



Downtown

Average age: 33 Residents per block: 130
Percentage of renters: 50
Median household income: 35,009

Luxury brands and glittery new condo-hotel hybrids dot the landscape of downtown, but there are still signs of vintage Vancouver: casualwear in the business district and North Shore mountains visible beyond the glass towers

Shopping options are plentiful on the **800 block of Granville** ①. Look for statement art deco footwear by Canadian designer John Fluevog or limited-edition casual kicks at Zelen. Nearby hipster spots Urban Outfitters, American Apparel, Spank, and Aldo make this a handy strip for the young, lithe, and lovely.

Pacific Centre ② (701 W. Georgia St., 604-688-7235. *Pacificcentre.ca*) runs between Granville and Howe, and is corralled by Robson and Pender. Venture inside for classic, upscale sportswear from the just-opened Michael Kors. Swing next door to another newcomer, stiletto legend Stuart Weitzman. Next stop is Harry Rosen, the hub for high-end menswear that houses an in-store pop-up shop from suave Italian designer Brunello Cucinelli. Nearby Sephora purveys luxe cosmetics and skin care. And all roads lead to **Holt Renfrew** (737 Dunsmuir St., 604-681-3121. *Holtrenfrew.com*), where you may spot visiting movie stars perusing racks of Rag & Bone, Phillip Lim, Edun, Prada, and more.

Accessory enthusiasts were overjoyed when Austrian jeweller **Frey Wille** ③ (511 Howe St., 604-569-0814. *Frey-wille.com*) opened its first Canadian location in Vancouver last summer. The 60-year-old Vienna-based design house creates rings, bangles, and necklaces in 24-karat gold or palladium with hand-painted enamel details. The boutique also stocks scarves for women, and cuff links, belts, and Italian silk ties for men.

Finch's Tea and Coffee House ④ (353 W. Pender St., 604-899-4040. *Finchteahouse.com*) is an eccentric little café sporting your grandma's



Granville Street



MARKETPLACE

822 Seymour St.
\$409,900

MAINTENANCE FEE

\$246

SPECS

570 sq. ft., one bedroom plus den, one bath; the L'Aria is right downtown; this suite features new carpet and a storage/office room, floor-to-ceiling windows, and views overlooking Robson Street.



The Ascot Lounge

lace curtains and a set of cozy reading lamps. Settle into a mismatched chair and prepare to be amazed by the ample baguette sandwiches, with fillings like prosciutto, blue brie, walnuts, and grapes.

The Ascot Lounge ⑤ (420 W. Pender St., 604-566-9599. *Theascot.ca*), with its thoughtfully restored interior and secret greenery-filled rear patio, opened its doors just in time for summer. Think kitchen sink comfort food—meatloaf and penne—with a strong draft selection and impressive espresso.

Guu Garden Izakaya ⑥ (888 Nelson St., 604-899-0855. *Guu-izakaya.com*) is an elevated oasis of tranquility where staff greet you like old friends. Let Guu introduce you to oden—boiled savouries in miso broth—and make sure not to miss the best grilled mackerel in the city. Finish with the smooth, innovative sake-and-sea-salt ice cream.

Hotshot chef David Hawksworth has found a home in the refined Georgia Hotel. **Hawksworth Restaurant** ⑦ (801 W. Georgia St., 604-682-5566. *Hawksworthrestaurant.com*) reflects its posh setting with curvaceous white furniture and a twinkling chandelier. The sharp menu is long on local delicacies like pan-seared Sooke River trout and Yarrow Meadows duck.

Drop by **Christ Church Cathedral** ⑧ (690 Burrard St., 604-682-3848. *Cathedral.vancouver.bc.ca*) to eavesdrop on the evening Gregorian chant. Built in 1889, the cedar and Douglas fir interior helps the massive organ resonate. If the acoustics aren't enough, get satisfaction knowing it's the church the British royal family attends when in town.

Civic centre **Robson Square** ⑨ (between Hornby and Howe streets) was set to be the tallest building in town until visionary architect Arthur Erickson suggested laying it on its back. As a result, you can walk all over this three block monument, from the glass enclosed law courts to the public ice rink.



Yaletown

Average age: 36 Residents per block: 408
Percentage of renters: 48
Median household income: \$81,737

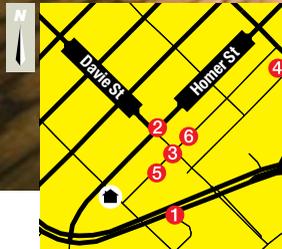
Brick warehouses in this former industrial zone have been converted to stylish lofts with high-end retail and restaurants occupying former loading docks beneath. Grab a spot on a patio lining Hamilton or Mainland streets and watch the primed parade by

Basquiat (1189 Hamilton St., 604-688-0828. *Basquiat.ca*) is a lustrous temple of chic co-owned by glamazons Cristina Linden and Liselott Montesano, who curate a unique collection of designer labels including Barbara Bui, Yigal Azroel, and KaufmanFranco. Think minimalist luxuries like exposed zippers and asymmetrical hems in muted colors.

Where Basquiat appeals to the mature minimalist, **Boudoir** (102-1230 Hamilton St., 604-676-7281. *Myboudoir.ca*) boasts that they're "bringing pretty back." The boutique's stock of adorable frocks from Eight Sixty, Covet, Valerie Dumaine, and BCBG Generation does not disappoint. Step into an electric-pink fitting room and emerge ready for an evening out on the town.

Goorin Bros Hat Shop (1188 Hamilton St., 604-683-1895. *Goorin.com*) has been outfitting frontiersmen since 1895. Browse the four-generation, family-owned haberdashery, with its deep leather couch and worn Persian carpet, for truly timeless gear. Women favour the wide-brimmed Macey floppy for beachwear. For men, it's all about the classy Martini straw fedora.

Print junkies need look no farther than Canada's only **Marimekko** (1233 Hamilton St., 604-609-2881. *Marimekkovancouver.com*). Jackie O put the Finnish fashion company on the map when she donned Marimekko in 1960. But the label isn't limited to clothing. The Yaletown concept store is crammed with bright, whimsical graphics for bedroom and bath, too.



Boudoir



Rodney's Oyster House

BeautyMark (1268 Pacific Blvd., 604-642-0200. *Beautymark.ca*) is our homegrown Sephora. Think gotta-have beauty, skin care, and hair care products in a personalized paradise. If you're lucky, you'll spot a visiting Hollywood celeb among the professional makeup artists.

