

VICTORIA






STUDY HERE, SUCCEED ANYWHERE

Welcome to Victoria International Student Programs. Whether your goal is acceptance at a world-renowned university, or to simply improve your English, learn about Canadian culture, have fun and make friends, VISP is an excellent choice for you!

Victoria International Student Programs offers the highest quality learning experience in a safe, beautiful, culturally diverse and inclusive environment.

We are certain you will have a fantastic adventure and the education and experience you gain will provide you with access to unique opportunities for the rest of your life.



“My experience in Victoria International Student Programs has taught me to be more independent, my English skills have greatly improved, and the teachers and programs offered here have been great.

— Maria Fernanda Veloso Dias (Brazil)

VISP CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

Your competitive advantage for employment and post-secondary education

The Greater Victoria School District's Victoria International Student Programs are approved and accredited by the British Columbia Ministry of Education. They meet the highest standards of academic rigour and provide invaluable life skills to further each student's chances for success.

The Greater Victoria School District is located in Victoria, the “City of Gardens” and capital of British Columbia, Canada. It covers five municipal areas and is one of the largest public school districts in the province.

University and government accredited teachers

Our teachers are highly trained, government-certified professionals. Teaching faculty has completed university-level training in education, holding bachelor's and/or master's degrees in their particular subject area.

A balanced approach to learning

The Academic High School Program instills a balanced and healthy outlook in young minds by encouraging students to become active and full members of their school and neighbourhood communities through athletics, cultural activities, volunteering and other non-academic pursuits.

More and more, these are experiences and attributes that give today's students an advantage over other academically qualified students with regard to university acceptance and employment.

Flexibility to meet individual needs and achieve excellence

Each of our District's government-certified schools has its own unique character and provides a wide range of course options. Within each class, our well-balanced ratio of international to Canadian students allows our teachers to utilize progressive learning strategies that engage all of our students in meaningful, cooperative projects and activities that create a world-class learning environment.

Outstanding student support

Our years of experience in international education have made us keenly aware of the unique needs of international students. To assist our students and encourage their success, we provide comprehensive support that includes:

- Staff at each of our high schools assigned specifically to look after our international students: vice principal, advisor/counselor, ELL instructor
- Our own registered homestay program
- A dedicated homestay coordinator for the students at each school
- An orientation for all new international students
- Professional, experienced program staff committed to student success

WE HAVE A SCHOOL TO SUIT YOUR STYLE & NEEDS

“Out of all the schools I researched, I chose VISP because of its size and location, but in the end the programs offered were the deciding factor. The school I am attending is very good and the teachers have been terrific, I am really learning a lot and I couldn't have asked for a better experience.”

— Hernan Sandoval Gonzalez (Mexico)

NAMED "FRIENDLIEST CITY"
CANADA'S



BY CONDE
NAST TRAVELER

COMFORTABLE, WELL-EQUIPPED FACILITIES

Greater Victoria's schools combine a rich history and tradition with a modern philosophy. As a student in Victoria International Student Programs, you will enjoy our exceptional learning facilities, including libraries, fine and practical arts facilities, science and computer labs equipped with the latest technology, large sports fields and a multitude of extracurricular activities.

All seven of our high schools are located in good neighbourhoods and are serviced by an excellent public transportation system. Our breathtaking downtown inner harbour can be accessed from all our schools in less than 25 minutes.



Our high schools get you closer to your dreams

Greater Victoria's high schools provide a consistent, world-class academic program as well as an amazing array of elective courses for students to choose from. Students can further develop physically and intellectually by participating in the many extra-curricular opportunities available. With seven high schools in the District, every student will find the right environment for their unique interests and needs.

Middle schools: supporting the growing needs of younger students

Designed for the unique developmental learning needs of students in grades six through eight, our 10 middle schools provide a smooth transition from elementary school to secondary school. In addition to core academic courses, they offer numerous exploratory programs in fine arts, applied skills and information technology, to meet the educational needs and personal interests of each student.

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA



Uplands Campus

VISP administrative offices
and education centre

Middle Schools

- 8 Arbutus Middle School
- 9 Cedar Hill Middle School
- 10 Central Middle School
- 11 Colquitz Middle School
- 12 Glanford Middle School
- 13 Gordon Head Middle School
- 14 Lansdowne Middle School
- 15 Monterey Middle School
- 16 Rockheights Middle School
- 17 Shoreline Middle School

High Schools

- 1 Esquimalt High School
- 2 Lambrick Park Secondary
- 3 Mount Douglas Secondary
- 4 Oak Bay High School
- 5 Reynolds Secondary School
- 6 Spectrum Community School
- 7 Victoria High School



OUR PROGRAMS WILL TAKE YOU FURTHER IN LIFE

Academic High School Program

Our Academic High School Program is intended for students who are goal-oriented and self-motivated. Students are fully integrated with Canadian students and can choose to enroll for six months, one year, or stay until graduation.

