



## THE VICTORIA CHINESE MESSENGER

维多利亚华人信息

*August (1st Ed.)*

*Victoria, British Columbia*

### China in the Summer – The Place to Visit



The summer is China's peak tourist season with even the most remote areas being accessible to travelers, including Tibet and the northwest. If you are planning a summer trip, here is what you can look forward to upon arriving in China.

#### **Weather**

The weather varies depending on the month, but most places are above 30°C daily.

Areas with a more mountainous terrain can be significantly cooler. Additionally, May to August is the rainy season across eastern and southern China. The further northwest you travel, the drier it is; for example, Beijing, Xi'an, and the Silk Road are good destinations if you would prefer a drier summer route.

#### **Beaches**

Sanya is a city located on the South China Sea and is full of 5 star beach resorts. Hong Kong is another larger city that is also home to beautiful beaches. If you want to visit somewhere smaller, the town of Xiamen has beautiful beaches and a quiet atmosphere, with its beaches being located directly across from Taiwan.

#### **Yangtze Cruises**

A Yangtze River Cruise is the embodiment of leisure travel and is a form of traveling that is increasing in popularity. Thanks to its slow pace and relaxing ambiance, leisure traveling not only relaxes the body but also promotes a feeling of self-accomplishment through personal experience.

#### **Mount Emei**

Mount Emei, located in Sichuan Province in Southwest China, is one of the most well-known summer destinations in China due to its great weather, amiable atmosphere, and beautiful scenery. Buddhist culture is also very prominent, with numerous striking Buddhist temples in the region, surrounded by waterfalls and forests.

Mount Emei is also notable for its varied climate throughout different parts of the mountain. There has been as much as a 14 centigrade difference in temperature recorded between the base of the mountain to its summit.

### **Guiyang – Southwest China**

An ever-growing tourist hotspot, Guiyang is a fantastic location to visit to escape China's usual summer heat. The city is located on the Yunnan-Guizhou highland with an average temperature from June to August of only 23 degrees.

Appropriately, Guiyang was chosen as the best summer destination in China in 2006. Not only does the city boast a pleasant summer temperature, but it also has a charm unique to the region.

### **Zhangjiajie – Huan**

Zhangjiajie is a summer destination that may already be on your radar – it is famous worldwide for its beautiful natural landscape and inviting vegetation. It is also home to the Wulingyuan Scenic Area, a UNESCO World Heritage site that is well worth its title.

Additionally, Zhangjiajie contains an almost fairy-tale atmosphere, with sandstone pillars towering over misty ravines and untouched streams flowing through forests echoing with the songs of birds.

### **Chengde Summer Palace**

Also known as Hot River Palace, Chengde Summer Palace is an imperial hideaway containing both history and beauty, well

worth a visit. The palace was always occupied in the summer, as it was where emperors from China's ancient Qing dynasty went to escape the heat of Beijing's summers.

Built during the early 18<sup>th</sup> century during the reign of Emperor Qianlong, the palace took over 90 years to complete. A visit there now shows you past emperors' residential buildings, magnificent royal gardens, and a variety of beautiful temples.

*(Information reproduced from:  
<http://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/article-china-in-summer.htm>)*

## **BC Provincial Nominee Program Processing Times**



The federal government allocates the number of nominations (principal applicants, excluding dependent family) available to the BC PNP each year. For 2016, B.C.'s quota is 5,800 nominations. The BC PNP has always used the full nomination allocation and intends to maximize the quota again this year.

**Estimated processing times included below are based on 80% of cases and are subject to change according to program capacity.**

The BC PNP will not respond to inquiries about the status of an application if it was received within the processing times shown below.

As per the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the BC PNP may only share information about an applicant/application with the applicant or their authorized representative. The BC PNP cannot share information about an application with unauthorized third parties. This includes local business owners who may have an interest in the outcome of a BC PNP Entrepreneur Immigration application where it relates to the potential sale of their business.

The BC PNP will not refund application fees where a review of the application has commenced.