Distressed home accessories mingle with glittery pieces from Vancouver-based jewellery designers at **The Cross** (1198 Homer St., 604-689-2900. *Thecrossdesign.com*), 5,000 square feet celebrating the immaculately on-trend lifestyle.

Ganache Patisserie (1262 Homer St., 604-899-1098. *Ganache-yaletown.com*) brings Paris to Vancouver. Pastry chef Peter Fong's elegant Bleuets Amande cake pairs B.C. blueberry compote with a rich amaretto cheesecake and delicate biscuit base.

AGRO Cafe (1207 Hamilton St., 604-605-1292. *Agrocafe.org*) is a local fave for combining a nosh with a caffeine fix. Grab a cup of the organic, house-roasted "cinnamon" brew and settle into a deep leather chair to covertly watch the bustle of the Davie Street intersection over the top of the *New York Times*.



MARKETPLACE

499 Drake St.

\$2,098,000

MAINTENANCE FEE

\$726.02

SPECS

2,032 sq. ft., three beds, two baths in landmark Grace building. Modern suite features outdoor patio, walnut floors, three-sided fireplace, and spa-like ensuite. Fingerprint security, indoor/outdoor pool.

Shellfish and pirate aficionados should blow their doubloons at **Rodney's Oyster House** (1228 Hamilton St., 604-609-0080. *Rohvan.com*), where the gregarious staff will guide you through the fresh, half-shell specials that come with potent grated horseradish. If raw isn't your thing, opt for the generous portion of rustic fish stew.

The authentic **Yaletown Caboose** situated in Yaletown Park serves as an eye-catching street furnishing and a reminder of the borough's heritage. Sit down for a sunny picnic in the park square and contemplate Yaletown's historic role as the westernmost terminus of Canada's first national railway. (Three blocks south, visit decommissioned Engine 374 at the Roundhouse Community Centre.)

FROM TOP: ROBYN JAMIESON; MARK COHENE



Coal Harbour

Average age: 37 Residents per block: 331
Percentage of renters: 65
Median household income: \$63,385

Occupying a perfectly manicured stretch of waterfront between the downtown core and Stanley Park, Coal Harbour sees joggers skirt the sea beneath glittering glass towers, ritzy hotels, and elusive residents—this hood is a pretty perch for pricey pieds-à-terre

Cheek by cheek, **Calvin Klein Underwear** ⑤ (1012 Alberni St., 604-899-0667. *Cku.ca*) and **Agent Provocateur** ⑥ (1020 Alberni St., 604-688-2712. *Agentprovocateur.com*) offer differing interpretations of what constitutes an undergarment. American label CK proffers practical yet sexy minimalism for both genders. Meanwhile, British brand Provocateur focuses on alluring seasonal confections that utilize pasties and suspenders. (Don't forget to browse the super-sultry bikini line.)

M0851 ⑥ (1035 Alberni St., 604-688-9575. *M0851.com*) is a Canadian master of modernist leather goods made with traditional craftsmanship. Their sleek bombers and chic carryalls in full-grain calfskin are available for both men and women. They've also expanded their accessories to include ultra-comfy, knitted-linen summer scarves.

Luxury resides at **Burrard & Alberni** ⑤, where you'll see destination brands like Cartier, Coach, Louis Vuitton, St. John, and Gucci—all just a teeny hop from hotel lobbies and cruise ships. In the **1000-1200 blocks of Alberni** ⑥, stop for Betsey Johnson, renegade American and champion of electric-pink garden-print frocks; farther along, Brooks Brothers and Burberry rep haute prep while Escada displays slim suits, slinky gowns, and tropical resortwear.

The legendary French luxury goods house **Hermès** ⑤ (755 Burrard St., 604-681-9965. *Hermes.com*) sits smugly across from famously talented gemologists **Tiffany & Co.** ⑥



Tableau Bar

(723 Burrard St., 604-630-1300. *Tiffany.ca*). Channel old Hollywood by browsing for diamonds à la Audrey Hepburn before strolling over to ogle a crocodile (Grace) Kelly bag.

The Shangri-La gift shop ① (1128 W. Georgia St., 604-689-1120. *Shangri-la.com*) has sensible items like Moleskine notebooks, but most who wander in seek to replicate the ephemeral white tea and floral fragrance that wafts through the opulent hotel lobby, available in room spray, candles, and essential oil.

Claim a sidewalk table at **Bella Gelateria** ④ (1001 W. Cordova St., 604-695-5501. *Bellagelateria.com*), an ideal corner perch for perusing passersby. Down your Milano espresso quickly, then linger over the authentic gelato that comes in classic stracciatella and pistachio siciliano as well as inventive flavours like Thai coconut.

Greet the day at the sunny **Giovane Bakery** ③ (1038 Canada Pl., 604-695-5300. *Giovanecafe.com*) with a signature vanilla sugar bun, or its Italian cousin, the Zeppole, which is plumped with rich chocolate cream and topped with a dark choc glaze. Balance out the sweet with their dusky custom-roast coffee from local roaster 49th Parallel.

While away the day atop a tawny leather banquette in newly open, retro-Parisian **Tableau Bar** ② (1181 Melville St., 604-639-8692. *Tableaubarbistro.com*), where you can survey pop art while jazz curls around your La Bicyclette aperitif. It's worth meditating over the menu; onion soup is an obvious starter, but the range of tempting mains (think succulent lamb shanks and fresh halibut cobb salad) challenges even the most decisive.

Wander the **Coal Harbour seawall** ③ and take in the bustling traffic of floating gas stations, gargantuan cruise ships, and dutiful ferries in contrast to the serene, land-bound sails soaring from the visually arresting Canada Place, command central for the 2010 Olympic Games.



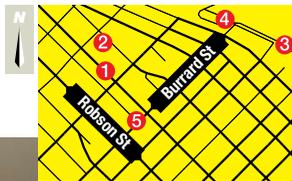
MARKETPLACE

1777 Bayshore Dr.
\$1,750,000

MAINTENANCE FEE
\$816.74

SPECS

1,768 sq. ft., two beds, three baths; the closest waterfront building to Stanley Park has 40 private residences. Views of Stanley Park, marinas, Lost Lagoon and North Shore. Two parking stalls and storage locker.