The students who benefit most from this program also appreciate other forms of enrichment, such as music, art and sports.

International students can tailor their studies to suit their individual interests and career goals. In addition to required courses, students can choose from a wide range of elective subjects in fine arts, business education and applied skills.

Instruction and support in English as a Second Language (ELL) assists students in their studies and enables them to achieve English fluency.

International students in the Academic Program study the same curriculum as Canadian students and must maintain the same high standards expected of Canadian youth. All courses are government approved and designed to prepare students for the challenges of continuing education or work.

Admissions are based on a student's ability to demonstrate their ability to be successful. Prospective students usually supply recommendations, grade reports and a list of extra-curricular activities with their application forms to demonstrate their compatibility with the expectations of the Academic High School Program.

Uplands Campus Academic Transition Program (ATP)

This innovative academic program supports international students with their transition into British Columbia's public school environment (about 95% of all Canadian students attend public schools) and high school graduation program, leading to university or college acceptance.

Offered year-round, the Academic Transition

Program provides instruction in the core subjects of mathematics, intercultural studies, physical education and English Language Learning. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities in and around Victoria.

Upon successful completion of the program, students will be assigned credit in English, Mathematics, Humanities and Physical Education. Students will earn credit at the grade level they have been assigned (10 or 11) and will be guaranteed entrance into the Greater Victoria School District

Short-Term High School Experience Program

This exciting program gives students the opportunity to attend a Canadian high school on a short-term basis for 3 or 4 months. Our high schools offer five hours of daily class time. One to two hours per day can be spent studying English Language Learning if needed, while the remainder of the school day is spent taking elective courses with Canadian students. For those who want an extra challenge, academic courses are available.

This program is designed for individual students and provides many opportunities for interaction with Canadians at school, at home, and in the community.

Camp Victoria Summer Program

This program is offered for six weeks in July and August each year. Camp Victoria is intended for participants ages 13 - 18 who are placed in classes of approximately 15 students. New students may join the summer program on any Monday within the six-week program period for a minimum of two weeks. Each week includes a minimum of 22 hours of class-based ELL learning and 12 hours of local cultural activities. Full-day local cultural activities occur each Saturday.

Classroom instruction focuses on developing skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking with emphasis on communicative English for specific purposes. Activities are led by professional, highly experienced facilitator and assisted by trained Canadian students known as "Cultural Assistants".

Group ELL Study Program

Offered year-round, our custom designed group programs welcome students 13 - 18 years of age. Taught by qualified, energetic and dynamic staff, students will improve their English skills and explore Canadian culture through activities such as downtown walking tours, hiking, kayaking, visits to local cultural sites, crafts and other events.

 **MILDEST** CLIMATE IN CANADA! >>>>>

 **FEBRUARY AVERAGE** >> **HIGH: 9°C**
TEMPERATURES ARE >> **LOW: 2°C**

VICTORIA: CANADA'S PACIFIC JEWEL

Victoria is located on the southern tip of Vancouver Island and is a short ferry ride from Seattle and Vancouver. It has been ranked as one of the top 10 most beautiful cities in the world.

Canada

Vancouver

Victoria

Seattle

Aug_22_2017(Prospectus)EN



Rich with culture, history and active living

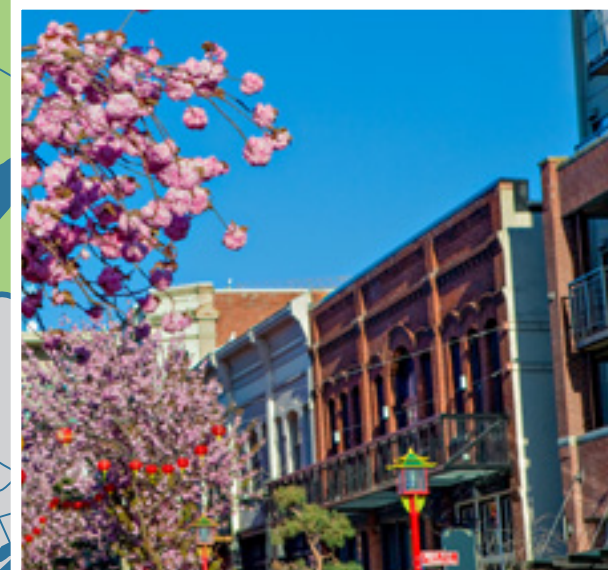
Situated at the south end of Vancouver Island off the west coast of Canada, Victoria is a medium-sized city of 360,000 with a distinct European flavour and is home to some of the finest scenery and recreational activities anywhere in the world. As the second largest city on Canada's west coast, Victoria is also rich in maritime history and tradition.

