



Festival and Events

Best of Summer Events – BC’s summer festivals take culture and adventure outdoors. Join local and international celebrations at fireworks festivals, cultural events in parks and on city streets, and competitions that include logger sports and mountain biking. Exhibitions, rodeos and stampedes, air shows and markets are some other summer events to enjoy.

35th Annual Kamloopa Powwow

Thompson Okanagan

August 1-3

The **Kamloopa Powwow** is one of the largest celebrations of First Nations’ culture and heritage in Western Canada. The event is a spectacular expression of the Secwepemc people’s heritage and a vibrant display of storytelling, song and dance in traditional regalia. The Kamloopa Powwow represents many years of stories and events from previous years packed into three exciting days at the Secwepemc Powwow Grounds. Located 2 minutes from the city centre, alongside the South Thompson River in Kamloops.

www.facebook.com/pages/Kamloopa-Pow-Wow/102158952676

Shipyards Night Market

Vancouver, Coast and Mountains

May 2-September 26

Visit Shipbuilders' Square in North Vancouver for the **Shipyards Night Market**. Discover fresh food, locally-made products, musicians, art and entertainment. The Shipbuilders' Stage showcases live musical talent from around BC until 10pm. Check out more than 50 tents filled with local products, from BC's artisans, bakers and farmers – there’s even a beer garden. Festivities take place from 5pm - 10pm on Friday nights. Come hungry...

www.northshoregreenmarket.com/green_markets.htm

Vancouver International Children’s Festival

Vancouver, Coast and Mountains

May 27 – June 1

Jam-packed with music, theatre, dance, storytelling, puppetry, circus arts and much more, the festival embodies the buoyant spirit and endless curiosity of children all over the world.

www.childrensfestival.ca

Shakespeare Festival – Bard on the Beach

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

June 11 – September 20

Celebrating its 25th season in 2014, **Bard on the Beach** is one of Canada's largest not-for-

profit, professional Shakespeare Festivals. Presented in a magnificent setting on the waterfront in Vancouver's Vanier Park, the festival offers Shakespeare plays, related dramas, and several special events in two performance tents from June through September. Performances for 2014 include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, *Cymbeline* and *Equivocation*.

www.bardonthebeach.org

Rio Tinto Alcan Dragon Boat Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

June 20-22

Recognized as North America's biggest and best, the annual **Rio Tinto Alcan Dragon Boat Festival** in Vancouver marked its 25th anniversary in 2013 and is a true celebration of our diverse and beautiful city. Attracting over 100,000 people and close to 180 dragon boat teams from across the Lower Mainland and around the globe. Admission is free.

www.dragonboatbc.ca

Vancouver International Jazz Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

June 20 – July 1

Vancouver's signature festival and British Columbia's biggest music showcase will animate the city for ten days. From noon to the wee hours of the morning, a rich tapestry of jazz, blues, funk, Latin, fusion, electronica and world music will fill the air at venues across the city. More than 1,800 musicians from Canada and around the world will perform at over 40 venues citywide. There will be approximately 150 free concerts.

www.coastaljazz.ca

Tough Mudder

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

June 21-22

Are you tough enough? Take on **Tough Mudder**, a military-style obstacle course designed to test physical and mental strength, and encourage friends and strangers to work together. Get pumped for June 2014 when the event returns to Whistler Olympic Park.

www.whistler.com/tough_mudder

Steveston Salmon Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

July 1

Every year since 1945, residents of this Historic Fishing Village, along with visitors from all over the world, have come together for "**Canada's biggest little birthday party.**" More than 70,000 revellers unite on this fun-filled day to celebrate Canada's birthday and the rich heritage of the community. Enjoy the parade of floats, marching bands, vintage vehicles, live entertainment, a Japanese cultural show, belt sander drag races, multi-ethnic food fair, craft fair, midway and the must-have salmon barbecue.

