

Explore the West End's storied history

Tour the West End's most notable historical locations and unique establishments, including Gabriola House, Barclay Manor and Mole Hill.

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Exile Bistro

1220 Bute St

Exile Bistro is an artisan restaurant and holistic cocktail bar. The menu offers vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free and game meat options, and ingredients are sourced almost entirely from local farms.

2

Bute Street Plaza

Davie St + Bute St

Known as "The Heart of Davie Village", this area of Bute Street is often closed to traffic and converted into a mini park for community events and gatherings.

3

The Jervis

Davie St + Jervis St

An intimate collection of design-led homes set in a prime location in Vancouver's storied West End, the first project by the Inform + Intracorp partnership rethinks the way homes are designed and built.

4

Gabriola House

1531 Davie St

Featuring stained glass accents and a sandstone exterior quarried from Gabriola Island, this lavish Victorian home was built in the early 1900s for Benjamin T. Rogers, the founder of B.C. Sugar and its refinery. Rumours swirl about an underground probation-era tunnel and numerous ghost sightings.

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Greenhorn Espresso Bar

994 Nicola St

This two-level café opened in 2014 and became an instant local favourite. Unique touches include rolled brown paper menus, an upstairs art gallery, and a large record collection that goes with a one-seater listening booth.

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Barclay Manor

1447 Barclay St

First occupied in the late 1800s, the original house was torn down, rebuilt and had a three-storey addition that became: a hospital, a Catholic working girls residence, and a boarding house used by naval officers.

7

Barclay Heritage Square

Barclay St + Broughton St

Originally an entire city block of Edwardian-era houses, the area now consists of park space and 9 heritage buildings, offering an eloquent glimpse into the West End's character prior to the introduction of apartment towers.

8

Roedde House Museum

1415 Barclay St

Built in 1893, this is the first Francis Rattenbury house built in Canada. Unlike many heritage houses and museums, the rooms here are not roped off or behind glass, and some of the artefacts may be handled with care.

9

Mole Hill

Bute St + Pendrell St

Founded in the late 19th century, Mole Hill is a heritage housing community in the heart of the West End. It sits in the block framed by Thurlow, Pendrell, Bute, and Comox Streets, two blocks north of Davie and a block west of Burrard.

10

Marquis Wine Cellars

1034 Davie St

Marquis has one of the best collections around and is the place to go for hard-to-find and specialty wines. A fixture in the West End for 3 decades, the shop offers bottles for every taste, and the sommeliers demystify wine with their honest advice.



West End Architecture: Past + Future

Explore the West End's established architectural styles while learning how the city's new West End Community Plan is inspiring the neighbourhood.

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| 1 | Exile Bistro + Jim Deva Plaza | 1220 Bute St | Exile Bistro is an artisan restaurant and holistic cocktail bar next to the recently approved Jim Deva Plaza. Named after a respected leader in the city's gay community, this permanent public plaza will occupy a full car-free block with moveable furniture, electrical outlets, and high-style lighting. |
| 2 | The Jervis | Davie St + Jervis St | An intimate collection of design-led homes set in a prime location in Vancouver's storied West End, the first project by the Inform + Intracorp partnership rethinks the way homes are designed and built. |
| 3 | Queen Charlotte Apartments | 1101 Nicola St | A Vancouver Heritage Award winner, this Spanish Colonial Style building was built in 1928 and features a lavish lobby, period carpets and lighting fixtures, as well as the city's last brass-gated bird cage elevator. |
| 4 | Beaufort Mansions | 1160 Nicola St | Originally built in 1932, this beautifully constructed wood-frame heritage block lives on a closed-off park street. The Tudor-style mansion was originally intended to house doctors, lawyers and wealthy executives. |
| 5 | Pendrell Plaza | 1666 Pendrell St | Built in 1967 and hailed as an exceptional example of period design, the modernism-style towers cut a unique figure in the West End's skyline. |
| 6 | JJ Bean Bidwell | 1209 Bidwell St | Located in the façade of the West End's historic Maxine's building – a former beauty school, boarding house, brothel, restaurant, cabaret and gangster hideout – this JJ Bean boasts a southeast-facing patio and ideal access to nearby English Bay. |
| 7 | Beach Bay Cafe | 1193 Denman St | Providing patrons with beach and sunset views from their seats, this contemporary restaurant offers regional food and drink favourites. |
| 8 | Sylvia Hotel | 1154 Gilford St | Built in 1912, this local landmark's brick and terra-cotta exterior is softened by the ivy that now completely covers the Gilford Street side of the hotel. In 1954, it opened the city's first cocktail bar. |
| 9 | Eugenia Place | 1919 Beach Ave | Famous for the 37-foot Pin Oak tree visible on its rooftop, architect Richard Henriquez's design is meant to pay homage to the rich history of the West End. He won the Governor General's Award for Architecture for his efforts. |
| 10 | Alexandra Park | 1755 Beach Ave | A little park with big views, Alexandra Park was developed at the turn of the 20th century. Named after Queen Alexandra, it's home to old growth trees, the Haywood Bandstand, and the Joe Fortes Memorial Fountain. |
| 1 | Beach Towers | 1600 Block Beach Ave | Built in the 1960s in the 'tower-in-the-park' style, Vancouver's foremost mid-century architect C.B.K. Van Norman won the prestigious Canadian Housing Design Council's Centennial Award for his design. |