Giovane Bakery

West End

Average age: 42 Residents per block: 436
 Percentage of renters: 76
 Median household income: \$39,476

The city's gay community is centred here, as is a good portion of its seniors and year-abroad Aussies. What such demographic groups have in common is an attraction to the plethora of studios that fill those art deco apartment and modernist concrete towers

FABcloset ① (1086 Denman St., 604-558-1111. *Fabcloset.com*) combines Vancouver's signature West Coast style with the on-trend beach aesthetic of L.A. and Sydney. Stop here for disco-fabulous Halston Heritage, separates from Australian bustier and denim cutoff experts One Teaspoon, and maxi dresses from Gypsy05, the L.A. label with a mega celeb following.

Uber-hip **Homewerx** ③ (1053 Davie St., 604-682-2204. *Homewerx.ca*) is devoted to curating the modern lifestyle, stocking Vancouver-made Native Shoes, funky Wool & the Gang DIY gift sets, and delicate porcelain wine accessories from Imm Living. Meanwhile next door, sister store **RIO** (Room in Order) has every organizational gadget you could imagine for adding functional style to a small space.

The regionally focused menu and pretty patio make **Raincity Grill** ① (1193 Denman St., 604-685-7337. *Raincitygrill.com*) a West End treasure. If you intend to eat in, go with summery, locally sourced Rossdown Farm fried chicken and warm potato salad. But if you fancy a spot on the beach, hit up the fish 'n' chips takeout window for crispy, lightly battered halibut and thick-cut golden potatoes, neatly tucked into recyclable packaging.

Despite the mod interior and bold hipster-red chairs, the newly opened **Milano** ⑥ (849 Denman St. *Milanocoffee.ca*) is favoured by a crowd of retired coffee addicts who claim the outdoor tables and nurse espressos made from the 12-bean house blend roasted by owner and coffee visionary Brian Turko. The old-timers are fixtures, but summer



FABcloset

brings an influx of newcomers in search of Milano's rare gelato flavours, like white truffle and peaches 'n' cream.

Recently opened **Mango Thai** ② (1206 Davie St., 604-689-9980. *Mangothai.ca*) offers authentic dishes that rely on traditional spicing (no kowtowing to North American palates); go for creamy hot-and-sour soup and duck curry. Lunch specials (includes salad, rice, and spring roll) are a steal: \$7.

Venture out to Stanley Park's ancient **Siwash Rock**, formed by volcanic action 32 million years ago. First Nations tribes know it as Shxw'7elsh ("He who is standing up") and believe that the outcropping is a man transformed into a monument. Canadian mariners refer to Siwash as "Nine Pin" for its resemblance to a bowling pin.

Sunset Beach ④ provides a quiet picnic haven with more sandy real estate than English Bay, which is perpetually overwhelmed with sprawling sunbathers. Bike the scenic stretch of seawall on a weekday rather than the weekend, when you can take in the view instead of focusing on dodging sun-lethargic pedestrians toting bulky picnic hampers.

The Labyrinth at the 100-year-old **St. Paul's** ⑤ (1130 Jervis St., 604-685-6832. *Stpaulsanglican.bc.ca*) is a replica of the maze laid in the stone floor of the Chartres Cathedral in France. Both parishioners and visitors use the winding, circular path as an active form of meditation in their efforts to centre the self.



MARKETPLACE

1350 Comox St.
\$365,000

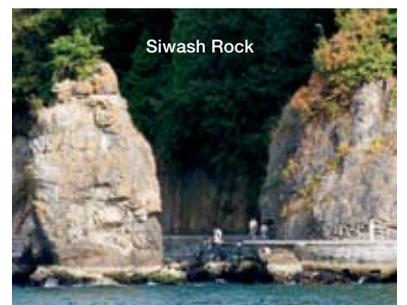
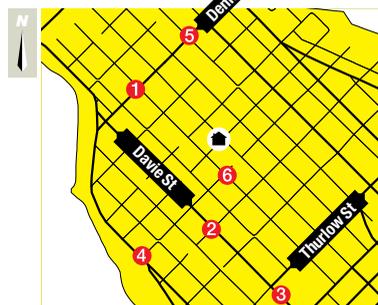
MAINTENANCE FEE
 \$183.43

SPECS

600 sq. ft., one bedroom, one bath in Broughton Terrace (built 1983). Two covered balconies have north and south exposures. The building is fully rain-screened with new roof and paint.



Sunset Beach



Siwash Rock

ROBYN JAMIESON; SIWASH ROCK: TOURISM BC/DANNIELLE HAYES



Granville Island

*Average age: 39
Residents per block: 225
Percentage of renters: 60
Median household income: \$52,458

*Statistics for larger Fairview area

The city's beloved public space and top tourist draw packs old tin-sided buildings, a top arts university, and a bountiful public market into a onetime wasteland turned manmade island (cost of the conversion back in the 1970s: \$50 million).

Granville Island boasts the country's best **Public Market** (1689 Johnston St., 604-666-5784. Granvilleisland.com), where professional chefs, ambitious home cooks, and tourists happily collide. There are many edible delights worth seeking out, but don't miss: Edible BC (dedicated to promoting independent producers from around the region); Oyama Sausage Company (offering over 100 fresh and smoked sausages, plus out-of-this-world pates and terrines); South China Seas (rare condiments, spices, and herbs); and Lee's Donuts (if you visit in October, order the pumpkin spice variety—the classic honey dip practically melts in your mouth).

Salmon tacos might sound the alarm for traditionalists, but at **Go Fish** (1505 W. First Ave., 604-730-5040), a False Creek seafood shack on the western approach to Granville Island, they're very good. A construct of smoky tortilla, grilled wild salmon, side-stripe shrimp mayonnaise, and fresh salsa, they're still redolent of the sea. They should be: the fisherman who caught the main ingredient berths beside the restaurant's year-round patio. Tempura-battered cod (or halibut or salmon) and chips are the city's best, and simple grilled seafood (order an extra side of the tangy tartare sauce) are well worth the salty seawall walk. Unlicensed, and the weekend lines can be fierce.

