



Welcome to GV Vancouver!



We hope you enjoy Vancouver, our programs, activities and accommodations

Updated January, 2016

Arriving in Vancouver

If your Homestay was arranged by Global Village including airport pick-up:

Go to the “Arrivals” meeting area. Look for a sign with your name on it. The person holding the sign is your driver. Show your driver a piece of identification, such as your passport. This driver will take you to your Homestay.

Please call the Homestay Emergency Number: 604-961-0220, if:

1. you missed your connecting flight OR
2. you have been delayed by Immigration Canada OR
3. you cannot find your luggage after looking for 30 minutes OR
4. you cannot see your driver at the airport

When you call the emergency number, please:

- Say and spell your name. (“My name is... It’s spelled...”)
- Tell us why you are calling. Examples:
 1. “I missed my connecting flight. I will be late.”
 2. “I was delayed by Canada Immigration.”
 3. “I can’t find my luggage”

4. "I can't find my driver."

If you cannot call the emergency number by yourself, please ask someone to help you. For example:

- Ask the airline staff or an airport official (at the Information Booth)
- Phone your agent

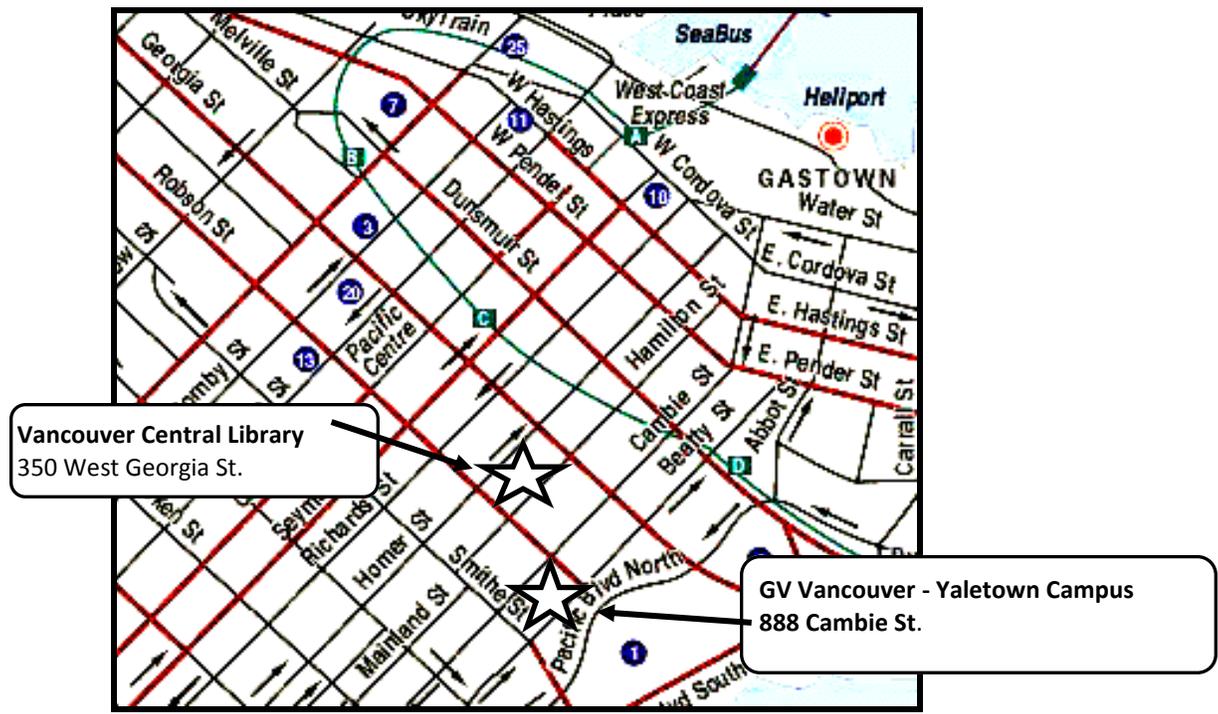
If you have not arranged airport pick-up:

Proceed to the limo / taxi area. One of the commissionaires (airport staff) will help you find a driver to take you into the city or can show you where to take public transit. Please note that public transit may involve taking the train (Canada Line), Skytrain and/or Seabus, which could be difficult if you have a lot of luggage.

