

wherevancouver 1d
Cactus Club Cafe (English Bay)



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wherevancouver Grabbing some tasty take-out from Cactus Club at English Bay.

#yvrfood #yum #vancouverbeaches #englishbay #gooddeats @CactusClubCafe

wherevancouver 2d
Stanley Park



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wherevancouver Who can resist a cute little picnic wagon from Picnix? Not us.

#picnic #vancityfood #eatingoutside #yum #stanleypark @PicnixVancouver

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Giovane at the Fairmont Pacific Rim



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wherevancouver Ready for an amazing picnic feast, thanks to Giovane.

#getinmybelly #picniclunch #yum #instafood #giovaneatmarket @FairmontPacific

wherevancouver 4d
Edible Canada



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wherevancouver Edible Canada has the most adorable take-out window ever!

#ecchipwagon #fishnchips #poutine #fries #yum #granvilleisland @EdibleCanada

ALFRESCO EATS

Where to find perfect picnic fare, great groceries and to-go food that's to die for, all to be enjoyed outdoors

BY SHERI RADFORD

Vancouver is at its most spectacular in the summertime, and the long, hot days are best spent relaxing on a beach or in a park. When it comes time to pack provisions for an outing, the possibilities are endless, ranging from simple do-it-yourself to elaborate meals created with care by someone else.

Grocery stores such as Safeway (page 36) and Marketplace IGA (page 36) abound on almost every street. Whole Foods Market (page 36) and Choices Markets (page 35) both carry huge selections, including many organic options. Meinhardt Fine Foods (page

36) and Urban Fare (page 36) each stock basic grocery fare as well as an abundance of unusual choices imported from around the world. And you can't go wrong with a visit to the Granville Island Public Market (page 26): pick up fresh fruit and veggies from one of the many produce stalls, prosciutto and salami from Oyama Sausage Co., cheese from Benton Brothers Fine Cheese or Dussa's Ham and Cheese, olives from Duso's Italian Foods, crusty bread from Terra Breads and authentic Montreal bagels from Siegel's Bagels. For dessert, choose some locally made chocolates

from ChocolaTas or a sweet treat from Lee's Donuts, Stuart's Bakery or Olde World Fudge. To add a romantic touch, select a bouquet from Granville Island Florists.

If you'd rather have someone else pack a picnic meal for you, Provence Mediterranean Grill (page 104) and The Dirty Apron (page 95) are happy to oblige. Giovane Cafe (page 92) offers two picnics: the Stanley Park Stroll, which includes paninis, salads, beverages and cookies, packed into a thermal tote bag; or the more elaborate Giovane Gourmet, which also includes salumi, formaggi, antipasti, olives and baguette. Picnix (page 90) offers not just locally sourced charcuterie, cheese, antipasto, bread and dessert but also a blanket, self-inflating pillows, sun umbrella and outdoor games such as bocce ball, all packed into an adorable wagon that converts into a table. The best part? Zero waste.

If that still sounds like too much effort, then the easiest route is to grab a quick meal to

go. Each summer Edible Canada (page 92) on Granville Island chooses a different theme for its take-out window; this year, it's done up to look like a traditional Canadian chip wagon, complete with duck-fat frites, poutine and fish 'n' chips on the menu. For even more fish 'n' chips, as well as fish tacos and an ocean view, head to nearby Go Fish (page 104)—and don't be daunted by the line-up, because the food is worth the wait. Another picturesque spot is Cactus Club's (page 93) concession at English Bay, right on the beach, which serves burgers, chicken tenders, fish tacos and ice cream. If you'd rather pick from a plethora of to-go options, head to the Food Cart Fest (page 88), held every Sunday all summer long; dozens of carts participate, including The Juice Truck, Mom's Grilled Cheese, Roaming Dragon, Kaboom Box, Mogu and Vij's Railway Express.

Being outside certainly increases your appetite. Fortunately, there's no risk of going hungry here. **W**