

Osoyoos

Canada's warmest welcome





Experience
PARADISE LAKESIDE

LAKE OSOYOOS' NEW WATERFRONT RESORT

Experience idyllic lakeside getaways at an all-new waterfront haven in Canada's desert wine country.



WALNUT BEACH RESORT
www.walnutbeachresort.com

Book now on-line or, call 1-877-936-5400
to reserve your lakeside vacation in paradise.

OSOYOOS, SOUTH OKANAGAN VALLEY, B.C.

Canada's Warm

Osoyoos has held a special place in the heart of travelers to the Okanagan Valley for generations. It conjures up memories of summer camping trips with the family and a quaint family destination. Returning today, you will find Osoyoos has evolved into a premier four-season destination with a diverse economy that attracts a sophisticated resident, tourist and investor. Through its recent growth, the Osoyoos area remains as friendly as ever, with an air of sophistication, innovation and a multifaceted offering of personal and professional opportunities that are second to none. Come and see why the Osoyoos area of British Columbia is fast becoming one of Canada's most desirable places to live!

This community profile is published in conjunction with and for Destination Osoyoos. The publisher accepts no responsibility for advertising claims, the safe arrival of unsolicited manuscripts, transparencies, illustrations or other materials. PRINTED IN CANADA. All rights reserved.

SHOPPERS DRUG MART



Health, Beauty and Convenience

10 Optimum Points for every dollar

- all of your prescription and cosmetic needs
- compression stockings, walkers, home health care, wound care
- snacks, drinks, lottery and gifts

- Open 7 days a week
- Extended summer hours

8305 MAIN ST., OSOYOOS, B.C. - 250-495-6055



LIGHTWEIGHT CAMPER FOR IMPORT PICKUP OR UTILITY TRAILER

Leisure Lite *Leisure Lite*

"Simplicity without Compromise"

TOLL FREE: 1-800-660-0963
www.tent-trailer.com
info@leisurelite.com

Visit our Indoor Showroom in Osoyoos, B.C.



MOTORCYCLE ACCESSORIES



LIGHTWEIGHT POPUP TENT TRAILERS FOR MOTORCYCLES AND SMALL CARS



nest Welcome Welcomes You!

Contact Us

Whether you're re-locating your family to the area or looking to start your own business - Destination Osoyoos is your local resource. Visit www.destinationosoyoos.com to learn more about what opportunities Osoyoos can offer you!

Destination Osoyoos
BC Visitor Centre @ Osoyoos
9912 Hwy #3
Osoyoos, British Columbia
Canada

Web:
www.destinationosoyoos.com

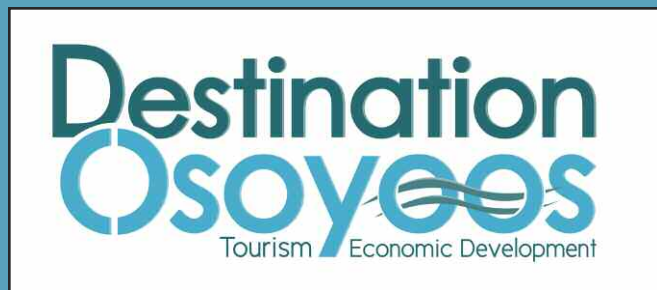
Toll Free:
1.800.OSOYOOS (676.9667)



Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 500
Osoyoos, British Columbia
Canada V0H 1V0

Telephone:
250.495.3366
250.495.5070

Fax:
250.495.8081



DARWIN

*Building For
Tomorrow*

**Darwin Construction
(Canada) Ltd.**

PO Box 598, #201-8309 Main Street
Osoyoos, BC, V0H 1V0

tel: 250-495-6886 / fax: 250-495-6863
email: darwinosoyoos@telus.net



www.darwinconstruction.ca

Why Osoyoos

Whether it's Canada's warmest fresh water lake, the incredible skiing conditions at nearby Mt. Baldy, or the people that bring life to the area - find out for yourself how Canada's Warmest Welcome got its name. Available amenities like education, healthcare, sports and recreation, cultural activities and festival attractions are world-class.