NOTE: Please be sure Global Village has received up to date flight arrival information.
Global Village cannot refund taxi fares or airport reception fees.

Orientation

Students arriving on the official start dates normally start their first day at the Vancouver Central Library, Alice MacKay room for their orientation (see map below). Students not starting on arrive the official start dates should come to the Yaletown campus located at 888 Cambie Street for their orientation.



Orientation Day schedule (official, main start dates)

1. **Please arrive at the Vancouver Central Library at 8:15 am.** The orientation is in the Alice McKay Room. Look for a Global Village poster, and go down the stairs. **Doors open at 8:30 AM.**

2. A GV staff member will greet you and ask to see your letter of acceptance and identification. (Your passport or ID card). You should also have a copy of your medical travel insurance.
3. You will receive an orientation package, a GV binder, and a written level assessment (test) to complete. You can begin the written assessment right away.
4. At approximately 9:45 am, we will begin with a welcome and an introduction to the school with the Principal, Directors of Studies, the Activities Coordinators, and several teachers. You will learn about the programs and the activities schedule for the coming month.
5. After the introduction, you will meet with a teacher for an interview. The teacher will ask you some questions and assess your English level. When you finish your interview, you can go for lunch.
6. There is a lunch break until 12:30 pm. Students must be back at the orientation room by 12:30 pm.
7. At 12:30 pm you will learn about the school rules/policies and asked to sign an agreement.
8. At approximately 1:15 pm, you will be given a tour of the Yaletown and Robson campuses.
9. If you are in a GV Homestay, there is a short homestay meeting at approximately 2:00 pm. You will receive some important information about staying with a GV Vancouver homestay family. You can meet with the homestay manager if you have any concerns or problems with your homestay.

Note: The schedule might be slightly adjusted at different times of the year for manageability or for specific groups of students.

Program Schedule – General English Program (GEP)

	TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Period 1	8:45 - 10:25	Communicative Grammar	Communicative Grammar	Communicative Grammar	Communicative Grammar	Communicative Grammar
20 Lessons	<i>10:25 - 10:40</i>	<i>Break</i>				
/ Week	10:40 - 12:20	Functional Dialogues	Functional Dialogues	Functional Dialogues	Functional Dialogues	Functional Dialogues
	<i>12:20 - 1:05</i>	<i>Lunch</i>				
Period 2		Choice of Skill & Conversation	Activities			
25 Lessons	1:05 - 2:10					
/ Week						
	<i>2:10 - 2:25</i>	<i>Break</i>				
Period 3		Choice of Skill & Conversation				
30 Lessons	2:25 - 3:30					
/ Week						

Choice of Possible Courses (samples):

Language-skill focus: *Pronunciation, Vocabulary, Writing, Listening, Reading*

Interest courses: *English through Drama, English through Music, English through Photography, Casual English*

Classes are held at the Yaletown campus and at the nearby Robson campus located 2-3 minutes away. Students have easy access to both campuses. You may be placed in the Yaletown campus in the morning, and the Robson campus in the afternoon (or vice versa), depending on the session schedule prepared by the Program Director at the beginning of the session. You will be informed of your class and campus at the orientation.

First Day of Classes

1. Arrive by 8:30 am for your morning class. Make sure you have a pen, pencil, notebook, and your new GV binder with you.
2. Class lists and room numbers are posted at the campus. The Directors of Studies, receptionists, and program assistants will be available to help you if you have any questions.
3. Class starts at 8:45.
4. Your teacher will go over the level outline with you and talk about classroom expectations.
5. If you feel that the class is too easy, or too difficult, please try the class for two full days. If you still feel the level is not correct, speak with your teacher, or with your Director of Studies.

Homestay Program

Your Bedroom

- You will have a private bedroom with a door that fully closes. It will have a bed and a desk with a lamp. There will also be a place for you to hang your clothes and store your belongings.
- Your host family will respect your privacy and will not go into your bedroom without permission unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Students should clean their rooms and empty the garbage at least once a week.
- Your host family will give you items like hand soap, towels, pillows, bed sheets, etc. Most students will have to change their own sheets.
- Students should not leave a lot of money in their room. It is very easy to open a bank account in Canada.
- Please do not eat or store food in your bedroom as this may attract insects and cause a bad smell.



