



# ABBOTSFORD

HANDMADE & HOMEGROWN

## Story Angles

(Abbotsford, BC) Take advantage of the land and community around us – eateries, activities, and trails are at your doorstep. From the peaceful plains of Sumas Prairie and Matsqui Flats, to the rolling hills of Mt. Lehman and the rugged backcountry of Sumas Mountain – together with the exciting urban flare sprouting downtown – Abbotsford is a landscape full of unique and remarkable experiences. This story angle list is loaded with handmade and homegrown experiences.

### INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (YXX)

*Abbotsford International Airport is the second largest airport in the Lower Mainland, offering daily domestic scheduled services and seasonal international scheduled services. Abbotsford Airport has a longstanding general aviation community and an established **aerospace** community, including **Cascade Aerospace**, the **Conair Group**, **Marshall Aerospace Canada**, and the **University of the Fraser Valley Aerospace Centre**. YXX underwent a 14-000 square foot expansion, adding new gates and additional passenger seating capacity.*

### LOCAL FARM FOOD

The Fraser Valley is BC's largest agricultural region. Abbotsford takes great pride in being a strong agricultural destination..

#### **Circle Farm Tour**

*The Circle Farm Tour program allows visitors to experience the edible landscape of the Fraser Valley in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Langley, and the Harrison River Valley. Each tour has its own self-guided road map leading to agri--tourism sites, wineries, farm-gate vendors, eateries, markets, and heritage sites.*



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## RESTAURANTS, BISTROS, AND CAFÉS

### **Black Casket Café**

A charismatic café in the west end of Abbotsford, serving classic café fare with a spooky twist, in an atmosphere of gothic glam vibes. Enjoy homemade soups, sandwiches, themed beverages and sweet treats, or build your own sandwich to satisfy your cravings.

### **Brambles Bistro**

At Brambles Bistro, brunch is more than just a meal-- it's food for all your senses. You'll find yourself seated in a tranquil, garden setting as you choose from farm-fresh entrées. Be sure to explore the European-inspired Tanglebank Gardens gift store, filled with handmade and notable creations.

### **Brodeur's Bistro**

A blend of Montreal & New Orleans cuisine, Brodeurs is known for its authentic cuisine and cozy atmosphere. Menu items include smoked meat sandwiches, jambalaya, and rotisserie chicken. All with a choice of 28 sides.

### **Café Amarti**

Café Amarti, named for the Italian word meaning "to love one another", aims to foster a sense of belonging and love in the community through the shared enjoyment of European inspired craft coffee and food.

### **Foxglove Floral Café**

Foxglove is a creative-minded café and flower shop located in the Rail District. Foxglove offers a full craft coffee and seasonal food menu, a creatively-designed space, fresh floral arrangements, and curated goods.

### **Restaurant 62**

Indulge in a farm-to-table meal at **Restaurant 62 (R62)**. R62's talented culinarians pride themselves on using only the freshest ingredients, earning rave reviews. Starters and sides are designed to be shared and the warm, contemporary interior lends itself to everything from a date night to a meal out with friends.

### **Table Bistro**

The Table Bistro is an elevated, approachable and artisanal bistro, adding a twist to traditional dishes paired with select wines and cocktails.

### **Zilla's Donuts**

This newly-opened storefront, just outside of the downtown region at the corner of Maple Street and Walnut Avenue, offers a variety of unique, handmade donuts with a line-up that changes regularly.



## HISTORIC DOWNTOWN: Shop, Sip, and Savour

Historic Downtown Abbotsford has Portland feels with its vibing mix of small businesses, independent restaurants, and boutique shops. Highlights include organic clothing, apothecary goods, handcrafted pottery, wearable sculptures and jewellery, vintage homewares, restored furniture, vinyl from every genre, new and used books, strong brews, artisanal bakeries and cafés.

### **ARTISAN FOOD:**

#### **Amici Wine Bar**

*Amici Wine Bar Osteria & Enoteca is a place where 'amici' (Italian word for 'friends') can gather and enjoy a sense of belonging, a community built around love, laughter, wine, and good food.*

#### **Aurora Roasting**

*Artisnal coffee shop and café.*

#### **Banter Ice Cream**

*Small batch ice cream, thoughtfully crafted using local ingredients.*

#### **Boardwalk Café and Games**

*Boardwalk Café is one of the premier locations for experiential entertainment and social gatherings in Abbotsford and the Fraser Valley. Featuring the best table-top games alongside handcrafted sandwiches, specialty coffees, local food and treats. Over 300 games to choose from.*

#### **Bow & Stern**

*This family owned, local restaurant opened its doors in 2014. Specializing in delicious seafood dishes, Bow and Stern harbours a sense of character. Guests arrive to photos of boats lining the walls and distressed pieces, reminiscent of treasures retrieved from the bottom of the sea.*

