

# Camp Victoria

## Pre-arrival Information

### Camp Victoria

Camp Victoria summer programs run from Monday to Saturday with in classroom and outdoor activities

Updates for each week of camp will be sent out the Friday before.

### Participation

Students are expected to attend each day. If a student is feeling unwell, they are to ask their family/host family to contact the VIE Main Office at 250-592-6871.

### Location

3461 Henderson Rd  
Victoria, BC  
V8P 5A8

### Camp Victoria Hours

Arrival Time: 8:45am  
Start Time: 9:00am  
Dismissal Time: 3:30pm



### VIE Emergency Phone Number

**+1 778-676-3781**

Please carry this number with you when you travel and contact us if you need help.

## What Should I Bring to Canada?

### Important Documents

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Visa or Entry Permit
- ✓ Letter of Acceptance
- ✓ Study Permit Acceptance Letter (if applicable)
- ✓ Custodian Letter
- ✓ Homestay or Accommodation Information
- ✓ Travel insurance (if desired)

### Any Special Medications

If you require special medications, be sure to bring them with you along with a copy of the doctor's prescription. If you have allergies, be sure to bring the medication that you use or prefer. **Please ensure that all important medical information has been shared with the program.**

### Clothing

Students are not required to wear uniforms. Weather in Victoria is generally mild, but summer can be quite warm. There may still be some rainy days. Remember to bring a hat and sunscreen as you will be doing outdoor activities.

### Money

While you are able to pay with credit cards almost everywhere, it's a good idea to always carry a little cash with you for the trip.

### Electronics

Canada's electrical supply and electrical outlets are 120 Volts and 60 Hertz (sockets, wall plugs.) Plug converters can be purchased at the airport or at various local stores.

Many students find it useful to have an electronic language translator to assist them with English words

For more detailed information, please see the link to the VIE Student Handbook:

[VIE Student Handbook](#)



### **Medical Support**

VIE arranges medical insurance coverage for each student. Accessing medical support in Victoria can be challenging for students. If students need help seeing a doctor, assessing a medical condition, or being reimbursed for insurance, host families can help. If further support is needed, please contact:

- A) Homestay Coordinator: Scott Rattee  
[srattee@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:srattee@sd61.bc.ca)
- B) VIE Main Office Support: Jo-Anne Bettauer [jbettauer@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:jbettauer@sd61.bc.ca)
- C) In an emergency: 9-1-1
- D) For program support after hours/weekends: 778-676-3781

### **Phone Plans**



SIM cards are readily available. One option for SIM cards can be found online at [www.gophonebox.com](http://www.gophonebox.com).

### **Bus**

Students are responsible for buying their own bus fare. A list of vendors that sell bus passes (UMO cards) can be found at:

[www.bctransit.com/victoria/fares/where-to-buy](http://www.bctransit.com/victoria/fares/where-to-buy)

Students typically use the following two apps for bus route information:

 Google Maps  Transit App

### **Adjusting to Life in Canada**

It is normal to feel some homesickness. This should pass. Some things students find helpful include:

- Getting fresh air outside
- Going for walks, to the gym or to the pool
- Keep up routines – go to camp each day
- Find a place in the city that feels comfortable (i.e. coffee shop, bench by the ocean, etc.)

If you continue to feel unhappy, let your host family, teacher or homestay coordinator know.

## **Living in Homestay**

Please communicate with your host family before travelling. Get to know each other.

You may find your living environment and the food very different than you are used to. Please keep an open mind and ask questions if you are not sure about something.

Spend time with your host family, especially at the beginning of your stay. Dinner time is a great time to get to know each other.

Please make an effort to keep your bedroom tidy and clean up after yourself.

**Please be sure to ask your Homestay Coordinator, Scott Rattee for help, if needed.**

Homestay Coordinator Contact: [srattee@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:srattee@sd61.bc.ca)

### **Arrivals**

Please book your flights through to Victoria International Airport (YYJ) and forward the flight itinerary to

[isp\\_arrivals@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:isp_arrivals@sd61.bc.ca) as soon as possible. Host Families will pick students up from the Victoria International Airport (YYJ.) Please let host families know if there are any changes to your flight plans.

### **Arrivals with Natural**

### **Parents**

Host families will pick students up from the airport, ferry terminal or the hotel where their parents are staying. All visits to host family homes must be coordinated through the Homestay Department. Visits may be scheduled a few days after the student has settled into their new living environment.

The VIE team is here to support you and will work hard to ensure your safety and well-being. If you are having any difficulties, please reach out to your host family or any member of the team.

Wishing you safe and happy travels!

Your VIE Team

