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SOUTH OKANAGAN RELOCATION GUIDE

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An area of exceptional beauty and diverse terrain, the Okanagan Valley is positioned in the South Central area of BC. Tucked into the southernmost corner of this valley lies Canada's only true desert. This extraordinary habitat referred to as a shrub-steppe semi-desert is one of the rarest, most endangered and fragile ecosystems in Canada supporting numerous species that occur nowhere else on earth.

The Okanagan Valley was created by the retreat of massive glaciers approximately 10,000 years ago which left large deposits of gravel, silt, clay and sand behind on the bottom and sides of the valley floor. A series of lakes connected by a meandering bow river amid terraced and arid, rocky hillsides was the final result of this creative work of nature's forces. The divergent terrain has created unique microclimates and soil types in the various pockets, thus enabling agricultural pursuits such as tree fruits, vineyards, vegetables and cattle production. Immaculate rows of fruit trees and grapevines decorate the terraces and gently rolling hills, and a variety of heat-loving vegetables grow on the fertile valley floor. The small communities in the South Okanagan offer a full spectrum of amenities along with cultural choices and recreation facilities.

The area has an ongoing variety of outdoor recreation such as miles of hiking, cycling and horseback riding trails along with rock climbing, boating, parasailing, swimming, fishing hunting, wildlife watching, skiing and golfing. The South Okanagan boasts several championship golf courses, all with magnificent settings.

The expanse of shimmering blue water and abundant beaches has helped transform this valley into Canada's summer playground.

The strength of the South Okanagan is built upon the land, climate and its people who have sown the seeds for a strong and diversified economy. The area's agricultural base is varied and represents the roots of the economy. The wine industry produces internationally recognized wines from local estate wineries. The South Okanagan boasts the greatest concentration of vineyards in Canada.

Businesses and entrepreneurs find a favourable business culture here. Enthusiastic cooperation and support from community leaders and the business community underline the South Okanagan's community's commitment to growth and economic diversification.

The overall quality of life is enhanced by one of the most attractive climates in Canada, with low levels of precipitation, high average temperatures, comfortable humidity & short winters.

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH OKANAGAN



Credit: Darren Robinson
- Oliver Tourism Association



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The South Okanagan is one of the best places in the country to call home. Find out why...

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This Relocation Guide is published by

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PO Box 1753, Oliver BC, V0H 1T0
info@mundaymedia.com | 778-439-2321
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06-24

OSOYOOS COMMUNITY PROFILE

Credit: Destination Osoyoos



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OLIVER COMMUNITY PROFILE

Credit: Asymetriq Productions - Oliver Tourism Association



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OKANAGAN FALLS COMMUNITY PROFILE

RESOURCES:

Town Of Osoyoos:

8707 Main St. Osoyoos | 250-495-6515

info@osoyoos.ca

www.osoyoos.ca

Destination Osoyoos:

Osoyoos Visitor Centre - 9912 BC 3, Osoyoos

250-495-5070

visit@destinationosoyoos.com

www.destinationosoyoos.com

Town of Oliver:

6150 Main St. Oliver | 250-485-6200

admin@oliver.ca

www.oliver.ca

Oliver Tourism Association:

Oliver Visitor Centre - 6431 Station St. Oliver

844-896-3300

info@winecapitalofcanada.com

www.winecapitalofcanada.com

South Okanagan Chamber of Commerce:

PO Box 1414 Oliver BC, VOH 1T0

866-498-6321

manager@sochamber.ca

www.sochamber.ca

South Okanagan General Hospital:

911 McKinney Rd. Oliver

250-498-5000

www.interiorhealth.ca

Okanagan Falls

Area D Community Services Office:

1-5350 9th Ave (Hwy 97) Okanagan Falls

778-515-5520

engagement@rdos.bc.ca

info@rdos.bc.ca

www.rdos.bc.ca

www.okfalls.ca

Okanagan Falls Visitor Centre:

Unit 2 5350 9th Ave. Okanagan Falls

250-497-6260

okanaganfallstourism@shaw.ca

www.visitokfalls.com

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Osoyoos Lake and its beaches are a huge draw for the community. Combined with the desert heat the lake has been a draw for summer vacationers for decades.

If you are considering a lifestyle change . . . for a day . . . for a week . . . for a season . . . or for a lifetime; Osoyoos in the southernmost portion of the Okanagan Valley. It has the charm of a beach town but the sophistication of a larger centre and has been recognized from the beginning of human occupation as an ideal place to build a community... and a future.

CONSIDER OUR LOCATION At the junction of two major highways, adjacent to the US border and a scenic 4.5 hour drive from Vancouver, Osoyoos is a vibrant community with an area population of 6,500. On the shores of Lake Osoyoos in the fertile Okanagan Valley, our location defines our lifestyle.

CONSIDER OUR LIFESTYLE Unique desert ecology, choices of alpine, lakeside, rural or town living, spectac-

OSOYOOS COMMUNITY PROFILE

ular weather, abundant fresh fruit, and vegetables provide the solid framework for building a life and a lifestyle in Desert Wine Country's sweet spot. And now a burgeoning wine industry with an international reputation for quality has gained centre stage. Your new lifestyle is also supported by arts and cultural facilities, that include two art galleries, museum, library and community theatre. You'll also live an active, good life with a wide range of recreational facilities including ice skating, curling, equestrian facilities, several world-class golf courses and a ski area. For those who are used to multi-tasking, don't forget that you can golf and ski on the same day . . . in February!

CONSIDER OUR AMENITIES The best of both worlds is what lies in store for you in Osoyoos. Our charming town provides boutique-style shopping with unique products and personal service. In addition, our service shops such as grocery, pharmacy, jewelry, hardware, florists, clothing and furniture carry a wide selection for such a small community, but because we are located close to major centres in both B.C. and Washington State, Osoyoos is just a short drive to big box shopping, too. Excellent health-

care facilities range from a regional 24/7 hospital, medical clinics, dental surgeons and optometrists, home care and day care services. Our learning institutions range from kindergarten to high school level. And our community supports life long learning programs throughout the year.

CONSIDER OUR ECONOMY Osoyoos is a community with a progressive attitude toward economic development founded on growth and diversification. Our strategic location coupled with business and technology infrastructure all contribute to Osoyoos' long standing reputation for a stable and resilient economy. 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 United States.

Five hours from the port of Vancouver, less than one hour from the Penticton airport and two hours from Kelowna International Airport, Osoyoos is strategically and internationally connected by land, air and sea.

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 location, opportunities exist in many of our traditional industries as well as emerging ones.

These sectors include: value added wood, agriculture products, and food and beverage processing, tourism infrastructure and retail amenities, logistics and warehousing, and advanced manufacturing opportunities such as aerospace and biotechnology. In addition, the diversity of the local economy lends itself well to professionals in a variety of fields. Whether it be healthcare services or financial expertise, Osoyoos welcomes a wide variety of skills and qualifications to our labour force.

““ When combined with our labour pool, infrastructure and low overhead costs, Osoyoos' open door business support policy makes it quick, easy and less expensive to launch a new venture.

When combined with our labour pool, infrastructure and low overhead costs, Osoyoos' open door business support policy makes it quick, easy and less expensive to launch a new venture. The total cost of establishing and operating your business in Osoyoos is lower than many comparable communities in Canada or the United States. Investors can expect access to low electric utility rates, affordable housing prices, competitive property tax rates, and low labour costs. Although Osoyoos was founded on agriculture, diversity has been achieved through developments in tourism, technology and retirement living. Osoyoos is a rapidly developing four-season resort community that continues to see dramatic changes to its tourism base. Several tourism ventures position the Osoyoos area as a major resort destination in the Southern Interior of British Columbia.

CONSIDER OUR CLIMATE Osoyoos lies in the shadow of the Coastal Mountains at an elevation of 909 ft., creating a hot, sunny, dry climate. Canada's lowest annual precipitation and warmest annual temperatures can be found here.

Hours of Sunshine: 2039. Avg. January high, -0.1oC; Avg. July high, 35o C; Avg. Rainfall, 267.9 mm; Avg. Snowfall, 49.6 cm; Elevation, 297.2 m. Source: Environment Canada

CONSIDER OUR LAND Because of our low rainfall and very sandy soil, desert plants grow in our region. In this shrub-steppe semi-desert ecosystem, you will find prickly pear cactus, antelope brush and sage on land areas that are not regularly irrigated. Osoyoos is surrounded by hills blanketed in sage and pine forests; our valley sides and fertile bottom-lands are home to orchards that produce the earliest fruit in Canada and the greatest wines in the world. What better way to relax and enjoy the fruits of their labours

than by enjoying them on our sandy beaches. With every new visitor and each new resident, our community grows not just in numbers, but in spirit. We hope you will consider the possibilities. We hope you will consider what we can offer to you and what you can offer to us. Source: Destination Osoyoos & Town of Osoyoos; www.osoyoos.ca or www.destinationosoyoos.com.

INDUSTRY Osoyoos' ability to retain and attract new industry is unparalleled when combined with the labour pool, strategic location, infrastructure, and low overhead costs. Located at the junction of two major transportation routes, and on the US/Canada border, Osoyoos has an edge over many larger communities. Over the next few years, economic development in Osoyoos will be solely focused on diversifying the current economic offering to establish multifaceted, year-round economy for tourists, entrepreneurs, investors and residents alike. The main sectors being explored are:

TOURISM The South Okanagan Tourism Area generates about 350,000 visitors and an estimated \$59 million annually in direct visitor expenditures. The area's tourism products include wineries, agri-tourism activities, Indigenous culture, golf, winter and summer outdoor activities as well as festivals and events.

Osoyoos has been designated a resort community (one of only 14 in Canada) in accordance with the Province's Resort Municipality Revenue Sharing Program. This means the community will have additional resources available to develop tourism infrastructure. New wineries, recreational condominiums, hotel expansions and resort developments have created a positive business climate and more opportunities for market and product development for a four-season destination resort. Osoyoos, Oliver and the

WARM CLIMATE, WARM WELCOME



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With a relaxed vibe, extraordinary natural beauty and almost 300 days of sunshine each year, you're going to love living in Osoyoos! It might be our warm lake, lush vineyards, award winning wineries or championship golf courses that appeal to you but it's our quality of life that will move you. Come visit Osoyoos – pop some corks, hit some balls, pick some cherries.. find your home.

Osoyoos Indian Band have collaborated on a tourism strategy to map out destination, product, and marketing initiatives.

RETAIL Osoyoos is home to a strong specialty retail sector. As a resort municipality, Osoyoos experiences a significant influx of visitors, who frequent the local shops for unique products and exceptional customer service. Osoyoos has a growing population base and a high level of spending as measured on a per capita basis. As a result there is a strong local and regional market for retailers and the tourism industry provides a complimentary base to augment sales potential.

CONSTRUCTION Industrial infrastructure and construction projects are energizing the Okanagan outlook. The province's major projects inventory indicates that the Thompson Okanagan region hosts 110 major projects—those worth \$15 million or more—with an

aggregate value of \$22.8 billion. The correctional centre at the Osoyoos Indian Band Development Corporation's Senkulmen Enterprise Park in Oliver, hospital expansions from Kamloops to Penticton, and expansions at Okanagan College are all recent and ongoing projects.

In Osoyoos, many housing developments continue to move forward, including the Residences at Spirit Ridge, Richter Properties, and Lakeshore Drive Development. In particular, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen has outstripped other parts of the region with 130% growth in issuance between January and August, trumping the healthy 53% growth logged between 2011 and 2015.

LOGISTICS AND WAREHOUSING is becoming a key process innovation enabler across all business sectors and a strategic competitive advantage tool. Logistics activities are done in-house by users; including all manu-

facturers, wholesalers and retailers, and by specialized logistics firms. Osoyoos' strategic location lends itself well to attracting businesses that wish to locate in an area where distribution infrastructure will provide a competitive advantage.

AEROSPACE The Okanagan Valley is home to a growing, innovative, and diversified aerospace industry, serving aviation and defensive markets around the world. Osoyoos has partnered with communities across the Okanagan Valley to pursue opportunities in this innovative and dynamic industry. Recent development at the Osoyoos airport has strategically positioned the Osoyoos area to further develop aviation manufacturing and service related business activity.

FILM INDUSTRY The Osoyoos Film Industry is a new and exciting sector. Osoyoos has had the privilege and pleasure of providing scenic backdrops and leading location roles in a surprising number of film and television productions. Along with the Okanagan Film Commission, Osoyoos is seeking opportunities to welcome the film industry to the area as it recognizes the tremendous economic benefits it can bring. For more information on the filming opportunities in the Osoyoos area visit the Okanagan Film Commission website at www.okanaganfilm.com

Source: Town of Osoyoos. www.osoyoos.ca/content/industry-strengths



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

“ The Osoyoos area with its mild climate has been able to promote the earliest fruit in Canada, such as apples, pears, plums, sweet and sour cherries, peaches, apricots and grapes.

AGRICULTURE Early agricultural production in the Okanagan-Similkameen region was focused primarily on cattle ranching, as the local environment was well suited to cattle grazing and provided beef to expanding communities.

The development of the commercial orchard industry began when land speculators purchased parcels of ranch land and began subdividing them into orchard plots; the introduction of irrigation in the 1920s turned this semi-arid desert-scape into a premier fruit growing area.

The Osoyoos area with its mild climate has been able to promote the earliest fruit in Canada, such as apples, pears, plums, sweet and sour cherries, peaches, apricots and grapes.

Apples, grapes and 96% of BC's soft fruits are grown in the south-central Okanagan.

From 1986 to 2006 apple production remained the most dominant fruit crop in the Okanagan-Similkameen in

terms of area under production. There has however been a general shift away from many types of tree fruits in recent years, largely due to challenges with profitability. The early 1980s to 2006 saw a decrease of 4,500 hectares in tree fruit production. Sweet cherry production however increased substantially during this period.

As tree fruit production has been shrinking, acreage has been shifting into wine grapes.

Land in grape production has increased significantly since the mid-1980s and there are now over 4,000 hectares in production. The Okanagan-Similkameen accounted for 54% of all land in grape production in BC and over 14% of the total in Canada.

About 3% of the population in the Okanagan-Similkameen is involved in agricultural production.

There is a viable organic industry in the region with approximately 100 acres of fruit being grown. Organic

Are you an immigrant looking to settle in the South Okanagan?

We can help with:

- ▶ English Language Training
- ▶ Career Planning and Job Search
- ▶ Community Integration Support



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fruit is sold through independent sales agencies and primarily packed by the cooperative packinghouses.

The Okanagan as a whole contributes significantly to the organic production in the province across a range of crops including fruits, vegetables and greenhouse products. The Okanagan-Similkameen contains approximately 25% of the province's organic farms.

Many roadside outlets in the region supply the local and tourist trade with fresh direct to the customer sales of fruit and vegetables and many of the packinghouses have stores with seasonal fruit for sale. There is a growing agri-tourism industry with farm tours, markets and restaurants for the summer tourist market.

Although orchards and vineyards are a major feature of the landscape in the Okanagan Similkameen, vegetables, field crops, greenhouse production and livestock farming complete the Agricultural Overview of the area.

Source: BC Agriculture & Food Climate Action Initiative, BC Ministry of Agriculture; RDOS, 2016 Census

VITICULTURE The Okanagan Valley's unique combination of geography and climate make it an ideal environment for viticulture. It has attracted the attention of winemakers from France to South Africa and we are very proud to call this region home. Compared to many other growing regions around the world, British Columbia

is a viticultural paradise. With five individual VQA regions, each with unique climates and soils, viticultural practices vary widely in different areas. There are over 60 varieties planted in BC. Merlot & Pinot Gris remain the widest planted varieties in the province.