The Lobster Man (1807 Mast Tower Rd., 604-687-4531. Lobsterman.com), a two-minute walk from the main market, is a chef favourite and the city's finest purveyor of, that's right, lobster, but also crab, oysters, mussels, and other varieties of shellfish. Choose a



Oyama Sausage



MARKETPLACE

1502 Island Pk.
\$449,900

MAINTENANCE FEE
\$279

SPECS

800 sq. ft., one bedroom, one bath; built in 1986, this corner suite adjacent to the Granville Island seawall boasts a huge, lush private patio. New flooring, paint, doors, tiles. Den has Murphy bed.



The Lobster Man



wriggling crustacean from one of the oversized tanks, or take home pre-cooked and shelled meat in convenient takeaway packages.

Not content with opening the first artisan sake-making operation in Canada, Masa Shiroki is growing his own sake rice in the southern Interior of the province, intent on making a completely Canadian sake. In the meantime pick up a bottle of the black label Osake Junmai Nama Genshu at **Artisan Sake Maker** (1339 Railspur Alley, 604-685-7253. Artisansakemaker.com)

Nestled between concrete condo buildings and converted warehouses that are now home to architecture firms sits designer Alda Pereira's **Café Bica** (1809 Fir St., 604-733-8818. Cafebica.com), a beautifully imagined coffee and lunch bar offering macchiatos, organic soups, salads, and sandwiches, and simple breakfasts (soft boiled eggs with toast soldiers).

Cavernous, sleek white **Mint Interiors** (1805 Fir St., 604-568-3430. Mintinteriors.ca) showcases some of the most irreverent, bespoke, and contemporary homewares in town. Exclusive to Mint, find Tracy Kendall wallpaper, which gives surfaces a dramatic, three-dimensional effect with giant hand-sewn sequins (\$46.11 per square foot). Other lines are just as stylish, if a bit cheeky, like the French serving trays depicting birds in various Victorian garb.

Vancouver's **Dayton Boots** (110-1666 Johnston St., 604-566-9848. Daytonboots.com) celebrates 65 years with a new concept boutique. The East Van brand pays homage to years gone by with rough-and-tumble design and visual tributes to the company's local legacy. Though the rugged, durable boots still ensure loggers are properly shod, the brand's eye for serviceable yet stylish design has racked up its fair share of hipster street cred. Every pair is and always has been handcrafted in their Hastings Street heritage factory.

FROM TOP: STEPHEN CHUNG; SARAH RACE



South Granville

Average age: 35
Residents per block: 262
Percentage of renters: 82
Median household income: \$65,388

Occupying prime real estate between Shaughnessy and downtown, South Granville is chockablock with elegant home-design stores, luxury clothing boutiques, private art galleries, and some of the finest restaurants in town. An afternoon here is a date with the good life

The 2200 to 3200 blocks of Granville Street are lined with elegant home furnishing stores, including both chain outlets (Restoration Hardware, Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, EQ3, and Pottery Barn Kids) and independent boutiques (18Karat, Bacci at Home, Peridot).

Cult-status retailer **Anthropologie** (2912 Granville St., 604-734-2529. *anthropologie.com*) recently opened in the swish mecca that is South Granville—its much-hyped debut was the company's highest-grossing in North America. The signature boho-chic style may be a global institution, but it speaks to Vancouver's love of eclectic comfort. The faux-vintage items look like they were unearthed at a dreamy, back-country antique shop, but the prices certainly don't reflect it. Luckily, the always-replenished sale section yields great finds.

At **Diplomatic Immunity** (2956 Granville St., 604-734-0060. *Diplomatic-immunity.ca*) Marousa Dumaresq (a trained architect) and Elise Barraly (a Parisian-trained designer who worked in Belgium) offer a versatile but sophisticated travelwear line designed to be washed in a hotel sink and hung to dry. Their shop also carries select brands like Nanette Lepore and Elizabeth and James.

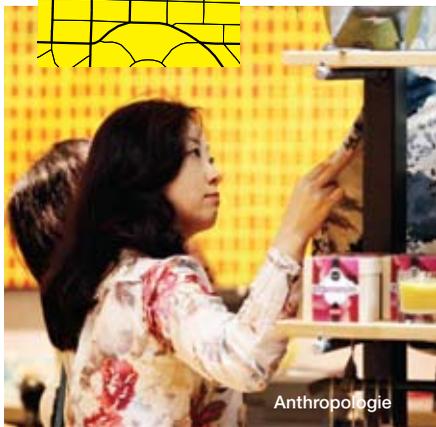
For chic basics and feminine dresses and separates look no further than **Violet Boutique** (3012 Granville St., 604-569-1514. *Violet-boutique.ca*), which stocks bright dresses from Paul and Joe Sister and Erin Fetherston, pleated silk tunics from Abraham & Thakore, hard-to-find French lines like Bella Jones and Cotélaç, and Fiorentini + Baker



Violet



Dose



Anthropologie

shoes. Owner Genevieve Allen has a predilection for Parisian pretty.

Tony Tsai, a 24-year-old entrepreneur and major-league coffee geek, opened his **Dose Espresso Bar** (1517 W. Broadway, 604-734-7711. *Dosedosedrink.com*) after meticulously planning the joint for four years. His espresso (roasted on Granville Island) is first-rate, with notes of cherry and dark chocolate. The miniature space has a smarter design than all other coffee shops in the neighborhood. And Tsai gives a damn: for the first week of business he covered his arms with the names of regulars.

Fast, accessible, and easy on the eyes, **Rangoli** (1488 W. 11th Ave., 604-736-5711. *Vijrangoli.ca*) knows how to satisfy, retaining the innovative approach and dazzling flavours as Vikram Vij's eponymous next-door fine-dining juggernaut. The cauliflower and potato pakoras with spinach channa daal (\$8.75) share nicely, but you'll want to keep the signature lamb in cumin and light cream curry (\$14.50) all to yourself. Ditto the portobello mushroom and red bell pepper curry on paneer with beet salad (\$13.50). Perfect for pre-theatre eats or to refuel after a Granville Street gallery hop. Take home Vij's unique curries and prepackaged meals, available in to-go formats.



MARKETPLACE

1425 W. 26th Ave.
\$6,380,000

ANNUAL TAXES

\$11,125

SPECS

6,278 sq. ft., seven beds, eight baths; Tudor-style new home (built 2010) in prime Shaughnessy faces south with built-in sound system, a/c, wet bar, home theatre, and front/rear car access. Plus 367 sq. ft. porch.

