

WHISTLER'S Cultural Connector

Our world of culture at your feet.



THE CULTURAL CONNECTOR

A Journey of Adventure and Discovery

First Nations, pioneers, adventurers, visionaries, free spirits, makers and creators. Whistler is home to so much more than majestic mountains. Over the years, passionate community builders have laid the foundation for a rich cultural landscape, which has allowed arts and culture to grow and flourish.

With this guide in hand, you'll find Whistler's world of culture at your feet. Step back in time with the First Nations, unearth pioneer history, stride through the golden days of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and revel in artistic excellence.

As you follow the Cultural Connector route, you'll discover the stories that enrich Whistler's culture, the venues that celebrate it and the milestones that we've achieved along the way. The pathway will lead you through beautiful surroundings and six cultural institutions: Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, Whistler Museum, Whistler Public Library, Maury Young Arts Centre, Lost Lake PassivHaus, and Audain Art Museum.

The physical aspects of the Cultural Connector will be completed in a phased approach by the Resort Municipality of Whistler in 2016 and 2017. The project is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia's Resort Municipality Initiative, and invites admirers of Whistler to embark on an exciting adventure—one step, one story, one discovery at a time.



Canada

POINTS OF INTEREST

Uncovering Whistler

Canadian Host

The Whistler Public Library was reborn as Whistler Canada Olympic House during the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The building served as an accredited hosting facility for the Canadian Olympic Committee, the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia, and the Resort Municipality of Whistler.

Sustainability

The sustainable design of the Library has achieved recognition from the Canada Green Building Council with a LEED Gold standard rating and according to Canadian Geographic Travel Magazine; it is one of the top 10 most beautiful libraries in Canada.

Local Inspiration

The Maury Young Arts Centre was established in partnership with the Skiers's Chapel Society as Whistler's centre for arts, culture and inspiration, with a significant contribution from the Young family. Today, it houses Whistler's only community art gallery—supporting local artists and contributing to Whistler's vibrant and healthy creative community.

Take Your Pick

Round out your Cultural Connector experience with a visit to Whistler's range of art galleries. Photography, sculpture, carvings, paintings, pottery, metalwork and more can be found in galleries across town with many located in the heart of Whistler Village.

Early Days

Before there was skiing in Whistler, fishing reigned supreme! See Whistler through the eyes of early settlers and take in the Rainbow Lodge display at the Whistler Museum for a glimpse of life on Alta Lake.

History in Snow

The museum's skiing history exhibit celebrates the decades-long love affair between Whistler and sliding sports. Explore the evolution of skiing, watch a retro ski movie and take a seat in Whistler's first gondola.

Bear's Blessing

When the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre was under construction, a mother bear and her cub wandered through the site. In First Nations culture, we understand that the bear had blessed the building and that it will be good for our families, as well as for other families who come to visit.

Indigenous Welcome

Members of the Squamish and Lil'wat Nation are ambassadors who welcome guests at their Cultural Centre. Each one is a graduate from its Aboriginal Youth Ambassador Program, funded by admission fees and purchases made at the gift shop and café.

Walk in the Woods

While walking from the Upper Village to the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, get into the forest on the Salish Stroll, an ethnobotanical path to learn about local flora and fauna.



Exploring the Cultural Connector is one of many ways to enjoy Whistler's vibrant arts, culture and heritage scene.

Visit whistler.com for upcoming events and additional cultural itineraries.

Photography

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RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

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1 **Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre**
Gallery · Café · Gift Shop

4584 Blackcomb Way | 1.866.441.7522 | slcc.ca



We, the Squamish and Lil'wat people, proudly invite you to learn about our cultures at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC). This is the traditional territory of our people—our history and culture are deeply connected to it. Come and hear our stories and see the mountains, rivers, and forests through our eyes.

On the north side of Lorimer Road is another stretch of the 40-km **Valley Trail system** (A), which pedestrians, cyclists and cross-country skiers use to journey between Whistler Village and Lost Lake Park, the largest park in Whistler. The well-used Valley Trail links neighbourhoods, schools and 31 public parks across the community.