Wineries in the Osoyoos, Oliver, and Similkameen Valley employ thousands of workers each year, including growers, pickers, production, and retail-making this one of the largest industries in the South Okanagan area.

CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE DATA

Total Farmland Area.....	ha	81,438
Number of Farms.....	#	1,292
Average Farm Size.....	ha	63.0

FARMLAND USE

Crops.....	ha	10,071
Summerfallow.....	ha	92
Tame or Seeded Pasture.....	ha	2,248
Natural Land for Pasture.....	ha	63,422
All Other Land.....	ha	5,604

CROP AREA

Hay Crops.....	ha	4,137
Field Crops.....	ha	131
Fruits, Berries & Nuts.....	ha	5,484
Vegetables.....	ha	247
Nursery Products.....	ha	24
Greenhouse Flower Production.....	m2	14,386
Greenhouse Vegetable Production.....	m2	62,111


FARM ANIMALS NUMBER OF FARMS

Poultry	203	Sheep & Lambs	40
Cattle & Calves	121	Horses & Ponies	177
Dairy Cows	4	Goats	20
Beef Cows	87	Rabbits	5
Pigs	20	Bee Colonies	45

Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture (Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen 2016), Prepared by Ministry of Agriculture, Statistics and Research. Summer 2017.



Credit: Destination Osoyoos



**The
Anarchist
Mountain
viewpoint offers
one of the best
vantage points
to take in valley
views**

INDUSTRY (Statistics Canada 2016)

Total labour force pop. aged 15 years & over by occupation 1,730

All industries	1,715
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting.....	85
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	20
Utilities.....	0
Construction	170
Manufacturing.....	80
Wholesale trade.....	60
Retail trade.....	185
Transportation and warehousing.....	35
Information and cultural industries.....	30
Finance and insurance.....	60
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	40
Professional, scientific and technical services.....	75
Management of companies and enterprises	10
Admin & support, waste managment & remediation	65
Educational services.....	50
Health care and social assistance.....	180
Arts, entertainment and recreation.....	60
Accommodations and food services	340
Other services (except public administration)	115
Public administration	60

OCCUPATION (Statistics Canada 2016)

Total labour force pop. aged 15 years & over by occupation 1,730

All occupations	1,715
Management occupations.....	190
Business, finance & administration occupations	175
Natural and applied sciences & related occupations	60
Health occupations.....	100
Occupations in education, law/social, community & government services	105
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport.....	45
Sales and service occupations.....	620
Trades, transport, equip. operators & related.....	270
Natural resources, agric. & related.....	105
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities.....	55

LABOUR FORCE

Okanagan Similkameen % of workforce in years:
 15-24.....8%; 25-34.....17.4%; 35-44.....24.6%; 45-54.....28.5%
 55-64.....19.1%; over 65.....2.1%

Employers in the Okanagan-Similkameen are projecting a high aggressive growth rate of 22% (employment demand) between the years 2014 & 2020.

Unemployment Rate - Osoyoos: 6.6%, Okanagan-Similkameen: 8.4%

Source: Stats Canada-Census Profile Osoyoos 2016



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

The Town of Osoyoos was incorporated in 1946. By highway the town is 46 km southeast of Keremeos, 52 km south of Penticton and 51 km west of Midway. Rural Osoyoos is in the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District. Electoral 'A', 101 Martin St. Penticton, B.C. V2A 5J9. Tel: (250) 492-0237. Osoyoos Population - 6,737

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT The Town of Osoyoos is a municipality with a Mayor, four councillors and two water councillors elected for four year terms. The supervision of all Town functions is the responsibility of the Chief Ad-

ministrative Officer.
Town of Osoyoos:
PO Box 3010, 8707 Main St., Osoyoos,
B.C.V0H 1V0
email: info@osoyoos.ca,
(250) 495-6515,
(888) 495-6515,
www.osoyoos.ca

FIRE DEPARTMENT The Town of Osoyoos and Osoyoos Rural Fire Protection District is served by a volunteer "on call" fire department of 30 trained members. A full range of fire protection services is provided by the Department.

The Firehall is located at 9901 74th

Avenue. Incidents are dispatched through a regional 911 system. For non-emergencies call the Town Hall at (250) 495-6515.

AMBULANCE AND POLICE Osoyoos is served by the British Columbia Ambulance Service, located at 14 Eagle Court. The ambulance service provides 24 hour coverage. In case of an emergency, dial 911. For non-emergencies call (250) 495-2147. The RCMP are located in Osoyoos, at 16 Eagle Court. For information on Crime Prevention programs, contact the RCMP.

TRANSPORTATION South Okanagan Transit: South Okanagan Transit provides door-to-door return service to Kelowna (Monday only), Summerland, Penticton, Okanagan Falls, Oliver and Osoyoos for Senior Residents with disabilities.

BC Transit offers bus service for the general public from Osoyoos to Oliver Hospital, Penticton Cherry Lane, Kelowna Airport, and

Kelowna Orchard Park (Kelowna service is Monday only. BCTransit.com

Air Services: General Aviation Airports include Osoyoos Airport and Oliver Municipal airport.

Penticton Regional Airport is a short 45 min. drive north to Penticton.

WestJet and Air Canada offer daily flights to Vancouver and Calgary.

EDUCATION School District #53 operates Osoyoos, Oliver, OK Falls, Keremeos Cawston and Hedley schools within their coverage area, and serves (approx) 2500 students. 6161 Okanagan St., Box 1770, Oliver, B.C. VOH 1T0; (250) 498 3481; www.sd53bc.ca

Osoyoos Elementary: 8507-68th Ave. (250) 495-7248; www.ose.sd53.bc.ca
 Osoyoos Elementary (K-7) provides a strong educational program with specific focus on Literacy, Numeracy, and Social Emotional Learning. While empowering children to build positive relationships, to celebrate diversity and to take ownership for their learning, the staff also nurture the development of resiliency, self-regulation, and social skills. Some programs and strategies we use include: the Heart-Mind Well-Being, MindUP, Roots of Empathy, and through strong community and Indigenous connections. Please visit the school website to read the Student Achievement Plan and to find



out more information about Osoyoos Elementary School.

Osoyoos Secondary: Osoyoos Secondary: 5800 -115th St. (250) 485-4433; www.oss.sd53.bc.ca. OSS is a rural Gr. 8-12 school with a three building campus overlooking Osoyoos Lake. The staff takes pride in being able to offer the students quality academics while remaining a close-knit school community. The school also offers a wide range of elective options including automotive, robotics, musical theatre, information technology, and X-Blocks

in a flexible schedule. Over half of the students are involved in athletics and all of the students have the opportunity to be involved in fine arts including drama and band as well as leadership, student parliament, yearbook, golf and hockey skills academy. Osoyoos Secondary has a dedicated team of 14 teaching staff, 2 administrators, 2 clerical support staff, 8 education assistants, 2 custodians, 2 counsellors, and 1 Indigenous Education Advocate. The school community works hard to create a partnership with parents and community members to provide



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a quality, well-rounded education to approximately 210 students. Osoyoos Secondary School has a high graduation rate, many with honours.

The Osoyoos Child Care Centre functions as a nursery school for preschoolers and a daycare centre. Located on 89th Street beside the Elementary School, the OCCC offers 3 programs to meet the needs of childcare and early education in the community.

YouLearn.ca is School District 53's distributed learning school. The school offers educational programming from kindergarten to adult for students, and families, who desire a self-paced, flexible educational experience. As a recognized public school, students can take all of their education through YouLearn to graduate. Students can access the program at the learning centres located in Oliver, Osoyoos and Keremeos or online anytime through the website at youlearn.ca.

Okanagan College-Penticton Campus and the education centres in Summerland and Oliver have established a leading reputation for providing quality education and training for the wine and hospitality industries. Unique to this region are their Signature Programs, which include: Winery Assistant Certificate, Viticulture Certificate, Wine Sales Certificate, and Career Facilitator.

If oenology (wine making) and viticulture (grape growing) are to your taste you can begin your studies here and transfer directly to Brock University to obtain a degree, or take any of the three certificate programs as well as a number of specialized courses that serve the needs of the vineyard, winery and hospitality related businesses. Other certificate programs offered include: Interior Decorating, Introduc-

Sun Valley DENTAL CENTRE

Dr. Jason Bartsch, DMD
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HEALTH SERVICES The South Okanagan General Hospital in Oliver, B.C. (20 min.) services the Osoyoos area. Acute care beds, intermediate care beds, outpatient, surgery, emergency, x-ray, and physiotherapy services are all available. Two doctors clinics, two community care facilities, two dental offices, one eye clinic and the Osoyoos Health Centre also provide the community's health needs. There are 14 physicians in Osoyoos. Interior Health Authority: www.interiorhealth.ca

“ In the South Okanagan is an extraordinary habitat popularly referred to as Canada's pocket desert. This dry, shrub-grassland is one of Canada's most fragile and endangered ecosystems.

Credit: Destination Osoyoos

NEWSPAPERS:

Osoyoos Times.....Weekly.....250-495-7225
 Oliver Chronicle.....Weekly.....250-498-3711
 Penticton Herald.....Daily.....250-492-4002
 Desert Connection.....Bi-monthly.....250-495-7225
 Osoyoos Today www.osoyoostoday.ca
 Oliver Daily News www.oliverdailynews.com

RADIO:

CJOR-Osoyoos; CIRO- Osoyoos; 100.7 Country Station; CKOR- Penticton; CJMG- Penticton; CIGV-Penticton; CBC- Sun FM Penticton; EZ Rock

TELEVISION:

CHBC- Kelowna; BCTV- Vancouver. Global Okanagan, Global BC, CTV, CBC. Eastlink and Telus are the local cable suppliers in Osoyoos.

UTILITIES:

Fortis Inc. supplies electricity and gas in the area.
 Electricity.....866-436-7847 / www.fortisbc.com
 Gas.....888-224-2710 / www.fortisbc.com
 Telus.....888-811-2323 / www.telus.com
 Eastlink.....888-345-1111 / www.eastlink.ca



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

TOP EMPLOYERS - OSOYOOS

Top 10 Employers - Full Time

	FT	PT	Total
1. Mariposa.....	63	62	125
2. School District #53.....	61	1	62
3. Town of Osoyoos.....	34	13	47
4. Watermark.....	19	81	100
5. Osoyoos Credit Union.....	19	6	25
6. Osoyoos Home Hardware.....	19	5	24
7. Buy-Low.....	18	49	67
8. Smitty's.....	14	26	40
9. Shoppers.....	13	16	29
10. Pharmasave.....	12	9	21
11. AG Foods.....	11	23	34
12. SIR.....	9	6	15
13. Walnut Beach Resort.....	7	58	65
14. Osoyoos Golf Club.....	6	54	60
15. McDonald's.....	6	18	24

Top 10 Employers - Seasonal

	FT	PT	Total
1. Watermark.....	19	81	100
2. Mariposa.....	63	62	125
3. Walnut Beach Resort.....	7	58	65
4. Osoyoos Golf Club.....	6	54	60
5. Buy-Low.....	18	49	67
6. Ok. Tree Fruit Co-op.....	10	42	52
7. Smitty's.....	14	26	40
8. Family Foods.....	11	23	34
9. McDonald's.....	6	18	24
10. Shoppers.....	13	16	29
11. Town of Osoyoos.....	34	13	47
12. South Ok. Concrete.....	2	11	13
13. Pharmasave.....	12	9	21
14. Osoyoos Credit Union.....	19	6	25
15. SIR.....	9	6	15
16. Osoyoos Home Hardware.....	19	5	24
17. School District #53.....	61	1	62

Source: Destination Osoyoos 2018



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 Fax (250) 495-7920

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 Fax (250) 498-3410



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HOUSING Choosing to relocate to Osoyoos was simple, but choosing a home to buy is a little more challenging. The area has so much to offer, from a condo, an apartment or a bungalow in the district close to all amenities or a home on the upper benches with views of the city and lake. Perhaps your dream is a luxurious lakeshore home or one close to the golf course. Several new developments in the Osoyoos area are in the planning stages or nearing completion; whatever you choose you will get your share of all the sunshine and excitement that life offers in Osoyoos.

REAL ESTATE SALES 2018 - OSOYOOS AREA

Property Type	Sales	# of Sales	# New Listings	Avg Sale Price	Days to Sell	
Residential:						
Bare Land Strata	\$3,933,000	10	15	\$393,300	95	
Duplex	\$1,966,980	3	8	\$655,660	129	2018 Taxes and Charges on a representative house in Osoyoos
Mobile w/ land	\$0	0	0	\$0	0	
Triplex/Fourplex	\$0	0	0	\$0	0	
Single Family	\$42,325,100	74	183	\$571,961	95	Value: \$409,677
Condo (apt)	\$19,395,100	73	156	\$265,686	103	Taxes: \$2,160.47
Condo (twm-hse)	\$19,090,900	42	64	\$454,545	89	Source: Town of Osoyoos
Farms:						
Acreage	\$10,622,000	11	27	\$965,636	190	
Acr (wtrfrnt) Lots	\$8,085,325	36	84	\$224,592	179	Source: South Okanagan Real Estate Board, South Okanagan Real Estate Sales
Lots	\$1,860,000	2	8	\$930,000	112	
Lots (wtrfrnt)	\$3,214,175	18	40	\$178,565	169	2018. www.soreb.org
Lots (wtrfrnt)	\$875,000	1	9	\$875,000	85	
Business/Commercial	\$8,193,000	10	43	\$819,300	280	

HOUSEHOLD TOTAL INCOME IN 2016 OF PRIVATE HSHLDS - OSOYOOS 2175

Median household total income (\$)	50,603
Average household total income (\$)	61,590
One-person private households	805
Median household total income (\$)	27,952
Average household total income (\$)	38,929
Two-or-more-persons private households	1,370
Median household total income (\$)	65,573
Average household total income (\$)	74,390

Source: Statistics Canada 2016 - New Census Update - 2021

HOUSEHOLD TOTAL INCOME OF PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS - OSOYOOS

\$10,000 - \$19,999	875
\$20,000 - \$29,999	775
\$30,000 - \$39,999	545
\$40,000 - \$49,999	395
\$50,000 - \$59,999	250
\$60,000 - \$89,999	220
\$90,000 and over	170

Source: Statistics Canada 2016 - New Census Update - 2021

BUY-LOW FOODS

In Store Bakery & Deli
Quality Produce
Fresh Meat Cut In-House

Service with a Smile
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RECREATIONAL FACILITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

SUN BOWL ARENA The Sun Bowl Arena is a full service facility with an 85 ft. by 200 ft. NHL regulation size ice sheet, four dressing rooms, officials room, and full service concession. The arena seats approx. 850 people. It is home to the Osoyoos Coyote Hockey Team, the Sun Bowl Skating Club, South Okanagan Minor Hockey, skating and other special events. The International Curling Club has an excellent four sheet ice curling arena next to the Sun Bowl Arena with a mezzanine connecting the two buildings. (250) 495-6562

DESERT PARK Adult Slo-Pitch League and Osoyoos Minor Baseball use field during baseball season: April-June. Race track and horse stables are leased by the Desert Park Exhibition Society (250) 495-7919.

THE SONORA COMMUNITY CENTRE The facility currently contains a large multi-purpose gymnasium with stage, a full service weight room, bleacher seating, and change rooms. The gymnasium can accommodate 335 people for a wine and cheese-style reception, 320 seats for a theatre-style event and 340 for a banquet. In addition to those numbers, 70 additional people can sit in the bleacher section. The centre also contains multi-purpose

rooms, craft room, dance studio and a commercial kitchen as well as the Town of Osoyoos' Community Services Department offices. Open Mon - Fri 8:30am-9pm and Saturday 9am-5pm. (250) 495-6562. 8505 - 68th Avenue.

