DISCOVER
2017 ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE SCENE

TOURISM KAMLOOPS
BRITISH COLUMBIA • CANADA
Kamloops is more than a city, it’s a state of mind. It’s a small-town kind of friendly with metropolitan flavours on the side. Far from the hustle and bustle, it’s a place where you skip the crowds, stretch your legs and expand your horizons. Resting on the shores of two picturesque rivers, the landscapes invite a sense of improvised adventure.

Be amazed by twisty single-track bike trails and windy walkways. Poke around local shops and boutiques. Engage with the vibrant arts and culture scene. Feast upon the possibilities with the Kamloops Flavour Trail. Known as a foodie’s fantasy, sample an assortment that promises to satisfy and satiate even the most discerning of palettes. Indulge in a burgeoning bevy of wineries, craft breweries, restaurants and cafés that are overflowing with culinary enthusiasm and intensity.

Kamloops is a city for every season. It’s place for families, urban and rural adventurers. Don’t just escape, explore. Go off the grid, get lost and discover the unexpected along the way.

TOOK A WALK DOWNTOWN.
[ENDED UP MAKING 12 NEW FRIENDS]
The Kamloops arts and culture scene is positively bursting at the seams with local artists. From large scale productions to grassroots performances, there is always a provocative, electrifying and entertaining experience awaiting you. Be one with the audience, witness a story unfold. Allow your perspectives to shift, your mind to change, your mood to lift. On any day of the week, your life could be altered by art, culture and history in its abundant and expressive forms.

ENDED UP IN “ART BATTLE” AND IT GOT MESSY.

[WERE GOING TO SIT ON A MOUNTAIN AND SKETCH]
Kamloops hosts a ridiculous number of artists and unique artistic events and experiences. From quirky to classical, from offbeat to Aboriginal, there is an artform to suit all tastes and interests.

Find beauty in expected areas and discover weird and wonderful back alley murals. Take in a gallery exhibition, sketch in a Drink and Draw, snap a selfie with statues. Check out an Art Battle—a creative race against time where painters go head to head and brush to brush.

Don’t kid yourself, art is a necessity for a colorful existence. Whether you buy it, make it, or just plain appreciate it—keep your eyes peeled for signs of the vibrant, unapologetic, strange, oddball, stunning and captivating Kamloops arts community at work...and at play.
Every adventure necessitates a solid soundtrack to set the tone. We’re not talking about what’s playing in your headphones or on the radio of the rental car, we’re talking about live music. There’s nothing better. There’s nothing else like it.

Discover one of Kamloops’ many local bands at a variety of unique and intimate venues. Catch a touring act, visit the symphony, or absorb the sweet sounds of Music in the Park. Craving a more dramatic experience? There’s a world of live theatre awaiting you. Witness a Western Canada Theatre production, catch Project X’s X Fest in Prince Charles Park, or giggle ceaselessly at the Freudian Slips’ monthly improv shows. Whatever your style or speed, there is certainly something to satisfy your artistic sentiments. In Kamloops, the stage is always set for palpable, heart pounding, live performances.
When it comes to juicy historical details and tidbits, Kamloops has some doozies. If you’re seeking stories about infamous train robbers, cowboys, fur traders, pioneers and gold miners, look no further.

Experience spine-tingling sensations amid tours of the former Tranquille Tuberculous Sanitarium near Kamloops Lake. Stop by the Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park for a fascinating lesson in Indigenous culture. Uncover the oral history about the Secwepemc people, and discover more through historical photographs, illustrations and artifacts.

Meander along Victoria Street and keep an eye out for all the heritage sites along the way. Spend an afternoon in the Museum and Archives. Visit the historic Chinese and Pioneer cemeteries. Heck, you’re on holiday, why not experience a train robbery on the 2141 Steam Locomotive?

No matter how you spend your time in Kamloops, be sure to glimpse into its imperfect past and relish in all the stories about surviving and thriving in this rugged region.
Derived from the Shuswap word Tk'emlups, means “where the rivers meet,” Kamloops has been home of the Tk'emlupsemc—the people of the confluence—for centuries.

Tk'emlups remains the largest of the Secwepemc bands.

As one of the largest celebrations of First Nations’ culture and heritage in Western Canada, the Kamloops Powwow is a spectacular display of the Secwepemc people’s history. An experience like none other, Powwow is an energetic, spiritual and colorful expression of storytelling, song, and dance in vibrant traditional regalia.

Storytelling is a significant cultural aspect of the Shuswap people’s way of life. Gain insight on the rich history of the Shuswap people, and immerse yourself in legends and tales that have been passed down from generation to generation. Explore the Secwepemc Heritage Park. Walk along the riverbanks of the South Thompson, and view the archaeological remains of a 2,000-year-old Secwepemc winter village site.
The Kamloops Mounted Patrol extend their warm western welcome to the hundreds of thousands of guests that visit Kamloops each year. Find these friendly folks at community events spanning from March to December.

Be sure to say hello to the horses.

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Explore your creativity. Express yourself.

There is a plethora of remarkable local artisans producing outstanding pieces in the city. Sculptures, glasswork, paintings and jewellery can be purchased through local galleries, special events, cafés and farmer’s markets.

...or if you’re feeling a little footloose and fancy free with a paint brush or clay, participate in a workshop. Fun is found in the process!