

Kelowna

RELOCATION GUIDE



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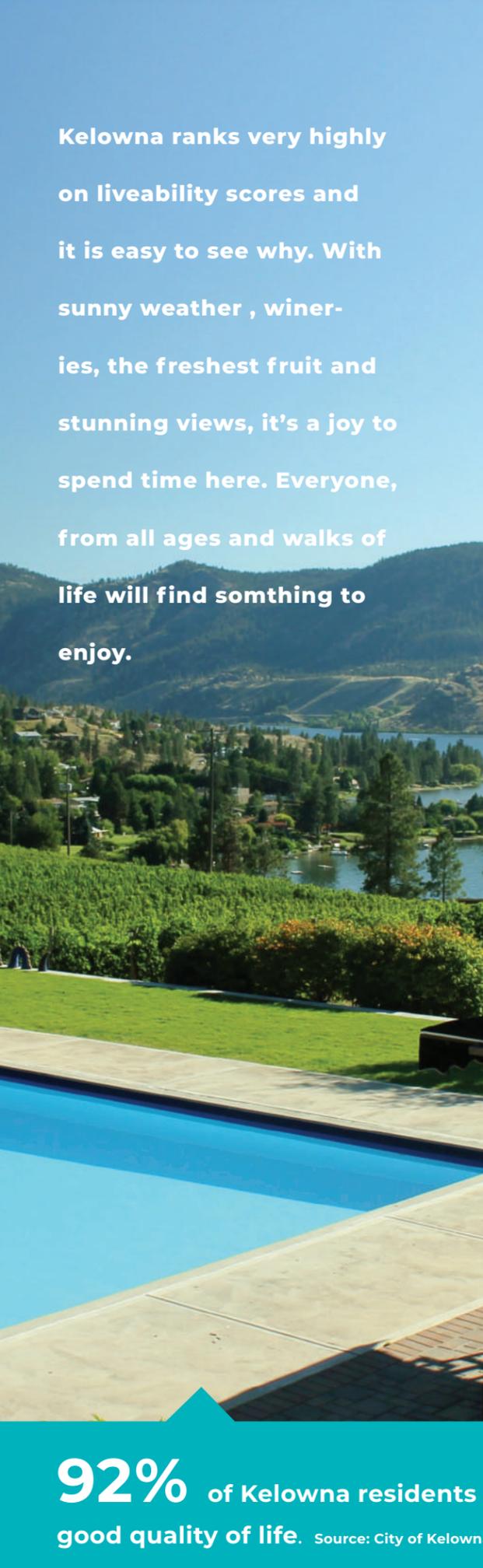
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CITY GUIDE

KELOWNA



Kelowna ranks very highly on liveability scores and it is easy to see why. With sunny weather, wineries, the freshest fruit and stunning views, it's a joy to spend time here. Everyone, from all ages and walks of life will find something to enjoy.

About Kelowna

Sitting on the borders of the stunning, massive Okanagan Lake, Kelowna is the largest city in the Okanagan region. A great place to live for water enthusiasts, you can enjoy water activities almost all year round, due to the mild climate.

Rich with superb amenities, including theatres, boutiques, fine dining, resorts and golfing, there is something for energetic explorer's or laid back types to enjoy all year round. One of Kelowna's major resources is the wine production in the area. It is the second largest wine producing region in Canada.



Economy

Kelowna is a great place to work, and is rapidly growing, it is definitely considered a diverse economy. Major industry sectors include agriculture, tourism, retail, manufacturing, forestry, and construction. Tourism is continually growing and topped the \$1 billion-a-year mark in 2016.

The economy is supported by several key growth industries. These include film, viticulture and wine production, information technology, tourism, aviation, and health care. The city is very encouraging of business start-ups and expansions. Kelowna is home to an ever growing high tech sector which has resulted in the nickname as the "Silicon Valley of the North."



Businesses are drawn to the area for many of the same reasons that attract new residents—milder climate, great transportation networks, and last but not least, natural scenic beauty all around.

