Travel Information Package

NRC-HIA
Victoria, BC, Canada
Travel Information

Note that Victoria is on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, but the City of Vancouver itself is not on the Island. Travel to Victoria must be done either by air or by sea, typically via Vancouver or Seattle.

Please check the Citizenship and Immigration Canada web site at http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.html, to see if you need a visa to enter Canada.

By Air

a. Victoria International Airport (http://www.cyyj.ca/): This airport serves moderate and large passenger aircraft for southern Vancouver Island. Connections to Victoria are usually made via Vancouver or Seattle. International visitors arriving via Vancouver will clear customs and immigration in Vancouver, while those arriving from Seattle will go through them in Victoria.

The airport is ~30 minutes' drive to downtown Victoria. Taxis or the Airporter hotel shuttle are available after exiting the arrivals doors at the Airport. Taxi fares from airport to downtown are usually ~CDN$50 one-way. The Airporter is only CDN$13 one-way, and services all Victoria hotels, but it leaves at 30-minute intervals. Airporter reservations can be made online at: http://www.akalairporter.travel.bc.ca/

b. Downtown Harbour An alternative way to arrive or depart Victoria is via floatplane or helicopter. Floatplanes (http://www.westcoastair.com/ ou http://www.harbour-air.com/) take off and land in the Inner Harbour several times a day and connect to downtown Vancouver and Seattle and to Vancouver International Airport.

There is also scheduled helicopter service (http://www.helijet.com/). Floatplane terminals and heliport are much nearer to downtown than Victoria International Airport. A disadvantage is that connections in Vancouver or Seattle to float planes to and from Victoria may be difficult to arrange. See your travel agent for more information. Again, where you pass through customs and immigration depends on whether you travel via Vancouver or Seattle.

By Sea

a. From the BC Mainland: BC Ferries has near-hourly sailings between the Tsawwassen ferry terminal south of Vancouver and the Swartz Bay ferry terminal, ~40 minutes' drive north of Victoria. Both vehicles and foot passengers can be accommodated on these ferries at different rates. For more information, see: http://www.bcferries.com
b. **From the U.S. Mainland:** Passenger ferries can be taken between Victoria and Seattle:

- Seattle ([http://www.victoriaclipper.com](http://www.victoriaclipper.com))
- Port Angeles ([http://www.victoriaexpress.com](http://www.victoriaexpress.com) or [http://www.cohoferry.com](http://www.cohoferry.com)).

Vehicle ferries are available between Victoria and Port Angeles ([http://www.cohoferry.com](http://www.cohoferry.com)) or Anacortes ([http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/)).

Please note that most ferries permit reservations and some require them. An overall guide to ferries in the region is available at [http://www.ferrytravel.com/](http://www.ferrytravel.com/).

**Getting to HIA - Victoria**

HIA is located on the Saanich Peninsula, about a 25-minute drive from downtown Victoria, and approximately 15 minutes from the Victoria International Airport, 20 minutes from the Schwartz Bay Ferry Terminal. Though Victoria has a comfortable bus system ([http://www.busonline.ca/regions/vic/](http://www.busonline.ca/regions/vic/)), there is no public transit service to the Observatory site itself. Taxi fares from downtown to HIA average approximately $25-30 CAD.

**Car Rental**

Many visitors find it most convenient to rent a car for their stay. Victoria International Airport is serviced by the major car rental companies, most of which have downtown locations as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Co.</th>
<th>Vic Downtown</th>
<th>Web</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>250-953-6300</td>
<td><a href="http://www.budgetvictoria.com">www.budgetvictoria.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>250-386-1828</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nationalcar.com">www.nationalcar.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise</td>
<td>250-383-3659</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thrifty.com">www.thrifty.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avis</td>
<td>250-386-9468</td>
<td><a href="http://www.avis.com">www.avis.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz</td>
<td>250-385-4440</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hertz.com">www.hertz.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directions from the Airport (Victoria International – YYJ)

- Follow the signs from the Airport to HIGHWAY 17 (Victoria).
- Turn Right onto HIGHWAY 17
- Continue on HIGHWAY 17 for 15 kilometres and take the ROYAL OAK DR Exit
- Turn Right at the lights onto ROYAL OAK DR
- Continue on ROYAL OAK DR and turn Right at the 2nd set of lights onto WEST SAANICH RD
- Continue on WEST SAANICH RD for 3 kilometres
- Turn Right onto Observatory Road (large NRC sign) and continue 2 kilometres up the hill to the main office.

