



MAGIC
The Gathering
GRAND PRIX
VANCOUVER BC

Vancouver 2016

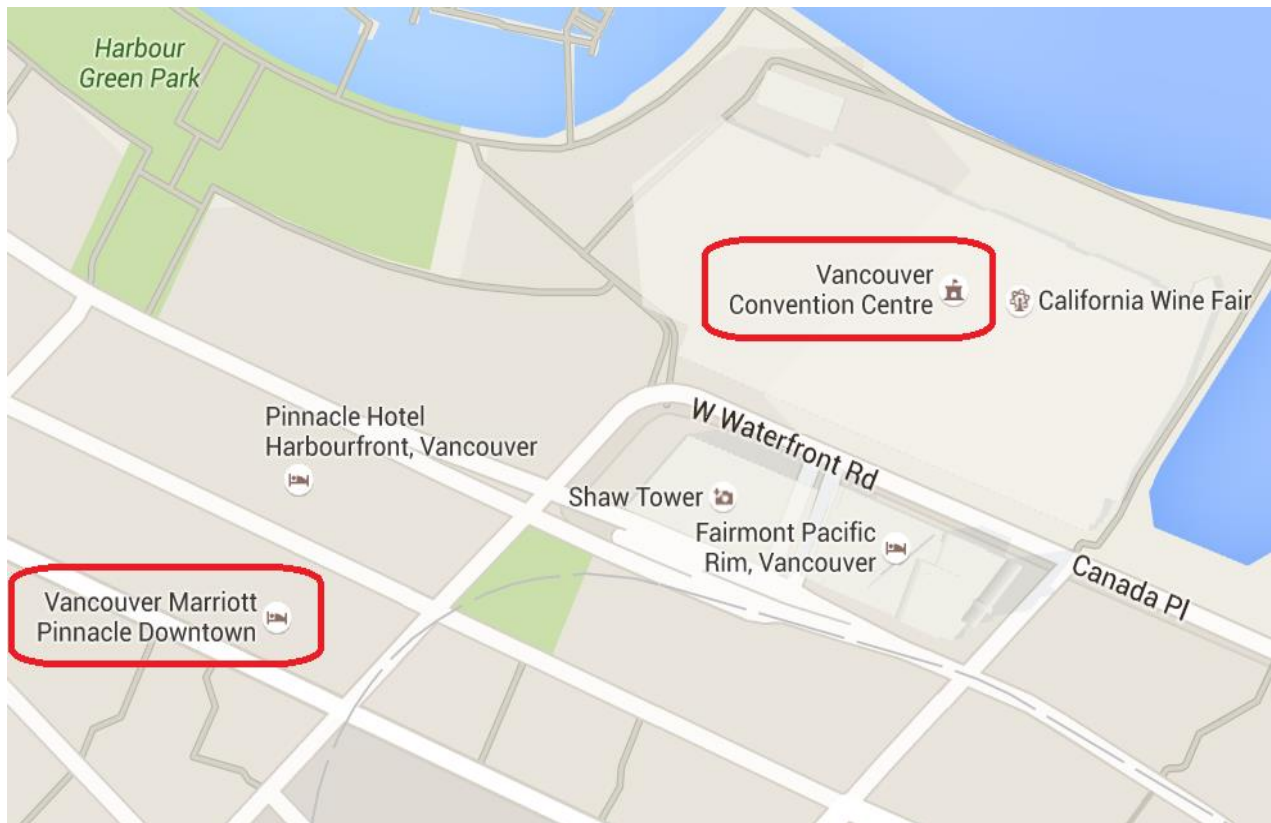


Written by Todd Bussey

Venue & Staff Hotel

Venue: Vancouver Convention Centre
1055 Canada Place
Vancouver, BC
V6C 0C3
(604) 689-8232

Staff Hotel: Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown
1128 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC
V6E 4R5
(604) 684-1128
\$159 per night - accommodates two, \$30 per additional person after



Directions

Airport to Hotel:

-Transit- Fare \$9 peak (\$7.75 offpeak) - Trip time 30 mins.