WEST BENCH COMPLEX A recreation complex located beside Osoyoos Secondary School. It features two baseball diamonds, three hard court tennis courts, three hard court pickle ball courts, and an off-leash dog park. (250) 495-6562.

BASEBALL Softball and regular baseball are played during the baseball season that begins the last week of April and finishes up the first week of June. Contact Osoyoos Minor Baseball Association, www.osoyoosbaseball.com

BOWLING Kobau Lanes offers bowling for the whole family. Contact (250) 495-6112

CURLING The International Curling Club offers many different leagues, from Juniors, to Men's and Ladies Night, to Mixed leagues during winter. The Mid-Summer Mixed Classic is held in late August. (9301 A Hummingbird Lane) (250) 495-7733.

ICE SKATING Ice skating at the Sunbowl includes several programs such as Figure Skating - (Sunbowl

Skating Club); Youngblades - For the beginner; Hockeyskate - For the young hockey player; Canskate - Basic learn-to-skate program; Groupskate - For those interested in the Test Program but in a group setting; CFSA Test Program - A program for competition skating. (250) 495-7612.

LAWN BOWLING The Osoyoos Lawn Bowling Club welcomes guests to their facility. Monday and Friday at 6:30pm. (250) 495-3229

SOCCER Pinnacles FC, www.pinnaclesfc.com

TENNIS/PICKLEBALL Three large tennis courts and three pickle ball courts are located at West Bench Complex beside Osoyoos Secondary School. Splash Park Located at Jack Shaw Gardens. 89th Street and King Fisher. Open 10am - 8pm, May - September.

DOG FRIENDLY PARKS Dogs are welcome year round in most Osoyoos Parks provided they're under control and on a leash. Osoyoos offers four swimming areas along with one off-leash Dog Park.

OFF-LEASH DOG PARK - Located at the West Bench Complex next to Osoyoos Secondary School, the off-leash dog park is a fully enclosed former ball diamond where dogs of

“Improving lives one activity at a time.”

all sizes can enjoy running free of a leash. The Off-Leash Dog Park is connected to the Irrigation Canal Trail. Parking is available on-site.

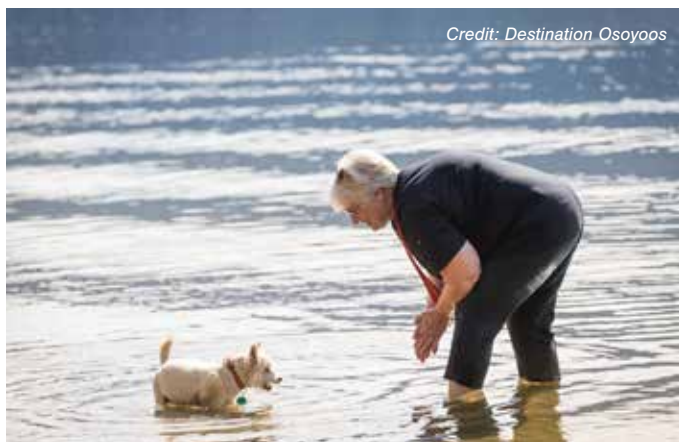
GOODMAN PARK DOG SWIMMING AREA - The Goodman Park dog swimming area is located along Lakeshore Drive at Bayview Crescent and Lake Osoyoos. Benches, picnic tables, and full-service washrooms are located on site. This is the perfect place to stop for a swim when taking your dog for a walk along Lakeshore Walkway!

GYRO PARK DOG SWIMMING AREA - Tucked behind the Osoyoos Museum, you and your dog will love this secluded swimming area in Gyro Park. Please note that dogs are not permitted anywhere else (with the exception of the walkway) in Gyro Park from June through August. Parking and washrooms are available on-site.

LEGION BEACH DOG SWIMMING AREA - located on Kingfisher Drive offers a nice sandy beach and is centrally located to the down town area. A designated area is provided on the east side of the beach for your dog to cool off.

LIONS PARK DOG SWIMMING AREA - The north end of Lions Park features a dog swimming area. Enjoy some shade as your dog enjoys a swim. Parking and washrooms are available on-site. Please contain your dog to the north end of the park June through August.

SWIWS PROVINCIAL PARK (HAYNES POINT) - Haynes Point Provincial Park features a dog swimming area east of the day-use area. Parking and washrooms are available. www.osoyoos.ca

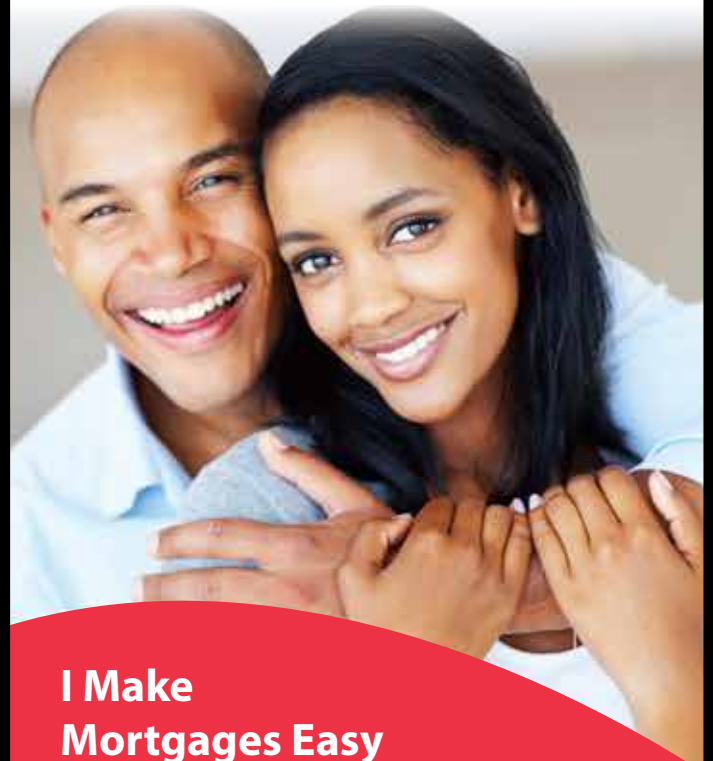


Credit: Destination Osoyoos



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CULTURAL FACILITIES

THE OSOYOOS COMMUNITY THEATRE, located at the Osoyoos Secondary School, seats 286 people. The theatre's location allows the school's drama club full access providing students with professional facilities. The theatre is also used by the Osoyoos Concert Series which contracts with national and international performers. osoyoosarts.com

OSOYOOS DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL has served the community for about 30 years and successfully promotes the artists, musicians and writers of the South Okanagan under its umbrella.

The Arts Council works to increase and broaden the opportunities for the Osoyoos and area residents to enjoy and participate in cultural activities. The Arts Council also co-ordinates the work and programs of artists and cultural associations by maintaining the Arts Centre.

Art Gallery Osoyoos and the Osoyoos Concert Series function as committees of the Art Council. Groups under the Arts Council umbrella include Art Gallery Osoyoos, The Osoyoos Potters, O's Own Writers, the Osoyoos Photography Club, the Osoyoos Wood Carvers, The Osoyoos Quilters Guild, Osoyoos Concert Series, the South Okanagan Amateur Players, the South Okanagan Concert Series, Janet Marcotte Music Studio, Osoyoos Music in the Park, and



Artists on Main.

The Arts Council organizes events to celebrate BC Arts & Culture week during the third week of April every spring. Art Gallery Osoyoos is home to a variety of local art exhibits and is open year round, located at 89th and Main Street. Please call or visit the Arts Council website for more information and a schedule of upcoming events. www.osoyoosarts.com

Source: Osoyoos District & Arts Council

THE OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY, Osoyoos branch, provides library service to Osoyoos and area. A state of the art computer network connects all 32 branches of the regional library. Located at the Sonora Community Centre, 8505 - 68th Ave. (250) 495-7637

THE OSOYOOS SENIORS CENTRE has a full calendar of activities and events including line dancing, various card games, carpet bowling, ping pong, bingo, exercise classes, wellness seminars, computer classes, concerts and dances. The main lounge has a lending library, a main hall with stage and kitchen, a pool room and an office. Snowbirds are welcome! 17 Park Place, Osoyoos. (250) 495-6921

OSOYOOS HISTORY The name Osoyoos is derived from the Syilx (Okanagan Indian) word soo-yoos, referring to the narrows formed by two land spits across the lake. Aboriginal people have lived here for thousands of years, as evidenced by rock art and an oral tradition explaining their history before Europeans arrived to the valley in 1811.

The first Europeans to Osoyoos were fur traders working for the Pacific Fur Company. After the Hudson's Bay Company took over the fur trade in 1821, the Okanagan Valley became a major trade route for supplies to inland forts of British Columbia. The final H.B.C. brigade in 1860 was the end of an era, as gold rushes transformed the economy of the new colony of British Columbia. Thousands of miners heading to the goldfields and drovers with large herds of livestock crossed the 49th parallel after 1858. John Carmichael Haynes was the first pioneer settler who obtained land along the Okanagan River north of Osoyoos that had been part of the Joint Indian Reserve Commission Osoyoos Indian Reserve in 1877.

In 1907 the first commercial orchard in the area was established, growing cherries, apricots, peaches, plums, and apples. Osoyoos Orchard Limited was formed in 1920 and an irrigation project was planned which finally brought water to the west bench via "The Ditch" in 1927. The former shrub-steppe environment was transformed into a lush agricultural belt. It was not until the 1960s that grape-growing became established on a large scale. Today, vineyards are a major feature of the landscape. Source: Osoyoos.ca/history

Take a peek into our history at the Osoyoos Museum which is open daily July through September. Featured are pictures detailing local history, a furnished pioneer cabin, mining displays, and Indian artifacts.



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

WALKING TRAILS AROUND OSOYOOS Pioneer Walkway skirts Osoyoos Lake along Main Street's motel strip. It is an easy stroll and fully accessible with parking nearby. Lovely gardens, picnic tables and benches add enjoyment to the outing. Be sure to spend some time at Veterans Park where you'll find an amazing desertscape garden.

There is also a 1.3 km hard surface walking trail that connects Gyro Beach with Lions Park along the lakeshore.

Cottonwood Park is along the beach on the way to NK'MIP Desert Centre. Beautiful gardens change with the seasons. This is a short stroll with benches, picnic tables and public washrooms.

Running parallel to Main Street as well is Lakeshore Drive Pathway. This is a 2.4 km walk or bike route for those visiting Osoyoos and staying in the RV campgrounds or motels along Lakeshore Drive.

Haynes Point Wetlands Trail within the Provincial Park is an easy 1.5 km gravel trail designed for bird watchers and other nature lovers.

The NK'MIP Desert Cultural Centre provides self guided interpretive gravel trails that wind through 20 ha(50ac) of an endangered antelope brush ecosystem. The centre is conducting research on the endangered western rattlesnake, which may be encountered along the trail. Visitors can relax on benches or under armadas and enjoy the spectacular views of Osoyoos Lake.

The Osoyoos Desert Centre just north of Osoyoos offers both guided and self guided tours. Here you will learn how plants and animals adapt and even thrive in the arid desert like conditions. The trail is a 1.5 km boardwalk that protects delicate plants.

PARKS AND BEACHES are abundant in Osoyoos area. Many feature playground equipment, playing fields, public washrooms, picnic tables and of course, sandy beaches and a newly built waterfront marina.

Osoyoos Lake provides a focal point for recreational activities and enjoyment year round: water skiing, windsurfing, swimming, sailing, boating, fishing and para-sailing just to name a few.

Beaches and picnic grounds include Gyro Beach, Lions Centennial Park, Kinsmen Park, Legion Beach, and Haynes Point picnic ground and campsite.

DOWNTOWN OSOYOOS Picturesque, charming and lively aptly describes downtown Osoyoos. Reminiscent of a Mediterranean village are the shops and buildings lining the streets of downtown. Here you'll find unique and stylish boutiques offering one of a kind clothing, shoes and accessories, innovative gift shops, florists, health



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

food and financial products and services.

Experience culinary creations at local cafés, bistros, fine dining establishments, brew pubs and wine bars. Feast on international cuisine

ranging from Japanese, Chinese and Mexican to Portuguese, Greek, Italian and French, Indian and the increasingly popular local Native American Cuisine.

Peer into Osoyoos' past at the new museum facility and learn of the Osoyoos early days and how the fruit and wine industry developed in the area.

Tour the Public Art Galleries, private studios and retail shops showcasing the area's large and talented artisan community.

Downtown comes alive during summer with the festivals, street dances, live music, and the Farmers Market. Spirited and diverse, the downtown community values all their location has to offer—the amenities, natural setting, and close proximity to the gem of the South Okanagan-Osoyoos Lake.

An abundance of natural areas surround the town. Take a leisurely stroll uptown or along the beach pathways and enjoy the downtown parks and extraordinary waterfront that is synonymous with Osoyoos.

OSOYOOS ATTRACTIONS

S̓WIŪS PROVINCIAL PARK In 2015 Haynes Point Provincial Park was renamed to reflect the traditional Okanagan Place name for the area. S̓wiŪs means a place where it is shallow or narrow in the middle of the lake. The park is proudly managed by the Osoyoos Indian Band and is located south of Osoyoos. It is surrounded by warm water and sandy beaches and also features a natural sandbar, known as 'the spit' which extends out from the park almost to the other side of Osoyoos Lake. The water is reported to be the warmest in Canada, making it excellent for swimming. Lakeside campsites and privacy make this a popular camping area; reservations are necessary during the summer months. The marsh area and self-guid-

ed interpretive trail are important features of the park. The park also has a natural amphitheatre, a perfect setting for nature's programs.

ANARCHIST MOUNTAIN LOOKOUT

Located east of Osoyoos is a spectacular panoramic viewpoint. The winding road ascends from 910 feet to 4,045 feet, where it's possible to view the whole town of Osoyoos, the southern part of the valley and the entire portion of Osoyoos Lake as well as part of Washington State.

MT KOBAN One of the tallest peaks in this area offers a bird's eye view of the lake as well as the Similkameen and Okanagan Valleys. It is also a popular spot for stargazing and hiking.

RATTLESNAKE CANYON A family entertainment park featuring a miniature golf course, bumper boats and a snack bar. It is also located along the beach/hotel/restaurant strip.

OSOYOOS DESERT MODEL

RAILROAD This impressive 4,000 square ft. HO gauge train set is one of the most popular attractions for visitors to Osoyoos. Billed as the biggest little European railroad in Canada, the family-run model started decades ago as a hobby and has grown into a sprawling miniature world.

SPOTTED LAKE is located along Hwy 3 in the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area, a geographical region that is unique to Canada. The lake is sacred to the Okanagan First Nations People and is known as Klikuk meaning 'sacred medicine lake.' The peculiar blue, green and yellow spots on the surface of the lake are formed from high concentrations of minerals and salt as the water level evaporates and drops. There is no access to the lake but one can learn more at the NK'MIP Desert Cultural Center.



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

ORCHARDS AND WINERIES Commercial fruit growing started in this area in the early 1900s, and today the South Okanagan is the fruit basket of Canada. The dry, sunny climate and long growing season makes it ideal for such soft fruits as cherries, plums, apricots, peaches and grapes. Osoyoos has the earliest fruit season in the Okanagan Valley.

Award winning wines are produced from locally grown grapes in nearby vineyards. There are over 50 commercial estate and farm wineries with more being added annually.

