



Vancouver, BC  
Twilight Saga  
Trip Planning

<http://TourTheTwilightSaga.com>  
A Novel Holiday Travel Guidebook

# *Tour the Twilight Saga* Vancouver, British Columbia Twilight Saga Trip Planning Tips

## Selecting the Sites You Want to Visit

Begin by familiarizing yourself with the 15 Twilight Saga Site chapters in TTTS Book Two and exploring each site's Internet resource links.



Great Site — Might-Be-Fun — Skip It

We awarded the Twilight Saga Site Rating Icons based on *our* opinions of each site, and whether what was filmed there is easily recognized. *Your* opinions and interests may be quite different.

Pay close attention to the non-Twilight landmarks and tourist attractions described in many site chapters. Even though a Twilight Saga site is **Skip It** rated, it may contain non-Twilight Saga places you'd enjoy visiting.

## Deciding on the Dates of Your Trip

Traditionally, Vancouver's peak tourism season is during the summer months—mid-June to mid-September—when less rain falls and there is an abundance of outdoor activities and events. Area accommodations are slightly more expensive during these months, and some places may be crowded.

Because Vancouver's four seasons are temperate with few fluctuations in weather, however, the city and surrounding areas have plenty to offer at all times of the year. In fact, British Columbia tourism during spring, fall, and winter has been steadily increasing in recent years.

<http://www.smartertravel.com/travel-guides/page.php?id=1262638>

<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/travel/season+travel+enhanced+reduced+prices+clever+marketing/10281667/story.html>

Unless a specific activity appeals to you (skiing), or there's a particular festival you want to attend (Forks, Washington's Stephenie Meyer Days in September), simply pick the dates that are most convenient for you to travel.

## Determining How Long You'll Need for Your Twilight Saga Holiday

Begin by allowing for travel days.

- US and Canadian Twilighters need only schedule **two travel days**: one for flight arrival, one for flight departure.
- Twilighters flying here from other countries—or road-tripping to Vancouver—may need to schedule more than two travel days.

Next, decide how many days you'd like to spend in the Vancouver area, based on the British Columbia Twilight Saga Sites (and non-Twilight places of interest) you plan to visit, and how many you can visit in a single day.

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Will you also be Twilighing to the US Olympic Peninsula?

Vancouver is only a 3-hour drive north of Seattle, 4 hours from Port Angeles, 5 hours from Forks.

From *Tour the Twilight Saga Book One*—the Olympic Peninsula:

**“A two-day visit is the absolute minimum required to accomplish a Forks and La Push Twilight Saga tour.**

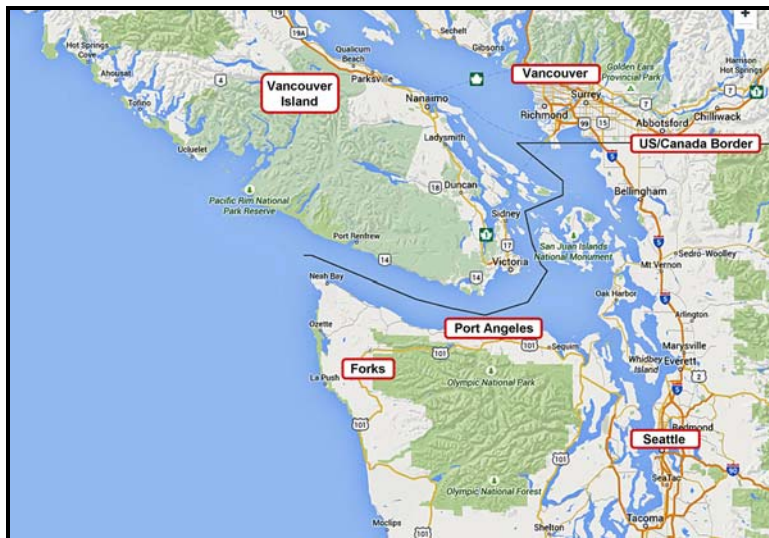
Fair Warning: Although it's *possible* to pop to all the Forks and La Push Twilight Saga Sites in two days, you'll probably regret not spending at least one *more* day here.”

Now, tally up your days, and *voila!* You'll know how long it will take to accomplish your dream Twilight Saga trek.

### Preparation Important to Planning a Vancouver Visit

When traveling anywhere for the first time, it's a good idea to learn at least a little something about your destination. What might you see? What might you need to be prepared for? What should you pack?

Each of the TTTS Book Two site chapters contain information to help you become familiar with Vancouver and the surrounding areas. Below you'll find additional suggestions for packing wisely and staying safe during your visit.



[Google Maps segments married & enhanced, ©2013 Google]

### Vancouver, British Columbia Weather

As previously mentioned, Vancouver's climate is temperate throughout all four seasons. It is one of Canada's coolest cities in summer, and warmest cities in winter.

“The summer months are typically dry, with an average of only one in five days during July and August receiving precipitation. ... The daily maximum [temperature] averages 22 C (72 F) in July and August, with highs rarely reaching 30 C (86 F). [Summer evenings can be chilly, especially on coastal beaches or in the mountains.]

