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Looking for a golf vacation destination, dining or the best time to travel?

July 31, 2008

The Most Charming and Best-Weather Spot for Vancouver, BC Golf Vacations

By Shawn Skipper | [Read Comments \(0\)](#)

When the subject of [British Columbia golf vacations](#) arises, many people immediately think of Whistler, but insiders know that the city of Victoria is one of the prettiest and most charming spots in all of British Columbia, and it's our top pick for Vancouver, BC golf vacations.



Mild weather and idyllic golf make Victoria an ideal spot for a Vancouver, BC golf vacations.

Victoria is located on Vancouver Island, the largest in North America. Not to be confused with Vancouver, which is on the British Columbia mainland, Vancouver Island is across the Strait of Georgia from that city and the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Seattle. Thanks to some recent additions, Victoria has also become an excellent spot for Vancouver, BC golf vacations.

This month, the Westin Bear Mountain Resort will unveil nine holes of its Valley Course, a Nicklaus Design creation routed adjacent to the resort's original 2003 Jack Nicklaus/Steve Nicklaus Mountain Course. Factor in Royal Colwood and Victoria Golf Club, two venerable and accessible private courses regularly ranked among Canada's top-50, and you have reason enough to take a Vancouver, BC golf vacation.

Golf should not be your only reason for visiting, however. Victoria is a cosmopolitan place that retains a small-town charm and colonial feel. The downtown harbor is a wonderful walking grid of restaurants, museums, stores and boutiques, and even a small Chinatown. The island's natural bounty, an outdoor adventurer's paradise of sea, shorelines, and mountains, is always close at hand. While the Pacific Ocean moderates the island's temperatures, Victorians tout their city as the warmest place in Canada and treat golf as a year-round game. Inland mountains help ward off rain, giving sunny Victoria two-thirds less annual rainfall than Seattle or Vancouver. In summer, the city's bright, comfortable days make for ideal Vancouver, BC golf vacations.

We recently spent a week on Vancouver Island, anonymously inspecting its golf courses, hotels, restaurants, and off-course attractions, and published our recommendations in the current (August) issue of *Golf Odyssey*. If you'd like to find out what our top picks are, take a [free, two-issue trial to Golf Odyssey](#). Not only will you get two free issues of *Golf Odyssey*, you'll get INSTANT, online access to our entire, back-issue archive of worldwide reviews we've published since the year 2000!



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