4 **Maury Young Arts Centre**
Gallery · Theatre

4335 Blackcomb Way | 604.935.8410 | artswhistler.com



The Maury Young Arts Centre welcomes everyone to enjoy its community art gallery, theatre, and youth centre. Visit this vibrant hub to see an exhibit and leave with a packed diary of creative classes and live entertainment. Located at the heart of The Village, the Arts Centre is the pulse of arts and culture in Whistler and home of the Whistler Arts Council.

A **Timeless Circle** (E) is a bronze sculpture by internationally known, Vancouver based artist Susan Point. Featuring 86 carved faces, it represents the different nations that were present in Whistler during the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and commemorates the community's role as Host Mountain Resort. A few steps from this installation is another bronze sculpture, *Bear Affection* by Mike Tyler. This Black bear and her cub represent the native population of bears that are commonly seen in Whistler and its surrounds.

2 **Lost Lake PassivHaus**
PassivHaus Café

7400 Fitzsimmons Road S | 604.932.5535 | whistler.ca/culturalconnector



Accessed from the Valley Trail, Lost Lake PassivHaus was the home base of Team Austria during the 2010 Olympic Winter Games and was donated by the Austrian Passive House Group to the community afterward. A model for sustainable design, the Lost Lake PassivHaus is now a four-season day lodge, café, cross-country skiing and mountain biking rental shop, office and meeting space.

Fitzsimmons Creek's blue-grey colour is created from silt that melts off alpine glaciers. Weaving through Whistler Village, it ebbs and flows with the seasons. In 1993, a flood rushed down the creek to the valley, knocking the covered bridge off its supports. Discover **colourful murals** (B) painted by local artists on the walls of the pedestrian bridges and underpasses that cross between Whistler Village and the Upper Village.

5 **Whistler Public Library**

4329 Main Street | 604.935.8435 | whistlerlibrary.ca



Founded in 1985, Whistler Public Library is one of the busiest libraries in the province. The library's lauded green design and unique timber-framed structure blends into its natural surroundings. Since opening the new building in January 2008, the library has become a community hub for locals, visitors, and seasonal workers. Approximately 800 people per day make themselves at home in "Whistler's Living Room".

Along the route through the Village Stroll, view 20 bronze objects known as **Sightlines** (F) atop the railings of the bridge and lookout en route to the **Olympic Rings**. These playful interactive sculptures have always attracted a crowd and have been the backdrop for countless selfies. **Sightlines** is one of 55 features in the community's public art program.

3 **Audain Art Museum**
Museum Shop

4350 Blackcomb Way | 604.962.0413 | audainartmuseum.com



Opened in winter 2016, the Audain Art Museum, designed by award-winning Patkau Architects and built by Vancouver philanthropist Michael Audain and his wife Yoshiko Karasawa, shares one of the world's finest collection of First Nations masks, a superb collection of Emily Carr paintings, works by some of Canada's most internationally regarded contemporary artists such as Jeff Wall, Rodney Graham, Robert Davidson, Brian Jungen and Xwalactun Harry, and changing temporary exhibitions.

Youth art and culture is highlighted along the way to the Upper Village. Originally built in the mid-1990s, the **Skateboard Park** (C) is tagged with spirited designs from street artists. Walking past the bike jump park and before the covered bridge at Fitzsimmons Creek, notice the **Peace Tiles** (D) produced by Whistler Secondary School students for the municipality's public art program. The youth explored the theme of peace to create tiles for this wall.