FRUIT RIPENING TIMES

Apricots: July 15 - Aug 15
Cherries: June 25 - July 30
Peaches: July 15 - Aug 15

Pears: July 15 - Oct. 15
Plums: Aug. 15 - Sept. 20
Apples: July 15 - Oct. 30
Grapes: Sept. 5 - Oct. 30



OSOYOOS EVENTS

JANUARY:

- Peoples Choice Awards - Osoyoos Art Gallery
- Osoyoos Concert Series - (Jan. - March)
- Coyotes Junior B Hockey - Until April

FEBRUARY & MARCH:

- Tobogganing - Saturdays at Baldy Mountain Resort until end of March
- Slush Cup at Baldy Mountain Resort

APRIL:

- Easter Extravaganza/Parade
- Arts & Culture Celebrations
- Osoyoos Oyster Festival
- Wine Country Drag Racing

MAY:

- Okanagan Spring Wine Festival - Okanagan Valley
- Osoyoos Medieval Faire-Desert Park Exhibition Society
- Market on Main (May-Sept)



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

JUNE:

- Cactus Jalopies Show & Shine - Gyro Park
- Horse Racing at Desert Park
- National Aboriginal Day Celebrations
- Market on Main
- Wine Country Drag Racing

JULY:

- Annual Cherry Fiesta Parade - July 1
- Music in the Park
- Canada Day Fireworks - July 1
- Art in the Garden - Local arts/garden settings
- Market on Main
- Osoyoos Street Dances - (July-August)

AUGUST:

- Mt. Kobau Star Party
- Romancing the Desert - Wine & Food at Desert Centre
- Music in the Park
- Horse Racing at Desert Park
- Market on Main

SEPTEMBER:

- Wine Country Drag Racing
- Sailing Regatta - Osoyoos Lake
- Lobster on the Beach
- Coyotes Junior B Hockey (Sept-April)
- Market on Main
- Skaha Kennel Dog Show
- Wine Country Drag Racing

OCTOBER:

- Okanagan Fall Wine Festival - Events/Wine throughout the Okanagan

- Harvest
- Halloween Howl - Sonora Community Centre
- Wine Country Drag Racing

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER:

- Winter in Wine Country
- Festival Treasures at Art Gallery
- Baldy Mountain Resort First Chair Festival
- Osoyoos Concert Series (Oct - March)
- Festival of Trees
- Christmas Parade & Lite-up
- Christmas Craft Fairs



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

For more information about these and other events contact Destination Osoyoos Tourism. www.destinationosoyoos.com

Email: visit@destinationosoyoos.com, 250-495-5070



Credit: Destination Osoyoos

OSOYOOS ATTRACTIONS

NK'MIP DESERT CULTURAL CENTRE

The NK'MIP Desert Cultural Centre celebrates the precious cultural heritage of the Osoyoos Indian Band and explores their desert landscapes. The site encompasses 50 acres of sage grasslands and ponderosa pine forest. In the interpretive centre, exhibits, stories and interactive displays introduce the visitor to the history of the Okanagan People and the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Many rare snakes, reptiles, amphibians and insects inhabit the Okanagan Valley and will be on display in special habitat exhibits throughout the summer.

Self-guided interpretive trails allow the visitor to explore the area at their own pace. Features include a village area with a reconstructed pit-house, a tule made teepee and a sweathouse built from traditional materials. The landscape provides unique plants native to this desert area such as the Mariposa lily and Scarlet Gilia. Interpretive plant signs give the native names and traditional uses of plants and animals found on the trail system. www.nkmipdesert.com



OSOYOOS DESERT CENTRE In the southernmost corner of the Okanagan Valley lies Canada's only true desert. This extraordinary habitat is home to North America's most fragile and



endangered ecosystems. Located on a sandy bench north of Osoyoos, the Desert Centre is an interpretive education and research facility offering insight into this sensitive ecosystem.

Interpretive kiosks, a native plant garden and spadefoot toad pond are featured at the Desert Centre, along with over one and one half kilometers of boardwalk. Bluebird boxes and their residents can be viewed from the shaded deck. The Desert Centre is BC's first public venue on the Transcontinental Bluebird Trail. www.destinationosoyoos.com

HIKING & CYCLING TRAILS IN THE SOUTH OKANAGAN

The South Okanagan area offers a number of developed hiking & cycling trails that allows one to explore unique habitat, visit historic sites, photograph & watch wildlife and a variety of birds, take in breath-taking scenery and enjoy the exhilarating outdoors.

The International Bicycling and Hiking Trail is enjoyed by persons from all over the world. Stretching from McAlpine Bridge just north of Oliver to the head of Osoyoos Lake, the trail follows the scenic Okanagan River

and is 20 Kms long. There are paved sections making the trail wheelchair accessible.

THE GOLDEN MILE HIKING TRAIL

is an unimproved 6.5 Km gravel trail which winds along the foothills of the west side. The trail connects several wineries and historic sites and offers views of Mt. Baldy & the Valley.

THE IRRIGATION CANAL WALKWAY

is a 5 Km trail that meanders along an abandoned section of the old irrigation canal near Osoyoos. The Old Kettle Valley Railway Trail near Okanagan Falls follows the western shores of Skaha Lake to Penticton. Shorter but scenic walks include Haynes Point Wetlands Boardwalk, 1.5 Km trail. The Pioneer Walkway provides a paved walk along Osoyoos Lake. Vaseux Lake Boardwalk trail provides access to a habitat nationally known for its excellent bird watching.

REGIONAL CYCLING/HIKING MAP

The Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen in cooperation with its member municipalities have developed a Regional Trails Master plan. The ultimate goal is to have recreational trails linking all of the communities in the region together. A Regional Cycling Map is now available and includes information on over 150 existing trails. For more information visit www.clickhikebike.com



OSOYOOS INDIAN BAND PROFILE

Credit: Asymetriq Productions - Oliver Tourism Association



Chief Clarence Louie

THE NK'MIP AND THEIR HERITAGE

The Osoyoos Indian Band, NK'MIP (the name by which the band refers to itself in the native Okanagan language) was formed on Nov. 21, 1877, and prior to that these proud native people lived on the desert land stretching into Washington, U.S.A. As part of the Okanagan Nation, these are a strong, independent and proud people with a rich heritage.

Band historian, Virg Baptiste (now deceased), said her people were survivalists and had adapted to the rigours of a climate that was stingy with its rainfall, while being overly generous with its heat.

The name NK'MIP (Inkameep) in the Okanagan dialect means "gateway or doorway to the bottom of the lake system."

The Inkameep lived off the land, lakes and rivers. They hunted, fished and grew crops and gave thanks to the 'Great Spirit' for the elements, the seasons and the bounty they shared. The Osoyoos Indian Band was a trading nation and had developed substantial trade with bands farther north in the Okanagan Valley and the Colville Band in Washington. One of their sacred spots was an unusual lake noted

for its healing powers. Called Kliluk by the Okanagan, this highly mineralized lake is located about eight km west of Osoyoos. The site is still revered by all the Okanagan Bands, but it is now officially called Spotted Lake.

ECONOMY & INDUSTRY The 32,000 acres of Osoyoos Band land stretches from Gallagher Lake, north of Oliver, all the way to Hwy. 3 at Osoyoos. The land is mostly east of Hwy. 97 with a small section in the north straddling the highway and a larger portion in the south claiming most of the northeast shoreline of Osoyoos Lake. Huge vineyards sprawl across these lands encompassing 1,200 acres of prima vinifera grapes. NK' MIP Cellars, Canada's first aboriginal-owned winery is part of the Band's enterprise - NK' MIP Resort, which also includes Sonora Dunes Golf Course, Spirit Ridge Resort and Spa, NK' MIP R.V. Park and Campsite and NK' MIP Desert Cultural Centre. The Band's other enterprises include a construction company, NK'MIP Convenience Store, Canyon Desert Resort a housing development being constructed adjacent to the band owned NK'MIP Canyon Desert Golf Course, a 350 seat Conference Centre, and Senkulem Business Park, an environmentally sustainable fully serviced business and light industrial park. Tenant anchors include Arterra Wines and the Okanagan Correctional Centre at the 135 acre site.

Area 27, a 277 acre site located on OIB Land was leased to the South Okanagan Motor Sports Corporation for the a race track which will host 4-5 major motor sports events annually. The project includes a club house, and teaching centre.

The Band manages business with budgets in excess of \$20 million dollars and administers its own health, social, educational and municipal services.

Vision, sound business practices, and a Chief who works with his Council on economic development are all reasons for the prosperity the Band is enjoying today.

EDUCATION & CULTURE The SenPok-Chin School teaches kindergarten to Grade 7 as well as a day-care facility. The scholastic goal is to increase the level of education in the academic, athletic, vocational and cultural spheres. It is considered a responsibility shared by the Band, parents and students, to be motivated by lifelong learning. Chief Clarence Louie believes that there are fewer than a dozen speakers of the Okanagan language remaining within the membership of the Osoyoos Indian Band. Out of a total tribe of 3,000, fewer than 200 speak the language. In all of BC, the Okanagan mother tongue is spoken by only 800 people.

1155 Sen Pok Chin Blvd., Oliver, B.C.
250-498-3444 www.oib.ca



OLIVER COMMUNITY PROFILE

In the heart of one of the most desirable recreational and retirement regions in British Columbia lies the quaint and charming community of Oliver. Residents enjoy the unique desert-like climate with several nearby lakes, golf courses and an abundance of other recreational areas.

The town abounds with well kept homes, businesses and parks. A sound economic base, excellent educational opportunities, good health care and high family values makes it a classic Canadian hometown.

The town was named after an early B.C. pioneer, John Oliver, and has a rich history in gold mining, ranching and agriculture.

For years tourists have flocked to this area for the abundant fruit, but Oliver also offers recreational, environmental and cultural attractions to both visitors and its residents.

The community has several public recreational facilities, cultural attractions, along with numerous wineries and a new state of the art community theatre. Oliver plays an important role as a provider of regional services for the South Okanagan. The town offers a full spectrum of goods and services including financial, professional, commercial retail administrative, health, educational and transportation facilities.

CLIMATE Oliver lies in a north-south

valley with rich deposits of soil, that is capable of growing a large variety of both fruit and vegetables, but without the precious water from the Okanagan River which runs through this valley, agriculture would not be impossible. This precious water gives life to commercial orchards and vineyards in the hillsides. A distinct line is drawn across the landscape with lush green in the irrigated zone on one side and golden grasslands and desert-like antelope brush ecosystem on the other. The rolling high country terrain has dense stands of Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir and is punctuated by small fishing lakes and tall peaks like Mount Baldy. To the west lies the Okanagan Range of the Cascade Mountains which causes a rain shadow effect, producing the regions dry climate. Oliver experiences four distinct seasons. Summers are long and hot with average daily highs in July of 29.3 C/84.7 F. Many days are in the upper 30's C/90's F. Humidity is very low. Winters are short and relatively mild with average January highs of -4.7 C/23.5 F and little snow. Precipitation averages 319 mm/12.6 in annually. The wonderful long growing season averages 173 frost free days.

TOURISM It is estimated that the Town of Oliver hosts more than 18,000 tourists each year. They come to share what residents treasure: the exceptional beauty, the astounding

views, the terraced vineyards and fruit orchards, the sunshine and the warm and friendly community. For additional information on Oliver visit www.winecapitalofcanada.com or www.oliver.ca.

AGRICULTURE & VITICULTURE

Tree fruit, vegetable and cattle production form an important base for secondary industry in the area. Although primary agricultural-based employment continues a long-term decline, it still provides direct employment for approximately 3,000 workers in the South Okanagan labour force. The trend today is to dwarf tree, high density planting and specialty fruits. There are approximately 400 orchards (over two acres in size) in the Oliver area.

Oliver is known as Canada's Wine Capital and as the centre of the wine industry in the Okanagan with the largest concentration of both vineyards and commercial wineries in British Columbia. The majority of these are located along what is known as the Golden Mile of Highway 97, just south of Oliver and the Black Sage Bench located on the east side of the valley. Oliver has over 2,600 acres of vineyards, including more than 50 licensed wineries—with more proposed. New wineries and additional lands are being put into production in what is expected to be a growth industry for the next five to 10 years.



“ Welcome to Canada’s Wine Capital

Credit: Leila Kwok - Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association



Mayor & Council Welcome You to Oliver!

L-R: Water Councillor Sidhu, Councillor Veintimilla, Councillor Mattes, Mayor Johansen, Councillor Schwartzberger, Councillor Grice, Water Councillor Machial

Town of Oliver

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Credit: Oliver Tourism Association

INDUSTRY & BUSINESS Land for manufacturing and commercial development is available at competitive market prices. The Okanagan enjoys a reputation of having some of the most highly skilled workers in the country with one of the lowest turnover rates. The combination of these factors makes Oliver an appealing location for all types of business ventures looking to attract new and skilled workers. It is expected that interest in light manufacturing, assembly, distribution and warehousing will grow due to the availability of land and the regional market. A 73,000 sq.ft. retail centre is located at Southwinds Crossing in Oliver. Tenants include Buy-Low Foods, Canadian Tire, Tim Horton's, Mark's Work Warehouse and a Liquor Store. A new concept in tourism for the South Okanagan and what will most certain-

ly prove to be a huge economic boost to the entire region is Area 27, a Motor Sports Country Club, the first in Canada. The 277 acre site is located on Osoyoos Indian Band land near Oliver. The owners are The South Okanagan Motor Sports Corporation. The site includes a 4.85 km paved race track, a club house, teaching centre, and a karting track.

EMPLOYMENT There are several major employers in the community. Some of these are School District # 53, The Provincial Government (Okanagan Correctional Centre); South Okanagan General Hospital; Osoyoos Indian Band; K&C Silviculture; OSC Growers COOP. School District #53 together with SOK General Hospital employ about 500 while the Correctional Facility has a total of 300 employees.

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INDUSTRY (Statistics Canada 2016–Oliver)

Total labour force pop. aged 15 years & over by occupation.....	2,085
All industries.....	2,080
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting.....	250
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction.....	20
Utilities.....	0
Construction.....	225
Manufacturing.....	160
Wholesale trade.....	65
Retail trade.....	235
Transportation and warehousing.....	75
Information and cultural industries.....	20
Finance and insurance.....	60
Real estate and rental and leasing.....	55
Professional, scientific and technical services.....	80
Management of companies and enterprises.....	10
Admin & support, waste managment & remediation services.....	30
Educational services.....	95
Health care and social assistance.....	250
Arts, entertainment and recreation.....	60
Accommodations and food services.....	205
Other services (except public administration).....	105
Public administration.....	65

OCCUPATION (Statistics Canada 2016–Oliver)

Total labour force pop. aged 15 years & over by occupation.....	2,085
All occupations.....	2,080
Management occupations.....	225
Business, finance & administration occupations.....	300
Natural and applied sciences & related occupations.....	40
Health occupations.....	145
Occupations in education, law/social, community & government services.....	165
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport.....	25
Sales and service occupations.....	520
Trades, transport and equip. operators & related occupations.....	365
Natural resources, agric. & related production occupations.....	200
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities.....	90

“ This is where ‘freshly picked’ means knocking the dirt off a bunch of carrots from the farmers’ stand, or climbing a ladder in the u-pick cherry orchard.




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Credit: Lionel Trudel - Town of Oliver



AGRICULTURE - OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

With more than 400 farms cultivating the land to grow fresh produce, agriculture has been at the heart of Oliver since town namesake Sir John Oliver brought irrigation in the early 1900s.

