

# Victoria & Vancouver Holiday

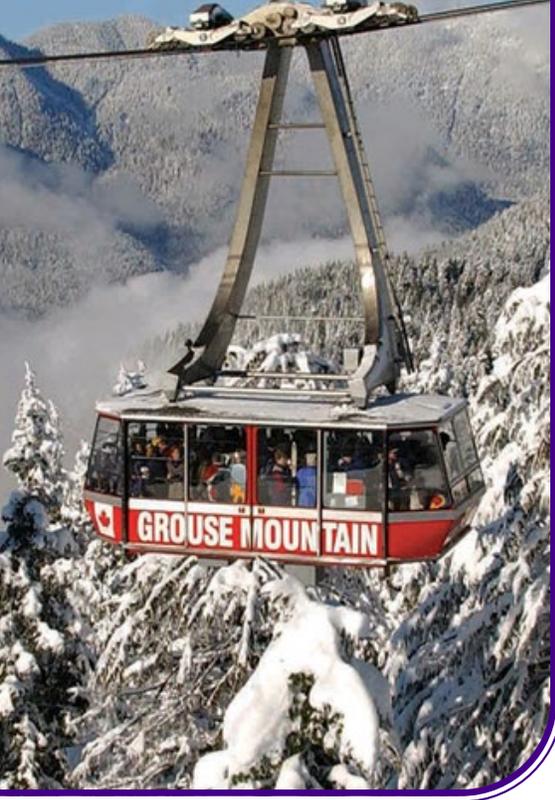
December 10–16, 2026

Led By: Anne Rogalski and Kelly Bird



Continuing Education  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point





## An Itinerary for A Victoria & Vancouver Holiday

December 10 – 16, 2026

Celebrate the magic of the holidays on a festive journey through Vancouver and Victoria, where coastal beauty, mountain views, and twinkling Christmas lights set the scene. Begin in vibrant Vancouver with a panoramic city tour, a breathtaking Grouse Mountain Skyride, and time to wander a charming European-style Christmas market. Cruise by ferry to storybook Victoria to experience the dazzling lights of Butchart Gardens, elegant Christmas High Tea at the Fairmont Empress, lively holiday markets, and a sparkling city lights tour, with a full day to relax or explore at your own pace. Return to Vancouver for more seasonal cheer, including the enchanting VanDusen Festival of Lights and a special farewell dinner with your fellow travelers. Depart for home with unforgettable holiday moments and a deeper appreciation for the festive spirit of Canada's West Coast.

**Trip Leaders:** Anne Rogalski, Kelly Bird, and a Professional Local Guide

### Day 1 – Thursday, December 10, 2026 – Arrive in Vancouver

- Arrive in the seaport city of Vancouver, the crown jewel of Western Canada.
  - Considered one of the most beautiful cities in North America, Vancouver dazzles during the Christmas holiday season along with views of the Pacific Ocean, majestic mountains and a glittering skyline.
- Here you will meet your Professional Local Guide and transfer to the **Fairmont Hotel Vancouver**, known as the 'Castle in the City' and has been the pinnacle of elegance since its debut in 1939.
- Check-in for a two-night stay and enjoy a Welcome Dinner this evening.
- Dinner is included
- Overnight: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

### Day 2 – Friday, December 11, 2026 – Christmas Markets in Vancouver

- This morning enjoy a panoramic Vancouver City Tour including Stanley Park, famous for its ancient Indian totem poles, Chinatown and Gastown.
- Next, enjoy a **Grouse Mountain Skyride**.
  - Glide high above towering Douglas firs, breathtaking views of the city of Vancouver, sparkling Pacific Ocean, Gulf Islands, and snowy peaks unfold as you journey up the mountainside. North America's 100-person tramway is your gateway to the majestic nature of The Peak of Vancouver.
- This afternoon discover Vancouver's European-German themed Christmas Market Holiday Festival.
- The **Shipyards Christmas Market** is located in the lively waterfront area of Vancouver offering holiday cheer around every corner.
  - Free time to browse the market with a variety of European-style artisan booths full of decorations, holiday gifts and unique handicrafts. Enjoy gourmet food, festive sweets and authentic German drinks such as the endless supply of delicious warm Gluhwein!
- Enjoy the evening at leisure to explore this beautiful city on your own.
- Breakfast is included. Lunch and dinner are on your own.
- Overnight: Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

### Day 3 – Saturday, December 12, 2026

#### Vancouver to Victoria

- Transfer to the port to board the BC Ferry for Vancouver Island.
- Sit back and relax as you enjoy a scenic cruise across the Strait of Georgia.
- Arrive in Swartz Bay and travel by motor coach to Victoria, the capital of British Columbia.
- Check into the **Grand Pacific Hotel** for a three night stay.
- Later, enjoy a visit to the world famous **Butchart Gardens** and stroll among fifty five acres of wonderful displays.
  - While the flowers sleep in the winter, the gardens come to life during the holiday season with colorful displays of lights, including scenes depicting the Twelve Days of Christmas.
  - Bundle up and stroll through the beautiful Christmas displays, sing along to the sounds of the season with traditional carolers or listen to the festive brass. Maybe stop in at the coffee shop to warm up with a hot chocolate and gingerbread by the fire.
- Breakfast is included. Lunch and dinner are on your own.
- Overnight: Grand Pacific Hotel in Victoria



