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## INTO EACH LIFE A LITTLE RAIN MUST FALL

No one knows this better  
than Vancouverites

*By Sheri Radford*

Everyone's heard the old chestnut: How do you predict the weather in Vancouver? If you can't see the mountains, it's raining. If you can see the mountains, it's going to rain.

Locals don't find this joke funny.

We're an easygoing bunch until someone badmouths our weather. Despite admonitions to grow webbed feet before visiting our much-maligned city, both Miami and New Orleans receive more precipitation annually than Vancouver's average of 1,117 mm (44 in.).

Actor David Duchovny let the weather get him down during the years he spent filming *The X-Files* here. He complained publicly that Vancouver gets "400 inches of rain a day." We haven't forgiven him.

Supposedly journalist Allan Fotheringham described Vancouver as the Canadian city with the best climate and the worst weather. We're still mad at him, too.

But once the rain starts (and start it will, if you're visiting in November or December, our two rainiest

months), make sure you're prepared before you venture outdoors. Stop by one of the umbrella vending machines at the Vancouver International Airport (page 36) for a quick broly, or, to choose the one that expresses the real you, spend some time browsing in The Umbrella Shop (page 80). Then pop into Mountain Equipment Co-op (page 82) to get covered in Gore-Tex from hood to boot.


Just be careful not to insult the Vancouver rain—or, as we prefer to call it, liquid sunshine. 

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