Osoyoos is a rapidly developing four-season resort community with an eye for progressive economic investment and development. Situated at the southern most end of the Okanagan Valley, at the border to the neighbouring United States, Osoyoos is uniquely positioned to capitalize on its natural geographic assets and strategic economic vision. Recently designated by the Province of British Columbia as a Resort Municipality, Osoyoos continues to see dramatic changes to its economic base. Beyond this achievement, Osoyoos is increasingly being recognized for its investment attraction and business development capacity and was recently named the Most Business Friendly Community in the Thompson Okanagan by Business Examiner Newspaper. The community is



currently undergoing controlled development worth hundreds of millions of dollars of new tourism amenities through various accommodation, recreation, and service industry developments, while continuing to enhance its industrial base. To complement this growth, Osoyoos recently launched a new brand for the community. The new brand embodies the Osoyoos experience – Canada's Warmest Welcome.

Osoyoos has experienced a significant increase in employment levels in recent years to arrive at an unemployment rate of 6%. A record number of building permits, valued at over \$70 million, was granted in 2007 alone, indicating the sheer volume of significant projects currently under construction in the Osoyoos area. Housing market trends have been significantly positive, with a rise of nearly 28% in the community's average house value over the past 3 years. New job creation has mainly been in the areas of construction, tourism and government service sectors, but with a mandate of professional service sector growth, Osoyoos is actively attracting health care professionals, educators, architects and engineers, and financial and legal expertise to the area.

Current economic growth and development plans underway include the expansion of the Osoyoos Airport and the development of an airport lands industrial park, the implementation of a multi-use recreational trail system, and a multitude of further private development to complement and expand the resort community's year-round offerings.



**Explore
Canada's Desert**

 **Desert Centre**
Osoyoos

**TOURS DAILY
April – October**

250-495-2470 - 1-877-899-0897
www.desert.org

**3 km north of Osoyoos
off Highway 97**

OSOYOOS AGGREGATES

& READY-MIX

250-495-7600 **250-495-6688**

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR:

- SITE PREPARATION & EXCAVATIONS
- WATER & SEWER INSTALLATIONS
- SAND & GRAVEL PRODUCTS
- RETAINING WALLS/CONCRETE PRODUCTS
- READY-MIXED CONCRETE
- COLORED CONCRETE & ACCESSORIES
- CONCRETE PUMPING SERVICES
- FORM RENTALS & ACCESSORIES

ADVANTAGE
ICF SYSTEM™



Geography & Climate

Osoyoos is located at the southernmost area of the Okanagan Valley, in the heart of British Columbia's fertile orchard and vineyard country. Set in Canada's only true desert, Osoyoos boasts over 2000 hours of sunlight annually and is home to the warmest lake in the country. Lake Osoyoos is 18 km in length and straddles the United States border, sharing the waters with Washington State. Osoyoos also finds itself at the junction of two major provincial highways, Highway 3 and Highway 97, connecting the community 401 km from Vancouver, 730 km from Calgary and 467 km from Seattle, Washington by road.

Osoyoos finds itself situated at the northern tip of the Great Basin desert, which is part of the larger Sonoran Life Zone system that starts in Mexico and extends through the US to the South Okanagan Valley. This ecological make-up means that the area is known as an antelope-brush ecosystem and home to a wide variety of specially adapted flora and fauna that aren't found anywhere else in the world.

Agricultural land makes up a large percentage of the community. The favourable weather conditions and soil are very conducive to growing many tree-fruits, vineyards and ground-crop vegetables, with many farmers adopting organic practices. Okanagan produce is known throughout Canada, particularly cherries, apricots, peaches, apples, tomatoes, peppers, and cantaloupes. 56% of the wine grapes grown in BC can be found in the area between Osoyoos and neighbouring Oliver.

While referred to by many as "Canada's hot spot", summers occasionally reach a high of 40 degrees Celsius with little to no humidity. Winter temperatures rarely dip below zero for an extended period of time. Like most deserts Osoyoos has a dry climate because rainfall is less than 12 inches total per year.



