

Gibsons, BC



<http://www.gibsons.ca/>

Gibsons is a coastal community of 4,200 located in southwestern British Columbia, Canada on the Strait of Georgia. It is the main marine gateway to the Sunshine Coast. Although Gibsons is on the British Columbia mainland, it is not accessible by road. Vehicle access is by BC Ferries from Horseshoe Bay in West Vancouver, a 40 minute crossing. The town is also accessible by water, by float plane to the harbor. In October 2009, the town was declared the "Most Liveable Community in the World" (under 20,000 population) at the international Livcom Awards. If you are looking for a family friendly, peaceful and relaxing community, Gibsons is the place for you!

Weather

Gibsons enjoys a temperate coastal climate, with mild, rainy winters and warm, dry summers. Average annual temperatures for Gibsons (and the Sunshine Coast area) are slightly higher than that of Vancouver and Gibsons has on average more frost free days. Winters are relatively mild and abundant precipitation makes this area green and blooming year round.

Average Yearly Precipitation

Average Days with Rain per Year: 170.6

Average Days with Snow per Year: 6.5

Seasonal Average Temperatures (°C)

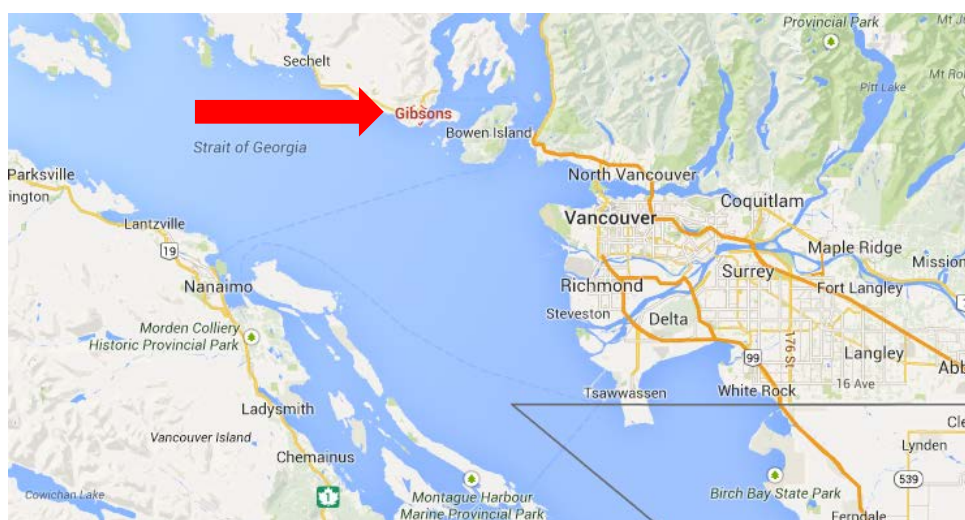
January: 4°C
April: 9°C
July: 17°C
October: 10°C

Additional Information

For further information about climate data for Gibsons, please visit The [Weather Network](#).

Location

Gibsons is located north of Vancouver on the sunshine coast and is most accessible by a ferry crossing from Horseshoe Bay in north west Vancouver. From Gibsons there is also good access to many of the surrounding islands in the bay.



Driving Distances

Vancouver.....	48km (approx. 2 hours including ferry)
Squamish.....	70km (approx. 2 hours including ferry)
Powell River.....	125km (approx. 2.5 hours including ferry)
Whistler	127km (approx. 2 hours 50 mins including ferry)

Transportation

Air Travel

There are a number of float plane and regular airplane providers offering good access to nearby communities. Tofino Air offers a float plane service from nearby Sechelt to Nanaimo. As well as Nanaimo, Harbour Air also provides access to two locations in Vancouver while you can fly direct to Victoria with Fly! Airlines.

<http://www.tofinoair.ca/>

<http://www.harbourair.com/>

<http://www.flycoastal.ca/>



Public Transit

BC Transit offer routes around the Gibson area and on to the town of Sechelt.

<http://www.transitbc.com/regions/sun/>

Malaspina Coach Lines service the Sunshine Coast from the Vancouver airport and downtown Vancouver. Call (604)-885-2218.

Health Services

Gibsons Health Unit

Gibsons Health Unit is a community health centre that provides a range of health care services in a single location, including access to public and community health nurses, mental health and addiction counsellors, dental clinics for children, speech therapists, nutritionists, youth drop-in health clinics and more.

494 S Fletcher Road
Gibsons, B.C. V0N 1V0
Phone: 604-886-5600

St Mary Hospital

St Mary's Hospital is a 38-bed facility in Sechelt that serves the surrounding area including Gibsons.