92% of Kelowna residents experience good quality of life. Source: City of Kelowna "2020 Citizen Survey"



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Leading
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COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD

CIR REALTY was founded in 1983 and is Alberta's largest and most productive real estate brokerage.

As a selected member of Leading Real Estate Companies of the World, CIR is proud to also be one of over 550 affiliate firms in the world-wide organization that holds the number one position in terms of sales volume in more of the top markets than any other national association.

CIR REALTY Knows Real Estate

You need a real estate company that has experience behind it and practices ongoing innovation to meet new demands. Real Estate Market's change and evolve. This includes changes to industry requirements, to the market and economy, new consumer expectations and behaviours and a realm of other factors that challenge business growth. This is why choosing a real estate brokerage with a strong local history and the power to implement systems and solutions based on what is happening in your own backyard is crucial. CIR REALTY is proud to be one of Canada's largest and most dominant real estate brokerages.

LeadingRE and CIR REALTY®

CIR REALTY® was selected for membership in Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® [LeadingRE] network; the home of the world's market-leading independent residential brokerages in over 70 countries, with 565 firms and 130,000 sales associates producing over 1.1 million transactions valued at \$372 billion annually. Our by-invitation-only network is based on the unparalleled performance and trusted relationships that result in exceptional client experiences.

Kelowna

A YEAR ROUND PLAYGROUND

With fishing, skiing, hiking, lake swimming, all types of biking and plenty of beautiful parks and beaches, Kelowna has no end of exciting outdoor activities for the avid adventure seeker.

Just 56 miles from the city, Big White is the largest resort offered in the region. Named Big White because of its reliable annual snowfall, 'Biggie' receives 750 cm of snowfall a year, has 15 chair lifts, 906 acres of groomed slopes and is Western Canada's largest resort night skiing area. When the snow has melted and ski season has come to an end, there's certainly no shortage of outdoor activities. Besides being an excellent ski hill, Silver Star Mountain is also one of Canada's top three destinations for downhill biking.

For more relaxing outdoor activities, Kelowna offers a huge selection various of walks and hikes. Hikers can scale a steep slope to visit the breathtaking Christie Falls, or descend a steep trail to visit Canyon Falls in Crawford Park. For a gentle walk, you can stroll along the KVR Railroad and see the Okanagan from a unique perspective. Kelowna is also the perfect home for anyone looking to spend the day on the lake fishing. Wood Lake and Kalamalka Lake, both located just north of Kelowna, are stocked with Salmon!

As one of Canada's top 5 warmest cities, Kelowna residents have plenty of opportunities to relax in the sun, and there are certainly plenty of locations to do so in and around the city. Also voted Canada's second best beach location, the Okanagan and Kelowna offer a wide variety of beaches, so you can sunbathe in the sand and cool off in the lake. What more could you ask for!



GETTING AROUND

FLY YLW

National carriers will have you touching down in Kelowna on daily non-stop flights from Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Calgary, Winnipeg, and Edmonton.

DRIVE SCENIC HIGHWAYS

Kelowna's central location is easily accessed through very well-maintained and scenic highways and roads.

COMPACT AND QUICK

Kelowna's compact size means almost everything is within a short twenty-minute drive, including downtown and lakeside hotels, golf courses, beaches and more!

BIKE LANE NETWORK

Kelowna's Bike Lane Network is incredible and features nearly 300 kilometres of on-street bicycle lanes and an extra 40 km of separated paved multi-use paths.

TRANSIT

With 28 routes, 100 buses and over 190,000 hours of service annually, transit in the Central Okanagan is a convenient way to get around.