### Day 4 – Sunday, December 13, 2026 – Victoria City Tour and High Tea

- Today enjoy a Victoria City Tour featuring the Inner Harbor and the imposing Parliament Building constructed in 1897 and a city filled with Victorian charm.
- Visit the **Royal British Columbia Museum**.
  - Through its unique galleries, the museum showcases the human and natural history of British Columbia.
- Enjoy “High Tea and Lunch” at the **Fairmont Empress**, a tradition that commenced when the hotel opened in 1908.
  - This isn’t just any tea, but a Christmas-themed extravaganza with seasonal treats and delicacies. Sip the original blend of “The Empress tea”, an exceptional experience for everyone.
- Later visit a **Victoria Christmas Market and Fair**.
  - Browse the charming stalls offering unique crafts, local artisan products and holiday treats.
- This evening enjoy a panoramic **Victoria Christmas Lights Tour** around the city.
  - See famous landmarks such as the Parliament Buildings and more that are lit up spectacularly for the holiday season.
- Breakfast and lunch are included. Dinner is on your own.
- Overnight: Grand Pacific Hotel in Victoria



## Day 5 – Monday, December 14, 2026

### Explore Victoria on your own

- The entire day is at leisure.
- Possible activities for the leisure day and most of these possibilities are a short walking distance or can be reached by local transit:
  - Spa services or admire the The Gingerbread Showcase within the Grand hotel.
  - Take a horse-drawn sleigh ride in James Bay to see some local decorations.
  - Visit the Royal BC Museum and the adjacent IMAX.
  - Lights of Wonder is a free outdoor event in Centennial Square that features light tunnels, a large Christmas tree, and live entertainment.
  - Holiday Shopping down Government Street and LoJo provides a variety of shops and local iconic spots like Rogers' Chocolates and Murchie's Tea and Coffee. Shop at the Fisherman's Wharf, Market Square, and Bastion Square.
- Be sure to visit the Festival of Trees located at the **Bay Centre**.
  - The Biosphere Certified Bay Centre is a "must shop" located in the heart of downtown Victoria's shopping district. The festival of trees traditionally has over eighty Christmas trees on display during the holiday season.
- Breakfast is included. Lunch and dinner are on your own.
- Overnight: Grand Pacific Hotel in Victoria



## Day 6 – Tuesday, December 15, 2026 – Victoria to Vancouver

- This morning board the BC Ferry and cruise through the Gulf Islands enroute to Vancouver.
- Stop for another visit to the **Vancouver Shipyards Christmas Market** with free time to stroll at your leisure and shop for souvenirs. You can enjoy some new experiences that you were not able to get to the first time we visited.
  - The Robson Square Ice Rink (1-minute walk from the hotel), Luxury shops on Alberni Street and Pacific Centre Mall, The Vancouver Art Gallery (2-minute walk from the hotel), A holiday-themed, simulated flight ride (10-minute walk to Canada Place), and Stanley Park Bright Nights Holiday Light Display (5-minute drive or a quick transit ride).
- Check into the Fairmont Hotel in Vancouver for an overnight stay.
- Later step into a botanical holiday wonderland at **VanDusen Festival of Lights**.
  - Explore fifteen acres adorned with over one million twinkling lights, featuring a new interactive installation, dancing lights, themed light areas and a display inspired by the Great Bear Rain forest of BC.
- This evening enjoy a Farewell Dinner with your traveling companions.
- Breakfast and dinner are included. Lunch is on your own.
- Overnight: Fairmont Hotel in Vancouver

## Day 7 – Wednesday, December 16, 2026 – Vancouver and your flight home

- Transfer to the Vancouver Airport to board your flight home with wonderful memories of the Victoria & Vancouver Christmas experience.
- Breakfast is included.



## Pricing

### Registration Fee

Double occupancy rates: **\$5,149 per person**

Single occupancy rates: **\$6,349**

**\*Registration closes June 9, 2026**

### Payment Schedule:

\$400 due upon registration

Remaining balance is due by **Thursday, September 10, 2026**

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Vancouver Christmas Market
- Vancouver City Tour
- Grouse Mountain Skyride
- VanDusen Festival of Lights
- Roundtrip BC Ferry to Victoria
- Victoria
- Butchart Gardens
- Royal British Columbia Museum
- “High Tea” at the Fairmont Empress Hotel

### ACCOMMODATIONS

- 2 Nights - Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
- 3 Nights - Grand Pacific Hotel, Victoria
- 1 Night - Fairmont Hotel Vancouver

### INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip Airfare - ORD (O’Hare)
- Air Taxes/Fuel/Fees
- 6 Nights Hotel Accommodations
- 9 Meals: 6B, 1L & 2D
- UWSP Adventure Tours Trip Leaders
- Professional Tour Director
- Motorcoach Transportation
- Admissions and Sightseeing per Itinerary
- Baggage Handling at Hotels
- Hotel Transfers