

Transkript

Exploring Gastown & Chinatown in Vancouver

Gastown is Vancouver's oldest neighbourhood. Together with Chinatown, this area is a popular spot for both locals and tourists to shop, eat, and enjoy its historic charm. Listen to this audio guide as you walk through the neighbourhoods.

Stop 1: Steam Clock

You are standing in front of one of Gastown's most famous sights: the Steam Clock, built in 1977. Water is cooked under the street, and hot steam comes up into the clock. Every fifteen minutes it makes a loud sound that echoes through the streets. It's worth coming to see it at 12 o'clock noon, when it plays a whole steam-powered tune.

Now, walk down Water Street.

Stop 2: 'Gassy Jack' Statue

Here is the statue of 'Gassy' Jack Deighton, the man who gave Gastown its name. 'Gassy Jack' was an English immigrant who arrived in Vancouver with only a few dollars in his pocket. In 1867, he opened a pub here. Jack was known for his great storytelling, and soon his pub became the center of the community. Fun fact: Gassy Jack paid the workers who built his first pub with whiskey! Look to the left of the statue and you will see our next stop, Blood Alley.

Stop 3: Blood Alley

This street is one of the most mysterious places in all of Vancouver. One mystery is the name: Nobody knows where it came from. Some people believe the name comes from its dangerous past, when the alley was known for violence and crime. Others believe that it's because pigs and cows were killed here for food. Whatever you believe, the street is home to cafés, art galleries, and a few restaurants today.

Now, look at your map and follow the arrows to the Sam Kee building.

Stop 4: The Sam Kee Building

On your right is the Sam Kee building. It is the narrowest shop in the whole world, according to *The Guinness Book of World Records*. It's only 1.5 metres wide. In the early 1900s, a Chinese immigrant known as 'Sam Kee' bought a large piece of land here. But before he could build anything, the city decided it needed to make the street wider. So the city took most of Sam's land, and he only had a tiny piece left. Nobody really believed he could build anything on that land, but he did!

Just down Carrall Street on your left you'll find our last stop.

Stop 5: Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden Museum

The *Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden Museum* is a top tourist attraction in Vancouver. Built in 1986, it offers concerts, festivals and educational programmes. But most important is the museum's beautiful Chinese-style garden itself, which has winding paths and a lily-covered pond. The *National Geographic Society* gave it an award for being the world's top city garden. It's open Wednesday to Sunday; tickets are currently \$16 for adults, children and students with ID are \$12.