**Skills Immigration**

Estimated Processing Times by Date of Application Receipt:

Date Received	Estimated Processing Time
January - March 2015	14 - 16 months
April - July 2015	16 months
From February 2016	2 -3 months

**Entrepreneur Immigration**

The Entrepreneur Immigration stream has experienced a sustained increase in demand,

with an inventory of approximately 1,300 applications. Processing has been initiated for all applications submitted under the former Regional Business Succession Option. These priority applications will be processed within 18 months of receipt.

Estimated processing times included below are based on 80% of cases and are subject to change based on program capacity.

Estimated Processing Times by Date of Application Receipt:

Date Received:	Estimated Processing Time
February 2013 to May 2013	36 - 39 months
June 2013 to May 2014	33 - 36 months
June 2014 to April 2015	24 - 36 months
From January 2016	3 - 4 months

*(The information is from the BC PNP website and provided by Sarina Hoi, RCIC of Ocean Pacific Immigration Associates Ltd)*

## **Immigration Sponsorship Appeals**

If Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) has refused the application of a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident to sponsor the immigration of a close family member to Canada, the sponsor may appeal to the Immigration Appeal Division (IAD) of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB).

A sponsor may not appeal if the family member is inadmissible to Canada because of:

- a serious criminal offence punished in Canada by a term of imprisonment of two years or more
- involvement in organized crime
- security grounds
- violations of human or international rights, or
- misrepresentation (unless the person is the sponsor's spouse, common-law partner or child)

The sponsor has 30 days after the refusal to appeal to the IAD. Some sponsorship appeals go through an informal alternative dispute resolution (ADR) process. In most cases, a member (decision-maker) will hold a hearing of the appeal according to the IRB tribunal process. The appeal process involves two parties: the appellant and Minister's counsel who represents CIC. The process also usually public, so media or members of the public may attend or report on the proceedings.

If the appeal is allowed and the original decision is set aside, CIC will resume processing the sponsorship application. CIC is bound by the IRB's decision. However, it is possible for CIC to refuse the application on other grounds, and this may also be appealed to the IAD.

Either the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration or the sponsor may apply to the Federal Court of Canada for leave, or permission, for judicial review of the IRB's decision. The Federal Court of Canada will either dismiss the application or return the case to the IAD for re-hearing.

*(The information is from the BC PNP website and provided by Sarina Hoi, RCIC of Ocean Pacific Immigration Associates Ltd)*

## HAPPENINGS

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### BC Day Market at the Inner Harbour

**Date:** August 1<sup>st</sup>

**Time:** All day

**Location:** Victoria's Inner Harbour

Come down to the Inner Harbour on the holiday Monday to enjoy music, food, art, and so much more! The Ship Point Market will be running, as will Symphony Splash Festival, and many local vendors will set up shop.

This weekend is also one of the busiest in Victoria. The harbour fills up with over 120 artisans and crafts people. Musicians and street performers entertain hundreds of people every day along the causeway area. The grand finale to the weekend and Symphony Splash includes fireworks in time with Beethoven's 5th.



### Victoria Harbour Cats – Fan Appreciation Day

**Date:** August 7<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 1:00 pm game start

**Location:** Royal Athletic Park

The Victoria Harbour Cats have been having a great season and want to send some love back to their fans by holding a Fan Appreciation Day! This will include their last game for the season, so make sure not to miss it.

There will also be a hot dog eating contest put on by Maple Meats. Yum!

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### **2016 Victoria Dragon Boat Festival**

**Date:** Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** Various Events Recurring Daily

Canada Dry and the Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Society are excited to present the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Victoria Dragon Boat Festival! As with every year, it will be a weekend of fun and cultural importance. Entertainment, food vendors, a beer garden, and of course the boat races await you, at one of the best summer festivals that the city has to offer.

The Dragon Boat Festival is the only Dragon Boat Festival in Canada to take place in a working harbour. 2016's version will also see improvements to the paddlers' village, surprises on the water, expanded food options, and new ways to experience the races on shore.

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### **Summer in the Square Lunchtime Concerts**

**Date:** Tuesday – Thursday until September 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** Noon – 1:00 pm  
**Location:** Centennial Square

Join locals and tourists alike in watching a free outdoor concert over lunch every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday throughout August. Genres range from flamenco to blues to country, with everything in between.



