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VICTORIAN'S

SECRET

Vol. 1
 April 2009



VS Design and Credits

Victoria's Secret is designed to be for the people by the people. It is meant to give a little taste of what Victoria means to those who live in it, as opposed to those who market it. Therefore, the layout and style was inspired by the concept of grunge and edginess. The sketchy and hand-written fonts accomplish a down to earth feeling, while the black and white columns keep it sharp and clean. As for the pink - it's just a vibrant splash of colour to add a little life!

First and foremost, Victoria's Secret would like to acknowledge Shane Scott-Travis for coming up with the imaginative publishing name.

A big thank you goes out to all the Speak Up participants as well as to Shawney Townsend, for spending the gas to help make this production possible!

All photography and articles done by Maelina de Grasse. VS

VS SPEAK UP Victoria Locals Spill

- Q: What's the best thing about Victoria?
 A: The diversity of people and the old character homes. -JE
 A: It's the perfect size. It's got everything you need, without the 4 million people population. -CB

"It's my home. I can do everything here." -BW

- Q: Where is your favorite place to go?
 A: Dallas Road. The neighbourhood is just so peaceful and very victoria. -JS
 A: Volleyball on the the roof of Sticky Wicket is amazing. -CW

VS TOP TEN Overrated Tourist Attractions

- BC Maritime Museum:** If you want history, read a book. You're in the city! Today! Go out and be in it!
- Craigdarroch Castle:** Europe and Asia are laughing at us.
- The Empress:** "High Tea" - who wants to spend \$50 for brown water and mini sandwiches?
- The Wax Museum:** Creepy? Yes. What Victorian's do in their spare time? Definately not.
- Harbour Ferries:** Hated by many. Especially rowers/kayakers.
- Gayley's Farm:** Wow. A corn maze. Thrilling.
- The Bug Zoo:** Okay... Cool, maybe..the point being...?
- Souvenir Shops:** Canadians don't dress like that. Neither should you.
- Miniature World:** What says Victoria better than, "I have nothing better to do than make a bunch of teeny-tiny people?"
- Undersea Gardens:** Population: Tourists and 2nd grade field trips.

Vic City's Non-Tourist Attractions

Every summer the streets of downtown Victoria fill with flocking visitors who pay too much money for tours and trinkets that don't represent Victoria in the slightest.

People who come to Victoria and scramble to get to as many tourist attractions as they possibly can, leave thinking that they have an understanding of what Victoria is all about. They couldn't be more wrong.

As a local, born and raised on the island, I know that to many of us, Victoria is about something different.

It is about the little gems hidden amongst the narrow streets and the residential lawns. It's about anything that's still alive when the tourist portion of the city shuts down at six o'clock. Most locals haven't even seen the common attractions. To know Victoria, you have to see the simple pleasures that it brings to those who live here; the look out points most frequently visited when growing up; the place with the outstanding coffee; the best place to go for breakfast.

These are the things that best illustrate what it is like to live in Victoria. So hang out with a local - or better yet, read *Victoria's Secret*. VS

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- VS This month's selection of top non-tourist attractions in Victoria ... P. 1 & 2
 - VS Victoria locals say a few words about their hometown ... P. 4
 - VS Top Ten Overated Tourist Attractions ... P. 4
 - VS Our Design and Credits ... P. 4



The Bubble Tea Place

Located on the edge of the lively, jovial area of China Town, The Bubble Tea Place is just as its name says: *The Bubble Tea Place*. It's the place to go if you want to enjoy a refreshing cultural beverage with your choice of tapioca, coconut or pineapple jellies. But the Bubble Tea Place isn't just a drink stop. It's also a store complete with ethnic clothing, art, trinkets, and even massages. The patio out front is sunny the majority of the day, and right across from another great little place, Bean Around the World. So grab a fresh panini from across the street, and sit and enjoy one of the greatest places in downtown Victoria.

The Noodle Box

The Noodle Box was founded by an Australian Chef and a woman from Campbell River who were both passionate about travel, culture and great food. It began in 2001 as an outdoor food stand, using a refurbished hotdog cart. They served mouthwatering stir-fries made from the recipes they'd picked up while backpacking in South East Asia. 3 years later they moved indoors and now own two locations, both constantly crowded and successful.

Gyro Beach

Cadboro Bay Beach, also known as Gyro or Caddy Bay, is home of the sea monster, the giant octopus, and the great big fish. It's one of the most popular beaches on the island, and hosts many summer events, picnics and field trips. Additionally, it's proximity to dense residential areas allows Gyro to be a common destination in the evening too. A walk under the stars and a quick stop at Starbucks makes for a perfect night.