Directions from Swartz Bay BC Ferries Terminal

- Follow the signs from the Ferry Terminal to HIGHWAY 17 (Victoria).
- Continue on HIGHWAY 17 for 20 kilometres and take the ROYAL OAK DR Exit
- Turn Right at the lights onto ROYAL OAK DR
- Continue on ROYAL OAK DR and turn Right at the 2nd set of lights onto WEST SAANICH RD
- Continue on WEST SAANICH RD for 3 kilometres
- Turn Right onto Observatory Road (large NRC sign) and continue 2 kilometres up the hill to the main office.

Directions from Downtown Victoria and US Ferries from Seattle and Port Angeles, WA

- Follow Blanshard Street North until it turns into HIGHWAY 17 (Victoria).
- Continue on HIGHWAY 17 for 10 kilometres and take the ROYAL OAK DR Exit
- Turn Left at the lights onto ROYAL OAK DR
- Continue on ROYAL OAK DR and turn Right at the 3rd set of lights onto WEST SAANICH RD
- Continue on WEST SAANICH RD for 3 kms
- Turn Right onto Observatory Road (large NRC sign) and continue 2 kilometres up the hill to the main office.
NRC-HIA: Victoria Office Building Main Entrance
Victoria Area Hotels:

While there is a reasonably comfortable Howard Johnson’s hotel within 5 minutes drive of HIA, many visitors prefer to stay in the downtown area in order to fully experience one of the world’s loveliest cities. A small sampling of local hotels follows. Large travel web sites, such as www.expedia.com or www.travelocity.ca carry a full listing of Victoria area hotels. Please note that all rates are approximate, and that most local hotels offer a range of options, from standard rooms to penthouse suites.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Address (Location) (Map #)</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Rate (CAD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Howard Johnson Hotel &amp; Suites</td>
<td>4670 Elk Drive (Close to HIA) (A1)</td>
<td>250-704-4656</td>
<td>$77-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.hojovictoria.ca">http://www.hojovictoria.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina</td>
<td>146 Kingston St. (Downtown) (B1)</td>
<td>250-360-1211</td>
<td>$99-147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.coasthotels.com">http://www.coasthotels.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour Towers Hotel and Suites</td>
<td>345 Quebec St (Downtown) (B25)</td>
<td>250-385-2405</td>
<td>$99-129+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.harbourtowers.com/">http://www.harbourtowers.com/</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive House Hotel</td>
<td>777 Douglas Street (Downtown) (B24)</td>
<td>250-388-5111</td>
<td>$105-189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.executivehouse.com/home.php">http://www.executivehouse.com/home.php</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Château Victoria Hotel</td>
<td>740 Burdett Ave. (Downtown) (B11)</td>
<td>250-382-4221</td>
<td>$90-179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.chateauvictoria.com/">http://www.chateauvictoria.com/</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurel Point Inn</td>
<td>680 Montreal Street (Downtown) (B3)</td>
<td>250-386-8721</td>
<td>$154 +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.laurelpoint.com">http://www.laurelpoint.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Hotels By Location:

### Closest to HIA:

**Howard Johnson Hotel & Suites Victoria**

**Accommodation:** Howard Johnson Hotel & Suites Victoria  
**Address:** 4670 Elk Drive  
Victoria, British Columbia  
Canada  
V8Z5M2

- **Location:** Airport  
- **Establishment:** Hotel  
- **Room Type:** Business Class  
- **Currency:** Canadian Dollar

- **Phone:** 250-704-4656  
- **Toll Free:** 866-300-4656  
- **Email:** suites@hojovictoria.ca

**Web Site:** [http://www.hojovictoria.ca](http://www.hojovictoria.ca)

### Services Offered

- Free Parking  
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors  
- Meeting Facilities  
- Coffee Shop  
- Rates Apply to Contractors  
- Fire Sprinkler  
- Smoke Detector  
- Computer/Fax Hookup  
- Swimming Pool

### Downtown:

**Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina**

**Accommodation:** Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina  
**Address:** 146 Kingston St.  
Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia  
Canada  
V8V1V4

- **Location:** Downtown  
- **Establishment:** Hotel  
- **Room Type:** Guest Room  
- **Currency:** Canadian Dollar

- **Phone:** 250-360-1211  
- **Toll Free:** 800-663-1144  
- **Email:** info@coasthotels.com

**Web Site:** [http://www.coasthotels.com](http://www.coasthotels.com)

### Services Offered

- Free Parking  
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors  
- Meeting Facilities  
- Coffee Shop  
- Computer/Fax Hookup  
- Swimming Pool  
- Bilingual  
- Restaurant  
- Handicap Access: Full  
- Diners Club/enRoute  
- Japan Credit Bureau  
- Master Card  
- Visa
### Harbour Towers Hotel and Suites