#### **Brgr Brgr**

*A place so nice they named it twice! Brgr Brgr offers good people a good brgr (and a good beer) in a place that feels good. Brgr Brgr believes in knowing where food comes from, supporting farms, and creating products that taste fresh, not frozen.*

#### **Duft & Co Bakehouse**

*Duft & Co was created with the desire to bring high quality, fresh, and handmade fare to our community. The team strives to make a difference in the way people experience food by creating inspired dishes using the best seasonal and locally-sourced ingredients. All of the menu items are designed and prepared with passion and skill, while reflecting Duft & Co.'s belief that food is love.*

#### **La Reina**

*La Reina brings a fusion of Mexican Cuisine meets California, with a shout-out to Miami's old school vibe.*



### **Oldhand Coffee**

Oldhand Coffee is run and owned by a husband and wife duo. It is a place where people can enjoy specialty coffee and baking at their family-owned café and where they see pictures of the past generations of European family members who inspire them to do what they do—create a more elevated, heart-felt and immersive experience of hospitality.

### **Polly Fox Bakery**

Polly Fox is a bakery and bistro, specializing in 100% gluten and allergen-free baked goods. From decadent treats to snacks and small meals, each bite is made with fresh, locally-sourced ingredients.

### **Re:Vive Boutique Bistro**

A new concept and integrated Boutique and Bistro experience in downtown Abbotsford where guests can sip, shop, gather, graze, and be revived. Visitors are offered brunch to dinner and coffee to wine.

### **The Habit Project**

A cold-pressed juice company serving a range of healthy, locally-sourced salads, superfood smoothies, and acai bowls.

### **The Pastry Portal**

The Pastry Portal is a bakery and coffee shop that opened in early 2023. From fresh croissants and sandwiches to special events and cooking classes, this cafe has become a well-frequented hotspot.

### **Tracycakes Bakery Café**

Tracycakes is the perfect setting to linger over coffee and cupcakes, elegant High Tea, or a glass of wine. The menu features made-from-scratch meals including soups, salads, sandwiches, and quiche. Signature cupcakes are baked daily and come in more than 40 varieties.

## **ARTISAN SHOPPING:**

### **Spruce Collective**

Spruce Collective and the Market are operated by Kevi, Monica, Jessica, Lily, and Elisa. With different backgrounds, and years of experience in styling, design, and art, not to mention five sets of meticulous eyes scouring vintage hideaways for the most perfect treasures, the ladies are sure to inspire unforgettable affairs.

### **Vintelier**

A women's clothing boutique where customers can find vintage looks coming together with modern fashion.

### **Yes Chef!**

A speciality kitchen, home, and giftware store.



## **TOURS:**

### ***Chew On This Tasty Tours***

*Take a curated, all-inclusive tour of Historic Downtown Abbotsford. Traverse charming historic roads on a journey from savoury to sweet and back, indulging in artisanal ice cream, divine baked goods, and delectable bites while unravelling the city's tales through mesmerizing murals.*

## **GATHERING HUBS:**

### ***Jubilee Park***

*Jubilee Park is centrally located near Historic Downtown Abbotsford and has a history as a preferred venue for many community events. The park has recently been upgraded in order to enhance safety, improve visibility and increase parking.*

### ***Centennial Building in Historic Downtown Abbotsford***

*Home to the **Abbotsford Downtown Business Association**, **Tourism Abbotsford**, **UFV CityStudio**, and **Banter Ice Cream**, the newly renovated Centennial Building in Historic Downtown Abbotsford is a key gathering space, allowing for the further development of Abbotsford's vibrant and diverse economy, now serving as the home to some of the dynamic organizations that are shaping the City's future.*



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## ABBY'S ALE TRAIL

### **Canuck Empire Brewing**

Canuck Empire Brewing is a nano brewery in Abbotsford's U-District, located across the street from Abbotsford Centre, creating distinctive beers for off-beat Canadians. Guests can enjoy 10 beers on tap, food options, and a dog-friendly patio.

### **Field House Brewing**

Field House is all about the vibes, marrying good beer and fun times. Brews are carefully crafted and there are ten taps to choose from. The Canteen takes it beyond farm-to-plate with the Field House crew actually growing and harvesting their own produce. Everything is made on-site with bites like a charcuterie board, flatbreads, pizzas, tacos, and soups. When it comes down to the beer, the Field House crew is known for collaborating with local farmers and creating classic styles infused with farm-fresh goodness.

### **Loudmouth Brewing Company**

Located near the Abbotsford International Airport, Loudmouth Brewing Co. serves housemade craft beer, craft soda, and scratch-made lunch and dinner entrées, such as rotisserie chicken and biscuits.

### **Old Abbey Ales**

At Old Abbey Ales, every drop of beer is created with the finest ingredients starting with Fraser Valley water, pale ale malt from Armstrong, and hops, raspberries, and blueberries from local farms.