www.tourismrichmond.com/things-to-do/steveston

Pemberton Music Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

July 18-20

Set at the foot of Mt. Currie in the scenic Pemberton Valley just north of Whistler, the **Pemberton Music Festival** promises to delight music fans with a lineup featuring contemporary music from rock to indie, hip hop, EDM and more. Get ready to dance all summer night long under the stars and encircled by majestic mountains.

www.pembertonmusicfestival.com

Your Kontinent – Richmond International Film & Media Arts Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

July 18-26

Now in its fourth year, Richmond's **Your Kontinent** festival brings together cultural artistic offerings in different mediums, from video installations to dance. This year's festival highlights the theme of technology, from sticks and stones to rockets and robots. Programming includes the *Art in Containers* exhibition, involving art and film in unexpected spaces, and the *International Film Program*, bringing together films from around the world.

www.ykfestival.ca

Honda Celebration of Light

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

July 26, July 30 and August 2

Sometimes English Bay needs a little extra colour – like the kind provided by fireworks. We're not talking about everyday fireworks, though. The **Celebration of Light** isn't your typical fireworks display, it's extravagant! This international, pyro-musical competition displays the best fireworks in the world for more than 1 million people lining the shores of the bay, watching the brilliant explosions set to music.

www.hondacelebrationoflight.com

Wanderlust Whistler

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

July 31 – August 4

Wanderlust Whistler brings together the world's leading yoga teachers, top musical acts, renowned speakers, artists and culinary experts in a festival that celebrates health, wellness and spirituality. Let your Wanderlust take you to Whistler this summer to listen, learn, practice and explore.

<http://whistler.wanderlustfestival.com/>

Vancouver Pride Parade and Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

August 3

The Vancouver Pride Society (VPS) brings together members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Two-Spirited and Queer community, their friends, allies and supporters in celebration. These groups represent the unique culture and spirit of this community by producing quality, inclusive events such as the **Pride Parade and Festival**. The Pride Parade through Davie Village draws people from around the world, spans 20 blocks and celebrates Vancouver's lively gay community.

www.vancouverpride.ca

Abbotsford International Airshow

Vancouver, Coast and Mountains

August 8-10

Abbotsford International Airshow is an aviation festival that has grown well beyond its borders since starting in 1962. Considered a significant stop on the "Airshow Circuit" early on, this airshow has distinguished itself as an event on aviation excellence, aerospace advancement and community participation. The line-up includes fighter jets, experimental aircraft, cargo planes, vintage, helicopters, small corporate jets and specialty surveillance planes.

www.abbotsfordairshow.com

Crankworx Whistler Freeride Mountain Bike Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

August 8-17

Crankworx Whistler returns - be sure to book ahead for the next installment of the ultimate freeride mountain bike festival. Bring your bike, stay for the week and enjoy the heady mix of racing, demos, competitions, concerts and after parties.

www.crankworx.com

RBC GranFondo Whistler

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

September 6

Loosely translated from Italian, *gran fondo* means "big ride". Often a hundred kilometres or more and designed for a large number of cyclists at a variety of skill levels, these rides are judged by the challenges they offer: steep climbs, long distances and a combination of the two. This year's **RBC GranFondo Whistler** expects more than 7,000 cyclists to pedal from downtown Vancouver to Whistler along the Sea to Sky Highway. The stunning scenic route includes 2,400 metres of climbing and rest stops along the way.

www.rbcgranfondowhistler.com

Vancouver International Film Festival

Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

September 25 – October 10

The **Vancouver International Film Festival** (VIFF) is one of the five largest film festivals in North America, screening over 340 films from 75 countries on nine screens at seven Vancouver theatres. The international line-up includes picks from the world's top film festivals alongside undiscovered gems. Attracting a large and enthusiastic audience of film lovers, the festival remains accessible, friendly and culturally diverse. View the full program online in early September.