- 1) Take the Canada Line Skytrain from YVR/Airport Station to Waterfront Station (2 zones - red button).**
- 2) Exit Waterfront Station via the Granville Street exit.**
- 3) Walk north to the intersection of Granville and Hastings.**
- 4) Turn left on Hastings and walk 4 blocks to Thurlow Street.**
- 5) Mariott Pinnacle is on the corner of Hastings and Thurlow.**

-Car/Taxi- Taxi fare \$35

- 1) Leave YVR via Grant McConachie Way and follow it over the Arthur Laing Bridge where it will become Marine Drive (Highway 99).**
- 2) After a short distance Marine Drive will dump you onto Granville Street (still Highway 99).**
- 3) Keep following Granville, after about 8.5 miles (13.5 km) you'll arrive at the Granville Street Bridge.**
- 4) On the far side of the bridge keep right and exit onto Seymour Street.**
- 5) Follow Seymour Street about 9 blocks and turn left onto Pender Street.**
- 6) Mariott Pinnacle is on Pender on your right about 5 blocks from Seymour. Find a place to park.**

Greyhound/Train Station to Hotel:

-Transit- Fare \$2.75

- 1) Exit the terminal and cross the courtyard to Main Street/Science World Skytrain.**
- 2) Take the train heading to Waterfront Station for 3 stops to Burrard Station.**
- 3) Exit Burrard Station to Burrard Street and turn left (north) on Burrard.**
- 4) Walk 2 blocks down Burrard to Pender Street and turn left. The Mariott Pinnacle is one block ahead on your right.**

Hotel to Venue:

-Walk-

- 1) Exit Mariott Pinnacle on Thurlow and Hastings.**
- 2) Walk 2 blocks north down Thurlow towards the water.**
- 3) The Convention Centre is right there.**

Directions (cont.)

US Border (Peace Arch Crossing) to Hotel:

-Car-

- 1) I-5 becomes Highway 99 once you pass through customs.**
- 2) Follow Highway 99 through the Deas Island Tunnel.**
- 3) Follow it over the Oak Street Bridge.**
- 4) Highway 99 continues on Southwest Marine Drive after the bridge so keep right and take the cloverleaf exit that goes there.**
- 5) Follow Marine Drive until it dumps you onto Granville Street (still Highway 99).**
- 6) Keep following Granville, after about 8.5 miles (13.5 km) you'll arrive at the Granville Street Bridge.**
- 7) On the far side of the bridge keep right and exit onto Seymour Street.**
- 8) Follow Seymour Street about 9 blocks and turn left onto Pender Street.**
- 9) Mariott Pinnacle is on Pender on your right about 5 blocks from Seymour. Find a place to park..**

US Border (Truck Crossing) to Hotel:

-Car-

- 1) After passing customs, you'll be on Highway 15 (176th Street).**
- 2) Follow Highway 15 about 12 miles (19 km) until you reach Highway 1.**
- 3) Take Highway 1 West, crossing the Port Mann Bridge and after about 10 miles (16 km) from the bridge you'll want to take the Hastings Street exit.**
- 4) Turn left onto Hastings and follow it right downtown.**
- 5) Mariott Pinnacle is at Hastings and Thurlow.**

Food

There are plenty of food options within a short walk of the hotel and venue. Many of the options below are less than a 15 minute jaunt from either location. There are a few places that are further than that, still in Vancouver, but are mentioned because they're worth checking out.



STORM CROW
TAVERN

One such place is the Storm Crow Tavern (<http://www.stormcrowtavern.com/>) which is a 10 minute taxi ride from downtown. The owner, Jason Kapalka, has kindly offered a 10% "Magic" discount for days before,

during and after the Grand Prix to judges that present their judge name tag.

