



SEAWALL & CITY, ART & EATABLES VANCOUVER

10 MILES



KEY

BIKE LANE / STREET

BIKE PATH / CYCLE TRACK



ART & CULTURE



BEER



PARK



CAFE



OUTDOORS



COCKTAILS



FOOD



ICE CREAM



SHOPPING

HIGHLIGHTS

- A** Science World
1455 Quebec St
- B** Craft,
85 W 1st St
- C** Jelly Beans
- D** Granville Island
- E** Musette Caffe
1262 Burrard St
- F** Lost Lagoon
- G** Chinese Garden
578 Carrall St
- H** Alibi Room
157 Alexander

BONUS

- 1** The Birds
- 2** Go Fish!
1505 W 1st St
- 3** 217.5 Arc X 13
- 4** Sylvia Hotel
1154 Gilford St
- 5** Shack on Stilts
- 6** Bella Gelateria
1001 Cordova St
- 7** Skwachàys Lodge
31 W Pender St
- 8** East Van Roasters
319 Carrall St
- 9** Gassy Jack

PROMOTING TWO-WHEELED TOURISM IN CITIES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

HIGHLIGHTS

- A** SCIENCE WORLD - The seawall and city tour starts at the foot of False Creek at Science World, the massive golf ball, a left over from Expo '86. If you have kids or you're a Rube Goldberg fan, check out the Tower of Bauble, a rolling ball kinetic sculpture outside the entrance.
- B** CRAFT - For a beer (They have over a 100 taps) or something more substantial head to Craft Beer Market, housed in the Salt Building, a beautifully restored timber frame warehouse.
- C** JELLY BEANS - On the ride to Granville Island, you'll pass the giant jelly beans of Charleston park. It's pretty hard to ride by these without stopping to check them out. When else will you get the chance to sit on a 5' high jelly bean?
- D** GRANVILLE ISLAND - Highlights of the market are OYAMA Sausage Co, for incredible paté, saucisson sec and cured meats that are on par with Europe's best. But before you go make sure you don't miss 'Giants', painted by Brazilian graffiti artist and twin brothers OSGEMEOS on the Ocean cement plant silos. The silos were painted in 2014 as part of the Vancouver Biennale.
- E** MUSETTE CAFE - If you need a coffee or an amazing gluten free salted chocolate chip cookie, stop at the bike café Musette, a great little café hidden off the street in an alley behind a defunct car dealership.
- F** LOST LAGOON - An artificial lake that used to be tidal mudflats that extended from Coat Harbour. Named by Pauline Johnson, the Lost Lagoon is one of Canada's early literary stars, named so because she loved to paddle her canoe there, but being tidal it could sometimes be lost to her for days. The park board officially named it Lost Lagoon after they turned it into a lake.
- G** CHINESE GARDEN - Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Chinese garden has two parts — a public park and, separated by a wall but joined by a pond, a classical Chinese garden with an admission fee. Opened in 1986 this was the first classical Chinese garden built outside China. The Feng Shui is pretty much perfect in here, a good spot to slow down, gather your thoughts and exhale before the last push into Gastown. \$14 Adult, \$28 Family
- H** ALIBI ROOM - The Alibi Room is arguably Vancouver's finest beer pub, 40 plus taps, usually 3 or more casks on the go and the food is consistently great. The Beef Bourgeois was amazing last time I was there; however, the beer and food menu changes constantly, which would be annoying if wasn't always getting better.

BONUS

- 1** THE BIRDS - At 5 metres high, these 'little' birds are not hard to miss and add an exciting, playful and slightly creepy element to the plaza. The Birds, house sparrows, are the work of Myfanwy MacLeod and were inspired by Hitchcock's film and ideas of sustainability and immigration.
- 2** GO FISH! - One of Vancouver's best fish and chips spots, Go Fish. Yum! There are usually fresh seafood sales off the fish boats on the wharf opposite Go Fish.
- 3** 217.5 X 13 - This structure is named '217.5 Arc X 13' — literally thirteen 217.5 degree arcs fused together out of raw rusting steel awesomeness. Makes for a good spot for a group shoot with bikes inside the Arc, with the beach, seawall and English Bay in the background.
- 4** SYLVIA HOTEL - The Sylvia Hotel, slightly rumpled and charming, is the grand old hotel of Vancouver's waterfront. It was here that Vancouver's, late to sophistication, first cocktail bar opened in 1954. The Lounge just above street level at the front of the Hotel is a enjoyable spot to sip a cocktail and watch the seawall traffic and boats of English Bay.
- 5** SHACK ON STILTS - 'Lightshed' as it is officially called, is one of my favourite Vancouver public art pieces. I don't know how it was made (cast out of aluminium perhaps?) but it's a perfect reproduction of an old boathouse right down to the barnacles on the pilings. It's slanted, with the scale appearing to be deliberately off and subtly glows from inside at night.
- 6** BELLA GELATERIA - On the path at the north west corner of Burrard and Cordova is Bella Gelateria, arguably some of the best gelato in the world, and the proprietor has the awards to prove it. This is pretty much a mandatory stop.
- 7** SKWACHAYS LODGE - As you cycle along Pender Street, look to your left and you'll see a longhouse complete with a 40 foot totem pole on top of a Victorian building. This is Skwachays Lodge, an Aboriginal boutique/art hotel. The hotel and the Aboriginal art gallery on the ground floor operate as a social enterprise run by the Vancouver Native Housing Society (VNHS) with all profits going to VNHS.
- 8** EAST VAN ROASTERS - A short ride down the Carrall St Greenway bike path takes you to East Van Roasters, another social enterprise supporting a local community services society and employing and training women. East Van Roasters, is an artisan chocolate and coffee roaster, a pretty great spot for a refreshment or to pick up some chocolate to take back home.
- 9** GASSY JACK - Named Gassy for his verbose nature, John Deighton was a river boat captain and the areas first tavern keeper.

ABOUT THE ROUTE AUTHOR

JONATHAN WOLFERSTAN



Jonathan lives with his partner Dianna and two year old son Aeneas in Vancouver's South False Creek neighbourhood. Along with parenting, Jonathan spends his days working as a shipwright and book designer as well as running a small indie press. Critical elements in the life of Jonathan, next to bikes, are time on the water, in and around boats, food, art and time exploring and enjoying city centres. Prior to the kiddo, Dianna and Jonathan spent two years living on a Dutch sailing barge on the inland waterways of France. There were many bikes on that boat, and the coffee was quite good...



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