Outside Istanbul, we're sure there's no Turkish bath more authentic than **Miraj Hammam Spa** (1495 W. Sixth Ave., 604-733-5151. *Miraj-hammam.com*). Leave your western modesty with your shoes as you slip on sandals in the lobby: once inside the steam, you're au naturel. Plus, you're ready for the traditional gommage exfoliating scrub—with black Moroccan soap—afterward. In the Sultan's Lounge, you'll feel rather regal sitting on high cushions eating cake and sipping tea.

In its 48th season, the **Arts Club Theatre** (2750 Granville St., 604-687-1644. *Artsclub.com*) presents six shows at the historic (built 1930) Stanley Theatre.

Kitsilano

Average age: 37 Residents per block: 147
 Percentage of renters: 53
 Median household income: \$79,549

Kits has undergone a series of personality changes (post-war suburb, hippie haven, Millionaires' Row), each accompanied by a sizable bump in property values. A golden land of labradoodles and fair-trade yogaphiles, this most blessed of boroughs is at a turning point—densification will only wait so long

Gravity Pope ④ (2205 W. Fourth Ave., 604-731-7673. *Gravitypope.com*) stocks timeless staples like Converse alongside high-end his 'n' hers labels like Church's and Frye. Next door, Gravity Pope Tailored Goods is so skilled at sourcing in-vogue apparel that it's a magnet for visiting designers (most recently Rag & Bone founder David Neville).

Flagship **Nicole Bridger** ⑤ (2151 W. Fourth Ave., 604-730-1129. *Nicolebridger.com*) finally opened, to the delight of her following. Stop by to browse the Vancouver-born, Vivienne Westwood-trained designer's eco-friendly line that proves green clothing can satisfy the sophisticated businesswoman as well as the granola-crunching hippie.

U Life ⑥ (2028 Vine St., 604-879-9135. *Ulifystore.com*) is a brick and monochrome shrine to whimsy. Play with build-your-own Cardboard Safari stag heads and rhinos, or shop for a vintage-inspired mesh clutch by Whiting & Davis.

Blend with locals at the original **Lululemon Athletica** ⑥ (2113 W. Fourth Ave. 604-732-6111. *Lululemon.com*), where yogawear unabashedly doubles as daywear. Founded by Chip Wilson in 2000, Lululemon Athletica is a both a symbol of Kits and a public company with a global following.

If you enjoyed the 1990s cult hit *Empire Records*, you'll want to live in **Zulu** ⑥ (1972 W. Fourth Ave., 604-738-3232. *Zulurecords.com*). Behind the army-green façade, grungy hipsters in ironic glasses



Gravity Pope Tailored Goods



MARKETPLACE

2328 Balaclava St.

\$1,349,000

LOT SIZE

25 ft. x 87 ft.

SPECS

2,967 sq. ft., four beds, three baths in 1912 character home. Basement suite. Newly updated wiring, plumbing, hot water heating, basement reno, kitchen, drain tiles and more. Stained glass windows, fir floors.



Nicole Bridger



dole out concert tickets and headphones for shoppers who need a pre-buy sampling. Zulu is also a community centre of sorts, with a regular lineup of in-store concerts.

Kitsilano Wine Cellar ④ (2235 W. Fourth Ave., 604-736-7660. *Kitswine.com*) just added a tasting bar to its wine boutique. Quiz the sage staff about pairings as you scoop up an in-demand bottle from the Okanagan's Naramata Bench. Among the whites, we love the citrusy 2010 La Frenz Sauvignon Blanc. For reds, we dig the smoky tobacco and cherry notes in Red Rooster Winery's 2009 Pinot Noir.

Drop by **Scoop!** ⑥ (2050 W. Fourth, 604-569-3338. *Scoop yogurt.com*) after a walk-in yoga class to recover with a healthy treat. The tart soft-serve is packed with probiotics and the add-your-own-toppings bar has plenty of diced fresh fruit alongside the cereal and mochi. Chill out in the rear with the café's enticing supply of classic board games.

Terra Breads ② (2380 W. Fourth, 604-736-1838. *Terrabreads.com*) is an artisan bakery/café whose stone ovens turn out fragrant, crusty loaves ranging from fig-and-anise breakfast bread to salty green-olive fougasse. The sunny window counter is filled with regulars poring over the papers, while dining tables fill with visiting carb fanatics.

Andrea Bini and Carlo Bottazzi, owners of **The BiBo** ⑦ (1835 W. Fourth, 604-568-6177, *Thebibo.com*), will refuse to cut your wood-fired pizza, made by their Napoli-trained master, because that's not how it's done back in Italy. Make sure someone orders the pasta fresca—too good to miss.

Kits Beach Pool ① and its adjacent park teem with picnicking families, students blowing off steam, and addicted sun worshipers. Claim your spot, but don't nap. Whether for toddlers learning to bike, enthusiastic beach volleyballers, or someone in pursuit of a wayward kite, it's advisable to keep one eye open.



Cambie Village

Average age: 39
Residents per block: 106
Percentage of renters: 45
Median household income: \$81,246

After an interregnum brought on by the installation of the rapid transit Canada Line, South Cambie has settled back into its dozy ways. Or nearly—infill townhomes, a big-box zone, and rumoured residential towers have added zip to village life

Shop Cocoon (3345 Cambie St., 778-232-8532. shopcocoon.com) is a tiny retail retreat with cool dove-grey walls and antique bookcases housing fragrant soaps and sweet jewellery produced by Vancouver-based artisans. Flip through the two sparse racks for eco-friendly frocks by Elroy Apparel or separates from well-known boho labels like Free People.

Walrus (3408 Cambie St., 604-874-9770. walrushome.com) is a pick-and-mix candy store for design freaks. Chat with owners Daniel and Caroline as you peruse the vintage-inspired ceramic jar series from Heydey Designs or fall for the simple yet elegant Japanese glass beaded jewellery by Vancouverite Becky Brisco.

Ask anyone who works in the area and they'll direct you to **Las Tortas** (3353 Cambie St., 604-569-1402. lastortas.ca) for lunch. The slow-roasted Pollo Pibil chicken torta is laced with Mayan spices along with the standard cabbage, refried beans, pickled onions, and jalapeños, while the Mexican club with roast pork and jack cheese runs rings around the classic version of the sandwich. Sip a genuine Jarritos pop and enjoy the vintage Mexican film posters while you wait for your order.