In contrast, precipitation falls during nearly half the days from November through March ... [making] Vancouver one of the wettest Canadian cities ....

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On average, snow falls [in Vancouver] on eleven days per year, with three days receiving 6 cm (2.4 in) or more. Average yearly snowfall is 38.1 cm (15 in) but typically does not remain on the ground for long.

Winters in Greater Vancouver are the fourth mildest of Canadian cities after nearby Victoria, Nanaimo and Duncan—all on Vancouver Island.”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vancouver#Climate>

The dates of your visit will dictate the clothing you'll need to pack.

“Spring and summer temperatures are warm enough for t-shirts and shorts, although pants and sweaters are useful for the evenings, particularly at higher elevations. Pack your bathing suit or beach shoes for wading near rocky shores. A wind jacket will also come in handy.

In winter, a raincoat or medium-weight waterproof jacket is a must, preferably worn over a jacket and/or sweater, warm pants, and accompanied by an umbrella. Jackets and vests made from micro-fleece and light-weight down are a popular choice for many of the locals during this season.

No matter what season, it's advisable to bring wet-weather gear that includes hiking or rubber boots. If you're venturing into the mountains, pack wind-and-water-resistant winter wear, including a warm coat or jacket, gloves or mittens, a scarf and hat.”

<http://www.hellobc.com/vancouver/climate-weather.aspx>

**Note for Twi-Skiers:** Although snow falls infrequently in and around the city of Vancouver, nearby mountains get plenty of the white stuff. On rare occasions when natural snowfall isn't sufficient to support world-class skiing, the resorts make snow!

- **Whistler Blackcomb Ski Resort**

<http://www.whistler.com/>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whistler,\\_British\\_Columbia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whistler,_British_Columbia)

“During the 2010 Winter Olympics, [Whistler Blackcomb Ski Resort] hosted most of the alpine, Nordic, luge, skeleton, and bobsled events.”

You'll learn more about Whistler's Ski Resort in the Pemberton/Denali Coven Home (Site #35) chapter.

- **Cypress Mountain Ski Area**

<http://cypressmountain.com>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cypress\\_Mountain\\_Ski\\_Area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cypress_Mountain_Ski_Area)

“During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Cypress hosted all of the freestyle skiing and snowboarding competitions (moguls, aerials, ski cross, half-pipe, snowboard cross and parallel giant slalom).”

- **Grouse Mountain Alpine Ski Resort**

<https://www.grousemountain.com/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grouse\\_Mountain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grouse_Mountain)

“Although no official 2010 Olympic events were held on the mountain ..., the NBC *Today Show* broadcast its coverage of the games live from Grouse Mountain.”

- **Mount Seymour Ski Area**

<http://www.mountseymour.com/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount\\_Seymour](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Seymour)

“Due to its easy road access and ample parking lots, Mount Seymour is often used as a filming location. Films and TV series shot using its forests, snowy slopes, and region-spanning vistas include:

- *Highlander: The Series*

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- *Pathfinder*
- *Stargate SG-1*
- *X-Files*
- *Hot Tub Time Machine*
- ***The Twilight Saga: Eclipse***

[Mount Seymour filming consisted of background plates shot at unknown locations.]

### The Wilderness Twilighter Treaty

Because so many diverse and delicate ecosystems are found in British Columbia (as well as in the US Olympic Peninsula), we developed a **Wilderness-Related** version of the **Twilighter Treaty** to publish in *Tour the Twilight Saga* travel guidebooks.

#### The Wilderness Twilighter Treaty

Leave no trace of your passage—Pack out all your trash  
Stay on the path—Tread lightly and avoid trampling the foliage  
Do not disturb native wildlife in any way  
Do not *feed* native wildlife—*ever*  
Do not photograph people without their permission  
Do not bite any humans—or animals—for any reason

### Staying Safe When Twilighting in British Columbia

Several British Columbia Twilight Saga film sites are found in fabulous forests, majestic mountains, and beautiful beaches. Each of these locales present a variety of wilderness challenges. Even when enjoying a *guided* tour, it is your responsibility to stay safe. The more independently you plan to visit an area, the more knowledge you'll need to avoid mishap.



[*Eclipse* Special Features screenshot segment (enhanced)]

### ***Wherever*** You Go, Be Prepared for Wild Animal Encounters

British Columbia's wilderness areas are teeming with wild animals that are free to roam anywhere they wish. In fact, Twilighters trekking to the Coquitlam film site used for Jacob Black's house (Site #25) may encounter a black bear—filmmakers did!

On a break during *Eclipse* filming at Jacob Black's house, the crew suddenly sighted a big black bear prowling the property's periphery. The previous screenshot is from a Special Features segment

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of the *Eclipse* DVD where the incident is discussed. After a few minutes, the bear moved on, everyone breathed a sigh of relief, and filming resumed.

