Coralie and Etienne, where they spend most days riding around on their fleet of city bikes enjoying all the beauty, coffee (and craft beer) Vancouver has to offer.