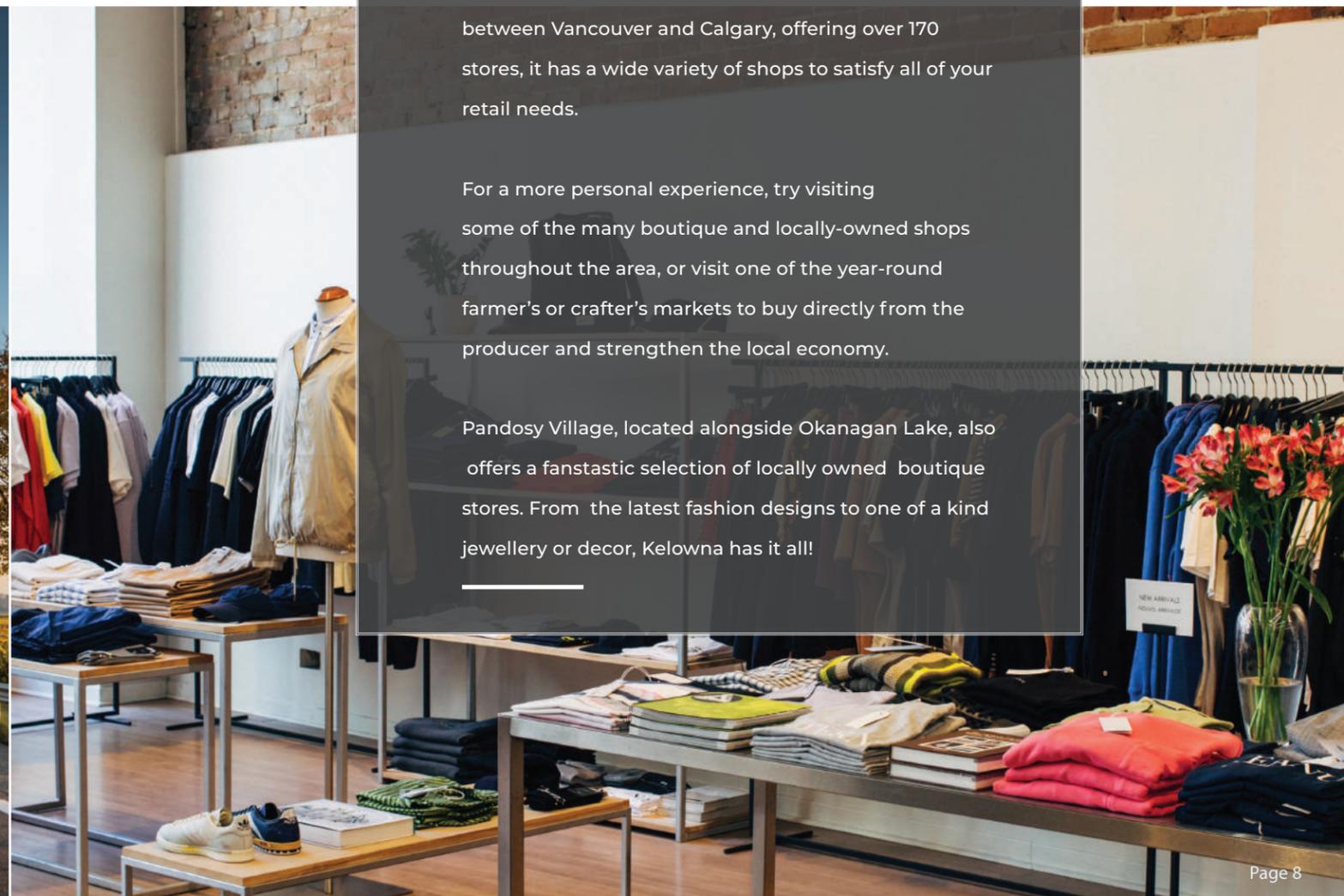
Shopping

As the Okanagan's centre of commerce, Kelowna residents will never be lost for basic amenities or luxurious goods. From signature boutiques to big box stores, Kelowna has everything to meet your needs.

Kelowna's Orchard Park is the largest shopping mall between Vancouver and Calgary, offering over 170 stores, it has a wide variety of shops to satisfy all of your retail needs.

For a more personal experience, try visiting some of the many boutique and locally-owned shops throughout the area, or visit one of the year-round farmer's or crafter's markets to buy directly from the producer and strengthen the local economy.

Pandosy Village, located alongside Okanagan Lake, also offers a fantastic selection of locally owned boutique stores. From the latest fashion designs to one of a kind jewellery or decor, Kelowna has it all!



