

VANCOUVER

Vancouver in western Canada is named (0) *after* Captain George Vancouver of the British Royal Navy. However, Captain Vancouver was not the first European (16) visit the area. The coast (17) already been explored by the Spanish. Captain Vancouver did (18) spend many days there, even (19) he was warmly welcomed by the local people and the scenery amazed him and everyone else (20) was travelling with him.

The scenery still amazes visitors to (21) city of Vancouver today. First-time visitors who are (22) search of breathtaking views (23) usually directed to a beach which is about ten minutes (24) the city centre. There, looking out over the sailing boats racing across the blue water, visitors see Vancouver's towering skyline backed by the magnificent Coast Mountains. Then they sigh and say, 'It's (25) beautiful that I want to stay forever!'

You can't blame them. The city is regularly picked by international travel associations (26) one of the world's best tourist destinations. They are only confirming what the two million residents and eight million tourists visiting Greater Vancouver (27) single year already know: there is simply (28) other place on earth quite (29) it. It's not just the gorgeous setting where mountains meet the sea that appeals to people, (30) also Vancouver's wide range of sporting, cultural and entertainment facilities.