



Vancouver, BC Lodgings

<http://TourTheTwilightSaga.com>

A Novel Holiday Travel Guidebook

Tour the Twilight Saga Lodgings in and around Vancouver, BC

When looking for lodgings in any major metropolitan area, your best bet is to stay at a place recommended by a family member, friend, or colleague. In the absence of a trusted personal recommendation, get ready to do some research.

First, however, do *not* simply do an Internet search for the type of accommodation you're interested in. While that method may work fine for finding a place to stay in small communities such as Langley or Coquitlam, large cities such as Vancouver yield far too many lodging options to be investigated reasonably.

Additionally, photos or descriptions of any accommodation posted online by the business owner—whether in a large or small city—may be decidedly different from its real-world appearance and quality.

TripAdvisor—probably the world's most popular travel opinion aggregator—is a marvelous resource for finding the kind of lodgings you're looking for, as well as for investigating accommodations that seem perfectly wonderful on their websites. http://www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g154943-Vancouver_British_Columbia-Vacations.html

However! TripAdvisor should not be used as your only source of information when deciding where to stay. Although TripAdvisor does its best to identify and remove fake reviews, the service receives so many reviews that it cannot possibly recognize and eliminate all of the inappropriately negative—or positive—ones.

Here are some tips from a well-written review of TripAdvisor.

- Take what you read on Trip Advisor with a grain of salt. If you see a scathing one-star review but no other writers complain about the same problem(s), it's safe to write it off as an isolated incident.
- However, if you encounter the same complaint about a hotel repeatedly on Trip Advisor (e.g. "terrible service," "dirty bathroom"), I'd trust it.
- Conversely, a glowing, this-place-couldn't-be-better report on Trip Advisor—especially when it's surrounded by others' complaints—could have been written by a ringer.
- **Use Trip Advisor as one—but not your only—resource for travel information.** You can get a balanced picture by speaking with trusted friends and acquaintances, talking to a travel agent, and visiting other travel sites in addition to a property's own Web site.

http://honeymoons.about.com/od/tripcontests/gr/trip_advisor.htm

Another common complaint we've noticed about TripAdvisor: *Booking* an accommodation via TripAdvisor's website may not assure you of the best price, nor provide you with a reliable reservation. The following complaints (and others like them) have been posted on the **Consumer Affairs** website page related to TripAdvisor.

<http://www.consumeraffairs.com/travel/tripadvisor.html>

Posted by Charles of Stow, Ohio, on July 7, 2015

“If you are using TripAdvisor to review hotels, before you book with TripAdvisor, please look at the hotel's website first. I have found that frequently TripAdvisor's prices are 5 to 15% higher than if you book directly thru the hotel.”

Posted by Tanja of Verona, Kentucky, on July 2, 2015

“I booked a hotel through TripAdvisor. ... I got a confirmation from the hotel and my credit card was charged. The day before my trip, I noticed the hotel had refunded the charge so I called. They said it was canceled and they couldn't tell me why. I never received a cancellation email or call. I reached out to TripAdvisor and they said they do not handle issues after booking. So, I ended up spending 3 times more for a different hotel at the last minute to avoid canceling my whole vacation. NEVER AGAIN!”

Our Tips

- Begin by using TripAdvisor to find the type of Vancouver area accommodation you're interested in.
- Follow the **Honeymoons About dot com** caveats (above) when assessing the reviews you read on TripAdvisor.
- If you prefer to lodge in one of Vancouver's suburbs (such as Langley, Coquitlam, or Richmond), perform an Internet search of accommodations in those communities, then, check TripAdvisor for reviews posted about them.
- After identifying a few lodging options that seem to fit your needs and budget, search for complaints about the business and see what comes up.
- If an interesting accommodation is mid- to high-priced, search for the business on www.oyster.com—a “Hotel Tell-All” site that offers real photos of hotels and other vacation locales.
- Once you decide on the accommodation that most appeals to you, use its website to book it, rather than TripAdvisor.

Help Your Fellow Twilighters!

After enjoying a Vancouver, BC Twication, please post your review of the Vancouver area accommodation you stayed at on **Tour the Twilight Saga's Facebook page**.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tour-The-Twilight-Saga/533851833326773>

Include the accommodation's website link, as well as the TripAdvisor reviews page link, in your post. If you have personal pix to offer, toss them in as well.