

False Creek

False Creek has it all...

False Creek has become one of the choice urban boating destinations in North America. Good moorage and anchorages are available and there is lots happening both on the water and all along the shoreline. Three easily accessible areas in particular have gained a good deal of popularity: **Granville Island, Yaletown and the Olympic Village**. Each offers its own array of shops, restaurants and upscale pubs.



It really all got started in 1970 when a group of aldermen in Vancouver rose to oppose a downtown freeway project. A key figure amongst these people was Walter Hardwick, (interestingly my geography professor at UBC at that time) who envisioned the retrofit of this brownfield industrial site into a vibrant mixed-use waterfront community. Fueled by the run up to Expo 86, Lee Kai Shing's Concorde Development plans and the building of the Olympic Village and Support Centre for the 2010 Olympic Games False Creek has grown into an eclectic group of neighbourhoods with very different urban planning and architectural styles.

Where to Tie Up

There is **free public moorage** (for 3 hours) at one 100 foot and three 50 foot slips on the north side of the Granville Island Public Market.

A second, little known option, also on Granville Island, are the **CMHC docks** just west of the public moorage with 190 feet available on one dock and 50 feet on another. They are available on a first come, first serve basis for \$52.50 which includes GST (even if you take 65 feet!) plus \$9 for power. Kyle Robertson, the operations coordinator, can be reached at 604 666 8797.

Another alternative is across the water (a 10 minute aqua bus away) at the **False Creek Yacht Club**. Their rate is \$2 / foot / night plus \$5 for hydro. Use of the Clubhouse which offers light meals, a great bar and one of the best views of The Creek are all included. Richard McDonald, the Dockmaster, is a very knowledgeable boater himself is always helpful with moorage and anchoring suggestions on "The Creek". Richard can be reached at: 604 648 2628.

Quayside Marine is a first class facility with Yaletown at the top of the ramp. The Marina can accommodate boats up to 120 feet. 30, 50 and 100 amp power is available. To arrange moorage call the Dockmaster (Dave Bird) at 604 681 9115 or email: qsmarina@ranchogroup.com

Loads of Activities...

False Creek hosts many different on the water activities including dragon boating (the venue for the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival), kayaking, paddle boarding, dinner cruises and impromptu encounters with other pleasure boaters.

There is also a wide range of onshore activities from Science World, to the Edgewater Casino, to the Arts Club Theatre, and all easily accessible from your boat in False Creek.

The False Creek Yacht Club and 9 other marinas in the area provide berths for over 1600 watercraft.

Great Dining Venues...

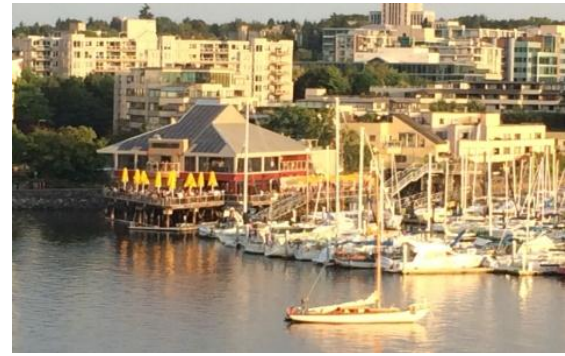
Food, wine and entertaining always seem to be at the top of our list and several of our favourite Dockside Dining Destinations including **Bridges**, **Provence**, **Craft** and **Mahoneys** are right on the water's edge.

For those preferring to dine on-board, the **Market at Granville Island** is literally stuffed with stalls offering a wide array of fresh vegetables, meats, seafood, baked goods and other fresh ingredients. Check out the world famous **Oyama Sausage Company** for delectable pates and cheeses, and **Tenderland Meats** for their Alberta beef and Marsala chicken.

And a Spectacular Seawall!

And if there is a need to burn off a few calories, the 10 km of Sea Wall that follows the shoreline of The Creek is a great place to get a little exercise (walk, jog, bike or blade) and soak up all the sights. And if you are looking for something a little more strenuous, you can continue your excursion via the adjoining Stanley Park and Coal Harbour Seawalls from the north end, or out to UBC from the south.

All this and more makes False Creek one of our favourite year round destinations!



Anchoring in False Creek

Another great option is to anchor in False Creek. Anchoring is permitted free of charge for up to 14 consecutive days in the summer and 21 days in the winter.

Boaters need a permit if they are anchoring for more than 8 hours during the day or between 11 PM and 9 AM.

Permits are available at the Boater Welcome Centre at the False Creek Yacht Club under the Granville Street Bridge and at the Chevron fuel barge just west of the Burrard Street Bridge. Phone 604 683 0209.

Dingy docks are found throughout False Creek and include two with washroom and shower facilities at Granville Island and the Olympic Village.

Aquabus and False Creek Ferries operate daily scheduled ferry services throughout False Creek.

Where to Fuel Up

Fuel and other marine essentials are available at the Chevron fuel barge just west of the Burrard Street Bridge.