**Accommodation:** Harbour Towers Hotels and Suites  
**Address:** 345 Quebec St  
Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia  
Canada  
V8V1W4  

**Location:** Downtown  
**Establishment:** Hotel  
**Room Type:** Guest Room  
**Currency:** Canadian Dollar  
**Canada Select Rating:** 🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟  
**Green Leaf Rating:** None  
**Phone:** 250-385-2405  
**Toll Free:** 800-663-5896  
**Email:** reservations@harbourtowers.com  
**Web Site:** [http://www.harbourtowers.com](http://www.harbourtowers.com)  

#### Services Offered
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors
- Meeting Facilities
- Rates Apply to Contractors
- Fire Sprinkler
- Fire Sprinkler
- Smoke Detector
- Computer/Fax Hookup
- Swimming Pool
- Bilingual
- Restaurant
- Handicap
- American Express
- Diners Club/enRoute
- Japan Credit Bureau
- Master Card
- Visa

### Château Victoria Hotel

**Accommodation:** Château Victoria Hotel  
**Address:** 740 Burdett Ave.  
Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia  
Canada  
V8W1B2  

**Location:** Downtown  
**Establishment:** Hotel  
**Room Type:** Guest Room  
**Currency:** Canadian Dollar  
**Canada Select Rating:** 🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟  
**Green Leaf Rating:** None  
**Phone:** 250-382-4221  
**Toll Free:** 800-663-5891  
**Email:** reservations@chateauvictoria.com  
**Web Site:** [http://www.chateauvictoria.com](http://www.chateauvictoria.com)  

#### Services Offered
- Free Parking
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors
- Meeting Facilities
- Coffee Shop
- Rates Apply to Contractors
- Fire Sprinkler
- Smoke Detector
- Computer/Fax Hookup
- Swimming Pool
- Restaurant
- Handicap Access: Limited
- American Express
- Carte Blanche
- Discover
- Diners Club/enRoute
- Japan Credit Bureau
- Master Card
- Visa
### Executive House Hotel

**Accommodation:** Executive House Hotel

**Address:** 777 Douglas Street  
Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia  
Canada  
V8W2B5

**Location:** City

**Establishment:** Hotel

**Room Type:** Guest Room

**Currency:** Canadian Dollar

**Canada Select Rating:** 🌟🌟🌟🌟

**Phone:** 250-388-5111

**Toll Free:** 800-663-7001

**Email:** reservations@executivehouse.com

**Web Site:** [http://www.executivehouse.com](http://www.executivehouse.com)

**Services Offered**  
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors  
- Meeting Facilities  
- Coffee Shop  
- Rates Apply to Contractors  
- Fire Sprinkler  
- Smoke Detector  
- Computer/Fax Hookup  
- Restaurant  
- Handicap Access: Limited

**Credit Cards Accepted**  
- American Express  
- Carte Blanche  
- Discover  
- Japan Credit Bureau  
- Master Card  
- Visa

### Laurel Point Inn

**Accommodation:** Laurel Point Inn

**Address:** 680 Montreal Street  
Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia  
Canada  
V8V1Z8

**Location:** City

**Establishment:** Hotel

**Room Type:** Guest Room

**Currency:** Canadian Dollar

**Canada Select Rating:** None

**Phone:** 250-386-8721

**Toll Free:** 800-663-7667

**Email:** reservations@laurelpoint.com

**Web Site:** [http://www.laurelpoint.com](http://www.laurelpoint.com)

**Services Offered**  
- Free Parking  
- Non Smoking Rooms/Floors  
- Meeting Facilities  
- Coffee Shop  
- Rates Apply to Contractors  
- Fire Sprinkler  
- Smoke Detector  
- Computer/Fax Hookup  
- Restaurant  
- Handicap Access: Full

**Credit Cards Accepted**  
- American Express  
- Discover  
- Diners Club/enRoute  
- Japan Credit Bureau  
- Master Card  
- Visa
Tourist Information

Victoria is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. Please see the following websites for more information about Victoria, Vancouver Island, or British Columbia:

- http://www.city.victoria.bc.ca
- http://www.vancouverisland.com
- http://www.britishcolumbia.com
- http://www.tourismvictoria.com/
- Maps: http://www.city.victoria.bc.ca/visitors/maps.shtml
- Events: http://www.victoria-bc.com/Events/

For further information or assistance, please contact:

Tessa Ford
Tel : 250-363-0068
Fax : 250-363-0045
Tessa.Ford@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
Map A: Howard Johnson's Hotel
Map B: Downtown Victoria Hotels