



NRC · CNRC

From Discovery to Innovation...

Travel Information Package

NRC-HIA

Victoria, BC, Canada

Canada



National Research
Council Canada

Conseil national
de recherches Canada

Canada

*Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics | Institut Herzberg d'astrophysique
National Research Council Canada | 5071 West Saanich Road, Victoria BC V9E 2E7
Conseil national de recherches Canada | 5071, chemin West Saanich, Victoria (C.-B.) V9E 2E7
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada
<http://www.hia-ihp.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca>*

*General Information:
Phone: (250) 363-0001
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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/>). Foatplane 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.bcferrries.com>

b. **From the U.S. Mainland:** Passenger ferries can be taken between Victoria and Seattle:

- Seattle (<http://www.victoriaclipper.com>)
- Anacortes (<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/>)
- Bellingham (<http://www.whales.com/>)
- Port Angeles (<http://www.victoriaexpress.com> ou <http://www.cohoferry.com>).

Vehicle ferries are available between Victoria and Port Angeles (<http://www.cohoferry.com>) or Anacortes (<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/>.

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/>), 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.

Co.	Vic Downtown	Web
Budget:	250-953-6300	www.budgetvictoria.com
National	250-386-1828	www.nationalcar.com
Enterprise	250-383-3659	www.thrifty.com
Avis	250-386-9468	www.avis.com
Hertz	250-385-4440	www.hertz.com

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.

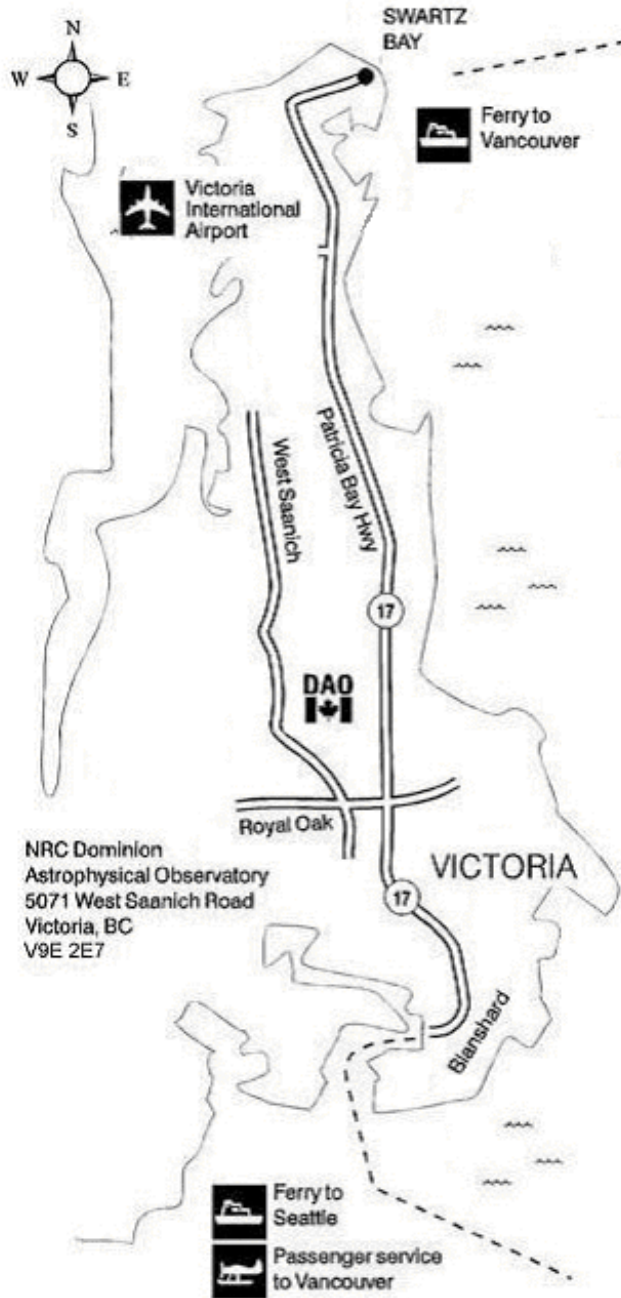
Directions from Swartz Bay BC Ferries Terminal

- 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.
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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.

**Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics
Dominion Astrophysical Observatory**
Victoria, British Columbia



**Institut Herzberg d'astrophysique,
Observatoire fédéral d'astrophysique
Victoria (Colombie-Britannique)**





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.

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

Hotels By Location:

Closest to HIA:

Howard Johnson Hotel & Suites Victoria

Accommodation:	Howard Johnson Hotel & Suites Victoria	Location:	Airport
Address:	4670 Elk Drive Victoria, British Columbia Canada V8Z5M2	Establishment:	Hotel
Phone:	250-704-4656	Room Type:	Business Class
Toll Free:	866-300-4656	Currency:	Canadian Dollar
Email:	suites@hojovictoria.ca	Canada Select Rating:	★★★★☆
Web Site:	http://www.hojovictoria.ca	Green Leaf Rating:	None
		Fax:	250-704-4655

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

Downtown:

Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina

Accommodation:	Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina	Location:	Downtown
Address:	146 Kingston St. Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia Canada V8V1V4	Establishment:	Hotel
Phone:	250-360-1211	Room Type:	Guest Room
Toll Free:	800-663-1144	Currency:	Canadian Dollar
Email:	info@coasthotels.com	Canada Select Rating:	★★★★☆
Web Site:	http://www.coasthotels.com	Green Leaf Rating:	None
		Fax:	250-360-1418

Services Offered	
Free Parking	Non Smoking Rooms/Floors
Meeting Facilities	Coffee Shop
Fire Sprinkler	Smoke Detector
Swimming Pool	Computer/Fax Hookup
Bilingual	Restaurant
Handicap Access: Full	American Express
Carte Blanche	Discover
Diners Club/enRoute	Japan Credit Bureau
Master Card	Visa

Harbour Towers Hotel and Suites

Accommodation:	Harbour Towers Hotels and Suites	Location:	Downtown
Address:	345 Quebec St Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia Canada V8V1W4	Establishment:	Hotel
Phone:	250-385-2405	Room Type:	Guest Room
Toll Free:	800-663-5896	Currency:	Canadian Dollar
Email:	reservations@harbourtowers.com	Canada Select Rating:	★★★★
Web Site:	http://www.harbourtowers.com	Green Leaf Rating:	None
		Fax:	250-360-2313

Services Offered

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

Château Victoria Hotel

Accommodation:	Château Victoria Hotel	Location:	Downtown
Address:	740 Burdett Ave. Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia Canada V8W1B2	Establishment:	Hotel
Phone:	250-382-4221	Room Type:	Guest Room
Toll Free:	800-663-5891	Currency:	Canadian Dollar
Email:	reservations@chateauvictoria.com	Canada Select Rating:	★★★★☆
Web Site:	http://www.chateauvictoria.com	Green Leaf Rating:	None
		Fax:	250-380-1950

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	Location:	City
Address:	777 Douglas Street Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia Canada V8W2B5	Establishment:	Hotel
		Room Type:	Guest Room
		Currency:	Canadian Dollar
		Canada Select Rating:	★ ★ ★ ★
Phone:	250-388-5111	Green Leaf Rating:	None
Toll Free:	800-663-7001	Fax:	250-385-1323
Email:	reservations@executivehouse.com		
Web Site:	http://www.executivehouse.com		

Services Offered	
Non Smoking Rooms/Floors	Meeting Facilities
Fire Sprinkler	Smoke Detector
American Express	Carte Blanche
Discover	Japan Credit Bureau
Rates Apply to Contractors	Restaurant
Handicap Access: Limited	Master Card
Visa	

Laurel Point Inn

Accommodation:	Laurel Point Inn	Location:	City
Address:	680 Montreal Street Victoria (Downtown), British Columbia Canada V8V1Z8	Establishment:	Hotel
		Room Type:	Guest Room
		Currency:	Canadian Dollar
		Canada Select Rating:	None
Phone:	250-386-8721	Green Leaf Rating:	None
Toll Free:	800-663-7667	Fax:	250-386-9547
Email:	reservations@laurelpoint.com		
Web Site:	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
Swimming Pool	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