The gracious 30-seat **Pied-à-Terre Bistro** (3369 Cambie St., 604-873-3131. pied-a-terre-bistro.ca) is a fine-dining lunch gem. Settle into a sleek black banquette and allow the urbane waitstaff to guide you through French fare that's ideal for sharing. Try the côte de boeuf for two that comes with frites and a choice of roquefort and mustard



Benton Brothers Cheese Shop



MARKETPLACE

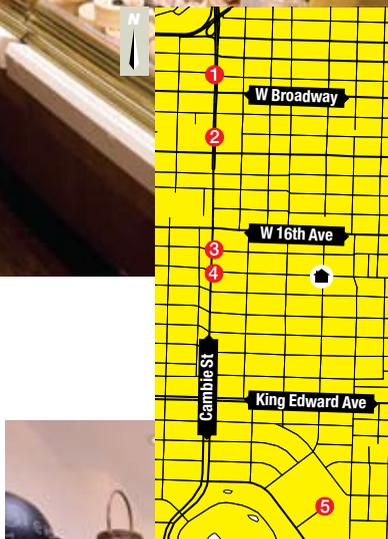
88 W. 18th Ave.
\$2,298,000

LOT SIZE

33 ft. x 122 ft.

SPECS

2,612 sq. ft., in a new-built two-storey house with three beds and 3.5 baths. Upstairs has nine-foot ceilings; main floor has 10-foot ceilings and a formal living room, dining area, and walk-out deck. Basement suite.



Walrus

sauce, anchovy butter, or marchand du vin.

Capers Community Market (510 W. Eighth Ave., 778-370-4210. Wholefoodsmarket.com/capers) is a refuge for tired groups seeking to please a wide range of palates. Pick from the international dishes at the hot lunch bar or the myriad veggie-tastic local produce in the salad bar, then hit the impressive bakery case, crammed with artistically executed delights of both vegan and butter-rich varieties.

Listen to the handsome Benton brothers of **Benton Brothers Cheese Shop** (3432 Cambie St., 604-873-9439. Bentonscheese.com) sermonize about the perfect grilled-cheese sandwich while you shop for locally made picnic supplies like the tart and creamy St. George goat chèvre from Fraser Valley's Farm House, Granville-cured charcuterie, and the starchy staples necessary to anchor these delicacies.

Discover Vancouver's substantial Eastern European heritage at old-school **Piast European Bakery** (3280 Cambie St., 604-876-2400), where you can queue for traditional house-made cheese buns and poppyseed strudel as well as links of spicy kielbasa. They also do hot takeout lunches like chicken pot pie and stock a massive freezer of Granny's frozen perogies.

The iconic **Park Theatre** (3440 Cambie St., 604-709-3456. Festivalcinemas.ca) was designed by architects Kaplan & Sprachman in 1941 and its endurance has made it a beloved art deco symbol (and meeting place) for South Cambians.

The sustainable architecture and aboriginal art in the **Vancouver Olympic Centre** (4575 Clancy Loranger Way) is a definite tourist draw, but even that can't beat the unparalleled view of downtown Vancouver against the majestic mountain backdrop, visible from the park surrounding **City Hall** (453 W. 12th Ave. Vancouver.ca).



Commercial Dr.

Average age: 36
Residents per block: 128
Percentage of renters: 67
Median household income: \$52,182

Longtime home of the city's Italian and Portuguese communities, the Drive has welcomed bohos escaping yuppiedom and, more recently, young families settling in to relatively affordable character homes. It remains one of the city's most eclectic hoods

Mintage (1714 Commercial Dr., 604-646-8243. Mintagevintage.com) is known for its overflowing supply of unworn vintage from the 1950s onward, but style insiders come for gems like the reworked in-house line of bright silk tanks sewn from retro scarves, and a sweet range of boho frocks by L.A.-based Everly.

Riot (1395 Commercial Dr., 604-254-5073. Riotinbc.ca) carries a well-chosen range of Van's sharpest labels, like Lily + Jae, along with eco-fashion picks including print-happy Carny Love and laid-back Hawks Ave. Men are not forgotten; drop by for natty local Shocco Ts.

Newly opened **dilly dally** (1161 Commercial Dr., 604-252-9727. Dillydallykids.ca) is the place to test yo-yos, play pirate, and score the hippest toys ever. We love sustainably updated versions of retro figurines made with recycled wood.

Barefoot Contessa (1928 Commercial Dr., 604-255-9035. Barefootcontessaboutique.wordpress.com) proves that the city's DIY craft culture is thriving. Come for darling Cutie Pie card sets and Pyrrha's intricate wax-seal-stamped jewellery.

Womyns' Ware (896 Commercial Dr., 604-254-2543. Womynsware.com) is unabashedly the best sex shop in town. The bright space boasts a wide array of apparati. (The staff are eager to demo.) The Candy-Land section features handy options like a purse-size tin holding a mini vibrator and lipgloss-sized lube.

Abruzzo Cappuccino Bar (1321 Commercial Dr., 604-254-2641) is the place for *Boardwalk Empire* fans. Greying descendants



Cassia Cupcakery

of the Drive's Italian population nurse crema-laden doppios under an Italian flag while Euro soccer unfolds on the big screen.

Prado (1938 Commercial Dr., 604-255-5537. Pradocafe.com), a hub for youthful creatives in tight denim, is known for its smart minimalist aesthetic and campout-friendly vibe. For minimalism to go, head to hot newcomer **Cassia Cupcakery** (1706 Commercial Dr., 604-568-6188. Cassiacupcakery.com). Try a classic vanilla cake base with peanut-butter icing.

Fratelli's (1795 Commercial Dr., 604-255-8926. Fratellibakery.com), purveyor of fine focaccia and other fresh-baked artisanal loaves, also peddles high-quality espresso. Settle outside with an Americano (the Arabica beans are sourced from Vancouver's Torelli roasters) and Sicilian cannoli filled with rich ricotta and a subtle orange zest.

At gastropub **The Charlatan** (1447 Commercial Dr., 604-253-2777. Thecharlatanrestaurant.com), 15 chrome taps pour local brews like Granville's Honey Lager and Driftwood IPA alongside imports. Forgo the bar for the 80-seat patio filled with diners trying to finish the sizable "Not Your Mom's" bacon-wrapped meatloaf or the robust tzatziki-topped lamb burger.