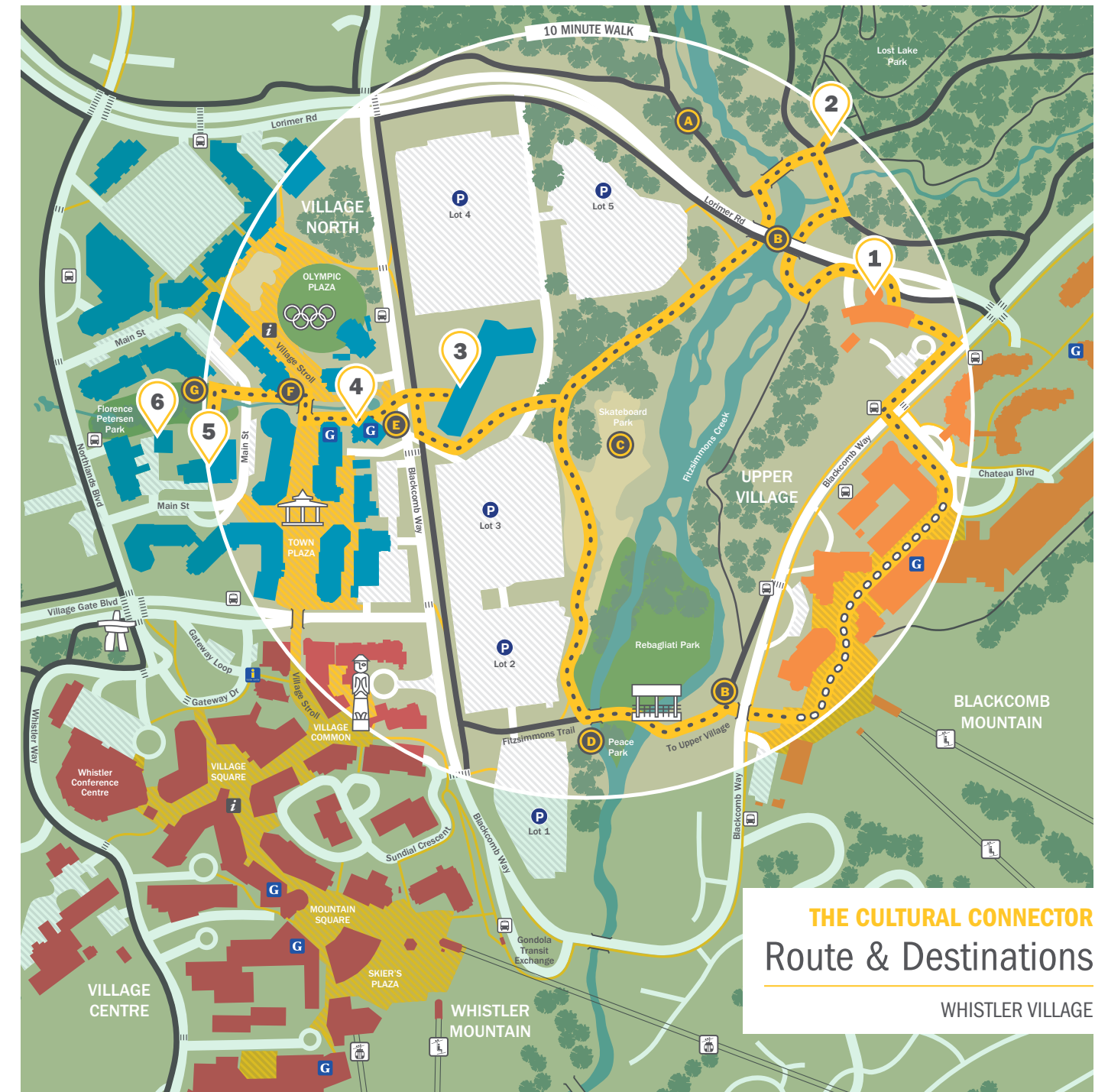
6 **Whistler Museum**
Gift Shop

4333 Main Street | 604.932.2019 | whistlermuseum.org



Whistler Museum tells Whistler's many stories, ranging from fun-loving pioneers, to the development of skiing in the area and the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. With entry by donation, explore the Museum's activity books for kids, a trunk of costumes and artifacts, and interactive exhibits—including the chance to snap photos with a real Olympic torch. Its natural history showcase includes information on Whistler's most famous non-human resident: black bears.

Florence Petersen Park (G) between the Library and Museum is a tribute to the accomplished local pioneer, author and historian who founded the Whistler Museum and Archives Society. In the forest, explore the remains of first-growth fir, spruce, hemlock and cedar trees; these giant stumps are markers of Whistler's logging history. Relax in the park and enjoy the displays, such as story panels about Petersen and Whistler's first chairlift.



Legend

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| ■ Village North | CONNECTOR ROUTE | G Art Gallery | i Village Host | Free Village Shuttle |
| ■ Village Centre | Path | 1 Destinations | i Village Stroll | i Visitor Centre |
| ■ Upper Village | A Points of Interest | Valley Trail | Seasonal Farmer's Market | P Parking |
| | | Other Trails | | |