

## **Vancouver Dining: A Brief Guide**

Alan Richardson  
Philosophy, UBC

Vancouver has hundreds of restaurants. Many of them are good; some of them are extraordinary. It also has many perfectly serviceable, inexpensive restaurants. The following guide will help you get started. It would be best to make reservations at the finer dining places as early as possible—the week of the meeting will most likely be too late.

*Fine Dining Downtown: PSA, HSS, and 4S all meet downtown. You can walk to most or all of these from the conference hotels.*

Diva at the Met: Fine dining in the Metropolitan Hotel.  
<http://www.metropolitan.com/diva/>

Le Crocodile: Fine French just a few blocks from the Hyatt.  
<http://www.lecrocodilerestaurant.com/index.cfm>

Raincity Grill: Pacific Northwest cuisine with a fine view of English Bay on the Westend. <http://www.raincitygrill.com/thegrill.html>

Imperial Seafood: Excellent Cantonese just around the corner from the Hyatt.  
<http://www.imperialrest.com/>

C: Hip and delicious Vancouver seafood experience on False Creek.  
<http://www.crestaurant.com/>

Nu: C's sister restaurant right next door. <http://www.whatisnu.com/>

Bluewater Café: Come for the sushi, stay for the possibility of sighting Hollywood celebrities. <http://www.bluewatercafe.net/bluewater/>

CinCin: Another stop on the celebrity tour, this time on Robson Street, where Vancouver's young people shop. <http://www.cincin.net/cincin/>

Chambar: A Yaletown place to see and be seen; it features stunning, if sometimes stunningly strange, Belgian ales. <http://www2.chambar.com/EN/404/>

Cassis: A less expensive option with yummy French rustic cuisine.  
<http://www.cassisvancouver.com/>

Il Giardino di Umberto: As good as Italian gets in Vancouver.  
<http://www.umberto.com/giardino.htm>

Provence Marinaside: A large French bistro on False Creek; good choice for larger groups. <http://www.provencevancouver.com/marinaside/>

*Less Expensive Options (courtesy of UBC Philosophy grad students):*

Stepho's Greek Taverna, 1124 Davie Street, (604) 683-2555.

Lolita's South of the Border, 1326 Davie Street, (604) 696-9998.

Bin 941 and Bin 942: Tapas. <http://www.bin941.com/>

Jewel of India: In the touristy Gastown area, but you might go there for t-shirts or maple syrup anyway. 52 Alexander Street, (604) 687-5665.

Here's a "cheap eats" page from *Vancouver Magazine*:  
<http://www.vanmag.com/0310/eats.htm>

*Other Neighbourhoods: All a cheap cab ride or even more cheap transit ride away.*

Many of Vancouver's finest restaurants require getting out of downtown. Here are few.

*Kitsilano: The neighbourhood between downtown and UBC.*

Bishop's: Vancouver's venerable dining institution.  
<http://www3.telus.net/public/bishrest/>

Pastis: More excellent French; this time on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the heart of Kits.  
<http://www.bistropastis.com/>

Quattro: Italian on 4<sup>th</sup>. <http://www.quattrorestaurants.com/html/fourth/index.html>

Yuji's: Sushi on 4<sup>th</sup>. [www.bcrestaurants.ca/yuji](http://www.bcrestaurants.ca/yuji)

Lumière: Rob Feenie's French flagship restaurant. <http://www.lumiere.ca/>

Feenie's: Feenie's more casual alternative. <http://www.feenies.com/>

Mistral French Bistro: The new French on the same block as the previous two.  
<http://www.mistralbistro.ca/>

*West Point Grey: UBC's upscale neighbourhood*

Wabi Sabi: Unique sushi restaurant almost all the way to UBC.  
<http://www.sushibarwabisabi.com/main/index.html>

*South Granville: just across False Creek from downtown.*

Tojo's: The start of all things Sushi in Vancouver and, for many, still the best. Tojo claims to have invented the California roll. <http://www.tojos.com/>

Cru: Relatively unpretentious French bistro. <http://www.cru.ca/>

Vij's: Indo-Pacific Northwest fusion. A unique Vancouver experience. No reservations; come at opening or around 8 pm to minimize the wait. Vij also owns the less formal Rangoli next door. [http://www.vijs.ca/index\\_in.htm](http://www.vijs.ca/index_in.htm)

West: In all likelihood, Vancouver's best restaurant.  
<http://www.westrestaurant.com/westrestaurant/>

*Other neighbourhoods worth exploring for restaurants: Just wander and go in any restaurant that looks good.*

*Chinatown:* On the eastern edge of downtown.

*Commercial Drive:* Take the SkyTrain to the Broadway and Commercial Station and walk north. Vancouver's family-style Italian Restaurants, cafes, and delis are here, as is much else.

*Main Street:* Broadway south to about 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Excellent Sources of Reliable Information:*

*Vancouver Magazine's* most recent restaurant awards can be perused here:  
[http://www.vanmag.com/17th/restaurant\\_awards.html](http://www.vanmag.com/17th/restaurant_awards.html)

For a spectacularly detailed (block-by-block) and wonderfully reliable guide to dining in Vancouver, see <http://www.evevancouver.ca/index.htm>