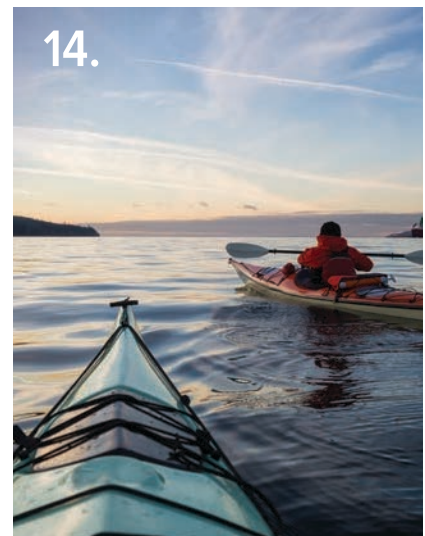


15 FUN THINGS TO DO IN VANCOUVER

By Sheri Radford

1. Get lost in an Elizabethan-style hedge maze at VanDusen Botanical Garden.
2. Watch a movie in the great outdoors. Throughout the summer, free films are shown in Stanley Park, outside the Vancouver Art Gallery, and outside the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.
3. See adorable axolotls in a new exhibit at the Vancouver Aquarium. These endangered salamanders have unique regenerative powers, fluffy gills, and a constant, happy-looking smile.
4. Eat at a Michelin-starred restaurant. Vancouver now has 12 of them.
5. Admire incredible art at the Vancouver Art Gallery's *That Green Ideal: Emily Carr and the Idea of Nature* (to Nov. 8, 2026), the largest solo exhibition ever mounted of pieces by the iconic West Coast artist, or Bill Reid Gallery's *Every River Has a Mouth* (to Feb. 14, 2027), featuring sculpture, printmaking, textiles, painting, and mixed media from Coast Salish artists.
6. Watch a cruise ship glide into Vancouver Harbour. Companies such as Regent Seven Seas Cruises start or end their Alaska cruises in Vancouver.
7. Cheer on your favourite soccer team on the big screen or see your favourite musical artists perform live during the FIFA Fan Festival. It takes place on the PNE grounds during the FIFA World Cup, June 11 to July 19.
8. Experience Vancouver's largest and most popular park the old-fashioned way with Stanley Park Horse-Drawn Tours.
9. Enjoy colourful and flavourful tiki drinks galore at The Shameful Tiki Room.



10. Go for a dip in an outdoor pool. Top spots for fun in the sun include Kits Pool in Kitsilano, Second Beach Pool in Stanley Park, New Brighton Pool in East Vancouver, and Maple Grove Pool in Kerrisdale.
11. Learn how to make delicious Chinese dumplings by signing up for Judy Lam Maxwell's Masterclass Dumplings. Each class also includes a tour of Vancouver's Chinatown.
12. Check out Science World, BC Place, Canada Place, and the SkyTrain, all of which were constructed for the 1986 World Exposition on Transportation and Communication. Expo 86 took place in Vancouver exactly 40 years ago.
13. Have fun watching a Shakespeare play (yes, really). Bard on the Beach takes Shakespeare's classics and leaves the scripts intact while updating the settings and music. This summer's productions are the very funny *The Merry Wives of Windsor*—now set in a soccer-obsessed suburb of Vancouver—and *Macbeth*, one of the Bard's most popular tragedies.
14. Go kayaking after dark. Several local companies offer evening kayaking tours, so you can experience the beauty of Vancouver's waterfront in a whole new way.
15. Put on your dancing shoes and learn to salsa dance at Sunday Afternoon Salsa. These free events are held outdoors in Robson Square.