You can buy direct from the farmer at one of the many road side fruit stands where you can sample and purchase delicious local products like jams, honey and a multitude of fresh fruits and vegetables. Few experiences in life are greater than a bite of fresh fruit, picked straight off the tree, still warm from the hot summer sun and bursting with juices of natural sweetness. From ground crops to fruit trees, farmers have tilled these soils for generations. This is where 'freshly picked' means knocking the dirt off a bunch of carrots from the farmers' stand, or

climbing a ladder in the u-pick cherry orchard.

Springtime brings weeks of blossoming trees, like a fragrant wave flowing through the valley. Starting in mid-April (cherries) and ending in early May (apples), Oliver orchards literally burst into life. Summer starts harvest time, beginning late in June and stretching well into October.

OKANAGAN GLEANERS A true reflection of our bounty and our community spirit, Oliver is home to an organization that helps feed the less fortunate around the world. You can participate in this unique experience that brings together volunteers and is a one-of-a-kind experience. Gleaning is the collection of leftover crops after fields have been harvested, with a goal of reducing agricultural

and food waste. Founded in the autumn of 1994, the Okanagan Gleaners produce dried soup-mix consisting of a plethora of produce. Housed in a converted 1920s tobacco-drying barn and now transformed into a food processing facility. The Gleaners have shipped and distributed more than 45 million servings around the globe since 1996 to those in need - averaging 6 million servings annually. Surrounded by farms and orchards volunteers gather produce that doesn't make the grade for store shelves, then work together in a coordinated production line to sort, chop, and peel, often outside in the Oliver sunshine with newfound friends. Some "voluntourists" come each year to help, and can sometimes grab a camping spot to be close to the action. www.okanagangleaners.com



Agriculture has been at the heart of Oliver since town namesake Sir John Oliver brought irrigation in the early 1900s

Credit: Lionel Trudel - Town of Oliver



Credit: Town of Oliver

“ Cultivate a moment in Canada’s Wine capital. We have a vintage for every taste and lifestyle.

Incorporated as a village municipality in 1945, Oliver was re-incorporated as a town in 1990. Oliver encompasses a total area of 525.1 ha and a total trading area of approximately 9000 ha. By highway, the town is 33 km south of Penticton and 19 km north of Osoyoos. Oliver is in the Okanagan Similkameen Regional District, Electoral area ‘C’. Penticton office. (250) 492-0237.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT The Town of Oliver is a municipality incorporated under the Local Government Act. It has an elected council made up of a mayor, four regular council members and two “water councillors,” elected by rural residents served by the town’s water system. Local government elections in

B.C. are held every four years. (250) 485-6200; www.oliver.ca

OLIVER’S EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Oliver Fire Department is located at 9399-346th Street.

The department administration consists of one fire chief, one deputy chief and four captains. There are also 12 officers who care for a variety of responsibilities in the department. The department currently consists of 53 firemen and holds practices every Thursday.

The Oliver Detachment of the R.C.M.P. is located across from Oliver’s fire department. Three provincially funded police officers are based at the detachment. Non-emergency number is (250)498-3422. Oliver is served by the B.C. Ambulance Service.

HEALTH SERVICES South Okanagan General Hospital in Oliver, is a Level 1 community hospital and part of the large health care organization Interior Health Authority serving the communities of Oliver and Osoyoos and surrounding rural areas. Services provided at this site include: 24-hour Emergency Services; General Medicine; Rehabilitation Services; Occupational Therapy; Physical Therapy; Pharmacy Services; Xray Services; Laboratory Services; Mental Health Services; Home Support Service; Residential Care Services; Social Work Services; Dietitian Services; Diabetes Education; Public Health; Community Care. Number of beds: 18 acute; 75 residential. Approximate number of employees at site: 200. SOGH is a

unique working environment due to the integrated use of technology. Over the past several years, our acute care areas have implemented positive patient identification which uses scanners with a bar coded wrist band to ensure accurate patient identification, a completely electronic documentation system; bedside medication verification; Physician Care Management and Electronic medical summaries from physician offices. All of this combines to improve quality patient safety and care through the reduction of errors. SOGH won the prestigious Organizational Transformation Health Award for successfully implementing an Advanced Clinical System that supports both quality and patient safety. The Government award recognizes leadership, innovations, and excellence in the management and use of information technologies within the public service of British Columbia. SOGH is located at 911 McKinney Rd. in Oliver. Additional health services include medical clinics, dentists, chiropractors, optometrists and veterinarians. There are both private and public retirement facilities operating in Oliver. These facilities offer intermediate care and apartment style living suites. (250) 498-5000. www.interiorhealth.ca

TRANSPORTATION South Okanagan Transit provides door-to-door return

service to Kelowna, Summerland, Penticton, Okanagan Falls, Oliver and Osoyoos for Senior Residents with disabilities.

BC Transit is now offering bus service for the general public from Osoyoos to Oliver Hospital, Penticton Cherry Lane, Kelowna Airport, and Kelowna Orchard Park. www.BCTransit.com
Air Services: General Aviation Airports include Osoyoos Airport and Oliver Municipal Airport Penticton Regional Airport.

Penticton Regional Airport - 30 minutes north has daily flights both to Vancouver, BC and Calgary, AB.

NEWSPAPERS:

Osoyoos Times...Weekly...250-494-7225
Oliver Chronicle...Weely...250-498-3711
Penticton Herald...Daly...250-492-4002
Osoyoos Today
www.osoyoostoday.ca
Oliver Daily News
www.oliverdailynews.com

RADIO:

CJOR-Osoyoos; CIRO- Osoyoos; 100.7 Country Station; CKOR- Penticton; CJMG- Penticton; CIGV-Penticton; CBC-Sun FM Penticton; EZ Rock

TELEVISION:

CHBC- Kelowna; BCTV- Vancouver. Global Okanagan, Global BC, CTV, CBC. Eastlink and Telus are the local cable suppliers in Oliver.

UTILITIES:

Fortis Inc. supplies electricity and gas in the area.

Electricity.....866-436-7847

www.fortisbc.com

Gas.....888-224-2710

www.fortisbc.com

Telus.....888-811-2323

www.telus.com

Eastlink.....888-345-1111

www.eastlink.ca

LABOUR FORCE:

Okanagan Similkameen % of work-force in years:

15-24.....8%; 25-34.....17.4%;
35-44.....24.6%; 45-54.....28.5%
55-64.....19.1%; over 65.....2.1%

Employers in the Okanagan-Similkameen are projecting a high aggressive growth rate of 22% (employment demand) between the years 2014 & 2020

Unemployment Rate - Oliver:7%,
Okanagan-Similkameen: 8.4%

Source: Stats Canada-Census Profile Oliver 2016



Credit: Darren Robinson - Oliver Tourism Association

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HOUSING Oliver continues to be a desirable area for retirees and young families. The unique desert-like climate with mild winters, abundance of recreation, golf courses, nearby lakes, along with affordability and low mortgage rates are prime reasons for relocating to this community. Modest family housing is located in the surrounding area of downtown, with a mix of small heritage homes and 60s-80s construction. Medium priced to upper priced homes are found in newer subdivisions overlooking the lake and orchards. There are several residential projects in Oliver that have been recently developed or are proposed for the near future.

REAL ESTATE SALES 2018 - OLIVER AREA

Property Type	Sales	# of Sales	# New Listings	Avg Sale Price	Days to Sell	
Residential:						
Bare Land Strata	\$3,881,300	11	21	\$352,845	79	2018 Taxes and Charges on a representative house in Oliver Value: \$359,615 Taxes: \$2,160.75 Source: Town of Oliver Source: South Okanagan Real Estate Board, South Okanagan Real Estate Sales 2018. www.soreb.org
Duplex	\$0	0	0	\$0	0	
Mobile w/land	\$537,500	2	4	\$268,750	74	
Triplex/Fourplex	\$635,000	1	1	\$635,000	149	
Single Family	\$48,430,445	110	201	\$440,277	130	
Condo (apt)	\$5,139,200	27	34	\$190,341	80	
Condo (twm-hse)	\$8,355,319	30	36	\$278,511	133	
Mobile Homes	\$ 3,083,051	26	33	\$118,579	58	
Farms	\$15,304,900	18	33	\$850,272	123	
Acreage	\$1,578,000	4	8	\$394,500	298	
Acreage (wtrfrnt)	\$0	0	0	\$0	0	
Lots	\$1,483,500	8	28	\$185,438	133	
Lots (wtrfrnt)	\$873,000	3	11	\$291,000	74	
Business/Commercial	\$4,675,000	9	30	\$519,444	138	



HOUSEHOLD TOTAL INCOME IN 2016 OF PRIVATE HSHLDS - OLIVER 2350

Median household total income (\$)	53,998
Average household total income (\$)	65,274
One-person private households	700
Median household total income (\$)	27,840
Average household total income (\$)	34,978
Two-or-more-persons private households	1,650
Median household total income (\$)	67,872
Average household total income (\$)	79,190

Source: Statistics Canada 2016 - New Census Update - 2021



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SHOPPING & DINING Oliver's attraction lies in its diverse cultural charm interwoven with a colorful landscape reminiscent of the hills of Tuscany. The town's main street is lined with small quaint shops housing unique clothing, crafts, jewelry, cosmetics, and a variety of other retail and businesses. Several ethnic restaurants feature Greek, Indian, Chinese, and Italian cuisine along with gourmet and fast food eateries. The main business areas stretch north and south of town along Highway 97. Oliver Place Mall features No Frills, Shoppers Drug Mart and several retail stores. The 73,000-sq. foot retail centre "Southwind Crossing" located south of town houses Buy-Low Foods, Canadian Tire, Mark's Work Warehouse, Tim Horton's and a Bosley's Pet Supplies. Look for other businesses along Highway 97 such as day spas, coffee shops and deli's, several fruit and vegetable stands and retail beer and wine shops.



South Okanagan Secondary School

EDUCATION School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen) serves approximately 2500 students in the sunny Okanagan Valley; Box 1770, 6161 Okanagan Street, Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0 (250) 498-3481. www.sd53.bc.ca

Southern Okanagan Secondary School: February 6, 2014 marked the official re-opening of Southern Okanagan Secondary School in Oliver. The new school was built compliant to B.C.'s Wood First Act and designed to LEED Gold standards. Large wood beams are visible throughout and complement a spectacular skylight. The building is state-of-the-art with

its high ceilings, coloured floors and use of the latest technology throughout.

The school boasts 7,475 total square meters (80,460 sq. ft.) with a capacity of 550 students in grades 8 to 12, and includes an auditorium as well as a Neighbourhood Learning Centre. Adjoining the school is a new state-of-the-art Frank Venables Community Theatre.

Southern Okanagan Secondary was originally constructed 1948 with additions in 1966, 1977, and

1982. The original school was undergoing a \$29 million renovation when fire destroyed about 60 percent of the building in 2011.

SOSS has a current enrollment of 465 students, 23 teachers and 15 support staff. SOSS has a long history of successful graduates and dedicated staff along with a variety of course offerings, from university preparation to thriving apprenticeships, along with a careers training department. 6140 Gala St. Oliver. 250-498-4931 www.soss.sd53.bc.ca

Oliver Elementary School: 16 teachers, 6 special ed & learning assistants, enrollment: 308; student/teacher: 16/1 809 School Avenue, Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0 - (250) 498-3468.

www.oes.sd53.bc.ca Oliver Elementary School is a K-7 school situated in Oliver next to the high school. The school provides a high level of academic programming complemented by various extra-curricular sports and fine arts activities year round.

Tuc-El-Nuit Elementary School: 16 teachers, 11 support staff, enrollment: 218, student/teacher ratio: 15/1 6648 Park Drive, Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0 - (250) 498-3415 www.ten.sd53.bc.ca

Tuc-El-Nuit Elementary School is a K-7 school with a dedicated, hard-working, professional staff with many educational partners that support our learning community. We strive to provide a strong educational program with specific attention to literacy and numeracy.

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"To compassionately assist families in our community who have a child requiring medical care that is not available locally."

OKANAGAN COLLEGE Okanagan College-Penticton Campus and the education centres in Summerland and Oliver have established a leading reputation for providing quality education and training for the wine and hospitality industries. Unique to this region is their Signature Programs, which include: Winery Assistant Certificate, Viticulture Certificate, Wine Sales Certificate, and Career Facilitator.

If oenology (wine making) and viticulture (grape growing) is to your taste you can begin your studies here and transfer directly to Brock University to obtain a degree, or take any of the three certificate programs as well as a number of specialized courses that serve the needs of the vineyard, winery and hospitality related businesses.

Other certificate programs offered include: Residential Construction, Home Support/Residential Care Aide, Adult Academic and Career Preparation, Adult Special Education, Applied Business Technology, Bartending, Basic Accounting, Computer Basics for Business, Custodial Worker, Education Assistant, Floral Design, Medical Office Assistant, Nursing Unit Clerk, Palliative Care, Practical Nursing, Simply Accounting, Teaching English as Second Language.

The Oliver Campus is located at 339 Fairview Rd. Oliver (250) 498-6264. 1-866-510-8899. www.okanagan.bc.ca.

YOULEARN EDUCATION CENTRE in Oliver is offering distance learning courses and continuing education courses for adults who want to improve their academic skills or complete their secondary education. 762 Fairview Rd., Oliver. (250) 498-4597. www.youlearn.ca

OLIVER'S LIBRARY is located at 6239 Station Street one block off Main Street. The library is open Tuesday through Saturday and offers free computer access and is a wireless hotspot. The Oliver branch of 'Friends of the Library' holds their Annual Book Blast Sale on the first Saturday of July each year. (250) 498-2242 or visit www.orl.bc.ca/branches/oliver

RECREATION FACILITIES

THE OLIVER COMMUNITY CENTER This complex also houses major facilities such as the Community Hall, Arena, Public Pool, Curling Rink and community park. It is the location of many of the community's special events as well as recreation programs. The facility is available for private rentals. There are fitness classes, day camps, Festival of the Grape and much, much more. Located on the East side of the Okanagan River. A community weight room is located in the Oliver Community Centre.

THE OLIVER ARENA is part of the Oliver Community Centre Complex. The arena operates as an ice rink for six months of the year, from late September through to the end of March. During the off season it is home to several other events.

Regularly scheduled off-season events include vintage car swap meets, roller hockey, private rentals, dances and the Okanagan Big League Experience Baseball Camp.

The arena hosts a full slate of winter programs including recreational hockey for both men and women, minor hockey and figure skating. Learn to skate programs and power skating are offered by the South Okanagan Figure Skating Club.

THE OLIVER COMMUNITY POOL is an outdoors-aquatic facility complete with large whirlpool. It opens mid May and remains open until Labour Day weekend. The pool has a highly acclaimed Red Cross swim program that offers all levels for eight continuous weeks during July and August.

OLIVER PARKS The Oliver Parks



and Recreation Society operates four major park facilities that are listed below. In addition, the Town of Oliver maintains several local sites: Triangle Park, Municipal Office Grounds, and Kiwanis Park.

OLIVER COMMUNITY PARK is the flagship of Oliver's park system. It is a sprawling 6-hectare site, professionally designed for activities such as baseball and soccer, large or small group picnics, or full community festivals. It includes a soccer field, four softball diamonds, a full softball field, and

lawn bowling courts, walking trails, three tennis/pickleball courts, sand/beach volleyball courts and basketball hoops. The centre piece is Outdoor Oliver Community Stage. New to the park the the Tykes playground designed for children 6 and under.