SCHOOLS

The websites below are a great place to start searching for a school, or childcare options that are right for you and your family.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 43

The Central Okanagan School District is the 5th largest and one of the fastestgrowing school districts in BC. The student population is served by 43 elementary, middle, and high schools offering programs in English and French Immersion, as well as free early childhood education programs. Central Okanagan Public Schools' mission is to educate students in a safe, inspirational learning environment where each student develops the knowledge and skills to be a lifelong learner and a healthy, productive member of our global society.

www.sd23.bc.ca/

CHILD CARE RESOURCES

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children

CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS

Since 1977, Childhood Connections – Okanagan Family & Childcare Society (formerly Kelowna Child Care Society) has been providing services and resources to help children in our community grow and thrive in safe, secure and healthy environments. We help families find the right care environment for their children, and we support those who provide care with valuable training and resources.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

There are many private schools offering a variety of education choices for Kindergarten to Grade 12 students in Kelowna. Private schools often offer specializations in different subjects.

Find a comprehensive list here:

www.kelownahomes.com/private-schools-in-kelowna/

POST SECONDARY

Kelowna has a some top notch and diverse post-secondary education options. Providing some of the best universities, colleges and public education institutions in British Columbia.

CENTRE FOR ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

Centre for Arts and Technology is one of the top Canadian post-secondary schools offering diploma programs in audio engineering, digital film, animation, interior design, photography, and graphic design.

Digitalartschool.com/

OKANAGAN COLLEGE

Okanagan College's four established campuses – Salmon Arm, Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton – and several other educational centres located throughout the Okanagan, offer a wide variety of degree, technical, and continuing education programs to more than 20,000 students across all campuses.

Okanagan.bc.ca/campuses/Kelowna-Campus

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA OKANAGAN

The University of British Columbia (UBC) is a top-40 university in the world, 7th in North American, and 2nd in Canada. UBC's Okanagan campus has a student population of approximately 10,708 in over 90 undergraduate and graduate-level programs. Kelowna General Hospital has been designated as a teaching hospital with a UBC Medical School Clinical Academic Campus for both instruction and research.

ok.ubc.ca/



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY BRANCHES

Kelowna Downtown Library

1380 Ellis St, Kelowna,
BC V1Y 2A2

Mission Library

4105 Gordon Dr, Kelowna,
BC V1W 4Z1

Kelowna Rutland Library

301 Hwy 33 W #20, Kelowna,
BC V1X 1X8

Lake Country Library

ORL Branch

10150 Bottom Wood Lake Rd #2,
Lake Country, BC V4V 2M1

website orl.bc.ca/

Phone 250-860-4033

There are numerous Okanagan Regional Library branches in various locations throughout the city. Through the Public Library, residents have access to hundred's of thousands of books, CD's, DVD's, books on CD and tape, magazines and newspapers, reference books and more. With a number of programs going on every day, there will always be something new to explore at the library!

FAITH CENTRES

Kelowna is home to a number of faith communities. To find out more, explore this section and find links for what is offered in the region. These websites offer information on beliefs, meeting times, events and provide directories of places of worship within the city. This is just a sampling of what is available.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Website churchofjesuschrist.org/?lang=eng

Phone 250-762-0588

Jehovah's Witnesses

Website www.jw.org/en/

Phone 250-712-3000

Presbyterian Church, St. David's

Phone 250-762-0624

Seventh Day Adventist

Website kelownaadventist.ca/

Phone 250-860-7458

Taoist

Fung Loy Kok Institute of Taoism

Website western.canada.taoist.org

Phone 250-763-4693

Western Canadian District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance

