

TRAVEL TIPS:

Shuttles and taxis are available from the Victoria International Airport to the Inner Harbour and major hotels. The conference hotel, The Chateau Victoria, is only a few blocks from the Inner Harbour. Float planes and ferries from the United States are also quite near to the Inner Harbour.

If you are flying into Vancouver International Airport, a direct coach service is available to downtown Victoria through Pacific Coach Lines. Traveling via the BC Ferry System (Tsawwassen-Swartz Bay, past the scenic Gulf Islands), transit time is approximately 2.5 hours, including the 1.5 hour sailing. Ticket rates may vary but should be approximately \$30 Canadian, one way.

For American travelers, Victoria is also accessible by ferry from Port Angeles and Seattle (passenger service only) in Washington State. See <www.victoriaclipper.com> for information on Seattle-Victoria ferry service (passenger only, no vehicles) or phone 1-800-888-2535. Also see <www.cohoferry.com> for information on Port Angeles-Victoria ferry service (passenger and vehicle service) or phone 1-360-457-4491.

Victoria has warm and temperate summers with less precipitation than other West Coast cities such as Vancouver or Seattle, but rain is always possible and an umbrella can be handy. If you are planning to stay in Victoria after the conference or will arrive early, it has an excellent public transit system and readily available taxis. The University of Victoria is outside the centre of the city but is on the major transit routes, with several direct busses from the Inner Harbour or a short drive.

Victoria

As a city, Victoria is located on the Southern tip of Vancouver Island and is the capital of British Columbia. It is a small city rich in heritage sites and a deliberately maintained 'Englishness,' as is implicit in its name. It is easy traveling distance from Vancouver by ferry, bus, or plane, and it has a vibrant arts community and history for a small city.

Victoria is Western Canada's oldest city and is known as the city of gardens, among which Beacon Hill Park and the Butchart Gardens are the most striking (the former is public and walking distance from the conference hotel). It has a mild climate with warm, dry summers. Attractions in Victoria include eco-tourism, the Royal British Columbia Museum, Emily Carr House, and for those with families, Whale Watching tours and Miniature World.

BARD ON THE BEACH

Nearby, in Vancouver, the Bard on the Beach Festival will feature performances of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, *Measure for Measure*, and *The Winter's Tale* in the weeks before, during, and after the conference. *Troilus and Cressida* is scheduled shortly thereafter. See <www.bardonthebeach.org> for more information.

WHALE WATCHING

Whale Watching boat trips are readily available in Victoria. We recommend the "Prince of Whales," which has tours on larger vessels at 9:00 am, 12:30, and 3:30 every day, as well as tours on smaller zodiacs every 30 minutes in the summer. Departures are from the Inner Harbour near the conference hotel. Reservations for tours are recommended but can be made once in Victoria. For more information, see <www.princeofwhales.com> or call toll free: 1-888-383-4884.

SILENT AUCTION

Because the conference provides an easy forum for the exchange of books, articles, and other scholarly materials (and because we would like to raise a little money for the Durrell society), we will reserve space for a silent auction. To make this a success, we are asking you to bring something you'd like to donate (books, articles, off-prints) that would be of interest to other conference participants.