



WALKING

A VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE

By Vancouver Biennale

7 KM / 8,750 - 10,500 STEPS
1.75 - 2.5 HOURS

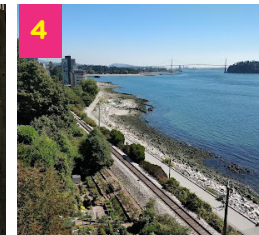
ABOUT THE TOUR

Start your walk at Dundarave Beach.

Tip: If you start your walk about 2 to 2.5 hours before sunset, we'll bring you back to the Dundarave Beach just in time to watch the sun's descent

ROUTE STOPS

1	DUNDARAVE PIER	Dundarave Park
2	CENTENNIAL SEAWALK	Begins at Dundarave Park
3	BIG CHAIRS - BILL PECHET	Foot of 18th St.
4	NAVY JACK POINT PARK	Foot of 21st St.
5	JOHN LAWSON PARK	Foot of 17th St.
6	FERRY BUILDING	1414 Argyle St.
7	AMBLESIDE FISHING PIER	Ambleside Park
8	GRANITE ASSEMBLAGE - DON VAUGHN	Ambleside Landing
9	SQUAMISH NATION WELCOME FIGURE - STAN JOSEPH	Ambleside Park
10	TREE SNAG - DOUGLAS COUPLAND	Grosvenor Ambleside
11	DELANEY'S COFFEE HOUSE	2424 Marine Dr.
12	BELLEVUE AVE PARK	420 Howe St.





#1 - DUNDARAVE PIER

The Dundarave Pier was built by the District of West Vancouver in 1914 for \$40,000. It was originally intended to be used as a ferry slip, but unfortunately it was too exposed. Since then, it has become a popular tourist destination and a premier location to enjoy the panoramic view of the Lion's Gate Bridge, Stanley Park, and UBC!

Why not snap a picture and tag us (#VanBiennale)?



#2 - CENTENNIAL SEAWALK

We will now follow along the 1.7-kilometre Centennial Seawalk, extending from Dundarave Park to 18th Street. Enjoy the scenic views of Burrard Inlet, the Coast Mountains, the Vancouver skyline, and ships passing under the Lions Gate Bridge.



#3 - BIG CHAIRS - BILL PECHET

Big Chairs
Bill Pechet
1991

Infrastructure or art? Located at the foot of 18th Street on the beach by the Seawalk, *Big Chairs* might tempt you to sit and read, or you might see these two sculptures as pensively gazing out to sea themselves. The chairs have been used for everything from suntanning to weddings and funerals, films, romantic trysts, and fishing.



#4 -NAVY JACK POINT PARK

This park is named after John “Navy Jack” Thomas, who arrived in West Vancouver from Wales in the 1860s. He and his wife raised four children in what is now called the Navy Jack House (west of John Lawson Park), which was continually occupied from 1873 to 2017. This residence was the location of the first post office, church service, and wedding ceremony in West Vancouver.

Navy Jack operated the first by-request ferry service from Vancouver to Ambleside in 1866 and then established a gravel operation at the mouth of the Capilano River. For years he supplied gravel to construction sites around the inlet. His name endures, as many local builders continue to refer to a mix of sand and gravel as “Navyjack.”

He is an ancestor to many Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and Musqueam families. Two important facts stand out: his house’s status as the first non-Indigenous settlement and his marriage to Rowia, a Musqueam Nation woman who was the granddaughter of “Old Chief” Kiapilano.



#5 - JOHN LAWSON PARK

John Lawson Park is an icon of West Vancouver history and heritage. In the early 1870s, Navy Jack Thomas, hailing from Wales, built his home here.

In 1907, John Lawson, the “father” of West Vancouver, purchased Navy Jack’s home, where he lived until 1928.

Today, the park is a favourite spot for walkers, picnickers, swimmers, and those enjoying the ocean air and the marine views. Take some time to stroll through the park and marvel at Nature’s beauty!



#6 - FERRY BUILDING

The Ferry Building has been at the centre of life in West Vancouver for more than 100 years. From its beginning (in 1913) as a bustling ferry terminal to its present use as an art gallery, this heritage building has always been important to our community.

In the early 1900s, West Vancouver was not only home to the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish People, villages and community) but also a summer holiday spot for Vancouver residents. Lions Gate Bridge hadn’t yet been built, and a ferry began to transport people between downtown Vancouver and Ambleside to encourage more people to move to West Van permanently.

The Ferry Building is currently going through a restoration process to move the building up and onto a new foundation in order to protect it from rising flood levels. Check out the video above for a behind-the-scenes look at the restoration process.



#7 - AMBLESIDE FISHING PIER

The Ambleside Fishing Pier is a popular spot for fishing, crabbing, or just enjoying the view. For those keen on learning more, check out the signage in the vicinity.



#8 - GRANITE ASSEMBLAGE - DON VAUGHN

Granite Assemblage
Don Vaughn
1989

Ambleside Landing is home to this artificial tide pool created by fifty granite cubes and rectangles set at the edge of the harbour. The effect of the extended landscape at the waterfront draws visitors into this work of environmental art.



#9 - SQUAMISH NATION WELCOME FIGURE - STAN JOSEPH

Squamish Nation Welcome Figure
Stan Joseph with the assistance of Wes Nahanee
2001

Squamish Nation Welcome Figure is a West Vancouver landmark in Ambleside Park, visible from Lions Gate Bridge, Stanley Park, and the waterfront of West Vancouver. Constructed from an old-growth cedar log from Hollyburn Mountain, the Welcome Figure is a gift from the Squamish Nation, marking K'aya'chtn (gathering of ocean canoes). In honour of the teachings and wisdom of the Squamish Nation grandmothers, the sculpture fosters respect for the land, animals, and people that occupy it.



#10 - TREE SNAG - DOUGLAS COUPLAND

Tree Snag
Douglas Coupland
2021

Tree Snag responds to input from hundreds of West Vancouver residents who had a vision to make Grosvenor Ambleside a place where the community could gather and enjoy art and culture year round.

Tree Snag is one of four of Douglas Coupland's public artworks around the Grosvenor Ambleside property. Can you find the others? (Clue: two look like vertebrae, and the last you might mistake for an ice-cream cone.)

The entire series of artworks reflects a day of beachcombing on Haida Gwaii by Coupland and his beloved artist friend, the late Gordon Smith.



#11 - DELANEY'S COFFEE HOUSE

A great place to stop and enjoy a coffee or pastry.



#12 - BELLEVUE AVE PARK

A great place to watch the sunset if you've managed to time things right!

Tip: If it's low tide, try walking along the beach back to Dundarave Beach!

This concludes A VIEW FROM THE OTHER SIDE. We hope you enjoyed the serene and scenic walk along the West Vancouver waterfront, and perhaps you've learned a thing or two along the way!

Did you manage to take a photo that depicts some of the beauty you experienced? We invite you to share it with us (#VanBiennale) on social media.

We hope to see you on next week's walk!