www.viff.org

Castlegar Sunfest

Kootenay Rockies

June 6-8

Castlegar Sunfest is held annually on the first weekend of June providing events and entertainment for people of all ages. The weekend features a fundraising BBQ on Friday at noon, Festival in the Park in Kinsman Park, with dozens of food and merchandise vendors, and a variety of activities and entertainment to keep everyone in a great mood. The Miss Castlegar Pageant takes place on Friday evening in the Stanley Humphries Secondary School Theatre.
www.castlegarculture.com/event/castlegar-sunfest-2014

Beer Festival

Kootenay Rockies

June 13-14

If you like great beer you will love the 3rd annual **East Kootenay Beer Festival** at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. Building on the reputation of the resort's successful East Kootenay Wine Festival, locals, guests and staff demanded a unique Festival to celebrate the magic of hops! This incredible weekend of beer appreciation will take place at Mountainside Golf Course with live music, great food and of course, lots of beer to experience and taste.

www.fairmonthotsprings.com/events

Fat Tire Festival

Kootenay Rockies

July 11-13

Nelson's 19th annual **Fat Tire Festival** celebrates a love of all things bicycle, and helps to raise money and awareness for the Nelson Cycling Club. Friday night kicks off at with bike decorating, followed by a bike parade and an evening of fun, free events. Take in the Show'N'Shine (bring your fanciest, oldest, or funkiest bike down), Kootenay Krawl (slowest one wins!) or the popular Last Wheelie Standing Competition.

www.NelsonFatTire.com

23rd Annual Jazz Etc Festival

Kootenay Rockies

August 1-3

World-class musicians play on a floating stage on pristine Kootenay Lake surrounded by breathtaking mountains. The appreciative audience dances on the beach and in the waterfront park. The festival also features free events on the historic *SS Moyie* and a parade on Front Street.

www.KasloJazzFest.com

Tofino Food and Wine Festival

Vancouver Island

June 6-8

Tofino Food and Wine Festival celebrates the marriage of food and wine. The main event, Grazing in the Gardens, showcases local culinary talents and BC wines in the beautiful Tofino Botanical Gardens. The festival supports several local non-profit organizations and initiatives, including Tofino Botanical Gardens Foundation, Community Children's Centre and Tofino's Community Garden, Lighthouse Trail and Multi Use Path (MUP).

<http://tofinofoodandwinefestival.com/>

TD Victoria International Jazz Fest

Vancouver Island

June 20-29

The TD Victoria International **JazzFest** is a ten-day music festival featuring the jazz, blues and world music of local, Canadian, and internationally acclaimed musicians. The “grandfather” of music festivals serving audiences in Vancouver and Gulf Islands region, the **TD JazzFest** offers its devoted audience a wide scope of programming comparable to much larger festivals in significantly larger urban areas.

www.jazzvictoria.ca

Pacific Rim Summer Festival

Vancouver Island

July 4-20

A festival of music, dance and the arts, presented in the spectacular setting of the west coast of Vancouver Island. Canadian and international musicians perform chamber and world music.

www.tourismtofino.com/tofino-today/events/2014-07-04/pacific-rim-summer-festival

Festival Mexicano

Vancouver Island

July 12-14

Come downtown and celebrate Mexican/Latin American culture during this fun event. Local performers share traditional music and dance on the open-air main stage. Explore the multiple kiosks that showcase Mexican/Latin American food, beverages, arts and crafts.

www.victoriamexican canadian.org

Victoria International Buskers Festival

Vancouver Island

July 18-27

One of the world’s most prominent street theatre festivals with performers from Australia, the UK, South America, USA and across Canada who converge in Victoria for ten days of incredible fun.

<http://victoriabuskers.com>

Taste: Victoria Festival of Food and Wine

Vancouver Island

July 24-27

Victoria's 6th annual festival of food and wine. A local taste of Vancouver Island and the wine regions of British Columbia. **Taste** uncorks with an evening sampling of more than 100 British Columbia wines, and local cuisine prepared by top Vancouver Island chefs.

www.victoriataste.com

Nanaimo Marine Festival

Vancouver Island

July 25-27

A series of events including the “Nanaimo Dragon Boat Festival”, the “Silly Boat Regatta”, the “Nanaimo Bathtub Race”, as well as entertainment such as a kids’ treasure hunt, beer gardens, sail past parade, Vancouver Island’s biggest summertime fireworks display, and much more.