### **Old Yale Brewing**

A 10,000 sq ft, 200-seat craft brewery, home to a 10-hectoliter brewery. Old Yale Brewery in Historic Downtown Abbotsford offers 15 beers on tap, a selection of wine, cider, and cocktails, and a delicious, campfire-inspired menu to suit every appetite. The space includes a cozy heated and covered patio, and a large, themed, indoor seating area, Games Lodge and Old Yale Beer & Gear Store.

### **Ravens Brewing Company**

Located minutes off the highway, bright big windows make this space feel bright and airy. With communal tables and bar seating, there are plenty of seating options around to enjoy your beer. Ravens creates approachable beers, while honouring the ingredients that make it great, and collaborates with local businesses to develop their products from hops, strawberry, and raspberry farmers, to coffee and bake shops and chocolatiers.

### **Trading Post Brewery**

Throughout history, breweries have been a fundamental part of the communities they serve. Trading Post's modern-day craft brewery was born out of passion and a desire to serve the communities called home.

Learn more about the **Fraser Valley Ale Trail**.



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## GRAPES, FRUIT, AND HONEY WINES

Welcome to one of BC's secrets—the Fraser Valley is a booming winery destination. The Fraser Valley's agricultural history and rich terroir serves as an ideal location for growing premium grapes and fruits.

### **Campbells Gold Honey Farm and Meadery**

The 'busy bees' create a honey-sweet experience! The owners love meeting new people and teaching their guests everything there is to know about bees, how they communicate, and what they produce. Sample honey, bring home a bottle of honey wine and other unique gifts.

### **Cannon Estate Winery**

Cannon Estate Winery is a family owned winery in the historic Mt Lehman farming area, with a mission to showcase the Fraser Valley as a hidden gem on the rise in the Canadian winemaking space. They offer elegant, French-style, terroir-focused wine created for the connoisseur collector, as well as social wines created to be shared with friends and family.

### **Maan Farms Estate Winery**

Farming for four decades, the Maans began growing premium strawberries and introduced themselves at a simple fruit stand. From a fruit stand to a family-friendly destination, the Maan Estate Winery is their latest endeavor. From vine to glass, the award-winning Maan Farms Estate Winery uses high quality fresh fruit and process with a minimum number of sulfites. Varieties includes a strawberry/raspberry blend, blueberry and blackberry.

### **Mt. Lehman Winery**

Owned by the Siemens Family, Mt. Lehman Winery specializes in limited edition artisan wines, rooted in excellence and quality. Branded as a local favourite, and with 80 acres of red and white wine grape varieties, highlights include the Brawny Tawny, the Pinot Noir and Pinot Noir Reserve..

### **Ripples Winery**

The Fraser Valley is known for its high-yield berry growing including strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. Ripples infuses its own antioxidant-rich farm-fresh blueberries, producing beautiful handcrafted fruit wines. True to most wineries in Abbotsford, Ripples is family owned and operated. Also situated on the same property, New Wave Distilling is a craft distillery producing spirits made from organic berries picked and grown on the family farm.

### **Seaside Pearl Farmgate Winery**

It's the chapel in the country with the simple goal of cultivating, creating and sharing wines that whisper elegance and distinction. Balanced with richness and delicacy, feature wines include the Royal Engineers Petit Verdot, Landing Road Red Blend, and Sam and Isaac Pinot Gris.



### **Singletree Winery**

*Featuring small batches of less than 3,000 cases per year and always made with love, this award-winning family owned and operated winery offers a portfolio of wines that pay respect to the family's deep farming roots. Their premium grapes showcase the aromatic and crisp flavours created by BC's warm summer, mild winters, and nourishing soils with names, such as Harness and Homestead.*

### **Overnight at Brookside Inn**

*Brookside Inn Boutique Hotel is located in the heart of the Fraser Valley with views of Mt Baker, Pepin Brook Vineyard and the surrounding countryside. Brookside Inn is a luxury bed and breakfast accommodation featuring six individual suites and a gourmet, complimentary breakfast served each morning.*

## **BC BIRD TRAIL**

Look up, stay grounded. Situated on the Pacific Flyway, BC is home to a vast array of North America's best birdwatching opportunities. Whether you are a seasoned birder or just taking off, the BC Bird Trail is your guide to explore birding, conservation, and community in British Columbia.

The Fraser Valley Trail ushers birders along on a riverside tour of some of the province's richest birding regions. Composed of four unique communities, this trail stretches from the Township of Langley through the Fraser River cities of Abbotsford and Chilliwack to the Harrison River Valley.

