
SUMMER BOARDING PROGRAM TOURS

Every year we review all our tours, adding new ones and upgrading our classics. The following tour descriptions apply to 2019 tours. Not all tours are scheduled for each Program. Please see the "Sample Summer Boarding Schedule" to find out which tours are planned for the Program(s) of your choice. All tours are subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

AFTERNOON TOURS:

Granville Island

Located in the heart of False Creek, Granville Island is a hotspot for Vancouver tourism. Students tour the Island, visit the large public market, watch street performers, view the marina and houseboats, visit the Emily Carr University of Art & Design and browse some of the small art and craft shops and galleries.

Museum of Anthropology

Located on the University of British Columbia campus, this museum features displays on many world cultures with a focus on First Nations art of the Pacific Northwest. Students are taken on a guided tour that includes stories, activities and a look inside a traditional Haida Longhouse. This tour may also include a short tour of the UBC campus and rose garden.

Steveston Village

Students travel to quaint and beautiful Steveston Village for dinner at Fisherman's Wharf. After dinner they tour this historic fishing village visiting the shops, park, beach, fishing boats and more.

Fly Over Canada

We travel to downtown Vancouver where students "Fly Over Canada" in a virtual flight ride that takes them on a breathtaking tour across Canada. The ride is located in picturesque Coal Harbour. After the ride students tour Canada Place, the Winter Olympic Cauldron, Coal Harbour, Robson Street, and Historic Gastown.

Spanish Banks

A visit to Spanish Banks beach in scenic West Point Grey for dinner and beach games. Students have a meal beachside while enjoying views of Vancouver's downtown and North Shore. Afterwards we play a variety of beach sports, do some sandcastle building, shell & rock collecting and more on this sandy beach.

Stanley Park Cycling:

Students either cycle or walk (depending on cycling ability) the iconic Stanley Park seawall. On their ride they see Lost Lagoon, the Stanley Park Lighthouse, the Lions Gate Bridge, as well as some amazing beaches along the way. Walkers stroll the seawall with an ice cream treat and visit the First Nations Totem Poles, Third Beach, and Lost Lagoon as well as have the chance to take pictures of local wildlife such as Canadian Geese.

Metrotown Shopping

We visit Metrotown for an evening shopping trip. Students split up into smaller groups to tour the mall and have a chance to pick up Canadian souvenirs and gifts they may want to take home.

Bloedel Conservatory

At the peak of Queen Elizabeth Park, Bloedel Conservatory is a large domed rainforest housing over 500 exotic birds, plants, and flowers. Students take a circular tour of the dome and learn more about the rainforest habitat.

Vancouver Space Centre

HR MacMillan Space Centre is Vancouver's premier space museum. Students spend the first half of this tour exploring the Cosmic Courtyard in groups and follow up with a rocket show and demonstration. To complete the tour, students watch a special presentation on the full-dome digital planetarium projection system.

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FULL DAY TOURS:

Whistler

An exciting full-day tour where we visit Whistler Mountain and Village. Whistler hosted the 2010 Winter Olympics and is one of the most famous ski destinations in the world. Our journey takes us through Squamish where students take a short hike to Shannon Waterfalls. After visiting the waterfalls we travel up to Whistler Village and ride the Peak-2-Peak Gondola spanning Whistler and Blackcomb, the longest and highest Gondola in the world. At the top students have the chance to play in snow in the middle of summer. For dinner we eat at the Old Spaghetti Factory then tour through the village in smaller groups viewing all the sites and shops.

Victoria:

We visit the capital of British Columbia on majestic Vancouver Island for a full day tour. Students depart from Tsawwassen in Vancouver by ferry and bus to downtown Victoria from Swartz Bay. Highlights of this tour include: The downtown Inner Harbour where students have a chance to look at majestic old Galleon boats as well as modern catamarans and sail boats, a visit to the Parliament Buildings along with a group photo, a walk around the famous Empress Hotel, a tour of the Royal London Wax Museum, as well as a tour of the Dinosaur exhibition at the Royal BC Museum (time permitting).

Bowen Island:

This is a full-day tour where students first travel by bus to the village of Horseshoe Bay and then catch a spectacular ferry ride to Bowen Island. Once on Bowen Island students participate in a hike around Killarney Lake followed by a visit to Snug Cove. Students should keep their eyes open as the ferry ride and island have some amazing wildlife and they may be able to see whales, dolphins, eagles, seals, otters and more!

Vancouver Aquarium:

Located in Stanley Park, the Vancouver Aquarium is dedicated to showcasing and preserving marine wildlife. Students have a chance to visit many different exhibitions and shows including: The Dolphin & Beluga shows, Tropic Zone, Penguin Point and BC Coast. They also have some free time to tour and view animals such as Sea Otters, Turtles, Sea Lions, Jellyfish, Whales, Seals, Manta Rays and more. In addition, they experience a special wet lab session with an Aquarium staff where they get to handle and observe a wide variety of tidal pool animals. If there is time remaining after the aquarium visit students tour some Stanley park attractions including the Stanley Park ecology society and First Nations totem poles.

Fort Langley Village:

Students have the chance to experience one of British Columbia's first-ever settlements and a former trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company. We start with a tour of the historic site including a Blacksmith's and Bastions. Students also have the chance to interact with live costumed actors who participate in reenactments in character. Afterwards we make ice cream from scratch the old fashioned way to enjoy after lunch. Upon completion of this tour we jump ahead to modern times and head to Langley Colossus Theatre to watch a 3D movie in one of Canada's largest movie theatres.

Brittania Mine Museum and Porteau Cove:

Students take a bus for about 45 minutes over the Lions Gate Bridge and past West Vancouver to Porteau Cove near Squamish. A beautiful waterfront camping destination, this beach is a great stop for students to enjoy lunch, explore the shoreline, search for marine life, and check out amazing views of Howe Sound. Afterwards we take a short trip just down the road to the Brittania Mine Museum where we have an official tunnel tour on a mine train followed by a tutorial on panning for real gold! Students will also have some free time to wander and look at interactive displays, the souvenir shop, and special film shows at this highly-rated, world-class mining museum.