Victoria is easily accessed by direct flight into its international airport or by a short ferry ride from Vancouver, British Columbia or Seattle, Washington.

Year-round moderate climate and outdoor recreation

Victoria boasts the mildest climate in Canada. Temperatures seldom exceed 25 degrees celsius in summer and rarely dip below freezing in winter. If snow comes, it is greeted by locals as a novelty. February often marks the start of spring and with much less precipitation than other nearby areas, Victoria ranks among the sunniest cities in Canada.

Victoria's mild winters allow residents to pursue a variety of outdoor activities throughout the year, such as golf, rowing, hiking, sailing and cycling.



Advanced learning, world-class sports, entertainment and culture

Victoria is a safe city where government, the arts and advanced learning are major activities. The city has two renowned universities and a college, a world-class museum, IMAX theatre, a symphony, professional theatre companies, and a major regional art gallery.

Victoria has semi-professional soccer, hockey, baseball and lacrosse teams and is also home to world-class Olympic athletes in rowing, rugby, field hockey, diving, cycling and triathlons. With its modern 7,000 seat sports and entertainment venue, Victoria attracts major concerts and other sports-entertainment events.

Our city is clean, quiet and friendly – the perfect place to study and experience Canadian culture.



I was a little nervous about staying with a new family in a different country at first, but my homestay has been brilliant! Not only has my new family helped me with my English skills, they treat me like a daughter...I think I am really lucky to be with them.

- Becky, Geun Young Choi (Korea)

THE COMFORT AND SECURITY OF HOMESTAY

International students participating in the VISP Homestay Program will feel welcome, comfortable and secure. The VISP Homestay Program places visiting students into supportive, stable homes with active Canadian families.

Our program staff carefully screen each homestay family to ensure it meets our expectations and high standards for hosting young people from around the world. Host families receive training and are supported and supervised by our own highly experienced homestay coordinators.

Homestays with Canadian families are strongly encouraged. Our experience tells us this is the best way to ensure the safety, well-being and success of our students. The support of homestay families enables students to focus on their studies, confident that their domestic needs are met. Homestays provide an invaluable, authentic insight into Canada's multicultural way of life and opportunities to improve English language skills. As a result, students move with ease and confidence in Canadian society.

Our homestay family community is a very important aspect of our program. Our homestay families represent a diverse range of interests and lifestyles that characterize Canada's multicultural society. Many Victoria families have welcomed international students into their homes since the program began in 1992.



GREATER VICTORIA
POPULATION OF 360,000



BC'S SECOND LARGEST
METROPOLITAN AREA

I like how they have different kinds of programs and any courses that can fit anyone's interests. Also, the teachers and staff are truly helpful and supportive.

- Lan Phuong (Vietnam)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Graduation requirements

In order to graduate from a British Columbia high school, students must attain a sufficient number of credits at the grade 10 to 12 levels. The majority of credits must come from the following subjects: language arts, social studies, science, mathematics, physical education, two (2) graduation-oriented business classes, fine arts and applied skills. The remaining credits must come from elective courses that students choose according to their personal interests and postsecondary aspirations. Elective courses fall into three broad categories: applied skills, business education, and fine arts.

International students who enter the school system in British Columbia, in grade 10 or before, will proceed through the graduation program with the same requirements as local students. International students who enter at the grade 11 or 12 level will be required to demonstrate English proficiency and complete the requirements of the graduation program. Some course requirements may be satisfied through Equivalency or Challenge review. Credit eligibility is determined through the VISP application process.

Students who achieve a high academic standing may enrol in specially designed courses in various subjects. Successful completion of these courses allows students to enter directly into second-year courses at post-secondary institutions, while others earn academic credits for their high school course work.



Extracurricular program activities

During the year, full-time international students are offered special activities at additional cost, such as skiing in Whistler and visits to Vancouver, Seattle and the Rocky Mountains. In addition, each school has its own set of special offerings, such as tennis, rowing, cycling, track and field, golf, rugby, theatre, dance, band and strings, choral work, theatre productions, media studies, vocal jazz, and archaeological and ecological study excursions.

NEXT STEPS

For more information about
Victoria International Student
Programs and to register
on-line visit:

studyinvictoria.com

Find us on:



VICTORIA



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