History & Culture

Pronounced "oh-sue-use," the name Osoyoos comes from the Okanagan First Nation word for "place where two lakes meet or come together". Home to the Osoyoos Indian Band, part of the Okanagan First Nation, for thousands of years, the region has a rich cultural heritage and plays a large role in today's economy through tourism, vineyards and a winery.

Osoyoos is set at the junction of two famous fur trade routes – The North-South Fur Brigade and the West Dewdney Trail. Not far away in Rock Creek, gold was discovered in 1859, which brought a rush of miners and homesteaders from the United States. Following the gold rush, came the establishment of ranchers who successfully built ranching empires in the late 1800's. Soon after this, the first commercial orchard was planted in 1907, and the agricultural roots of the region were born. Orchards and fruit production flourished and were complimented by the introduction of grape growth in the late 1960's.

We Specialize in **Service...** we Specialize in **You!**



Johnston Meier
Insurance Agencies Group

- Homeowners
- Condos
- Farms
- Liability
- Travel Medical
- Life
- Tenants
- Commercial
- Recreational Vehicles

Autoplan

101 - 8111 Main Street, Box 301, Osoyoos, BC V0H 1V0, (250) 495-2681 www.jmins.com
Fax: (250) 495-7920 Toll Free Tel: 1-888-443-9678 (in 250 area code only) email: ywosoyoos@persona.ca

- MINI GOLF
- GO KARTS
- BUMPER BOATS
- BUNGEE TREE
- TORNADO
- TUMBLE WHIRL
- ROCK CLIMBING WALL
- ICE CREAM PARLOUR

5502 MAIN STREET
250-495-3544
www.rattlesnakecanyon.ca

Business Advantages

Osoyoos is where leading edge technology and unique desert ecology meet. Concerned that your business needs may not be suitable for a rural lifestyle? Think again. Osoyoos has all of the modern utility and infrastructure amenities that you would need. When combined with a dynamic labour pool, quality infrastructure, and low overhead costs, Osoyoos' open door business support policy make it quick, easy, and less expensive to launch a new venture. The total costs of establishing and operating a business in Osoyoos are lower than many comparable communities in Canada or the United States. Investors can expect access to one of the lowest electric utility rates in North America, affordable housing prices, competitive property tax rates, and reasonable labour costs.

Advantageously located at one of the busiest Canada/US Border crossings and at the junction of two major transportation routes - Highway 97 and the Crowsnest Highway 3, Osoyoos is naturally poised as an economic hub for the South Okanagan region and as a gateway for traffic entering Canada or leaving for the US. 5 hours from the port of Vancouver, and 1 or 2 hours from airports in Penticton and Kelowna, Osoyoos is strategically and internationally connected by land, air and sea.




Employment Opportunities

Many qualified and highly skilled individuals have chosen the Osoyoos area as their home for a number of reasons. As a business, recruiting and attracting talent to your organization or industry won't be a hurdle to your economic success, but a secret ingredient.

Osoyoos is home to an active business community, including many independent operators who bring a rich diversity to the local economy. Built upon the wealth of our natural environment and the community's strategic location, opportunities exist in many of our traditional industries, as well as emerging ones. Primary sectors include: value added wood, agricultural products and food & beverage processing, tourism infrastructure and retail amenities, logistics and warehousing, and advanced manufacturing opportunities like aerospace and biotechnology. In addition, the diversity of the local economy lends itself well to professionals in a variety of fields. Whether it's health care services or financial expertise, Osoyoos welcomes a wide array of skills and qualifications to our labour force!