### **Evening Illuminations: Entertainment and Fireworks at the Butchart Gardens**

**Dates:** Every Saturday during the summer (until September 3, 2016)  
**Time:** 10:20 pm  
**Location:** Butchart Gardens, Brentwood Bay  
**Admission:** Free with Gardens admission

Every Saturday until the first weekend of September, come check out the spectacular concert and show at the Butchart Gardens. The displays are synchronized to music and build excitement in a way that everyone can appreciate.

Bring a blanket for the viewing lawn, and enjoy a fireworks show that is unlike any you have seen before!



### **Victoria Street Food Festival**

**Date:** August 19<sup>th</sup> & August 26<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** 11:00 am – 9:00 pm

**Location:** Centennial Square

Enjoy some of the city's best flavours through meals, snacks, beer, and cider in a fun outdoor venue. The square will also host live music concerts throughout the day. All ages welcome, free admission.



### **Fab Forts Celebrations**

**Date:** August 20, 2016  
**Time:** 11:00 am – 3:30 pm  
**Location:** Fort Rodd Hill & Fisgard Lighthouse National Historic Sites of Canada

Come out to Fort Rodd Hill and take part in Victoria's largest squirt gun battle! Put on by Parks Canada, show your competitive side and enjoy some of many different games to enjoy, including storming the fort itself.

Face painting and live music will also be available throughout the day. This is sure to be a perfect summer activity for the whole family.

### **Yogathon**

**Date:** August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**Time:** 9:30 am – 1:00 pm  
**Location:** Centennial Square  
**Admission:** \$25

Rise for a cause at Victoria's edition of one of the largest global fundraising events, Yogathon. Try to complete 108 sun salutations throughout the event, which is taught by a series of professional yoga teachers.

This event is designed to raise money for Care for Children's mission of providing accessible education to children around the world.



### **Victoria Fringe Festival**

**Date:** August 24<sup>th</sup> – September 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** Various  
**Location:** Various

A Vancouver Island festival tradition for thirty years, Victoria Fringe Theatre Festival takes over downtown Victoria, BC for 12 days each summer with a celebration of live performances.

Performers come from all around the world, and put on shows in spoken word, drama, musicals, dance, comedy, magic, and more.

To attend a show, all audience members must purchase a fringe button to support the festival's society. View the line-up online at [www.intrepidtheatre.com/festivals/fringe-festival/](http://www.intrepidtheatre.com/festivals/fringe-festival/)

Happenings are regularly updated online at [www.victoriachinesemessenger.com](http://www.victoriachinesemessenger.com)

Our Public Service and Community Service Happenings column is published under our sole discretion and is published information as a free service.

**Check regularly online at**  
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**2016 OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER  
INVOLVEMENT:** Please note that the  
listed organizations are not limited to persons  
of Chinese descent.

**Victoria Chinese  
Commerce Association**

Check website [www.vcca.ca](http://www.vcca.ca) for information on  
our next

**Victoria Chinatown Lions Club**

If you wish to serve the community, the Victoria  
Chinatown Lions Club meets every second and  
fourth Wednesday at Golden City Restaurant.  
Contact Art Quon at [art.quon@rbc.com](mailto:art.quon@rbc.com) or Alan  
Yuen at [yuenfam@shaw.ca](mailto:yuenfam@shaw.ca)

**Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club**

Meetings are second Monday of the month at  
Golden City Restaurant. You will need to contact  
their president for more info. This is a very active  
club which has won awards for its philanthropy.

**Victoria Chinatown  
Care Foundation**

Mandate is to support and fundraise for the needs  
of the Victoria Chinatown Care Centre located in  
Chinatown. Volunteer for fundraising events.  
For information on the foundation go to  
[www.chinatowncarefoundation.com](http://www.chinatowncarefoundation.com)

**Victoria Chinese Messenger**

You can also volunteer by submitting foodie tips,  
articles and photos of Victoria things, places and  
events by emailing us or posting on our  
Facebook page.