Website www.thewcd.ca/

Kelowna Buddhist Temple

Website kelownabuddhisttemple.org

Phone 250-763-3827

Okanagan Jewish Community Centre

Website ojcc.ca/

Phone 250-862-2305

Islamic Centre of Kelowna

Website org.thebcmca.com/kelowna

Phone 250-979-1370

Kelowna Trinity Baptist Church

Website trinitychurchkelowna.ca

Phone 250-860-3273

Anglican Church of Canada

Website ccsmaa.ca

Phone 250-762-3321

First Mennonite Church Kelowna

Website mennonitechurch.ca

Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

Website paoc.org

Phone (250) 765-6381

Okanagan Sikh Temple

Website kelownasikhtemple.ca/

Phone (250) 765-7477



Dining & Wineries

DINING IN KELOWNA

Kelowna has much to offer for all budgets and lifestyles when it comes to cuisine. Renowned local chefs create a unique Okanagan Valley taste which spotlights fresh, organic and locally-sourced products. Many of the wineries in and around Kelowna offer top notch dining experiences, often paired with incredible outdoor views of the lake and surrounding region.

Downtown and central Kelowna are also wonderful places to experience a multitude of cuisines. From affordable and well known chain restaurants such as Earls and Moxie's to local favourites such as Salt & Brick. There are also a wide variety of ethnic cuisines available to suit everyone's taste, from thai to italian cuisine and more, Kelowna will certainly bring an enjoyable dining experience to even the most particular foodie.

Many of Kelowna's restaurants pair delicious food and signature wine with waterfront decks, sunny patios and signature views. To see a list of Kelowna's finest restaurants and wineries, visit KelownaNow.com



WINERIES

With over 40 wineries within a 20 minute drive, you have no shortage of vineyards, orchards, and farms just minutes from the city to tour through and spend time sampling all the many unique selections and offerings.

The area has five unique Wine Trails, Kelowna's Southeast Bench, Lake Country's Scenic Sip, Westside Wine Trail, Lakeshore Wine Route and Downtown Grapes & Grains.

While in Kelowna, it is recommended that you check out the BC Wine Museum and learn about the inside scoop on the staff's favourite local wines and vineyards.

Arts & Culture

Below is a sampling of what Kelowna has to offer for entertainment, culture, performance & art. Kelowna has been awarded the title of "Cultural Capital of Canada"

PERFORMING ARTS

The Kelowna Community Theatre, Rotary Centre for the Arts, and Kelowna Actor's Studio continually host a variety of wonderful performances. From national ballet competitions to plays such as Mary Poppins to an annual debate competition, there's a performance to suit everyone.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

A multitude of museums and art galleries, such as the Okanagan Heritage Museum and the Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, take a look at Kelowna's interesting history and also include plenty of present day exhibits. Exhibits hosted by these venues include the Central Okanagan Sports Hall of Fame and the Alter Knowledge Discussion Series.

CULTURE DAYS

Every year Kelowna hosts Culture Days, a collaborative, national volunteer movement to raise awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life. Featuring music, performance, and speakers, the event is free to attend but donations to the Rotary Centre are welcome and encouraged.



Family Activities

FRUIT ORCHARDS

If you're lucky enough to visit Kelowna during the summer or early fall, you can visit the hundreds of orchards found throughout the valley. There's a reason the popular fruit juice giant Sunrype has called Kelowna home for over 70 years. There is a ridiculous abundance of fresh, local fruit in this city.

KELOWNA FARMER'S MARKET

From 8 am to 1 pm every Wednesday and Saturday morning from April to November, you can check out the Kelowna Farmers' Market off Springfield and Dilworth. This giant outdoor market features over 165 vendors and offers everything from local fruits and vegetables to local meats and dairy. It's a great way to see what's in season and to try out everything from fancy cheeses to fancy jams.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Hit up one of the many beautiful beaches to go swimming, make sandcastles or have a picnic! Climb Knox Mountain and be rewarded with stunning views of Okanagan Lake, Downtown Kelowna and the mountains. Come cycle the trails! Kelowna is a bike-friendly community, complete with more than 300 kilometres of on-street cycling lanes and 40 kilometres of separated paved multi-use trails.

KELOWNA INDOOR ADVENTURE CENTRES

ENERGYPLEX

The EnergyPlex is Kelowna's largest indoor playground for kids, with four stories of fun, including trampolines, foam pits, rope swings, a huge cube climb, a rock wall, a Ballistix Ball Range (huge foam ball shooting adventure) and a laser tag arena that are sure to tire out any active child. If you have energetic kids, this is definitely the place to bring them.