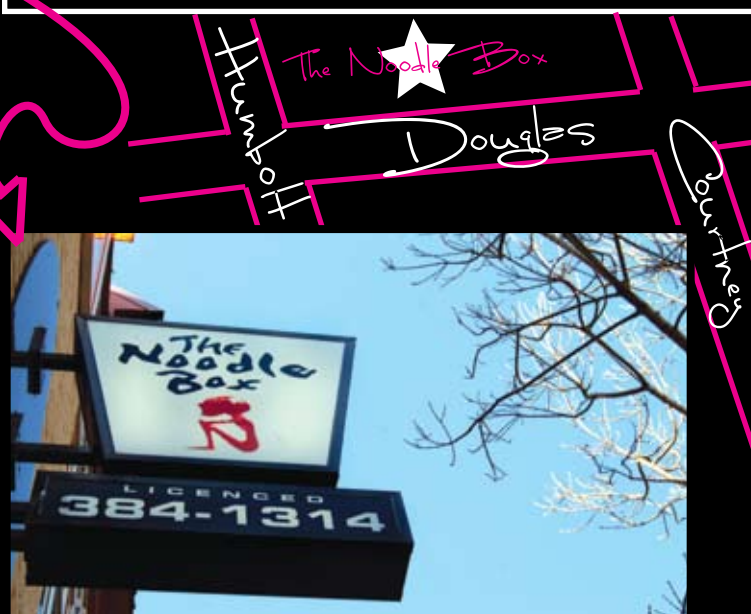


Cook Street Village

The real life, dictionary definition of bliss, relaxation and contentment. Cook Street Village is always filled with friendly people, enjoying the peaceful atmosphere, a cup of hot chocolate, or a nice walk with the dog. With a nearby beach, the friendly Beagle Pub, Pic a Flic movie rentals, a brick oven pizza place and two great coffee shops, Cook Street Village is like a quiet little town, away from the tiring commotion of day to day life.

QV's Cafe Bakery is the Tim Hortons for the alternative kids. Open until 3 AM, in the outskirts of China Town, it is the prime location for young people enjoying the entertainment of downtown Victoria after hours. It's a unique cafe that serves everything from hearty burgers and phenomenal cheesecake. With down to earth staff and a 50's style jukebox, QV's is a great place to stop for a cheap breakfast, a midday coffee, or a snack after a night out - or even instead of it.

QV's Cafe Bakery



Floyd's Diner



Beacon Hill Drive-In

Part of the appeal of the Beacon Drive-In is that it's had very few changes since it was founded over 50 years ago. Well, that and it has the best classic soft icecream and sundays in town. The place is always booming with business as soon as the sun comes out, and families enjoy the simplicity of the old time diner in Beacon Hill Park. You can chose to line up outside and grab your orders from the windows, or sit and stay a while inside or on the patio, and enjoy your burger, or hotdog and fries.

A common sight-seeing attraction for Victoria is Ogden Point's Breakwater. And although it's admittedly a great place to watch the sunset, it's not the only great thing about Dallas Road. In fact, Dallas Road itself, is possibly even better. Stretching from the center of James Bay to the heart of Cadboro Bay, Dallas Road provides a 20 minute drive along the water, with some of the best views in Victoria. It is frequently driven by young people, simply for something to do, while enjoying the company of great friends, and good music.



The Inner Harbour After Hours

During the day, the Inner Harbour is buzzing with activity. In fact, so it the rest of downtown. There are tourists, runners, buskers, and tour carts all over the streets, especially in the summer. But on a sunday or week-day night, when the city shuts down and all the people go home to their warm beds, the city comes alive. Not with activity, but with twinkly lights, a charming ambiance, and a peaceful silence. Take a walk down the magnificently lit Government street, and admire the beauty of downtown Victoria without the distracting crowds.

Floyd's Diner

Floyd's Diner is one of the busiest, most popular breakfast places downtown. With a line out the door from when it opens at 7 AM to when it closes at 4, Floyd's offers fantastic food, great prices and personable service. Oh, and the walls are one giant colouring book. Bring a sharpie and jot down your thoughts, favorite quote or simple doodle, and add to the fun, unique atmosphere of this 50's style diner. If you're feeling lucky, try the Mahony - the item on the menu that let's the kitchen surprise you with a secret meal - and then, flip for it! Win, and get it for free, loose, and pay double!

Cook St. Village



Dallas Breakwater