OLIVER LIONS PARK is located alongside Okanagan River and immediately north of the old CPR station, which houses the Oliver Tourist Information Centre. The park has expansive lawn areas popular for family or group picnics. Lions Park is also home to a 30 by 50 metre facility for skateboarders and in-line skaters. It also includes a court surface for sports such as basketball and in-line hockey. The new large off-leash dog park can be found at the north end of the park with separate small dog area. Centred in the park is a childrens play structure and event shelter.

KINSMEN SPRAY PARK is located just west of the Okanagan River beside the bridge and is completely fenced from traffic and the river, making this a perfect area for children. There are washrooms, picnic tables, splash park and playground.

ROTARY BEACH is on the southwest shore of Tuc-el-nuit Lake. There is a sandy beach and grassy areas with picnic tables, and children's play area. No motorized boats are allowed on this lake. During winter when temperatures fall



below freezing Tuc-el-nuit lake can be used for ice-skating. Use caution and stay close to shore.

All facilities and parks information is available at 250-498-4985, www.oliverrecreation.ca, operated by the Oliver Parks and Recreation Society.





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Frank Venables Theatre

CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS A variety of cultural groups are active in the community of Oliver, and the area is represented by many talented artists. There is a concert society, a film club, an arts council, an amateur players group that performs musicals, comedy, drama, dinner theatre and musical reviews. Artists include potters, weavers, quilters, carvers & other artisans who display their work in local art galleries located throughout the area.

Other clubs and organizations in Oliver include: The Heritage Society; A Multicultural Organization; The Desert Information and Preservation Centre; and a Portuguese Club; The Rotary Club of Oliver; Kiwanis; Oliver Parks and Recreation Society. For a complete list of Cultural and Recreational clubs and organizations please contact the South Okanagan Chamber of Commerce at www.sochamber.ca or call (250)498-6321

FRANK VENABLES THEATRE is a brand new mid size community theatre that opened its doors in 2014. The Theatre is fully equipped with state of the art sound, lighting and video capabilities and holds an audience of 400 in the comfort of high-backed seats set on a steeply-raked floor. The dimensions of the stage are generous and capable of accommodating everything from school productions to professional touring shows. The Frank Venables



Credit: Asymetriq Productions
Oliver Tourism Association

Theatre adjoins Southern Okanagan Secondary School in Oliver It is a true community theatre with construction and operations jointly funded by the community and the school district. The Theatre is operated by the Oliver Community Theatre Society with a mandate to promote and facilitate maximum beneficial use by the school, community performing and concert societies, as well as other users, both from inside and outside Oliver. 6100 Gala St. (250)498-1626 www.venables-theatre.ca.

OLIVER COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL (OCAC) has been a hub of artistic activity in Oliver since 1970. It is an umbrella group currently representing eighteen member groups, fifteen arts focused businesses and about 80 individual and family members. The

OCAC serves approximately 400-500 active artists and artisans. www.oliver-artsCouncil.org

Member groups include: The Desert Sage Spinners and Weavers, The Double O Quilters, the local chapter of the Federation of Canadian Artists, The Friends of the Library, The Oliver Sagebrushers, The Oliver Arts and Crafts Sale, The Sage Valley Voices Community Choir, The South Okanagan Amateur Players, The South Okanagan Concert Society, Oliver District Heritage Society, Women of Oliver for Women, Oliver Art Gallery, Rip Off Artists, Oliver Handbell Ringers, and Oliver Community Garden Society.

THE QUAIL'S NEST ARTS CENTRE is located at 5840 Airport Street is home to the OCAC and many of its programs. The various member groups are active during fall and winter, holding classes and rehearsals, and presenting concerts, plays and exhibits. During spring and summer, the Oliver Community Arts Council has several major public events throughout the year.

SPRING ARTS FAIRE (early April). The style is a trade show, but its focus is on the arts. Sales, displays, demonstrations, and classes. BC Arts and Culture Week (3rd week of April) A province-wide celebration. OCAC signature event, exhibits, open houses, workshops, and concerts.

“ Arts and Culture are the soul of the community

Featuring local art and artists. Held at various locations around Oliver.

SHOWCASE OF TALENT (May) Performances by Oliver's talented music students. The young performers receive a share of the proceeds to assist them in their continued studies. Sponsored by Oliver Kiwanis.

MUSIC IN THE PARK (July-August) South Okanagan musical performers entertain with jazz, classical, country, pop, gospel, blues, and rock n roll. Concerts run every Thursday evening during July and August, 6:30-8:00pm. The Evening Market starts at 4:30 -8:30pm. Held at the Oliver Community Stage. Food Vendors, retail and children's activities.

FALL ART SHOW & SALE (1st weekend in Oct.) Artists from all media exhibit a veritable harvest of color and texture. The art show is held in conjunction with the Festival of the Grape at Oliver's Community Centre.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT (1st weekend in December) Local performers set the mood for the season with music and dance and storytelling.

OLIVER SENIOR CENTRE holds social gatherings Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm. Come join us for games, carpet bowling, cards, and social gatherings with coffee and snacks. Dances are held on Saturdays and every other Wednesday at 10:00 am. The South Okanagan Health Unit offers Immunizations & Mammography at the Senior Centre. Call (250) 408-4065. 5876 Airport St. Oliver. www.oliverseniorcentre.com



Credit: Asymetriq Productions - Oliver Tourism Association



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Oliver, BC V0H 1T0



ing many of Portuguese and German origin. Source: oliver.ca/history

OLIVER & DISTRICT MUSEUM Come and enjoy a peek into Oliver’s unique past. Find out how the only desert eco-system in Canada produces so much life, what was grown before the grapes, and visit the old Fairview Jail. Operated by the Oliver and District Heritage Society, the Museum is located at 9728 356th Ave., Oliver. For information call 778-439-3100 or visit www.oliverheritage.ca.

OLIVER & DISTRICT ARCHIVES offers a variety of services that are essential to anyone searching for information about the history of Oliver. There are thousands of pictures, maps, blueprints, documents, scrapbooks and other documentation that will bring Oliver’s story to life. Researchers are welcome to visit or e-mail us with their questions. Operated by the Oliver and District Heritage Society, the Archive is located at 430 Fairview Rd., Oliver. www.oliverheritage.ca.

HISTORY OF OLIVER Aboriginal people occupied the territory in which Oliver lies when settlement by Europeans began in the 19th century. Osoyoos Indian Reserve No. 1 stretches from Gallagher Lake area to Osoyoos and adjoins the Town’s eastern boundary. The Inkameep people, also known as the Osoyoos Indian Band, migrated here and settled on the east side of Osoyoos Lake. The tribe’s name comes from a phrase which means “gateway to the bottom of the lake system” –attesting to their residence on low lands and plateaus. The first European activity in the area was gold mining, with the staking of the first claim in 1887, and the establishment of the Town of Fairview in 1890 on the benches above Oliver to the west. Folklore has it that a one armed gold prospector named Reid discovered gold in this area, and the Town of Fairview (located just outside what is now known as Oliver) became home to gold miners, ranchers and businessmen. Fairview was one of B.C.’s largest towns at the turn of the century. The gold rush died and sadly, so did Fairview, with Oliver springing up in its wake. Fairview’s life was short; the post office that was established in 1921 closed in 1926. One of the few remaining buildings from the town, the Fairview Jail, has been moved to the Oliver museum site. Following the First World War, BC’s premier, known as “Honest” John Oliver, envisioned an irrigation canal,

which would bring this dry shrub-steppe semi-desert region to life. In 1919 the South Okanagan Lands Project was born, creating jobs and long term opportunities for veterans returning from World War I. The original town site of Oliver was surveyed in 1921. Completed in 1923, the concrete irrigation canal (locally known as “the ditch”) soon transformed this desert region into lush orchards and farms. The first grapes were introduced and planted in the area in the 1970s. In 1923, the Kettle Valley Railway (CPR) constructed Oliver Station and rails to transport fruit north to Penticton. Oliver Station now houses Oliver’s Visitor Centre. The airport, built just prior to the Second World War, initially served the entire region south of Penticton. The BC government administered the area until 1945 when the village was incorporated and a council elected. In 1991, the community’s incorporation was upgraded to “town,” its current status. Oliver, along with Osoyoos to the south, experienced rapid growth after the Second World War, with an influx of agricultural settlers, includ-

www.PacificSilica.com **HAVEN** PHONE: 250-498-6665

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OLIVER EVENTS

JANUARY

- Annual Seniors Music Jamboree
- Adult Snowshoe Tour
- Tobogganing Saturdays at Baldy

FEBRUARY

- SOSA Sportsmen's Game Banquet
- Family Day Neon Skate
- WOW Annual Oliver Trade Show

MARCH

- Wine Capital Hockey Tournament

APRIL

- Hester Creek Winery Cooking Class
- Oliver's 3K & 10K Race
- Vaishakhi Festival

MAY

- Oliver Osoyoos Winery Country's Pig Out
- SORCO Annual Open House
- Wine Capital Artwalk
- Showcase of Talent
- Meadowlark Festival
- Half Corked Marathon



Credit: Leila Kwok - Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association

JUNE

- Oliver Half Iron & Aquabike
- Road 13 Vineyards Summer Dinner Series
- Highway to Healing Ride to Provide

JULY

- Canada Day Pancake Breakfast
- Annual Artist's Ripoff Challenge!
- Tinhorn Creek Winery Summer Concert Series
- Oliver Twist Winery Show, shine n' Wine
- Thursday night Music in the Park

AUGUST

- Oliver Sunshine Festival
- Oliver Roots and Fruits Expo
- Oliver Airport Public Fly In Breakfast
- Perseid Meteor Shower Event @ Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory
- Moonlight Outdoor Family Movie Night
- Thursday night Music in the Park

SEPTEMBER

- Canadian Alpaca Days @ Sunkeya Farms
- Freakin' Farmer Adventure Race
- Naturalist Club Fall Scheduled hikes
- Take in a show at the Venables Theatre

OCTOBER

- Festival Of The Grape/Fall Art Show & Sale
- Oliver Cask & Keg Festival

- Hester Creek Winery Garlic Festival
- Okanagan Annual Fall Wine Festival
- South Okanagan Concert Series
- Fall Salmon Run

NOVEMBER- DECEMBER

- Winter in Wine Coutry
- Dwahli Festival of Lights
- Festival of the Trees
- Oliver Community Light Up and fireworks
- Baldy First Chair Festival



Credit: Leila Kwok
Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association



Credit: Leila Kwok
Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association

For more information about these and other events contact the Oliver Tourism Association. www.winecapitalofcanada.com
Email: info@winecapitalofcanada.com
778-439-2363

OKANAGAN FALLS COMMUNITY PROFILE



Situated on the sunny shores of Skaha Lake, amidst breathtaking scenery consisting of rocky outcroppings, rolling vineyards, orchards and ranchland...

CLIMATE

Okanagan Falls enjoys a dry, continental climate with low levels of precipitation and humidity, relatively short and mild winters, hot dry summers, and high annual sunshine hours. Situated just 20km south of Penticton, Okanagan Falls shares a very similar climate to that of Penticton. Annual hours of sunshine: 2,032

Avg. temperatures: July avg. high: 28C; July avg. low: 12C

January avg. high: +1C; January avg. low: -4C

Average annual rainfall: 250mm; Annual avg. snowfall: 73mm



Situated on the sunny shores of Skaha Lake, amidst breathtaking scenery consisting of rocky outcroppings, rolling vineyards, orchards and ranchland lies the quiet rural community of Okanagan Falls. With an abundance of sunshine and warm dry weather and one of the mildest climates in Canada, residents enjoy a wide variety of easily accessible lakes, beaches and parks.

For a small town there are a large variety of community services such as a recreation center, an elementary school, a library, commercial services including retail, financial, professional services, restaurants, and specialty retail outlets.

A large concentration of both vineyards and commercial wineries are located in the area. Okanagan Falls is in close proximity to Penticton with its 'big city' shopping and cultural attractions. For those flying to other areas it is only a short 12-15 minute drive from Okanagan Falls to Penticton Airport. Westjet now offers flights to Calgary and Air Canada flies to Vancouver. Although the community was founded on agriculture, and continues to have a strong economic and cultural connection to ranching, fruit production and forestry, the local economy has diversified considerably in recent years to include manufacturing, tourism and wine production. Okanagan Falls is becoming home to a growing number of

innovative and prosperous businesses that appreciate the exceptional environment in which to live and conduct business. Okanagan Falls is continuing to invest in its infrastructure and waterfront; in particular The Wetland project to be located east of the treatment plant, will remove contaminants of concern prior to discharge from the plant into the river channel.

An exciting development in the community is the Revitalization Plan and the vision of a new "Town Centre," along with the development of a 26 unit "Affordable Housing for Seniors Project." The community's waterfront and facilities, together with its parks and trail networks have been substantially upgraded.

To the north of Okanagan Falls, Skaha Bluffs Provincial Park is widely regarded as one of the top rock climbing locations in British Columbia. Hiking and cycling trails, summer and

winter sporting opportunities, wine tasting, festivals and events; whatever your lifestyle, this is an area that truly has much to offer.

We invite you to "come grow with us" and discover endless opportunities and an exceptional quality of life. Welcome to the town of Okanagan Falls, the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, and Area "D."

Welcome to The Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Geographically, the Regional District bounded by Manning Park to the west, Peachland to the north, Anarchist Mountain to the east and the United States border to the south. The Regional District has an area of 10,400 km², constituting 1.2% of the province's area.

The Region's mild climate, scenic environment and wide variety of recreational opportunities continue to attract many people to the area.

Many of the South Okanagan and Similkameen communities are magnificently clustered around rivers or lakes, award winning wineries, beautiful beaches, plentiful orchards, world class climbing, ski hills and other hidden gems! With a large and diverse area, the Regional District Okanagan Similkameen communities offer lifestyle opportunities for business, professionals, retirees and families to live, work and play!

Regional District Okanagan Similkameen
101 Martin Street, Penticton
Open Monday - Friday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Closed on Statutory Holidays
250.492.0237
www.rdos.bc.ca





TOWN CENTRE PLAN STUDY AREA

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Okanagan Falls is a community with a growing reputation as a regional economic growth hub. It's an attractive and viable location for business. It has large expanses of suitable land - a commodity that is becoming increasingly scarce in the Valley. In recent years the community

has revitalized its waterfront parks, facilities and trails, built a new state-of-the-art waste water treatment plant and is currently working on plans to transform its town center to further grow and diversify its downtown economy.

SOUTH OKANAGAN REGIONAL

GROWTH

STRATEGY The South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) launched in 2004, is a long-term commitment to manage growth in the South Okanagan of the Regional District of the Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS). The Regional Growth Study area includes the municipalities of Osoyoos, Oliver, Penticton, Summerland, and rural electoral areas A, C, D, E and F. The purpose of the

RGS is to “promote human settlement that is socially, economically and environmentally healthy and that makes efficient use of public facilities and services, land and other resources”. The key elements of the long term commitment of the South Okanagan RGS, are: To promote sustainable economic diversification; to ensure the health of ecosystems; to foster inclusive and accountable governance; to strengthen rural and urban community identity; to maximize the efficient use of infrastructure; to create safe, culturally diverse and healthy communities. For amendments and updates to RGS, please visit www.rdos.bc.ca.

OKANAGAN FALLS TOWN CENTRE

The Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen has completed an extensive consultation process. The community supports reorienting the ‘Town Centre’ away from Highway 97 and towards Skaha Lake. Residents also indicated that they want to encourage the development of a pedestrian oriented, vibrant hub of mixed-use, commercial and residential.

MANUFACTURING The combination of suitable and appropriately zoned land availability, attractive land prices and highly competitive tax rates has made Okanagan Falls an increasingly viable option for manufacturing companies. These companies include Structurlam, Avanta Kiosks, Karoleena Homes (recently acquired by Horizon North Logistics Inc.) and Unit Electrical Engineering (UEE). UEE has recently invested approximately \$7,000,000 in the building of a new manufacturing plant.

