

Vancouver pros and cons (written by me)

Some people claim that Vancouver is one of the best cities in the world. In fact, Vancouver took top spots in many ratings about "best cities in the world". Being a Vancouver resident, I can confirm it is an amazing city indeed. However, it has its own advantages and disadvantages that I would like to review below.

Best things about Vancouver, BC

1. Nature and landscapes. Situated on the Pacific Coast, Vancouver is surrounded by mountains and the ocean inlet making it unique scenery. This exceptional combination makes the city look extremely beautiful. Additionally, Vancouver is a unique combination of city megapolis and nature. There are many hikes around the city providing great views and workouts. If you enjoy the outdoors, Vancouver is the city for you.

2. Mild climate during winter time. Canada is considered to be a cold and snowy country, but because Vancouver is surrounded by mountains, its winter weather is quite warm compared to the rest of Canada. Usually, the temperature in Vancouver stays above 0 degrees Celsius (32°F). At the same time, you can still enjoy winter conditions. All you need to do is to drive to the nearest mountain, e.g. it is only a 20 minute drive from the city center to the local ski resort at Cypress Mountain.

3. Green and clean city. Vancouver is an extremely green city, there are trees, flowers, and plants everywhere even on the roofs of high-rise buildings. It makes the city extremely beautiful and scenic during spring when trees are flowering cherries and makes the city pink as well as colorful in fall. Locals are also serious about recycling and ecology as a result you can expect clean air even though Vancouver is a big city.

Worst things about Vancouver, BC

1. Affordability. I have to admit, I considered moving from Vancouver many times because the cost of living is very expensive. Unfortunately, Vancouver got me and I feel addicted now. Every time I leave the city for more than 2 weeks, I really want to come back. The median family can not even afford to buy a property rather than a 1-bedroom apartment in the old building. For example, the average house price in Vancouver is \$1,5 million! Can you believe that? As a result, renting costs are high as hell and I know some families spend 60% of their monthly income to simply cover the rent.

2. Rain. From October to March, Vancouver has what so-called "rainy season". You are lucky if you see the sun during these months. As a result, people need to take vitamin D and I know some people who feel depressed during the rainy season. Some people simply leave Vancouver for 2-3 months to sunny destinations. However, picking between sunny and cold weather or rainy but mild climate, I'll take a rainy but mild climate.

Vancouver is a good city, but its affordability makes young people move to cheaper cities.