### **Birding in Abbotsford**

*Abbotsford's 'Heart of the Valley' is ideal for birding. Our mild, varied climate, numerous parks, and position on a natural migration flyway make birding in Abbotsford a must-do for beginner and seasoned birders. Hotspots include Willband Creek Park, Mill Lake, Matsqui Trail, Aldergrove Regional Park, Fishtrap Creek, Sumas Prairie, and Chadsey Lake via Sumas Mountain. There have been over 300 bird species seen here in the Fraser Valley.*





## GREAT OUTDOORS AND PICTURE-WORTHY SPOTS

- *Discovery Trail*
- *Albert Dyck Lake*
- *Selfie spots: Golden Tree, Giant Berry Tree, The Reach Gallery Museum*
- *Historic Downtown Abbotsford with painted murals*
- *Douglas Taylor Park*

## ARTS AND CULTURE

### **Jam in Jubilee**

*Abbotsford's premiere outdoor concert experience.*

### **Taste of Abby Fall Food Festival**

*Taste of Abby is a premiere celebration in the beautiful Fraser Valley, where visitors can savour unique culinary experiences at the peak of harvest season, explore a curated selection of diverse events, tasting menus and limited-edition creations, and learn about Abbotsford's rich history, culture and cultivations. The third annual festival will run from September 13th – 22nd, 2024 with the Night Market happening on September 13th.*

## **HERITAGE ABBOTSFORD**

### **Clayburn Village Store**

*Clayburn Village Store takes guests back in time to 1912. The quaint store is located in the original building of the Clayburn Village General Store and features a wide array of traditional English goods and candy.*

### **South Poplar**

*This historic schoolhouse first opened its doors as a public school in January 1933. Although not having been used for regular lessons since the early 1960s, the building was placed on the municipal heritage register in 2005 and was recently restored by the Heritage Abbotsford Society.*

### **Trethewey House**

*Trethewey House was built in 1919 for B.C. lumber baron Joseph Ogle "J.O." Trethewey. The House is built in an "arts and crafts" style and is constructed using primarily local materials, making it distinct from other buildings of similar age within the City of Abbotsford.*

### **Turner House (aka the Maple Grove Dairy Farm House)**

*Constructed circa 1875, Turner House is significant as the only surviving house from the first phase of the European settlement on Matsqui Prairie. Despite its age, the home retains a high degree of original integrity and is valuable as an example of craftsman-style architecture.*



## **MUSEUMS**

### **Clayburn Village Museum**

*This museum is home to a collection of artefacts, photographs and a model of The Village of Clayburn, which was founded in 1905 as BC's first company town.*

### **Mennonite Heritage Museum**

*This museum's permanent exhibit hall illustrates the story of the Mennonites spanning 500 years, beginning with the Anabaptists of the 16th century. Seasonal exhibits throughout the year highlight various aspects of Mennonite history and faith, both in the Fraser Valley and beyond.*

### **Sikh Heritage Museum**

*The Sikh Heritage Museum was created, during Centennial celebrations, on the ground floor of the Gur Sikh Temple in Abbotsford – an important place of worship, originally built by Sikh migrants from 1908-1911 and designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 2002.*

### **The Reach Gallery Museum**

*The Reach Gallery Museum is the heart of culture and creative innovation in the Fraser Valley, presenting a year-round schedule of exhibitions and programs. The Reach Gallery Museum is committed to preserving and sharing the stories of our rich and diverse cultural heritage and showcasing the best in the visual arts from both inside and outside our community.*



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## FLOWER TRAILS: Part of GARDENS BC

Connect with nature and explore the beautiful gardens and agricultural attractions of Abbotsford for fun, adventure, beauty, rejuvenation, relaxation, and learning. A single-day trip will take you through Abbotsford's unique collection of gardens, farms and wineries.

### **Tulips**

The **Abby Tulip Fest**, presented by **Lakeland Flowers**, is Canada's largest tulip festival. The public is invited to explore 35 acres of tulips, followed by peonies, lavender, and meadow flowers as the season progresses.

### **Lavender**

Lavender fields can be explored during the **Abby Flower Fest at Lakeland Flowers**, and at **Tuscan Farm Gardens** where thousands of lavender plants welcome you with colour and fragrance. Discover water features and benches for a moment of contemplation. The shop at Tuscan Farm Gardens offers handmade, all-natural products created with the flowers and herbs grown at the farm, including essential oils soaps, honey, tea, and spa products, and, on weekends, guests can enjoy lavender ice cream, lemonade, and other treats.

### **Peonies and Meadow Flowers**

Stroll through rows of peonies and meadows of colour during the **Abby Summer Flower Fest at Lakeland Flowers**.

### **Sunflowers**

Sunflower attractions can be found at **Maan Farms**, **The Abby Sunflower Fest at Lakeland Flowers**, **Taves Family Farms Applebarn**, the **Eco Dairy**, and **Campbells Gold Honey and Meadery**. These attractions are part of the **Fraser Valley Sunflower Trail**.

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