



SHOPPING

Two Day Sample Itinerary

Whether you're window shopping, looking to pick up souvenirs, or looking for a whole new wardrobe, Victoria has you covered. With everything from quaint shops and local food markets to unique boutiques and one-stop shopping centres, Victoria is the perfect destination for treating yourself to a shopping trip.

Day One

Government Street

From the Inner Harbour, wander up Government Street to find the perfect gift or souvenir while taking in some of Victoria's distinct architecture. Stop to sample handmade chocolates or the perfect cup of tea or coffee. Discover Native art, jewelry, fashion and a variety of specialty stores as well as The Bay Centre shopping mall along the bustling sidewalks of this iconic street.



Bastion Square

Across the street from Troncoe Alley, find Bastion Square. Once the site of Victoria's Court House, Law Chambers, a brothel and several hangings, Bastion Square is now animated with shops and restaurants. In the summer, take in the Bastion Square Festival of the Arts, a bustling market where vendors and local artisans sell their handmade arts and craft



LoJo & Market Square

Just off Government Street, Lower Johnson Street, known as "LoJo", is a district of trendy boutique shopping with independent fashion and accessory shops. Along LoJo you will also find the entrance to Market Square. Once housing hotels, saloons and shops where sailors, miners and Chinese merchants worked and played, today the square offers a wonderful selection of local boutiques offering one-of-a kind merchandise.



Comics, Games, Play & Collectibles

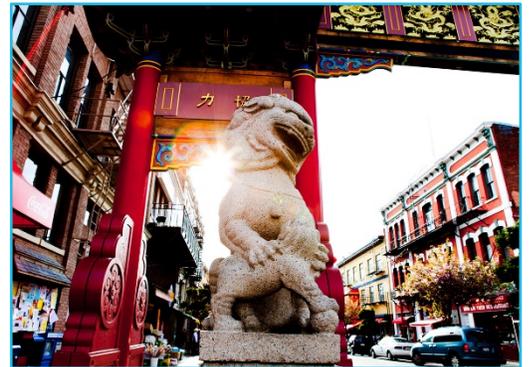
Travel to colourful comic galaxies and take your favourite vintage toy down memory lane. Victoria's vibrant fan culture and a number of specialized stores draw visitors from all over the world, not surprising as the city was built on the imaginations of the most tech-savvy creative innovators. Many of these unique stores are found within a few block radius of downtown, be sure to check out **Legends Comics & Books**, **Curious Comics**, and **Cherry Bomb Toys!**



Day Two

Chinatown

Enter Canada's oldest Chinatown through the Gate of Harmonious Interest, at the corner of Fisgard and Government Streets. Shop for art, curios, home furnishings and Asian wares and stroll down Fan Tan Alley, North America's narrowest street. At its narrowest, the alley is only 0.9 metres (3 feet) wide. Once notorious for its many opium dens and gambling houses, Fan Tan Alley is now lined with quirky shops and restaurants.



Silk Road Tea

Silk Road Aromatherapy & Tea Company, located in Victoria's historic Chinatown offers a collection of exotic teas and tea equipage as well as a tea tasting bar. Similar to a wine bar, Silk Road offers public tea tastings and seminars to individuals and groups. In addition to tea, Silk Road features an in-house spa and manufactures their own 100 per cent natural body care products. www.silkroadtea.com.



Fort Street

Fort Street is home to all kinds of shops and eateries! Once known for its auction houses and antiques, it's now abuzz with independent cafes, delis, bookstores, art galleries, and tech hubs. Wander through **Russell Books**, where you will find books stacked floor to ceiling, three stories high and pick up a sweet treat at **The Dutch Bakery & Diner**.



Off the Beaten Path

Victoria's shopping experience also extends beyond famous Government Street storefronts and the downtown core. Off the beaten path and just minutes from downtown, shoppers will find several major suburban shopping centers with hundreds of stores to browse, including **Mayfair Shopping Centre and Uptown**.

Stroll through **Oak Bay Village** and visit the many one-of-a-kind shops and art galleries, then soak up the ambience in one of the cafes, pubs or bistros. Harbour seals can often be seen in their natural habitat at the Oak Bay Marina and the whole family can enjoy Willows Beach and its adjoining playground.

Another popular place to stroll is **Cook Street Village**, located close to the walking trail along Dallas Road. This neighbourhood shopping area is home to shops, restaurants and cafes that will entice you to linger.



Contact Us

For more information on this and other itinerary suggestions, contact the Travel Trade team at Destination Greater Victoria.

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