Mealtimes

- Please tell your host family if you have any food allergies.
- Students will have 2 meals (breakfast & dinner) OR 3 meals (breakfast, lunch & dinner) per day. If you're not sure about your meal plan, please come to the Homestay office.
- It is important to tell your host family what foods you like and don't like. Do not worry; they will not be upset to hear that there is something that you do not like. But, you must remember that your hosts will cook Canadian-style food.

- Students usually prepare their own breakfast and lunch. Your host family will provide you with food to prepare your lunch to take to school on weekdays. A Canadian lunch is usually a sandwich, fruit and a drink.
- Food between meals is a snack. If your family is having a snack, they will include you.
- Students can buy specialty foods they want with their own money.
- In North America, the biggest meal of the day is the evening meal (dinner). This should be a well-balanced meal. Breakfast is the smallest meal. Possible breakfast choices are: cereal, toast, eggs, fruit, etc.
- You should phone your hosts (by an agreed-upon time, for example, 5:00pm) to tell them if you are not going to be home for dinner. If you come home late for dinner, your host will leave food in the fridge that you can heat up in a microwave.
- Tap water in Canada is safe to drink.



Laundry

- Laundry and laundry detergent is included in the price of your homestay.
- Students are responsible for washing their own clothes. You should make sure that you fully understand how to use the washing machine and dryer.
- Some hosts may feel that their machines may be difficult to use and will, therefore, want to do your laundry for you.
- It is normal for students to do their laundry once a week.
- You should only do the laundry if you can do a full basket. This is because it takes a lot of electricity to run the washing machine. Hosts will not want you to use it if you only have a few pieces of clothing to wash.
- If your hosts live in an apartment building and there is only coin laundry available, your host will pay for your laundry. You should not be charged for using laundry facilities.



Washroom

- Students are responsible for their own toiletries such as: bath soap, toothpaste, shampoo, make-up, lotions, deodorant, etc.,
- Many families in Canada do not have large hot water tanks; therefore, some hosts may ask you to take showers for no longer than 15 – 20 minutes. This is because you might run out of hot water and will have to wait for the water to heat up again.
- Water pressure or temperature may decrease if the dishwasher or the washing machine is running. For this reason, you may need to schedule when you will take your baths or showers.
- Please make sure you close the shower door or curtain to prevent water getting on the floor. Canadian bathrooms do not have drains in the floor.
- For safety reasons, please dry the floor and sink area after every use so that others will not slip on the floor.
- Please don't put anything down the toilets except for toilet paper (ex. paper towel, sanitary napkins).



Energy Conservation

- Here are some common ways to save energy:
 - Turn lights out when you are not in a room
 - Wear long sleeve clothing or sweaters in the home during winter time
 - Keep showers to a reasonable length (15 – 20 minutes as a maximum)
- Host families keep the temperature of their home at a reasonable level during the winter time.
- Most families in Vancouver recycle – hosts may have separate places to put paper, tin cans, and plastic items. Your host will explain this to you after you arrive.



Computers & Television

- Please do not download movies, software, music or illicit material using the homestay family's internet server. Absolutely no illegal downloading of any kind is permitted.
- Please do not order pay-per-view movies without first discussing it with your homestay family.

House keys



You will get a key to your Homestay house and an alarm code if necessary. It is important that you take special care of the house key. Please make sure you lock the door when you leave the home. This is very important for safety reasons.

Houseguests

If you want to invite a guest to visit your Homestay, you must ask your host family for permission in advance. Guests may not sleep overnight in a Homestay house without permission from the host. If you plan to stay away from the house overnight, please tell your host before it is too late in the evening, so they will not worry about you.



Smoking



For health, hygiene and fire safety reasons, smoking is not allowed in Homestay houses. You must smoke outdoors only.

Extending your Homestay

Please contact us if you want to stay in Homestay for a longer time than you have pre-booked.

If you want to extend your time in Homestay, you must tell the Homestay Coordinator and pay at least 3 weeks in advance.

Cancelling your Homestay

If you decide to change your Homestay plans and /or move into an apartment, you must tell the school at least 3 weeks before leaving the Host Family's home.

We hope your time in Homestay is a great one!

Please do not hesitate to talk to us at anytime regarding any questions or concerns you may have.
We are here to help you.

Or contact us at: [604-684-2112](tel:604-684-2112) or email vancouver@gvenglish.com and we will do our best to assist you.