Hipster magnet **Bandidas Taqueria** (2781 Commercial Dr., 604-568-8224. Bandidastaqueria.com) showcases the Drive's Latin American influence. Hand-made soft corn tacos come in veggie options like the Ronny Russell (roasted yam, fresh guac, green salsa, and pumpkin seeds). Pitchers of white and red sangria are the drink of choice.

Biercraft Tap and Tapas (1191 Commercial Dr., 604-254-2437. Biercraft.com) serves up lavish cones of frites and hefty bowls of mussels done seven ways. The red-hot Thai curry bowl necessitates multiple cooling pints; luckily, Biercraft's Belgian beer list is the most comprehensive in town.



MARKET PLACE

#2-1724 E. Sixth Ave.

\$799,900

ANNUAL TAXES
\$3,102

SPECS

1,468 sq. ft., three beds, three baths; renovated in 2008, this half-duplex features marble vanities, maple floors, granite counters, tankless hot water, custom blinds, Murphy bedded den. Crawl space storage.





Gastown

Average age: 47 Residents per block: 232
Percentage of renters: 93
Median household income: \$31,733

Vancouver's oldest 'hood, once overrun with tacky tourist shops, is now home to fashion-forward shops and the most exciting restaurants and bars in the city. It's bordered by the beleaguered Downtown Eastside, but gentrification has left its mark

With its *Grey Gardens* aesthetic (think turban-clad models, vintage tea party sets, and taxidermied raccoons), **Lola** (510 Beatty St., 604-633-5017. *Lolahomeandapparel.com*) stocks partywear by local designers Jason Matlo and Carlie Wong, as well as shoes by Paris-fashionista-fave Bensimon, candles and hand creams by Tocca, and impossibly chic Burberry kidswear.

Saager DiLawri studied at Parson's and worked for many years at UNIS (a contemporary men's label that evokes classic American sportswear) before opening swish **Neighbour** (125-12 Water St., 604-558-2555. *Shopneighbour.com*), which stocks labels like Our Legacy from Sweden and Outlier from NYC, as well as an in-house line of rugby crewneck sweatshirts made by Portland's Columbiaknit.

Gastown boutique **Oak + Fort** (32 Water St. *Oakandfort.com*) opened quietly this past winter. The pared-down space shows off the clean lines and soft, wearable fabrics that characterize the eponymous line (a collaboration between local and Korean designers who oversee production in Korea). Also on display are funky necklaces, earrings, and leather accessories, many designed in-house.

Be forewarned: when leaving **The Old Faithful Shop** (320 W. Cordova St., 778-327-9376. *Oldfaithfulshop.com*), you might start pining for a larder or, at the very least, glass-bottle milk delivery service. This bricks-and-mortar general store harks back to a time when packages were wrapped in twine and most things were crafted by hand—but still manages to



Old Faithful



MARKETPLACE

128 W. Cordova St.

\$736,600

MAINTENANCE FEE

\$392.36

SPECS

916 sq. ft., two beds, two baths; at Woodwards, the reimaged Downtown Eastside community. Laminate floors, concrete ceilings.

Building amenities include library, media room, hot tub, gardens.



Dirty Apron Deli

evoke an au courant vibe. From jam jars (starting at \$8) to iPad attachés (by Makr, \$240), all goods look like they belong in an old trading post.

The city's stylish gents breathed a collective sigh of relief when Gastown favourite **Roden Gray** (8 Water St., 604-689-7302. *Rodengray.com*) reopened in new digs months after shuttering the original store. With its avant-garde offerings (Comme des Garçons, Rag & Bone, nonnative, local label Wings & Horn) and an in-house personal shopper, the concept menswear boutique caters to design-minded men. It hardly seems fair to the boys, but they've recently started carrying a selection of lines (like T by Alexander Wang and Acne) for the fairer sex.

Though this homewares shop may look and feel gallery-like with its rare finds and elegant pieces, **Orling & Wu** (28 Water St., 604-568-6718. *Orlingandwu.com*) runs more friendly in vibe. The owners met while attending design school in England, so the mix of contemporary, vintage, and classic pieces for sale reflects a European sensibility: whether it's the Nosey Parker greeting cards handmade in the U.K. with Liberty House fabric or the Service tea set designed by Jurgen Bey for Royal Tichelaar Makkum, appointed by the Dutch Royal Family—each piece is a tiny treasure.

Grab a cup of locally roasted 49th Parallel coffee and a decadent housemade almond croissant at the sleek **Coffeebar** (10 Water St., 604-566-9693. *Thecoffeebar.ca*) before perusing the hyper-modern and elaborately displayed furnishings at neighbouring Inform Interiors.

Lunch at the **Dirty Apron Deli** (540 Beatty St., 604-879-8588. *Dirtyapron.com*) is always a treat, with a rotating menu of soups, pastas, and proteins that receive the same careful seasoning as the dishes at big brother resto Chamber, just up the street. The sandwiches are stupendously good (see page 68).



South Main

Average age: 37 Residents per block: 116
Percentage of renters: 54
Median household income: \$66,637

This neighbourhood—still trendy, still gentrifying, still the heart of East Vancouver’s hipster culture—offers a rare mix of independent cafés, eclectic antique stores, and boutiques showcasing local designers and European labels.

Main’s swelling population of young and oh-so-cool families stop by **The Archetype** (2549 Main St., 604-872-1144. *Thearchetype.ca*). The boutique goes after small labels that offer avant but affordable prints, and the frock selection reflects this. Dads come for the denim and reworked leather jackets. For babes, the selection of edgy onesies is nothing to sniff at.

Lark (2315 Main St., 604-879-5275. *Lark.me*) is a mecca for Main’s savvy dressers. Sure, the posh boutique carries lots of labels—macs by Barbour, suiting by Malene Birger, bow ties by Alexander Olch plus instruction on how to tie them—but the trendsters are drawn to the total Lark aesthetic curated by passionate staff and displayed installation-style.

F as in Frank (2425 Main St., 604-568-5130. *Fasinfrankvintage.com*) stocks vintage snapback hats, Ray-Bans, a killer Polo collection, and a sea of Levi’s cut offs. Given that the owners sort through over 100,000 pounds of clothing a day, it’s no wonder that they also wholesale their awe-inspiring “top shelf” inventory of garments to high-street retail monsters like Urban Outfitters, along with renting it out by the piece to us little guys.

