

# Student Guide to Living in Vancouver

Vancouver Aquarium website: [www.vanaqua.org](http://www.vanaqua.org)

## Mission

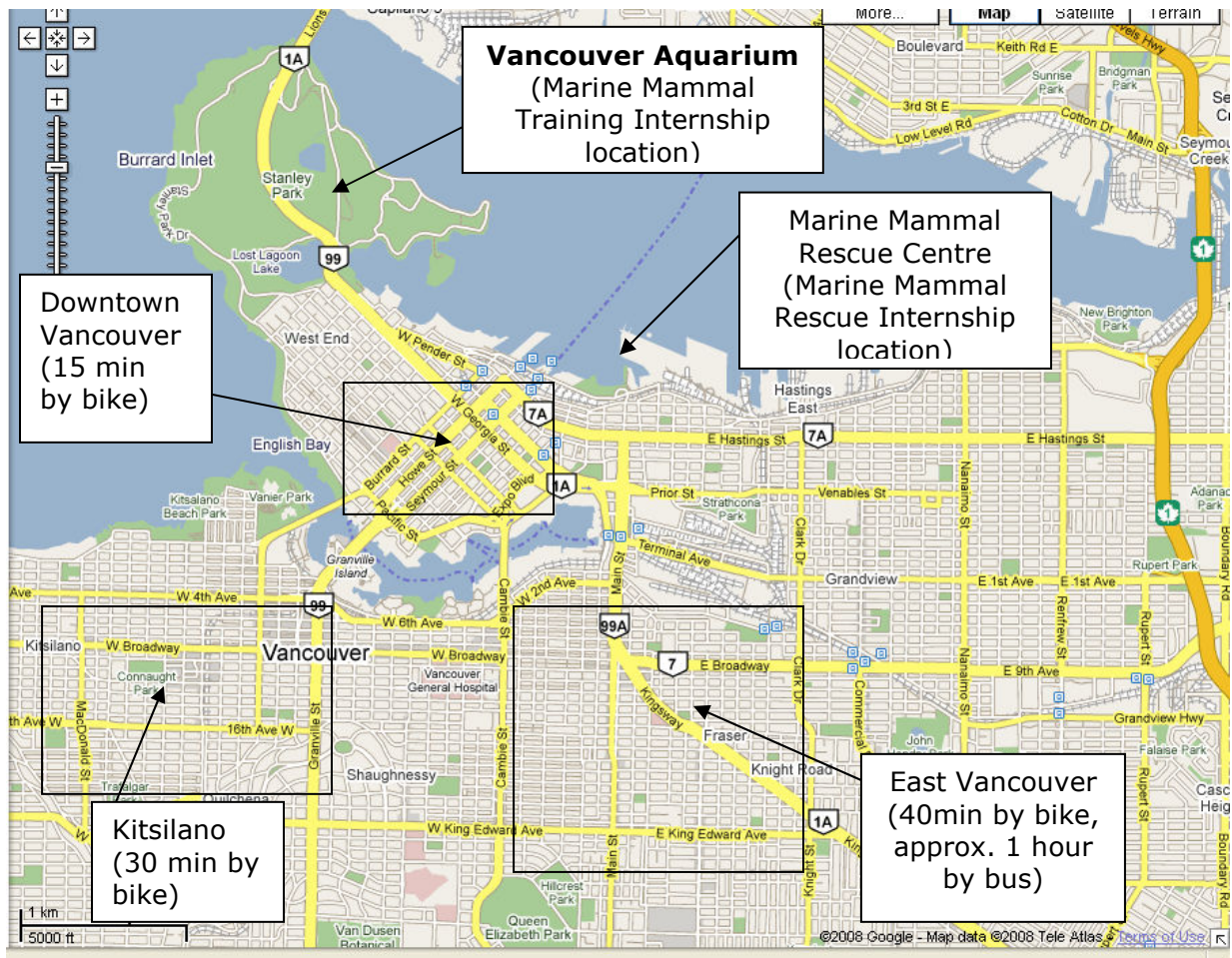
The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre is a self-supporting, non-profit association dedicated to effecting the conservation of aquatic life through display and interpretation, education, research, and direct action.

## Location

The Vancouver Aquarium is located in Stanley Park at 845 Avison Way near the heart of downtown Vancouver, BC. For additional contact information please see Visitor Information on our website.

## Transportation

The Vancouver Aquarium encourages sustainable forms of transportation; walking, biking, and public transportation. Please consider these options when choosing a transportation method. The greater Vancouver area has an excellent public transit system, however, some of the Vancouver Aquarium facilities, including the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre are located off-site. A car is recommended for Marine Mammal Rescue Interns.



Map of Vancouver on Google Maps:

<http://maps.google.ca/?hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=49.281468,-123.107815&spn=0.078947,0.154495&z=13>

**The Vancouver Aquarium is a conservation organization encouraging staff, volunteers and guests to commute sustainably.** Please explore some of these sustainable alternatives to single occupancy vehicles.

### **Walking Here**

The Vancouver Aquarium is a 15 –20 minute walk from downtown. Follow the green signs leading into Stanley Park on the North Side of Georgia Street.

### **Public Transportation**

The #19 – Stanley Park bus runs along Pender St. downtown and right into Stanley Park Bus Loop, a couple minutes walking distance from the Aquarium.

If you are taking the Skytrain, get off at the Burrard St. Station, go north on Burrard St. towards the harbor two blocks to Pender St. and catch the #19 – Stanley Park bus headed west.

