

Where are the best places to celebrate spring in Canada?

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Ever been to Canada in spring? If you haven't, then you really need to start planning a holiday during springtime as this beautiful country becomes even more spellbinding.

As the canvas of snow begins to melt away and temperatures begin to rise, you'll see cherry blossoms turn cities into magical places and national parks come alive. There's so much you can do during your family holidays to Canada whilst visiting at this special time of year and Sasha Naslin, the travel blogger behind The Alternative Travel Guide blog and who has visited Canada on several occasions tells us:

"Spring is a great time to visit Canada because you can witness how the unique majestic Canadian nature wakes up, and in addition, you can benefit from the discounts on airfares and accommodation before summer's high travel season starts." So, with spring just around the corner, we look at the best places you can visit across Canada in spring.

Vancouver

Location: British Columbia



Spring is certainly the season of rejuvenation in Vancouver as gardens bloom, whales migrate and the entire city thaws out and comes alive.

There are so many ways you can explore the city during this time of year, from shopping and dining to kayaking, golfing or exploring nature.

Chrystal Webster from the north east of England who is now the editor at the Luxury Editor, tells us about her experience of Vancouver in the spring:

"In spring this city really comes alive as the cosmopolitan vibe seamlessly intertwines with outdoor living. The whale-watching season starts in March and the following months are the best to catch a glimpse of the magnificent orcas in action.

"The farmer's markets tend to start in May and present the perfect opportunity to mingle with locals, sample fresh produce and really experience the delicious and talented craftsmanship of each of the neighbourhoods.

"And who doesn't enjoy a spot of alfresco dining? With the warmer weather creeping in the patios and outdoor spaces of indie run cafes are buzzing. Find your favourite spot and sit back and watch the world go by!

"Where to stay. One of our favourite places is the Shangri-La Hotel Vancouver. With such a central location, all the major sights of the city are easily accessible and the opulent Asian inspired interiors ooze glamour. The acclaimed restaurant by Jean-Georges Vongerichten and the ultimate in luxury Spa at Shangri-La both onsite means you don't have to venture far to unwind and indulge after a day out exploring the city."

There is also a whole host of festivals that take place in the city throughout spring, but the one you must visit is the annual **Cherry Blossom Festival** (4-28 April). In spring, more than 40,000 cherry trees line the streets of Vancouver in full blossom and to celebrate, this festival puts on a calendar of events such as arts events, community bike rides and cherry blossom viewing tours. It really is worth heading to the city when this festival takes place!

Suzanne Jones, a British travel blogger who shares her experiences on her blog The Travel Bunny, agrees that heading to the festival is a must:

"Springtime means blossom time and the season arrives first on Canada's west coast before moving east across the country. Vancouver's cherry trees are covered in a froth of pink blossom during April and there's a cherry blossom festival to celebrate. Join guided walks to the best blossom spots, tune in to the concert and check out the Japan Fair."

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