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**Foodies**

**Our online version is regularly updated  
with a “Foodie” comments section. Here  
are some snippets for your “digestion”:**

*“Be Love is a great addition to the vegan scene...  
try the eggplant cannelloni or a dessert...”*

*“...and in Courtney, Whistle Stop continues to  
impress... love their stone grill steaks...”*

*“...We are loving Nubo Japanese Tapas... their  
Pacific Salad is greatly recommended...”*

*“A new location to an old favourite opens in  
Langford... Green Leaf always delivers some  
delicious Vietnamese...”*



*Hotel Grand Pacific*

**Founding Sponsors:**

Founding sponsors are visionary sponsors who  
commit their support to us, to the Chinese/Asian  
community in Victoria and to the Oldtowne districts  
of the Chinatown, Oldtowne and Design areas in  
Victoria. They have committed as longer term  
sponsors to support the sustainability of the  
community service provided by Victoria Chinese  
Messenger. We thank them for their faith and  
support of our community services.

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**About the  
Victoria Chinese Messenger:**

We bring and report on happenings in the community. Our focus is on public and community service within the context of your social networks. Our goal is to bring the community closer and to pass on social happenings and community service events. Join us as we work with you to make our community a better place. Help us use social media to make for better communities, grow our community, help others, and bring people together for common purposes.

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Happenings: Submit your events, news, or interesting facts. Our Public Service and Community Service column may publish information as a free service to non-profit groups. Again, any publication of information provided is in our sole discretion

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**Next Meeting:  
July 14 @ 12:00 noon  
No host lunch format  
"Bring a guest Event"**

**Please contact Orbus for more information and to RSVP.**

**To join the meeting email:  
[orb@orbusnetworks.com](mailto:orb@orbusnetworks.com)**

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**Victoria Chinese Messenger  
Advisory Board and Panel**

**VCM Community Affairs Advisory Board:**

**Ida Chong,**  
CGA. Former MLA and Cabinet Minister  
**Alan Lowe,**  
Former Mayor of the City of Victoria, Architect  
**Tony Joe,**  
Past President of Victoria Real Estate Board,  
Realtor  
**Wayne Lee,**  
Chartered Accountant and CGA  
**Charlayne Thornton-Joe,**  
City of Victoria Councillor

**Cultural and Historical Advisory Panel:**

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**David C. Lai, Ph. D.,** Professor Emeritus UVic.  
**Hua Lin, Ph. D.,** Professor UVic.  
**Charlayne Thornton-Joe,** Councillor City of Victoria



Please join us and invite your friends to be friends with "Victoria Chinese Messenger"

We have over 1600 friends and would love you to join the VCM Facebook Community. Liking our page will help our growth as well.

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TWITTER

Please join us and invite your friends to follow @VicChineseMsgr on Twitter. We bring and report on happenings in the community through our unique hashtag #VCM.

We now have 70 followers and would love you to help us grow our new VCM Twitter Community.

## Strawberry Avocado Couscous Salad with Lime Vinaigrette



*“This Israeli couscous with fresh produce makes for a perfect summer salad!”*

Total time: 25 minutes  
Yields: 4 servings

### INGREDIENTS:

1 cup couscous  
1 avocado, halved, seeded, peeled and diced  
1/2 cup corn kernels  
1/2 cup strawberries, quartered

2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro leaves  
2 tablespoons pine nuts

For the lime vinaigrette:

1/4 cup olive oil  
1/4 cup apple cider vinegar  
Zest of 1 lime  
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice  
2 teaspoons sugar, or more to taste

### DIRECTIONS:

To make the vinaigrette, whisk together olive oil, apple cider vinegar, lime zest and juice, and sugar in a small bowl; set aside.

In a medium saucepan, cook couscous according to package instructions.

In a large bowl, combine couscous, avocado, corn, strawberries, cilantro and pine nuts. Stir in lime vinaigrette.

Serve immediately. Enjoy!

Recipe from: <http://damndelicious.net/2013/08/23/strawberry-avocado-couscous-with-lime-vinaigrette-2/>

## Considering selling your business?

If you are ready, and want to register your business with our registry contact us at [info@bappor.com](mailto:info@bappor.com). Registration

on BAPPOR (Business, Asset, Property, Project Opportunity



Registry) is free and no fees apply unless BAPPOR facilitates a sale.

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*Consult us for honest advice from licensed qualified  
professionals*

*我们真诚的意见*

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**Sarina Hoi 许凤珍, BA MA RCIC**

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