H2O ADVENTURE AND FITNESS CENTER

H2O is the largest municipal water park in Canada. It includes a wave pool, surf wave simulator, river run, water slides and a kid's spray park. It's perfect fun for any age, and you can also enjoy the 12,000 sq ft of fitness and cardio space if you want to let older kids go their way while you go yours.

JUMP2IT

Perfect for the little ones (ages two to nine), Kelowna's Jump2It features plenty of gigantic, inflatable bouncers. Let the kids go wild and burn off some steam on giant slides and an inflatable castle while you grab a coffee and enjoy the free Wifi.

Golfing

Surrounded by numerous vineyards, orchards, rolling hills and beautiful lakes, Kelowna offers some of the most picturesque golfing in all of Canada.

Kelowna proudly hosts several golf resorts, making this city famous for the many challenging and scenic golf courses available. Gallagher's Canyon and The Harvest were ranked as two of the top 15 courses in British Columbia. Listed below are some of the major courses in the region.

Okanagan Golf Club - The Bear

Shannon Lake Golf Club

Kelowna Springs Golf Club

Two Eagles Golf Course

Okanagan Golf Club - The Quail

Tower Ranch Golf Club

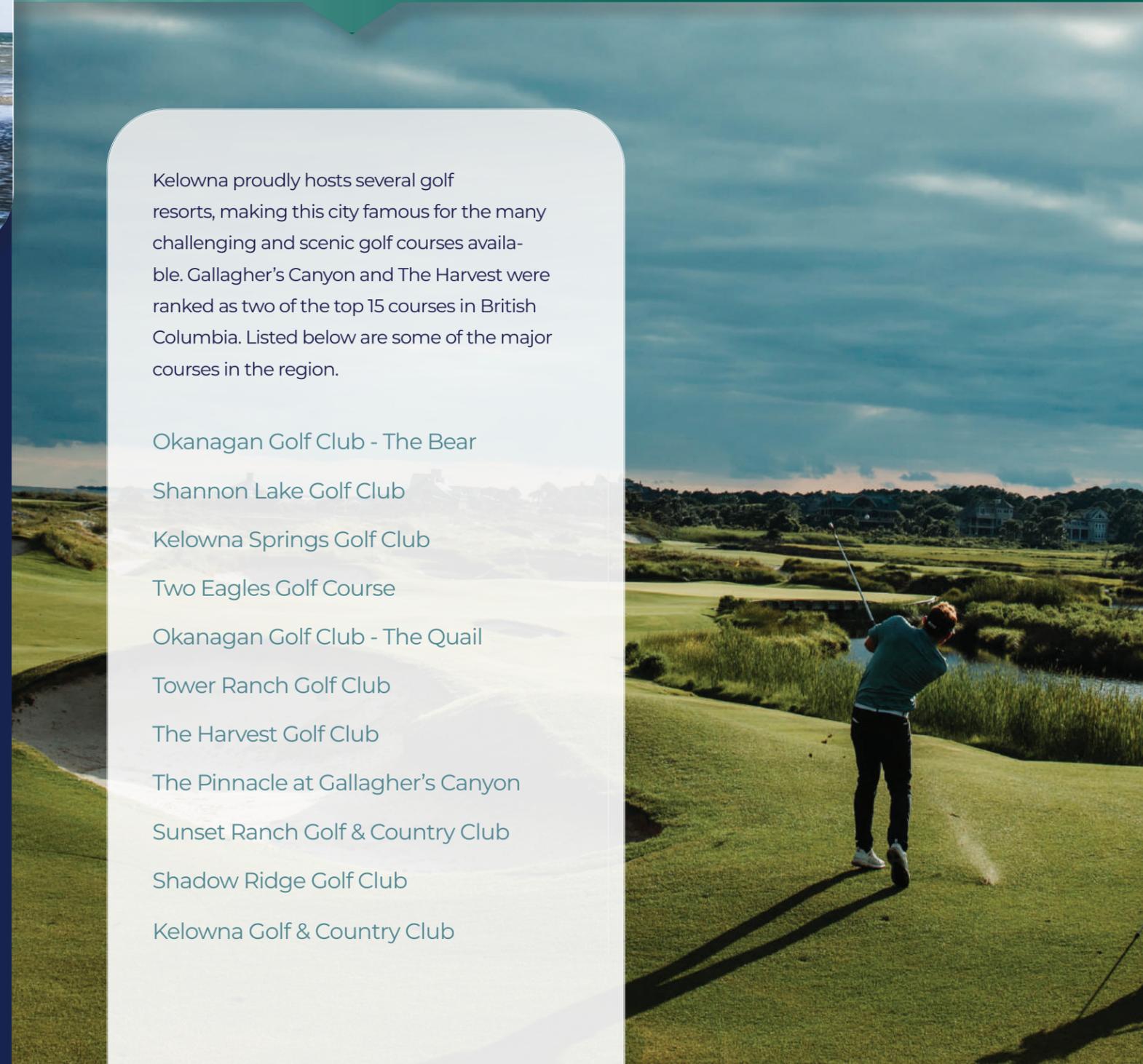
The Harvest Golf Club

The Pinnacle at Gallagher's Canyon

Sunset Ranch Golf & Country Club

Shadow Ridge Golf Club

Kelowna Golf & Country Club



HEALTH



Kelowna offers a variety of health care options. The city has recently renovated Kelowna General Hospital, including adding a new, 360,000 square-foot consolidated health services building as well as a medical teaching facility. Outside of the acute care at the hospital, residents will find a variety of health clinics, pharmacies, dentists, and alternative health care services.

If you are looking for a specific health, safety, government or social service you can dial 8-1-1 in Kelowna or visit the government health website <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health>

Medical Services Plan (MSP)

British Columbia's Medical Services Plan is a health insurance plan that pays for medically required services of physicians and surgeons and for dental or oral surgery when medically required to be performed in a hospital.

Residents of British Columbia are eligible and are required to enrol themselves and their dependents with MSP.

BC Health Services www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health

Kelowna General Hospital

