

ART, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT IN BURNABY

As a cosmopolitan city, Burnaby is known for many things – incredible shopping, outstanding nature and outdoor activities, and spectacular vistas (think Burnaby Mountain!).

But, with the city's award-winning arts centre, renowned outdoor concert bowl, engaging museums and galleries, and popular events such as the Burnaby Blues & Roots Festival – Burnaby is quickly being recognized as an arts, culture and entertainment centre.

Spend some time in Burnaby, and you'll soon realize that this worldly city offers a delightful combination of arts, cultural and entertainment experiences.

First off is the Burnaby Village Museum – a definite must-see when visiting Burnaby. Whether you're an avid historian or just a curious visitor, Burnaby Village Museum offers a fascinating glimpse of life in the early 20th century.

Here, you'll travel back in time (and you thought it wasn't possible?) to the early 1920s. Located in the picturesque Deer Lake Park, the village is actually a four-hectare open-air museum featuring a restored and recreated village, farm and vintage (working) carousel.

With more than 30 shops and homes, you'll find friendly, period-costumed staff welcoming you into their homes and businesses at every turn. Wander through the charming village church, visit the Chinese herbalist and the blacksmith's shop, or take a tour on the BC Electric Railway tram.

Whatever you do, make sure to stop by the old-fashioned ice-cream parlour for a scoop (or two) – and don't forget to take a ride on the restored 1912 carousel... fun for the young, and young at heart!

And while you're at Deer Lake, you'll find plenty of other arts and cultural activities. Check out the Burnaby Art Gallery, which offers engaging and evolving exhibits reflecting Burnaby's (and BC's) unique culture, heritage and landscape. Visit the Deer Lake Gallery, home to an array of art and artistic styles from budding and prominent artists across Greater Vancouver. Admission to both galleries is free (well, by donation).

Also located at Deer Lake Park is the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts – an award-winning arts facility that offers a year-round schedule of performances, festivals, exhibitions and special events. From exciting dramas and comedic improv to award-winning art and dance performances, the Shadbolt is the epicentre of Burnaby's thriving arts community.

For something more musical, enjoy the sights and sounds of the Burnaby Symphony Orchestra (BSO), and the soulful rhythms of the famed Burnaby Blues & Roots Festival at Deer Lake Park's scenic outdoor concert bowl (a natural amphitheatre that seats 10,000).

The BSO has become a tradition in Burnaby, with the sounds of classical music filling the air every summer at Deer Lake Park.

Now in its ninth year, the Burnaby Blues & Roots Festival is a one-day event that – year after year – features some of the world’s most celebrated R&B musicians. Taking place every August, the Blues & Roots festival offers seven hours of non-stop music on two stages. Some of the event’s performers have included Colin James, Otis Clay, Buddy Guy and Remy Shand.

Every summer, Deer Lake Park’s outdoor concert bowl also draws world-famous musicians to its stage – such as Burnaby’s very own Michael Bubl , and multi-award winner Feist.

With all its offerings, it’s easy to see why Burnaby is quickly earning an enviable reputation as a must-visit arts and cultural destination.

Whether you’re interested in experiencing a living museum reflecting the 1920s, or seeing unique artistry, engaging arts performances or world-renowned musicians – Burnaby offers unparalleled arts, cultural and entertainment experiences.