SMALL HOME BASED BUSINESS

A significant portion of the economy of Okanagan Falls and surrounding areas consists of small and home-based businesses. The establishment and



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growth of this valuable sector of the local economy is actively encouraged and supported.

AGRICULTURE Okanagan Falls and the Okanagan Valley as a whole is an extremely important fruit and wine producing area. We are proud of the excellent reputation, rave media reviews and prestigious awards that Okanagan Falls' vineyards and wineries have earned for themselves in recent years. www.ofwa.ca Our region is lush with orchards of apricots, cherry, peach, and apple trees. Throughout the summer months, local shops, farmers markets and roadside stands abound with local produce as they come in season. Significantly, Okanagan Falls has one of the last remaining cattle auction yards in the province. Cattle and ranching also play a significant part in the culture and heritage of our community.

TOURISM Tourism is a vitally important year round component of the economy of Okanagan Falls, Twin Lakes, Apex Mountain Resort, and the Okanagan Valley as a whole. There are still considerable tourism-related investment and business development opportunities throughout the Okanagan Falls area. Whether visitors are looking for sandy, fresh water beaches, hiking and cycling trails, summer or winter sporting opportunities, wine tasting, wildlife viewing or cultural festivals, there

are associated business opportunities galore in the Okanagan Falls area. Many essential tourist services are available within Okanagan Falls. Okanagan Falls Visitor Centre Unit 2, 9th Ave. Okanagan Falls. www.visitokfalls.com - Open May - October

INFRASTRUCTURE Local business owners enjoy the same access to infrastructure as companies in any major center in the province. Easy access to world-class communication, electrical, gas, and municipal services allow local companies to compete on a global scale.

State-of-the-art communications facilities and high-speed networks serve the Okanagan Valley. Suppliers of fibre optic networks include: Fortis BC; Skysurfer Communications Corp; Shaw Communications; Telus Communications; ABC Communications. High-speed connectivity is available from cable suppliers, DSL services, or wireless connections from local ISPs. Fortis Inc supplies electricity and gas in the area.

TRANSPORTATION Airports: Okanagan Falls is within 15 minutes from Penticton Regional Airport with flights daily to Vancouver & Calgary. WestJet and Air Canada. BC Transit: Regional and local transit service is now available in Okanagan Falls Route # 20 offers 5 round trips to Penticton daily Route # 21 delivers 5 round trips a day to popular in-community destinations. This regional transit route offers stops from Osoyoos to Kelowna. The implementation of this new transit service has contributed to the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of the region by providing af-



fordable transportation that connects people to work, school, and regional services. www.bcstransit.com

ORGANIZATIONS & COMMUNITY

The Parks and Recreation Department of Okanagan Falls creates programs and events that attract participants from throughout the valley.

The Zen and Fitness Centre in Okanagan Falls provides a pleasant and relaxed workout environment. It is well equipped and caters to all persons and fitness levels.

The Kaleden Community Hall is a great venue for weddings, meetings, sports and cultural events. (www.kal-rec.ca)

Community Organizations in Okanagan Falls includes the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #227, Ladies Auxiliary, Okanagan Falls Lions Club, and The Women's Institute.

Services include Diners, Furniture and Antique stores, OK Falls Hotel/Pub, Interior Savings, Pharmasave, Johnson Meier Insurance, IGA Foods, Royal LePage Real Estate, Okanagan Falls Improvement District and a monthly newspaper - Skaha Matters. (www.skahamatters.com)

Okanagan Falls Senior Centre has an active and vibrant group of seniors that support local youth and contribute to the improvement of the community through their participation and leadership.

Source: www.rdos.bc.ca; www.okfalls.com



HOUSING Okanagan Falls and Area “D” of the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen has a wide array of homes to choose from. Whether you are in the market for a waterfront luxury home, an estate property, a hobby farm on acreage or a quaint cottage style heritage home, you’re sure to find the right property in this area. Okanagan Falls and the surrounding communities continue to offer some of the most affordable housing in the valley.

Local business and residential taxation in Okanagan Falls and other nearby communities is significantly lower than in other communities in the region while access to high quality services are maintained. As an unincorporated area, primarily the Regional District and provincial departments such as the Ministry of Highways provide core services. One of the main focuses of the Area "D" Community Service Office is to attract residents to support the existing businesses and attract new business. They are looking at possible housing projects for the community in the near future.

Source: www.rdos.bc.ca



REAL ESTATE SALES 2018 - KALEDEN AND OKANAGAN FALLS AREA

Property Type	Sales	# of Sales	# New Listings	Avg Sale Price	Days to Sell	
Residential:						
Bare Land Strata	\$11,389,287	21	31	\$542,347	121	
Duplex	\$417,500	1	2	\$417,500	63	Taxes and Charges
Mobile w/land	\$0	0	2	\$0	0	on a representative
Triplex/Fourplex	\$0	0	0	\$0	0	house in OK Falls
Single Family	\$35,915,075	59	166	\$608,730	71	Value: \$313,343
Condo (apt)	\$1,980,400	8	11	\$247,550	48	Taxes: \$2,340
Condo (tw-n-hse)	\$1,461,500	6	9	\$243,583	42	Source: RDOS
Mobile Homes	\$1,017,300	8	12	\$127,162	58	
Farms	\$7,114,000	7	31	\$1,016,286	76	Source: South Okanagan
Acreage	\$2,360,500	8	13	\$295,062	380	Real Estate Board, South
Acreage (wtrfrnt)	\$285,000	1	3	\$285,000	103	Okanagan Real Estate Sales
Lots	\$2,431,300	11	38	\$221,027	147	2018. www.soreb.org
Lots (wtrfrnt)	\$1,101,000	1	1	\$1,101,000	22	
Business/Commercial	\$494,500	1	13	\$494,500	119	

LABOUR FORCE STATUS, OKANAGAN FALLS 2016

Total labour force pop. aged 15 years & over total	995
Management occupations	95
Business, finance & administration occupations	135
Natural and applied sciences & related occupations	20
Health occupations	75
Occupations in education, law/social, community & government services	75
Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	10
Sales and service occupations	240
Trades, transport and equip. operators & related	230
Natural resources, agric. & related production	30
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	55
Unemployment Rate	6.1%

Source: Statistics Canada 2016 / Next Census Update - 2021

HOUSEHOLD TOTAL INCOME OF PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS (1,065)

Median household total income (\$)	54,554
Average household total income (\$)	67,422
One-person private households	410
Median household total income (\$)	26,144
Average household total income (\$)	33,612
Two-or-more-persons private households	750
Median household total income (\$)	70,144
Average household total income (\$)	85,950

Source: Statistics Canada 2016 / Next Census Update - 2021

EMERGENCY & HEALTH SERVICES

The Regional RCMP Provincial Detachment provides policing in Okanagan Falls.

Okanagan Falls Volunteer Fire Department provides first response and firefighting services. The Regional Fire Dispatch Centre in Kelowna provides comprehensive regional 9-1-1 services including emergency dispatch, automatic alarm monitoring response and municipal/RDOS after-hour's response.

Hospitals: Penticton Regional Hospital; 550 Carmi Ave. Penticton. 250-492-4000

South Okanagan General Hospital: 911 McKinney Rd. Oliver. 250-498-5000

Kelowna General Hospital 2268 Pandosy St. Kelowna. 250-862-4000

There are 2 physicians in OK Falls; 2 Urgent Care/walk-in clinics in Penticton.

Source: RDOS

EDUCATION The Okanagan Falls Elementary: School (SD53) continues to peak in the enrollment trend. While enrollment in many schools and school districts is declining, Okanagan Falls School is growing rapidly as the schools principal, Ms. Lisa McCall continues to introduce new and innovative teaching resources. Early Learning (Strongstart and Preschool, K-7 programming) a technology focus (Smartboards in every classroom) and a dynamic and nurturing teaching environment. School Programs include; One to One Reading, Learning Assistance Support, Fine Arts, Intramurals, Extra Curricular Sports, Drug Abuse, Resistance Education and Strong Start (a school based early learning program for 3-5 year-olds.)

1141 Cedar Street, Okanagan Falls, BC VOH 1R0.

250-497-5414

www.okf.sd53.bc.ca

Middle school students from Ok Falls are bussed are bussed to the Southern Okanagan Secondary School in Oliver.

THE OK FALLS REGIONAL LIBRARY Hours are:

Tues.12pm - 8pm; Wed.10am - 4pm; Fri.10am - 4pm;

Sat.10am - 2pm.

101- 850 Railway Lane, Okanagan Falls. 250-497-5886



OK FALLS EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- Kaleden Pot Luck/Community Gathering; Kaleden

APRIL

- Easter Egg Hunt; Pitch in Day

MAY

- Music in the Park - Mothers Day

- Lions Club Dog Walk

- SD 67 Fun Run Kaleden

JUNE

- Pharmasave Jr. Triathlon

- Music in the Park - Fathers Day

JULY

- Canada Day

- Party in the Park - OK Falls Wine Association

- Prospera Axel Merckx GranfondoSuper Series Triathlon

- Music in the Park

AUGUST

- Shriners Car Show

- Ultra Swim

- Multisport Worlds

- SEPTEMBER** - Music in the Parkn

Source: visitokfalls.net

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The Okanagan Falls area with its four distinct seasons, long hot summers and mild winters is without a doubt a recreational paradise. Surrounded by lakes and sandy beaches, miles of hiking trails, world class rock climbing, parks galore, fishing, kayaking, sailing, horse-back riding, golfing, skiing, wildlife viewing, festivals and the list goes on. The Parks and Recreation Department has a full line-up of year-round activities for young and old alike. For information call: 250-497-8188 www.okfalls.net

SKAHA LAKE Skaha Lake, the fourth in a chain of five major lakes of the Okanagan Valley. It is an ideal lake for sailing, water skiing; wake boarding and kite surfing. Anglers fish for small and large mouth bass, whitefish, kokanee and cutthroat. The south end of the lake forms the lovely and family friendly beaches of Okanagan Falls and Kaleden.

KENYON PARK Located close to the centre of town, on the south shore of Skaha Lake is a perfect family park. A trail connects to Christie Memorial Park making one continuous waterfront park complete with splash park, playgrounds, picnic areas along with a clean smooth sandy beach. Unique water features and sculptures are recent additions. The shallow shoreline is



safe and well maintained. A pavilion is provided for sheltered picnic areas, family reunions and other special events. There is also a large grassy area to play or to spread out a blanket and enjoy the views. The Kenyon House is available to rent for special events. It is equipped with a full kitchen, dining space and washrooms.

KEOGAN SPORTS PARK Located at the south end of Cedar Street, this flat ten acre park is ideal for a variety of sporting events. The Weyerhaeuser and Centennial baseball diamonds are complete with dugouts and bleachers. Centennial Field has a shale in-field designed to accommodate both youth and adult leagues.

The park is also home to a cricket pitch and a skate park facility. The cricket pitch is home field to the Okanagan Cricket club.

CENTENNIAL PARK Central to Okanagan Falls is Centennial Park. Located along Main Street, this peaceful and picturesque park has a large grassy play area that is a great stop for travelers. The park is home to a life-sized bronze sculpture of Okanagan Falls' very own rodeo Champion-Kenny McLean, the only rodeo cowboy to have received the prestigious Order of Canada. The park is also home to a large timber band shell, which paves the way to additional community events for residents in the area.

THE KETTLE VALLEY RAILWAY TRAIL Trails are imbedded in the culture of the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys and a wide variety of users recreate and commute on the regions trails daily. Local area residents use the trail system for activities including evening strolls along the KVR, commuting to work from one community to another, to active motorized and non-motorized trail based recreation. Highlights of the KVR include stunning vistas, an easy gradient and unique topography. Exceptionally diverse, the trails traverse ranchland, riverbanks, lakes, tunnels, trestles, desert, orchards, and vineyards. The old Kettle Valley Railway Trestle Bridge has been transformed into a walk/bike trail connecting Okanagan Falls to the Kettle Valley Railway Trail. The RDOS is proud to help support the KVR Trail. All of the South Okanagan communities are working together to improve and update mapping and trails. The new internet mapping site allows users to zoom into any area of the RDOS, view trails on an areal photo base, and obtain detailed descriptions on key sections and access points. www.rdos.bc.ca (Click Hike & Bike).

SKAHA BLUFFS The Skaha Bluffs located within Skaha Bluffs Provincial Park is one of the most popular rock climbing areas in British Columbia. The climbing routes through the bluffs have been clearly defined in maps and various books and are internationally known as a world-class climbing destination. From the parking area there are clearly marked signs and trails pointing to the various routes that are situated in three parallel canyons. Most of the climbs are generally less than 30 metres high (100ft). Climbers are rewarded with awesome views overlooking Skaha Lake and Penticton.

S'X'Ə'X'NITK' PARK In 2015 Okanagan Falls Provincial Park was renamed 'S'x'ə'x'nitk' Park' to reflect the traditional Okanagan place name for the area. The Park is located within the territory of the Osoyoos Indian Band and is operated by the Band. It is located on Green Lake Road just north of Okanagan Falls, off Hwy 97. Nestled among the cool deciduous trees above the Okanagan River, this oasis is famous among naturalists for its superb bird watching, wildlife viewing, and variety of bats. The Interior Salish called the series of stepped rapids at the outlet of Skaha Lake Kwak-ne-ta or "little falls". Historically, the rocky outcrops were spots used for fishing and were one of the most important fishing sites in the Okanagan Nations traditional territory. In 1950 the flood control dam was built where the upper falls once stood.

The park is 2 hectares in size and offers 25 vehicle-accessible campsites nestled between the Okanagan River and the steep foothills of Mt. McLellan. The park is closed to the general public annually during the third weekend of September, in order to host the annual Salmon Feast. This event raises awareness of Okanagan history and culture, as well as the efforts to revitalize and restore sockeye salmon numbers in the Okanagan River.

VASEUX LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK & WILDLIFE

CENTRE The Provincial Park and Wildlife Centre is located along Highway 97 at the north end of Vaseux Lake between Oliver and Okanagan Falls. The focus of Vaseux Lake Park is the preservation of riparian and wetland breeding habitat necessary to support the local wildlife. An information kiosk provides information about the area vegetation and wildlife. A 20-min round trip trail leads to the marsh and along the boardwalk to the bird blind.

Look for Canada Geese, Trumpeter Swans, Great Horned Owls, and Blue Herons. Fish in Vaseux Lake include Small and Largemouth Bass, Sunfish, Carp, Whitefish, Kokanee, and Cutthroat Trout.

The cliffs around the lake are part of the Vaseux Bighorn National Wildlife Area and are home to Canada's largest herd of California Bighorn Sheep. They are often seen grazing high on the bluffs on the grassy slopes along the highway.

HISTORY OF OKANAGAN FALLS Okanagan Falls was named after a small twin falls that was once a part of a scenic natural landscape located at the southern end of Skaha Lake where

it emptied into the Okanagan River. The falls today have been reduced to a series of rapids by flood control work and a dam that was built on the river in the 1950s to control lake levels south of Okanagan Falls. Okanagan Falls Heritage House & Museum, located within The Basset House gives the visitor a view of earlier days and simpler times in Okanagan Falls.