Cathie Jung, Guinness World Record holder for smallest waist, flies to Vancouver to visit the peachy boudoir of Melanie Talkington, the corset maker and owner of **Lace Embrace Atelier** (219 E. 16th Ave., 604 737-1119. *Laceembrace.com*). Talkington recently made a splash when she created the costumes for the 2011 film *Sucker Punch*.



The Archetype



MARKETPLACE

3374 Ontario St.
\$789,000

ANNUAL TAXES
\$2,675

SPECS

2 beds, 1 bath; built in 1910 for the bakers of the Cambie Dairy, this tiny character house (900 sq. ft) has rebuilt foundation flooring, new electrical, new roof, new kitchen, laundry and bath.



Cafe Nuba



F as in Frank



Inspired by Lebanese roadside cafés of the 1970s, **Cafe Nuba** (146 E. Third Ave., 604-568-6727. *Nuba.ca*) is a vintage souk-side diner complete with brick lattice, pink celluloid chairs, and old-fashioned number placards for orders. We love Najib’s special crispy cauliflower tossed with lemon and tahini. Add a deluxe pita with creamy baba, feta, and paprika chicken. Finish with a murky Turkish coffee.

The Vancouver-based mini chain **JJ Bean** (3010 Main St., 604-879-2326. *JJbeancoffee.com*) is at its best in the hipster heart of South Main. The unique interior mixes retro midcentury mod with industrial appeal, while the menu consists of the much-loved basics: house-roasted JJ blend espresso and plump vegan muffins. People-watch to your heart’s content as the slick hoodsters come, camp out, and go.

Blim (115 E. Pender St., 604-872-8180. *Blim.ca*), a Chinatown arts-and-crafts collective, runs a monthly Main Street market with over 60 vendors to browse plus tunes, good eats, and plenty of artists on hand to help nurture your creativity through crafty activity.

The Regional Assembly of Text (3934 Main St., 604-877-2247. *Assemblyoftext.com*) is a trove of geek-chic gifts stored in distressed filing cabinets. While the clever cards made by owners Rebecca and Brandy—both Emily Carr grads—are an obvious choice, we’re particularly fond of their Vancouver Map T-shirts, with a retro street guide screened onto royal-blue American Apparel track tees.

Local starchitect Bing Thom’s flower-like **Sunset Community Centre** (6810 Main St., 604-718-6505. *Mysunset.net*) features a restrained West Coast palette of concrete, glass, and wood, and is topped by a dramatically curved roof. The indoor ice rink and basketball courts offer year-round fun for families.

AARON AUBREY; CAFE NUBA; SHANNON MENDES

**Beyond
City Limits**

Whistler

Average age: 33 Residents per block: 130
Percentage of renters: 50
Median household income: \$35,009

The 2010 Winter Games brought a major face-lift to a resort town that already had a lot going for it. The mountains that captivated the world remain a snowy playground for locals, and a coveted destination for the jet set

GETTING THERE

	35 MINS
	2 HOURS
	3 HOURS

BY HELICOPTER A fast, hassle-free, James Bond-esque trip is possible by chartering a helicopter from the South Terminal of the Vancouver International Airport. 800-944-7853.

BY CAR Follow Route 99 along the dramatic Sea-to-Sky Highway. Road improvements prior to 2010 make the drive a breeze. Traffic reports at Drivebc.ca

BY TRAIN The *Rocky Mountaineer* departs from North Vancouver (a shuttle provides pickup service from downtown) and meanders its way northward. Rockymountaineer.com

Araxi Restaurant and Bar (4222 Village Sq., 604-932-4540. *Araxi.com*), Whistler's ultimate fine-dining restaurant, recently celebrated its 30th anniversary, but remains the Village's freshest room. Everything is anchored to local terroir through chef James Walt's deep connection to the land and its tenders. Take some time to explore the wine list, it having been nurtured since 1981.

Executive chef Melissa Craig turns out inventive, "modern Canadian" cuisine from the open kitchen at the **Bearfoot Bistro** (4121 Village Gr., 604-932-3433. *Bearfootbistro.com*). The room is known for



Peak 2 Peak

decadent, Champagne-fuelled events courtesy of owner Andre St. Jacques's impressive wine cellar.

Tucked into Roland's Pub, the watering hole handily located next to the *Rocky Mountaineer* station and Nita Lake Lodge), you'll find **BBQ Bob's** (2129 Lake Placid Rd., 604-932-4424. *Rolandswhistler.com*), the authentic southern-style joint run by barbecue champion Bob Haselbach. Dark, sweet sauce will cover your face and hands as you devour glossy, succulent pork ribs and maybe the best brisket sandwich (sliced beef, mayo, more of that sauce, and crispy fried onions on a toothsome filone loaf) this side of the Mason-Dixon Line.

In 11 minutes, **Peak 2 Peak Gondola** (*Whistlerblackcomb.com*) transports guests 4.4 kilometres between Whistler's Roundhouse Lodge and the Rendezvous Lodge on Blackcomb Mountain. If Whistler's hiking trails are old hat, take this opportunity to explore the 10 kilometres of reinstated trails atop Blackcomb.

Arnold Palmer's first Canadian course, **Whistler Golf Club** (*Whistlertgolf.com*), just re-opened its driving range, complete with a new putting green. Depending on the season, a day on this majestic, mountain-set 18-hole course costs between \$109 and \$129. Find your game could use a tweak? CPGA teaching professionals are on hand with video analysis of your swing.

At **Le Scandine Spa** (*Scandinave.com*) find 20,000 square feet of Nordic-inspired bliss. Set aside more than the two hours that your Swedish massage requires: a health-oriented bistro is attached, as are a variety of baths and waterfalls to dally in. The luxurious **Ashram Spa at Nita Lake Lodge** (2131 Lake Placid Rd., 604-966-5715. *Nitalakelodge.com*) offers treatments based on Ayurveda principles that address concerns like weight gain and detox. A yoga studio and gym with personal trainers make it the complete package.



Bearfoot Bistro



MARKETPLACE

#3-2500 Taluswood Pl.

\$2,095,000

MAINTENANCE FEE

\$911.23

SPECS

2,324 sq. ft., four beds, four baths; ski-in/ski-out half-duplex on Whistler Mountain. Limestone floors & countertops in baths, four walk-out decks, outdoor hot tub. Nightly rentals (perfect investment property).