12268 Pandosy St, Kelowna, BC V1Y 1T2
Phone (250) 862-4000

Healthlink

Healthlink provides access to health advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The phones are always answered by registered nurses and anyone can call.

Phone 8-1-1
healthlinkbc.ca

Find a Doctor

Here is a website where you can find a family doctor anywhere in B.C.

Website cpsbc.ca/public/registrant-directory

SAFETY

Below is basic contact information for medical and safety emergencies. For further information on preventative measures, please contact the departments at the NON-emergency numbers.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has three main policing stations throughout the city and are comprised of 156 officers, 64 municipal employees, 48 auxiliaries and 124 volunteers.

If you require an emergency service, call 9-1-1.

Some other numbers to call include:

Police - Non-emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call: 250- 762-3300

Non-emergencies Include:

- Reporting a crime after it has occurred
- Reporting stolen, lost or found property
- Suspicious activity
- General information from RCMP.

Bylaws

Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm.

Call: 250 - 469 - 8686

Bylaw calls include:

- Noise bylaws
- Parks bylaws
- Parking offences
- Abandoned vehicles
- Panhandling



IMMIGRATING

You've made a big decision in choosing to immigrate to Canada, and there are a lot of questions that you probably want answered before, during and even after the big move.

Immigration Alberta

B.C.'s official immigration website has important information on moving to the province. Their resources are excellent for planning all aspects of your new life in the province.

Website welcomebc.ca/Immigrate-to-B-C

Finding Employment

Explore resources for job seekers and employees such as job boards, apprentice job match, job search tips, labour market information and more. WorkBC.ca, the provincial government's access point to the world of work in British Columbia, features many job seeker resources.

Website workbc.ca/

Citizenship & Immigration Canada

There are a few different ways to apply for immigration to Canada: this Canadian government website will give you all of the information you need, as well as the relevant application forms.

Website canada.ca/en/services/immigration-citizenship.html

Coming to Canada

This invaluable resource includes information on immigrating to—and living and working in—Canada.