Translink Bus Company [www.translink.bc.ca](http://www.translink.bc.ca)

### **Free Bus Passes**

To encourage sustainable commuting to the Aquarium, interns who choose to take the bus will be able to receive five (5) booklets of bus passes during their time as an intern due to their large hour contribution. These pass booklets can be picked up one at a time at Volunteer Services.

### **Biking or Carpooling**

Vancouver is a very bike friendly city. Pender St. has a bike lane that then merges with Georgia St. that leads you right into Stanley Park and onto the bike path around the seawall. Watch for green Aquarium signs. There are bike racks near the research lab entrance and the trailer outside Gate 6.

JackBell Ride Share Program offers business professionals a ride or a passenger that is travelling along your route. Map your route and see your matches.

<http://online.ride-share.com/en/my/>

### **Directions**

#### **Driving From Downtown Vancouver:**

- Drive west on Georgia Street.
- Continue west past Denman Street. Proceed right into Stanley Park.
- Follow the signs directing you to the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please note: Many of the roads in Stanley Park are one way. Watch for signs.

### **Driving From North and West Vancouver:**

- Take the Lions Gate Bridge
- Exit on the first right to enter Stanley Park
- Follow the signs for "Other Park Attractions" Leads you around the park on Park Drive
- Turn left on Avison Way just past the Info Booth
- Park Drive is a one-way road system.

Please note: Many of the roads in Stanley Park are one way. Watch for signs.

### **Maps**

For an online map of Vancouver, please visit the [Google Maps Website](#).  
For an online map of Stanley Park, please visit the [Stanley Park website](#).

### **Accommodation**

The Vancouver Aquarium does not currently provide housing for students so it is the responsibility of the students to find their own housing. The Pacific Spirit hostel at the University of British Columbia has been recommended by previous students for accommodation during the summer months. Craigslist Vancouver has also been recommended as a source for short-term housing. Alternatively, private rooms can be booked at the Walter Gage Towers at the University of British Columbia. The University is approximately 45 minutes by bus from the Vancouver Aquarium.

- Vancouver Craigslist <http://vancouver.en.craigslist.ca/> (good for housing and miscellaneous necessities)
- Hostels Vancouver <http://www.hostels.com/ca.bc.va.html>
- Pacific Spirit Hostel @ UBC [www.pacificspirithostel.com](http://www.pacificspirithostel.com)
- Vancouver House Share <http://ca.easyroommate.com/Vancouver-roommate/listings/h>
- Vancouver Sublet <http://vancouver.sublet.com/>
- Private rooms at UBC [www.ubcaccommodations.com](http://www.ubcaccommodations.com)
- Roomates.com Canada <http://ca.roomates.com/>
- Rent BC [www.rentbc.com](http://www.rentbc.com)
- Apartment Guide [www.apartmentguide.ca](http://www.apartmentguide.ca)

We also have a weekly newsletter that goes out to all staff at the Aquarium. It is called the Halibut Herald. Occasionally there are people looking for a roommate or wanting to rent a room. Contact Emerald at [Emerald.asuncion@vanaqua.org](mailto:Emerald.asuncion@vanaqua.org) if you would like to post an ad or find out more information.

Apartment prices in Vancouver range from \$500 - \$1500 per month depending on where you live. Fortunately the city has a great transit system that allows you to get around. If you will be using transit in the city to get to and from the Aquarium make sure it is close to a bus route or skytrain station.

Once you find a place that may suit you, check the bus schedule for travel times to Stanley Park. Our transit systems website is easy to use. [www.translink.bc.ca](http://www.translink.bc.ca)

## Food

Food is available at the Upstream Café and Subshop at the Vancouver Aquarium and at a variety of restaurants and grocery stores located downtown within a 15 minute walk. Volunteers receive a 40% discount at the Upstream Café and Subshop by presenting a valid ID badge. Volunteers will also receive a 30% discount at the Vancouver Aquarium's gift shop. There are no restaurants or cafés onsite at the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre.

## Clothing

The weather conditions can vary tremendously within Stanley Park and interns should plan accordingly. Vancouver is well known for RAIN, particularly between November and April.

**Marine Mammal Training Interns** will be supplied with outer rain gear and a fleece. Please bring warm clothing that can be worn under rain pants and jackets.

**Marine Mammal Rescue Interns** The Vancouver Aquarium has a dress code and many animal procedures are done in areas visible to the public, casual yet professional clothes (no jeans) are suggested attire. Shorts and older clothing may be worn at the Marine Mammal Rescue centre. Work Experience t-shirts are available at Volunteer Services. For specific uniform requirements, please see your coordinator.


Please contact Volunteer services at [Volunteer@vanaqua.org](mailto:Volunteer@vanaqua.org) with any further questions.

## Vancouver Aquarium Visitor Map



### Welcome to Another World

There's more to see and do on the lower levels

 **The Subshop**  
Gourmet coffee, snacks, books, toys and gifts.

 **Wild Coast Underwater Viewing**  
Get face-to-face with BC's Pacific white-sided dolphins.

 **Beluga Underwater Viewing**  
Explore the fascinating world of Arctic whales.

See the electronic Info Board for today's schedule. Here you can also view or purchase your souvenir photo.

A limited number of strollers and wheelchairs are available for loan. Lockers are also available. Please ask at Admissions.

For the safety of the animals, balloons, pets and smoking are not permitted anywhere in the Aquarium.

Animals, show times and exhibits are subject to change.