<http://bathtubbing.com>

24th Annual Symphony Splash

Vancouver Island

August 3

Be part of Canada's largest annual outdoor symphony event at the **Victoria Symphony Splash**, where an expected 40,000 people will transform the Inner Harbour into an outdoor concert hall. The stage is a barge, and boats of all sizes will bob to the sound of beautiful music. The highlight of the concert is the much-anticipated finale - *Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture* accompanied by bells, cannons and fireworks exploding over the crowd.

<http://victoriasymphony.ca>

Parksville Beach Festival

Vancouver Island

July 12-August 17

Three weeks of family beach fun featuring the *Canadian Open Sand Sculpting Competition* and evening entertainment.

www.parksvillebeachfest.ca

Campbell River Salmon Festival

Vancouver Island

August 8-10

47th Annual Campbell River Salmon Fest is a 3-day event honouring the prime industries of Northern Vancouver Island: Forestry, Fishing and the Festival. The Logger Sports event depicts past and present logging practices through entertaining competitions. It is the largest such event in Canada for prize purses and number of events. Enjoy the Salmon Festival’s 7th Annual Seafood Cook-Off, the Oyster Cooking Contest and various seafood competitions and demonstrations. There is something for everyone at the **47th Annual Campbell River Salmon Fest**.

www.crsalmonfestival.com/

20th Annual Canada Dry Victoria Dragon Boat Festival

Vancouver Island

August 15

One of Victoria's most spectacular summer festivals and the only **Dragon Boat Festival** in Canada to take place in a working harbour. Watch 90 Dragon Boat Teams from across North America race across a 500-metre water course in Victoria's beautiful Inner Harbour.

www.victoriadragonboat.com

Williams Lake Stampede

Cariboo Chilcotin Coast

June 27-30

Every year during the July 1st long weekend, Williams Lake is home to several days of action-packed rodeo excitement and a weekend filled with adrenalin. Events include bull riding, ladies barrel racing, bareback and saddle bronco riding, steer wrestling and tie-down roping. It's a great family, fun-filled rodeo and community-wide event - the world famous **88th Annual Williams Lake Stampede** in BC's cowboy country - the Cariboo!

www.williamslakestampede.com

Gold Country Geocaching Event - Passport to the Gold Trail

Cariboo Chilcotin Coast

June 28 – July 1

There will be fun for the whole family including games, food, vendors, prize draws, Canada Day Celebrations, and of course GEOCACHING! A minimum of 100 caches will be released on June 28th in Cache Creek, BC. The *Geocaching Passport Route* will include various communities within Gold Country and stretch over a four day period.

www.goldtrail.com

Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship

Northern BC

June 12-14

The annual **Chetwynd International Chainsaw Championship** draws competitors and spectators from around the world for three days of action. Watch and marvel as expert carvers create masterpieces of wood! Free admission to the Chetwynd Recreation Centre. Vendors and concession on-site, bring cash.

www.chetwyndchainsawchampionship.com

Seafest

Northern BC

June 13-15

Prince Rupert is the place for fun, tasty treats and the excitement of Prince Rupert's annual **Seafest** community festival, a weekend of activities to share with your family and friends. This year's theme is "Celebrating North Pacific Cannery's 125th Anniversary." Events include Seafest Parade, Soap Box Derby, Sail past and Swim for Survival.

www.prspecialevnts.com

Dawson Creek Agricultural Fair, Rodeo and Exhibition

Northern BC

August 6-10

The **92nd Annual Dawson Creek Exhibition and Stampede** features four days of Agricultural Fair contests and exhibits along with five days of World and Western Professional Chuckwagon

races. All day, everyday, enjoy West Coast Amusement thrill rides, the Trade Fair, Sound Stage and nightly live band in the Watering Hole.

www.dawsoncreekfair.com