OSOYOOS
DESERT MODEL RAILROAD
OPEN YEAR ROUND

11611 - 115th St. Osoyoos
Buena Vista Industrial Park

Mon.-Sat. 10 am - 5 pm
(Closed Sundays)

www.OsoyoosRailroad.com



Full Service Pharmacy to meet all your needs: Pharmasave Osoyoos

Everything you may need:

- Prescription Filling
- Certified Diabetes Educator on Staff
- Blister Packaging
- Home Healthcare & Scooters
- Greeting Cards & Gifts
- Specialty Bath & Cosmetics
- Ostomy Care & Supplies
- First Aid & Wound Care

LIVE WELL WITH

PHARMASAVE®

8301 C - 78 Ave. 250.495.7424
Open 7 Days a Week

Quality of Life

Osoyoos shines in the summer. Whether it's the dew on the orchards in the early morning or the sun setting over the rolling sagebrush covered hills, an Osoyoos summer offers a one of a kind experience. With so much to do, it's no wonder that visitors return year after year. Just a sampling of Osoyoos summer activities includes swimming in Canada's warmest lake, golfing on one of the award-winning local courses, biking orchard and vineyard lined trails, horseback riding in the desert, Aboriginal cultural tourism activities, foraging for orchard fruit, wine touring, hiking, canoeing and kayaking on the lake, parasailing, and volleyball on the beach.

Expect to experience a different kind of winter. A winter where the snow barely dusts the ground in the valley and golf is almost a year-round pastime. Picture a place where you can start the morning skiing one of the Okanagan Valley's highest peaks and end it sipping local wine poolside in the afternoon. Nearby Mt. Baldy Ski Area sees high snowfalls annually, allowing for four months of all terrain winter sports. The expansion of Mount Baldy Ski Area (45 minutes north of Osoyoos) signifies a shift in focus for the region from a 'fun in the sun' destination, to a multi-faceted four-season resort area. From ice-wine, skis and snowball fights to indigenous spa treatments, gourmet meals and cultural tours... Let Osoyoos become not only your home address but your way of life.

Services and Amenities

Osoyoos is served by a full array of locally-based emergency services like fire, ambulance, and police. The South Okanagan General Hospital in next door Oliver, BC services the Osoyoos area with full outpatient and emergency hospital services. The Osoyoos Medical Centre, the Desert Doctors Clinic, two community care facilities, four dental offices, two eye clinics and the Provincial Public Health Unit also provide for the community's health needs.

School District #53 operates one elementary school and one secondary school in the community. In addition, day care services and a private school are available to facilitate your child's education needs. The community's close proximity to Okanagan College – Penticton Campus, UBC – Okanagan in Kelowna, and the Okanagan Similkameen Learning Centre mean that post-secondary and adult education programs are easily accessible.

Recreational and cultural amenities are abound in Osoyoos. Through public facilities like the Sun Bowl Arena, the Desert Park Equestrian and Recreational Complex, and the Sonora Community Centre, you can be assured that your participation in active pursuits will be year-round. In addition to the beaches that surround Osoyoos Lake, natural local attractions like Haynes Point Provincial Park, local parks and picnic grounds, and an integrated system of walking trails provide opportunities for outdoor recreation. Miles of local orchards and wineries ensure a wide variety of locally grown fruit and awarding winning wines are never far from hand. With over 40 estate wineries in a thirty-kilometre radius, the choice, quality and selection produces some of the finest wines in North America.

The Osoyoos Museum, the Osoyoos Mini Theatre, the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, the Osoyoos Desert Centre, and the Osoyoos & District Arts Council fulfill any culture-seeker's needs. As a resort municipality, Osoyoos has plenty of local attractions to take in.



All the heavy-duty tools and equipment are here. Industrial quality items at budget rates.



6015 Lakeshore Drive, Osoyoos, 495-3991
101-1875 Government St., Penticton, 492-7551
TOLL FREE: 1-888-509-7551 www.westminsterequipment.com

SOUTH OKANAGAN CONCRETE PRODUCTS LTD.