Website canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada.html

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

This important card is required if you want to work in Canada: all employers ask for it.

Website canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin.html



MOVING OUT CHECKLIST

Purchasing a new home is exciting. To help save you time, stress, and money, we've created this handy Moving Checklist, giving you a detailed overview of what you need to do prior to your move, broken down into weekly tasks.

As you begin thinking of moving...

- Create a "move file" to keep track of estimates, receipts, and other important information
- Draw out a floor plan of your new home. Start deciding which function each room will serve
- Start researching your new community
- Budget for moving expenses and start collecting estimates

7 weeks before moving...

- Start pulling together medical and dental records including prescriptions and vaccination records. If necessary, ask your existing doctors if they can refer you to a care provider in your new neighbourhood
- If you have children and they need to change schools, have school records transferred to their new school district and/or daycare
- Get copies of any legal and financial records you need
- If you have a pet, arrange for their veterinarian records to be transferred
- Call your insurance agent to see what changes to expect in your policies for changing locations. Ask if moving is covered and arrange for insurance for your new home
- If you are a member of a gym or an organization, ask how you can end, sell, or transfer your membership

6 weeks before moving...

- Make a list of things that are valuable or difficult to replace. Plan on shipping these by certified mail or carrying them with you
- Start planning a yard sale or contact your local charities
- Make a list of friends, relatives, and businesses who need to be notified of your move
- Start working your way through each room taking inventory, deciding what to get rid of
- Think about subscribing to the newspaper in your new hometown to start learning about events and the local culture



MOVING OUT CHECKLIST

5 weeks before moving...

- Start collecting boxes and other packing supplies
- Start packing items you don't use often. Also start disposing of the items you've designated for a yard sale, donation, or the junk yard
- Plan ahead for parking for the move, making sure that your movers are able to easily access your home
- Plan for short-term or long-term storage at destination if needed

4 weeks before moving...

- File a change of address
- Schedule disconnection of all utility services at your old home, and connection of them at your new one. Be sure to disconnect the day after you leave and connect the day before you arrive. If you have "last month" deposits with services, such as the water or gas company, request your refund
- If you are not moving yourself, make a reservation with a reputable and reliable moving service
- Make any necessary travel arrangements for your pets
- Advertise and host your garage sale
- Call your newspaper courier and set a date to cancel your subscription

3 weeks before moving...

- Make sure all library books have been returned and all dry cleaning or items out for repair have been picked up
- Retrieve any items out on loan to friends, etc...
- Decide if you will keep your plants or give them away
- Dispose of flammables, corrosives, and poisons
- If you are moving out of town, have your automobile(s) serviced
- Prepare auto registration to be transferred
- If you are moving into or out of an apartment, arrange to use the elevator on your move day



MOVING OUT CHECKLIST

2 weeks before moving...

- Contact your bank and/or credit union to transfer or close accounts. Clear out safety deposit boxes and notify creditors of your move
- Confirm travel arrangements for pets and family
- Confirm parking for your mover
- Plan meals for the last week of the move to help empty the refrigerator and avoid using appliances that will already be packed
- Assemble a folder of important information about the house for the new owner of your home

1 week before moving...

- Finish packing and prepare an "essentials" box. Designate several boxes and items as "last load" items. Pack your suitcases and valuables separately
- Drain all gas and oil from your mower and other motors. Gas grills, kerosene heaters, etc...need to be emptied as well
- Drain water hoses
- Empty, defrost, and clean your refrigerator at least 24 hours before moving day
- Fill any prescriptions or medications you will need for the next couple of weeks
- If necessary, make childcare arrangements for moving day
- Notify friends and family of your new address and phone number

Moving out...

- Load your goods in a pre-designated order, saving "last load" items for the rear of your shipment. This might include your vacuum cleaner or bed sheets
- Check every room, closet, and cabinet one last time before deciding everything is loaded
- Take note of utility meter readings
- Leave a note with your new address in the house so that future residents can forward any stray mail
- Let a friend or family member know of your plans and whereabouts in case of an emergency or unforeseen event



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