



## A Whale of a Time

Victoria and Campbell River may be better known launching pads for whale watching, but Vancouver companies (page 68) also offer close encounters of the marine kind. Humpback whales, Dall's porpoises, seals, sea lions, eagles and blue herons are mere warm-ups for the star attraction: orcas. Formerly known as killer whales, orcas are the largest member of the dolphin family. **Orcas in the wild often breach, spy-hop and lob-tail** as entertainingly as their captive brethren. And, luckily for visitors, May is the ideal time of year for a *Free Willy* adventure.

## Madama Butterfly

May 29 to June 10

Even those who aren't theatre aficionados have heard of Giacomo Puccini's masterpiece, which Opera America ranked **number one on the list of North America's most-performed operas**. See for yourself why this story has survived for more than a century when Vancouver Opera presents the timeless, tragic tale of Cio-Cio San and her beloved American soldier, B. F. Pinkerton. At the Queen Elizabeth Theatre (page 64).



PHOTOS: (TOP) COURTESY TOURISM BRITISH COLUMBIA. (BOTTOM) BY TAKASHI HATAKEYAMA



## Run With It

Hardcore athletes **pound the pavement** at the BMO Vancouver Marathon (May 2; page 58). Weekend warriors slow the pace a bit to admire sailboats passing in False Creek, snow-capped mountains off in the distance and the awe-inspiring trees of Stanley Park—or wait a week and instead race a more-manageable 10K at the Vancouver Sun Run (May 9; page 60).

## EDDIE IZZARD

May 21 and 22

Though the charming British actor and activist once completed 43 marathons in 51 days, he's better known for his **rambling stand-up comedy crammed with non sequiturs**, surreal historical musings, pop-culture references and verbal jabs at hecklers. At the Queen Elizabeth Theatre (page 61).



WHITECAPS PHOTO. COURTESY TOURISM VANCOUVER AND VANCOUVER WHITECAPS. DOXA PHOTO SHOWS FILM DISCO AND ATOMIC WAR. MORE THAN JUST GAMES PHOTO SHOWS BOXER SAMMY LUFT SPRING CIRCA 1930

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### BROOKS & DUNN

**GM Place**  
Last chance to see the superstar country duo (page 61).



### VANCOUVER WHITECAPS

**Swangard Stadium**  
Men's team battles the Montreal Impact (page 64).



**DOXA DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL**  
First day of the film fest, now celebrating its 10th anniversary (page 58).



### MADISON VIOLET

**St. James Hall**  
The duo teams up with fellow Canadians The John Henrys (page 62).



### MORE THAN JUST GAMES

**Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre**  
The thought-provoking exhibit continues (page 66).



### AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

**PNE Gardens**  
A unique circus version of the classic story (page 64).