Also located in town is the Historic "Blasted Church" (now The United Church of Okanagan Falls) named so as it was literally blasted apart at its former site, relocated and re-assembled in Okanagan Falls. Keogan Chimney is a certified heritage site located approximately two kilometers south of Okanagan Falls. The stone and slate chimney along with a few scattered logs is all that remains of Michael Keogan's cabin. Michael Keogan came to the country at the time of the Rock Creek gold rush. In 1876 he received a crown grant for lot 10. This historic chimney is a symbol of the tenacity of the early settlers and the gold rush era. It is one of the few structures in Okanagan Falls that dates back over one hundred years. For more information on Okanagan Falls please contact the Okanagan Falls Visitor & Information Centre at 250-497-6260 or go to www.visitokfalls.com.



Credit: Keri Medig - Destination BC

AREA GOLF

The South Okanagan boasts spectacular golf courses, and the longest golf season in the interior of British Columbia. The warm and dry climate makes it possible to play from early March to late November. There are five championship courses within the vicinity of Oliver, Osoyoos, and Okanagan Falls.

OSOYOOS GOLF CLUB

is a 36-hole golf facility, bringing together ideal desert climate and picturesque Okanagan surroundings. Perched high above the Town of Osoyoos, vistas of mountains, lake, desert, and valley, comprise the two full eighteen hole championship layouts,

which offer all golfers a unique golfing experience.

Park Meadows Course is eighteen holes of lush beauty. It is indeed the jewel of the valley with its rolling hills, fairways, and graceful willow trees. Blue Tees-6208 yards.

Desert Gold Course is a breathtaking par 71 course measuring from 4924-6500 yards on four distinct tee decks situated on a desert bench overlooking Osoyoos Lake and the vineyards and orchards of the South Okanagan. The desert course layout offers length,

challenge and Okanagan Valley scenery. Gold Tees- 6500 yards. The Osoyoos Country Club has a fully stocked Golf PRO Shop. The Country Club has three CPGA Golf Professionals and staff who offer custom club fitting and instruction. The facility also offers a 14 stall driving range on which to warm up before a round. For more information and tee times Tel: 1-800 481-6665. www.golfosoyoos.com

SONORA DUNES GOLF COURSE, A desert-style 9-hole golf course, Sonora Dunes offers golfers of all abilities a one of a kind natural setting. Nestled among the rolling desert hills and lush vineyards of Osoyoos, this par-35, 2,523-yard golf course is surrounded by the breathtaking natural beauty of Canada's only true desert. The friendly atmosphere, affordable rates and non-membership format offer golfers a unique opportunity to enjoy their round to the fullest.

Please visit www.sonoradunes.com to book a tee time or explore the course in detail.

FAIRVIEW MOUNTAIN GOLF COURSE is nestled in the hills immediately southwest of Oliver with sweeping views of vineyards, orchards, lakes and the valley. Fairview Mountain is an 18-hole course with distinctively different holes and constant elevation changes and is widely acclaimed as one of the best golf courses in the country, rated # 18 by Score magazine on a

list of top courses in Canada. The golf club offers an extensive short game practice facility with putting greens, pitching area, and sand traps. The clubhouse is set on a gentle slope overlooking both the 1st tee and the 18th green and has a fully equipped pro shop, power carts, licensed dining lounge, patios, barbeque area, banquet facilities, locker rooms and shower and offers club rentals, CPGA lessons and clinics, and tournament services. Championship Tees 6574 Yards Par 72. 250-498-6050. www.fairviewmountain.com

ST. ANDREWS BY-THE-LAKE

Located south of Penticton near the Astrophysical Observatory on White Lake Road, this mature mid-length nine-hole golf course will appeal to golfers of all levels. The signature hole is a 165-yard par three requiring a tee shot over water to an island green with its own miniature "Swilken Bridge."

St. Andrews offers guests a memorable golfing experience, a clubhouse with huge deck with a stunning view over the golf course and great food in a full service restaurant and bar. 250-497-5648; www.standrewsby-thelake.com

TWIN LAKES GOLF & RV RESORT

This spectacular & challenging 18-hole golf course is located 15 min. Southwest of Okanagan Falls on 285 acres of serene and secluded mountain terrain. This unforgettable golf course also features a full service RV Park & Campground. Services: power carts, club rentals, CPGA lessons, practice facilities, pro shop, private tournaments. Licensed dining, bar & grill, banquet facilities, sun patio, snack shack, beverage cart, full service 60 site RV Park and Campground. 18-hole Championship Tees. 6867 Yards Par 72/74. (250) 497-5359; www.twinlakes-golfresort.com



Credit: NK'Mip Canyon Desert Golf

NK'MIP CANYON DESERT

GOLF COURSE, located in Oliver is regarded as one of the finest desert links golf courses in the area. Owned and operated by the Osoyoos Indian Band, Nk'Mip Canyon is recognized as a championship calibre 18-hole facility and is a destination for provincially sanctioned tournaments. With its natural setting amongst canyons, vineyards, waterways, and natural desert vegetation, Nk'Mip Canyon is one of the most picturesque settings in the valley.

Championship yardage playable from 6,800 to 7,000 yards; Front tees from 5,100 yards to 5,600 yards; Driving Range with 14 stalls and 5 target greens; Practice area beside the driving range; Separate practice area for chipping; Putting greens; Golf Boards available to enhance your golf experience; GPS systems on golf carts; CPGA instructions and clinics; Fully stocked pro shop.

On site is a fully licensed restaurant that serves a variety of cuisine as well as stocking many of the area's best wines. Book tee times at 1-800-656-5755 or local number 250-498-2880 our membership packages. www.nkmipcanyon.ca

WINTER



Credit: Josee Bergeron - Baldy Mountain Resort.

MT. BALDY SKI AREA Local and visiting snow enthusiasts will tell you, Baldy Mountain Resort is extremely well-known for some of the best pow-days/weeks in the

interior, and with affordable season passes for the entire family and beautiful runs to choose from, you'll do more than just dream of pillowy lines through open bowls and face shots in perfectly spaced trees—you'll live it!

Founded in 1968, Baldy is located on the south side of Mt. Baldy in the South Okanagan, just north of the Canada-US border. Baldy is an old, inactive volcano and has a base elevation of 5,650 feet above sea level, which is 2,000 feet below the mountain peak.

The surrounding towns of Osoyoos and Oliver embrace and proudly showcase their vintner industry, sophisticated resorts, championship golf courses, and a wide range of cultural, intellectual and artistic experiences.

Baldy Mountain Resort rests on a vast and rugged landscape of hills and grasslands perfect for hiking, biking and wildlife viewing within easy access to the city.

Breathtaking views, an amazing community, epic amounts of natural snow and exclusive real estate—what more could you ask for?

See you soon! For more information visit baldyresort.com

MCKINNEY NORDIC SKI Club is located 10 km from Mt. Baldy on the McKinney Rd. (27 km from Oliver). There are 14km of cross-country trails, with a variety of levels of difficulty. The trails are groomed and track set regularly by volunteer groomer operators with a Bombadier Snow Cat. There is a restroom on site, but no lodge. Trail maps are posted at all junctions.

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SOUTH OKANAGAN WINE COUNTRY

To compliment an already magnificent area, the South Okanagan wineries add a unique taste to the palate. Although vineyards are not new to this area, they have experienced unprecedented growth over the past fifteen years.

Many factors make this area ideal for grape production. The unique microclimates and soil types and availability of irrigation produce the right elements for growing high quality grapes. Most vineyards grow the highly regarded viniferas. The

varietal styles include both red and white wine producing grapes, with significant concentrations of German and French vines. Foremost varieties grown include, Merlot, Chardonnay, Cabernet, Sauvignon, Pinot Gris and Syrah. Vintners are continually introducing new varieties further proving the grape growing strength of this unique climate. This is also the ideal climate for the highly prized ice wine, with British Columbia being the largest producer of ice wine in the world. Oliver is known as the center of the wine industry in the Okanagan

with the largest concentrations of both vineyards and commercial wineries in B.C. The South Okanagan wineries range from large diversified operations with huge cellars to smaller family run wineries. Both operations continue to win medal after medal at world wine competitions. Wineries offer tours and wine tasting... a wonderful cultural experience which is not only pleasing to the palate, it is also a feast to the eyes. Some of the wineries feature a restaurant or deli for visitors to relax and savour a meal paired with their favorite wine while enjoying the stunning views of the valley. Grape harvesting takes place between mid September and the end of October.

THE OKANAGAN FALLS WINERY ASSOCIATION'S area of 185 hectares encompasses 15 wineries and extends from the shores of Skaha Lake to the tip of Vaseux Lake. Each year Winery Association hosts fun and innovative events centered on wine such as: Party in the Park and Holiday Cheer. To view more events, check out the 2019 Calendar of Events on the website at www.ofwa.ca

THE OLIVER OSOYOOS WINERY ASSOCIATION is located in Canada's prime agricultural area and starts at McIntyre Bluff north of Oliver, and extends to the Canada/US border south of Osoyoos. The geographical boundaries encompass 41 winery members. The Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association hosts three events each year. The Pig Out, The Half Corked Marathon and Winter in Wine Country. Visit www.oliverosoyoos.com to learn more.

OKANAGAN WINE FESTIVALS The Spring Okanagan Wine Festival heralds the arrival of spring in the Okanagan during the first two weeks of May each year. Partake in over 60 events throughout the Okanagan, featuring a focus on wine and culinary arts. The Summer Okanagan Wine Festival



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is a valley wide festival for guests to be treated to wine education, arts, music, gourmet meals, wine tasting and outdoor recreation is August.

The Fall Okanagan Wine Festival takes place at the beginning of October during harvest. The Festival features over 165 events throughout the Okanagan Valley, including vineyard tours, lunches, dinners, events and of course the fall grape/wine harvest.

Ranked as one of the top 100 events in North America, this celebration runs for ten days leading up to the Canadian Thanksgiving in October each year.

Local celebrations include Oliver's Festival of the Grape where the main focus is on wine. This event also features live entertainment, food, and vendors from local businesses, games and a hilariously entertaining grape stomp. www.oliverfestivalofthegrape.ca
 Okanagan Wine Festivals Society. www.thewinefestivals.com.



Okanagan Falls Winery Association ofwa.ca

- 1 Blasted Church blastedchurch.com
- 2 Blue Mountain Vineyard and Cellars bluemountainwinery.com
- 3 Crescent Hill Winery crescenthillwinery.com
- 4 Kráze Legz Vineyard and Winery krazelegz.com
- 5 Liquidity Wines liquiditywines.com
- 6 Meyer Family Vineyards mfwines.com
- 7 Nighthawk Vineyards nighthawkvineyards.com
- 8 Noble Ridge Vineyards noblerridge.com
- 9 Painted Rock Estate Winery paintedrock.ca
- 10 Pentáge Winery pentage.com
- 11 Play Estate Winery playwinery.com
- 12 See Ya Later Ranch sylranch.com
- 13 Stag's Hollow Winery stags-hollowwinery.com
- 14 Synchronesh Wines synchroneshwines.ca
- 15 Wild Goose Winery wildgoosewinery.com

Oliver Osoyoos Winery Association oliverosoyoos.com

- 1 Atega on 45th adegaon45.com
- 2 Bartier Brothers bartierbros.com
- 3 Black Hills blackhillswinery.com
- 4 Blue Sky blueskywinery.ca
- 5 Bordertown bordertownwinery.com
- 6 Burrowing Owl bowine.ca
- 7 C.C. Jentsch Cellars ccjentschcellars.com
- 8 Castoro de Oro castorodeoro.com
- 9 CheckMate Artisanal Winery checkmatewinery.com
- 10 Church & State (Coyote Bowl) churchandstatewines.com
- 11 Covert Farms covertfarms.ca
- 12 Culmina culmina.ca
- 13 Desert Hills deserthills.ca
- 14 Fairview Cellars fairviewcellars.ca
- 15 Gehringer Brothers gehringerwines.ca
- 16 Gold Hill goldhillwinery.com
- 17 Here's The Thing heresthethingvineyards.com
- 18 Hester Creek hestercreek.com
- 19 Hidden Chapel hiddenchapelwinery.com
- 20 Inniskillin inniskillin.com
- 21 Intersection xwine.ca
- 22 Jackson-Triggs jacksontriggswinery.com
- 23 Kismet kismetstatewinery.com
- 24 La Casa Blanca lacasabianca.ca
- 25 Lariana larianacellars.com
- 26 Maverick maverickwine.ca
- 27 Montakarn montakarn.ca
- 28 Moon Curser mooncurser.com
- 29 Nk'Mip Cellars nkmpicellars.com
- 30 Oliver Twist olivertwistwinery.com
- 31 Pipe Dreams pipedreamswinery.com
- 32 Platinum Bench platinumbench.com
- 33 Quinta Ferreira quintaferreira.com
- 34 River Stone riverstoneestatewinery.com
- 35 Road 13 road13vineyards.com
- 36 Rust Wine Co. rustwine.com
- 37 Silver Sage siversagewinery.com
- 38 Stoneboat stoneboatvineyards.com
- 39 Tinhorn Creek tinhorn.com
- 40 vinAmité vinamitecellars.com
- 41 Young & Wyse youngandwysewine.com



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AREA LAKES

The Lakes in this area provide an abundance and variety of recreational opportunities from fishing, to water skiing, swimming & parasailing.

VALLEY LAKES

OSOYOOS LAKE Power boats are permitted on Osoyoos Lake that extends through Osoyoos into Washington state. Although the lake is well-known to water skiers and sun bathers, anglers can find a variety of fish in its waters. Spring and fall are the best times to catch rainbow trout and kokanee, and the bass fishery peaks in the summer.

Some of the shoreline, especially within the town is privately owned property, but there are several public boat launching areas. Private campgrounds and

resort areas also offer boat ramps and facilities.

TUC-EL-NUIT LAKE is located on in Oliver, with 3 public access areas. It is a spring fed lake and no power boats are allowed. It's a calm and beautiful lake, great for swimming, canoeing and fishing. The Rotary beach access has a sandy beach and grassy area with picnic tables.

VASEUX LAKE is located off Highway 97 and is easily accessible. It is closed to power boats. The lake with its beautiful shoreline is popular for canoeing and wildlife watching. Vaseux Lake is also known for its bass fishing (largemouth and smallmouth), rainbow trout, whitefish and kokanee.

SKAHA LAKE Power boats are permitted on this lake and it is enjoyed by community residents as well as visitors for all types of water recreation. The lake has an extensive beach area especially at the Okanagan Falls end and the Penticton end. All fish native to the Columbia River Drainage reside in these waters.

THE OKANAGAN RIVER Channel meanders for miles connecting Skaha, Vaseux and Osoyoos Lakes. With several access areas fishing is allowed for part of the year. The fishery is closed between Vaseux and Osoyoos Lakes from Oct.1st to Nov. 15th. Spring closures also apply.

MOUNTAIN LAKES

SAWMILL LAKE You can troll for trout on Sawmill Lake using single barbless artificial flies. There is also a bait ban and catch-and-release restriction (this is a no-kill fishery). The lake is regularly stocked and some trophy-sized fish hide in its waters. Sawmill Lake is located west of Oliver off White Lake Road.

MADDEN LAKE is regularly stocked with rainbows and the B.C. Forest Service has set up a small picnic area on the shore. Madden



Osoyoos Lake Credit: Destination Osoyoos

Lake is located about 10 kilometers west of Oliver.

BEAR LAKE OR RIPLEY LAKE, as it is also known, is located one kilometer north of Madden Lake. While slightly smaller, it too is regularly stocked with rainbow trout.

MAHONEY LAKE is located on Green Lake road in the hills northwest of Oliver. Unique in BC and rare in the world because of its qualities, it is classified as a meromictic lake, meaning a lake with only partial circulation. It is designated as an ecological reserve and is closed to camping and recreational activities.



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