READY MIX CONCRETE PRECAST CONCRETE AGGREGATES

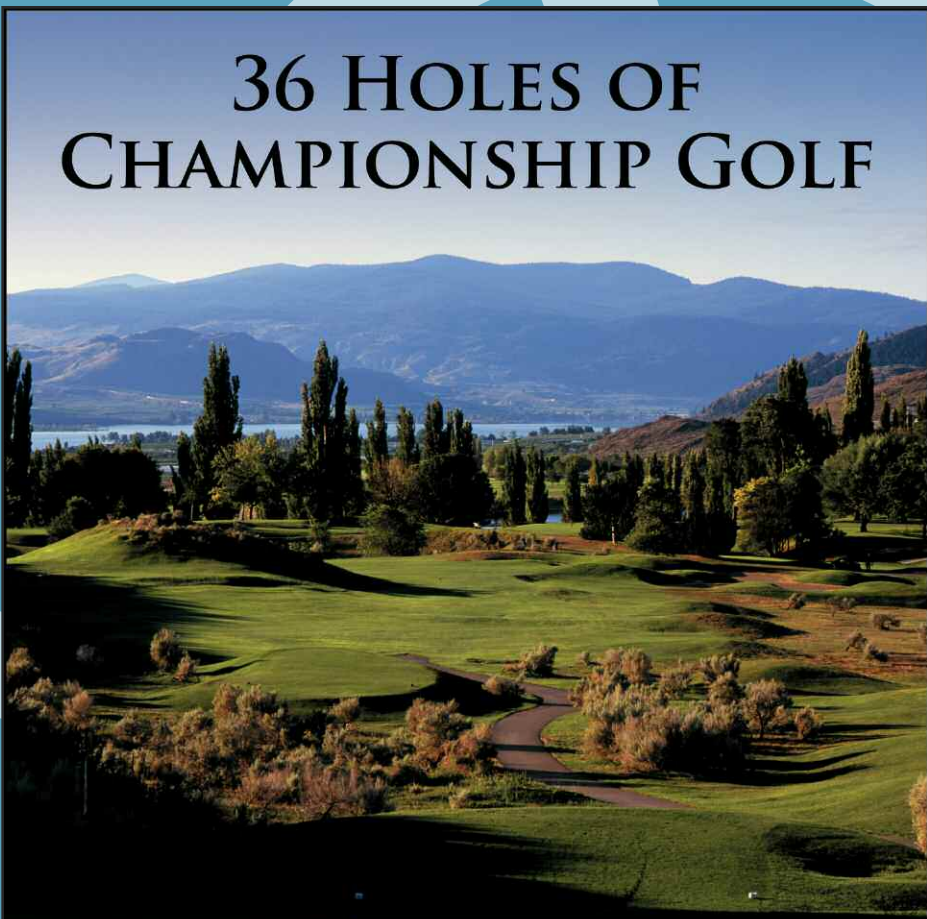


TEL: 250.495.7556 FAX: 250.495.3556
TOLL FREE: 800-663-4255 SOCP@SOUTHOKANAGANCONCRETE.COM
11602-115 STREET, BUENA VISTA IND. PARK, Box 419, OSOYOOS, BC, V0H 1V0

Osoyoos Fast Facts

Osoyoos and area boasts some pretty unique statistics that make the area distinct from any other. Whether you're looking to locate a business or just in town for a visit, here are some surprising facts about Osoyoos:

- Area population: 6,720
- Elevation: 227m (909ft)
- Home to Canada's only desert environment
- Home to Canada's warmest fresh-water lake - Osoyoos Lake
- Home to some of the warmest average temperatures in Canada - average summertime temperature is 28°C (82.4°F) and the average winter temperature is 1.3°C (34.3°F)
- Home to an average of 2039 hours of sunshine annually and an average annual rainfall of less than 318 mm (12 inches)
- Home to North America's first aboriginal owned and operated winery - Nk'Mip Cellars
- The fastest growing community in BC as measured by annual per capita construction values



OSOYOOS
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

DESERT GOLD — COURSE — Park Meadows — COURSE —

36 HOLES OF CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF

Call to book your tee time today for one of our two spectacular 18 hole courses in the heart of Okanagan wine country.

- Desert Gold Course, Par 71, 6500 yds
- Park Meadows Course, Par 72, 6359 yds
- Full Service Clubhouse
- Valley View Patio
- Fully Stocked Shop
- Driving Range
- Practice Facilities
- Greenside Grill

Guests and visitors *always* welcome!

Memberships Available

250-495-7003 • 800-481-6665

12300 Golf Course Drive, Osoyoos, British Columbia

www.golfosoyoos.com