5544 Sunshine Coast Highway
Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A0

Phone: 604-885-2224

For more information on healthcare services in Powell River, visit the [Vancouver Coastal Health Authority](#) using the following link:

<http://www.vch.ca/home/>

For information on provincial health insurance (required for all permanent residents in B.C.), you can visit the [Medical Services Plan of B.C.](#) website using the following link:

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp/index.html>

Education

Schools

The Sunshine Coast School District operates a number of schools in the region including in local Gibson area.

<http://www.sd46.bc.ca/>

University

For those looking to upgrade their skills, Capilano University has a campus in Sechelt. Classes are small and this means a high level of interaction with your instructors. Courses offered include those in the areas of business administration, tourism and outdoor recreation, and arts and science programs.

<https://www.capilano.ca/>

Accommodation

Gibsons' average home prices tend to be a little more expensive than in the larger administrative centre of Sechelt, with the average home prices of \$455,000. But many of these are higher end properties and the price of a 3 bedroom family home can start from as little as \$219,000.

Given the proximity to Vancouver, a little more than an hour away including the ferry ride, it's as close as the Fraser Valley. And with rustic charm, neighbourhood restaurants to rival Kitsilano and lifestyle to match, many are finding the area a worthwhile investment for their families and the future.

If you are looking to rent property, a two bedroom apartment / basement suite can start from around \$850 per month.

For more details on buying and renting property please see links below;

<http://www.point2homes.com/CA/Real-Estate-Listings/British-Columbia/Vancouver-Coast-Mountains/Gibsons.html>

<http://www.remax.ca/bc?gclid=CNXYkqSvzroCFYg1OgodszEA-w>

<http://sunshine.en.craigslist.ca/apa/>

Amenities

Living in Gibsons BC is very much a lifestyle choice for those seeking a laid back, family friendly community and have a love for the outdoors. Gibsons is also popular with those from the artistic community and the town has many galleries and markets displaying wonderful local art and craft pieces.

Rent a kayak or canoe or bring your own and explore the waters off Gibsons Harbour, venturing over to local islands like Keats Island and Gambier Island. Alternatively, kayak up Sechelt Inlet, watching out for dolphins and deer. Wherever travelers go, Sunshine Coast beaches offer great summer swimming.

Throughout the year, the ocean around Gibsons offers prime salmon fishing: coho, chinook, chum, pink, and sockeye. Further up the coast, anglers love the trout fishing at Trout Lake, Sakinaw Lake, and Ruby Lake. Fishing charters and equipment rentals are available. Visitors can also stroll along the docks and buy fresh halibut, prawns and crabs at the historic marina in Gibsons Landing.



Hiking up Soames Hill offers a superb view of the region around Gibsons. Check out the Suncoaster Trail Route to the north, with 33km of trails to explore between Homesite Creek and Klein Lake, or stroll around Cliff Gilker Park with its bubbling waterfalls.

While summer is the most popular time of year to visit the Sunshine Coast, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing on groomed trails bring winter sports

enthusiasts to the Dakota Ridge recreation area on a plateau north of Gibsons and Sechelt.

The weekly Fiddlehead Farmers Market and Gibsons Landing Sunday Market offer farm-fresh produce and crafts by local artisans. Notable local museums include the Sunshine Coast Museum in Gibsons and the House of Chiefs museum in Sechelt.

The latter showcases traditional First Nations culture. There are numerous art galleries around Gibsons Landing.

Gibsons hosts many annual festivals, including the Gibsons Landing Jazz Festival and Gibsons Landing Fibre Arts Festival. Sechelt's star festival is the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts, featuring acclaimed authors like Margaret Atwood. Pender Harbour has festivals dedicated to jazz, blues, and chamber music.

Industry

Historically the Sunshine Coast has been a predominantly forestry and fishing based economy but has been changing in recent years to a more diverse economy with construction trades, business services, retail and tourism becoming prominent. Gibsons is a popular retirement destination, and also has attracted many artists and musicians, as well as professionals who commute by ferry into nearby Vancouver, or are able to work from home. Based on recent employment records the majority of people in Gibsons are employed in sales, business, social / government service and trades professions.

Taxes

British Columbia has some of the lowest tax rates among Canadian provinces. To see how taxes compare across Canadian provinces and territories, visit:

<http://www.taxtips.ca/taxrates/taxcomparison/taxcomparison2012.htm>

For detailed information on taxes in BC, visit:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/theme.page?id=4DE87E7EE0859251309F8142B9BD4824>