Here's a list of noteworthy eateries to try out:

Storm Crow Tavern	1305 Commercial Drive	Gamer Bar/Restaurant
EXP Bar + Restaurant	309 West Pender	Gamer Bar/Restaurant
The Eatery	3431 West Broadway	Gamer Sushi Restaurant
La Belle Patate	1215 Davie Street	Quebecois Cuisine
Miku Restaurant	#70 200 Granville Street	Japanese Cuisine
Shizen Ya	985 Hornby Street	Japanese Cuisine
Kishimoto	2054 Commercial Drive	Japanese Cuisine
Japadog	various locations	Japanese-style Hotdog
Cloud 9	1400 Robson	Fine Dining - Rotating Restaurant
Top of Vancouver	555 West Hastings	Fine Dining - Rotating Restaurant
Ouisi Bistro	3014 Granville	Cajun Cuisine
Steamworks Brew Pub	375 Water Street	Craft Beer Pub
Gotham Steakhouse	615 Seymour	High-end Steakhouse
The Keg	688 Dunsmuir	Steakhouse
Moose's Down Under	830 West Pender	Australian Cuisine
Old Spaghetti Factory	53 Water Street	Pasta
La Casita	101 West Cordova	Mexican Cuisine
Al Porto	321 Water Street	Italian Fine Dining
Incendio	103 Columbia Street	Pizza & Pasta
Nicli Antica	62 East Cordova	Pizza
Rio	689 Denman	Brazilian Steakhouse
Stepho's Souvlaki	1124 Davie Street	Greek Cuisine
Tuc Craft Kitchen	60 West Cordova	Pacific Northwest Cuisine
The Reef	1018 Commercial Drive	Caribbean Cuisine
Irish Heather	212 Carrall Street	Irish Cuisine
Afghan Horseman	1833 Anderson Street	Afghani Cuisine
To Dine For Eatery	333 Terminal Avenue	Burgers

Activities

- Skiing at Grouse Mountain or at Whistler.
- Snowboarding at Cypress Bowl.
- Hiking up the Grouse Grind.
- Watch ice hockey. Vancouver hosts two hockey teams, the Canucks (NHL) and the Giants (WHL).
- Shopping on Robson or Granville Streets.
- Watch a movie at the Scotia Theatre on Burrard.
- Wander Gastown. Visit the Steam Clock.



- Visit Lonsdale Quay by taking the Seabus from Waterfront Station.
- Visit Stanley Park, walk the Seawall, visit the Aquarium.
- Take in marijuana culture at the Amsterdam Cafe.
- Tour a movie or TV studio in Hollywood North.
- Visit the Rainbow Crosswalk at Bute & Davie.
- Visit the TRIUMF particle

collider site.

- Visit Electronic Arts game development studio in Burnaby.
- Check out the Vancouver Police Museum.
- Visit Richmond for some of the best Chinese food in the world.
- Visit one or more of the many nearby game stores: Golden Age Collectibles, Magic Stronghold, Drexoll Games, Connections Games or One Stop.
- Visit the Jimi Hendrix Shrine near Chinatown.
- Enjoy the Vancouver Nightlife, the mainstream is situated on Granville, those looking for something outside the norm would find it on Davie or in Gastown.
- Watch a burlesque/boylesque performance. Vancouver has a few locations that cater to that taste.
- Take a trip out of town to the wilderness. Vancouver is nestled in a paradise.
- Take a trolley bus tour of the city.
- Take a yoga course.
- Eat one of over 60 flavours of gelato at La Casa Gelato.
- Visit the VanDusen botanical garden or the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese garden.
- Take the ferry over to Vancouver Island and visit Victoria.

General Info

Police / Fire / Ambulance: Dial 911.

Parking meters are in effect 9am-10pm every day.

Car towed? City Impound Yard, 425 Industrial Ave. (604) 685-8181

Tips: Yes, generally 10-15%.

Sales tax: 5% Federal, 7% Provincial.

Vancouver has a high cost of living and a mild climate for Canada. Correspondingly, there is a high number of homeless and transients on the streets looking for a handout. Vancouverites tend to avoid social contact on the street and appear unapproachable because of these constant requests. Tourists needing directions shouldn't be dissuaded from approaching Vancouverites for directions, Vancouverites are friendly once you get past the initial reticence.