Be sure to read the **Wildlife Warnings** appendix at the back of TTTS Book Two when preparing for your trip. We included these warnings within the travel guidebook so that you'll have a reference handy if you meet up with bears, cougars, or wolves; raccoons; marine mammals such as seals and sea lions; snakes and reptiles.

### British Columbia Packing Plans

Over the years, we've compiled a comprehensive collection of **General Packing Pointers** to assist fans who travel to *any* of the **A Novel Holiday** travel guidebook locales. Our *Tour the Twilight Saga* Book Two version of these General Packing Pointers is posted online.

<http://www.TourTheTwilightSaga.com/TipsB2/B2PackingPointers.pdf>

In addition to the general tips found in the PDF linked above, Twilighters touring any of Book Two's wilderness sites should consider packing a few items specific to wilderness trekking.

### Sturdy Walking or Hiking Shoes

Happy feet are important to enjoying *any* Twilight Saga tour—whether simply strolling through town, or walking down a forest path. The best form of footwear to bring is a pair of comfortable **hiking boots** or **walking shoes with good traction**.

If purchasing new footwear for your Twication, be sure to buy them at least a month before departure and wear them as often as possible so that your new shoes become comfortable before your trip.

Additionally, Twilighters planning to enjoy British Columbia beaches should *waterproof* your footwear before leaving home.

### British Columbia Clothing Considerations

When touring cities such as Vancouver and its suburbs, everyday apparel is perfectly adequate. After all, you'll never be more than a few steps away from shelter and warmth. When trekking anywhere else in British Columbia, however, **dress in layers**.

Weather conditions can change quickly and dramatically, without warning. By dressing in layers you easily can strip stuff off when the weather is warm, bundle back up when it suddenly turns cold or rainy.

### Clothing and Gear for Casual Wilderness Walks:

- **A hooded raincoat or parka.**

Super-cheap, disposable, plastic parkas—the lightweight ones that come compressed into a pocket-sized bag—are fabulous to have tucked in your travel bag, and likely will be sufficient for Twilighting in the summer months. If you'll be visiting British Columbia during the rainy season (November through March), consider adding a *heavy-duty* hooded raincoat or parka to your after-arrival shopping list. <http://www.TourTheTwilightSaga.com/TipsB2/B2ShoppingList.pdf>

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- **Wool socks.** Cotton socks are worthless when wet, whereas wool socks retain heat even when completely soaked. Additionally, wool socks keep your feet *cooler* in warm weather than cotton socks do.
- **Long sleeved shirts and full length trousers are highly recommended, even when visiting in summer.** Although the ferocious black flies that abound in the US Olympic Peninsula aren't as plentiful in British Columbia, there are plenty of mosquitoes; swarms of tiny, biting gnats ("no-see-ums"); wasps, hornets, and bees; deerflies, horseflies, and ticks. Gasp! The less flesh exposed, the less likely you'll suffer insect bites.
- **Insect repellent.**  
**Please Note:** To effectively repel biting insects, the product you use must contain at least a dollop of DEET (*N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide*). Thankfully, modern-day DEET-containing insect repellents are safe, especially when only used during brief trips.
- **A wool, silk, polypropylene or polar fleece sweater (jumper) or jacket.**  
Wool, silk, and specialized synthetic fabrics will keep you warm even when they're wet. These fabrics also dry faster than cotton, and are no hotter than cotton in the summer.
- **An extra shirt**—of *any* kind—**wouldn't go amiss.**

### Clothing and Gear for Hiking

British Columbia trails and paths are praised by hiking enthusiasts of all experience levels. In addition to dressing for a variety of weather conditions (all the items listed above), serious Twi-Hikers must be adequately equipped to deal with all the *other* challenges that may be encountered when trekking into the wild. Please peruse the website links below when planning your trip.

<http://www.vancouvertrails.com/blog/hiking-in-the-backcountry-and-camping-overnight/>

<http://www.mec.ca/AST/ContentPrimary/Learn/HikingAndCamping/HikingAndCamping101/OvernightAndMultiDayBackpacking.jsp>

The following links are reprised from TTTS Book One. Although designed for hiking in the US Olympic Peninsula, much of the information offered is also pertinent to hiking in British Columbia.

<http://www.nps.gov/olym/planyourvisit/wilderness-safety.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/olym/planyourvisit/wilderness-travel-basics.htm>

<http://experienceolympic.com/trip/gear>

<http://www.olympicnationalparks.com/activities/hiking.aspx>

### Clothing and Gear for Camping

Twi-Campers should explore all the hiking safety links above, as well as all the camping information websites below. It is especially important for Twilighters who will be overnighing in the wilderness to read the **Wildlife Warnings** appendix at the back of TTTS Book Two.

<http://www.hellobc.com/british-columbia/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/camping.aspx>

<http://www.gocampingbc.com/>

<http://britishcolumbia.com/plan-your-trip/campgrounds-rv-parks/>

<http://www.campingrvbc.com/how/camping-tips/>

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/campingEthics.html>