

# Expo 86 at a glance



## The site

Expo 86 will be located on two separate waterfront sites, both of them in the heart of downtown Vancouver within easy walking distance of major hotels, theatres, restaurants and other recreational facilities.

Vancouver is the largest port on the west coast of the Americas. It is home to more than one million people, and as a major convention city it is accustomed to handling as many as 10 million visitors a year. The city is young, sophisticated, cultured and cosmopolitan.

## The pavilions

Canada Place will be the largest and most complex pavilion at Expo 86, presenting exhibits and entertainments that will display the excitement and excellence of Canada.

The welcoming area will use a multi-screen presentation to illustrate Canadian creativity. Inside, new Canadian technology will be highlighted with a remote-sensed view of Canada from space, while the lofty main hall, under the pavilion's sail-like roof, will feature the hands-on technology of today and tomorrow on land, in the air and through electronic networks. Other areas will lead visitors underwater and into space, as well as along the Canadian shoreline and into the Arctic.

Canada Place is really several buildings all on one site. After Expo, it will consist of a hotel, cruise-ship terminal, World Trade Centre office building, giant-screen movie theatre and eventually an international trade and convention centre.

On the main Expo site, a key attraction will be the Expo Centre — a 17-storey-high geodesic dome containing theatres, exhibits, restaurants and shops. Among the attractions will be Canada's first and the world's largest 500-seat Omnimax Theatre where viewers will be able to see the 18-minute Omnimax film, *A Freedom to Move*, by an award-winning Canadian crew.

The film is a sensory voyage that transports the viewer from the frozen tundra of the North Pole to the sun-baked flats of the Mohave Desert, and

beyond to the far regions of space.

Inside the 323-seat Futures Theatre, visitors will be able to forecast the future at the first interactive theatre in Canada. By pressing buttons located in the arms of their seats, the audience will vote on possible future scenarios in world transportation and communications.

The third Expo Centre presentation, Design 2000, is a dynamic walk-through exhibit presenting other ideas of what may happen in the future.

As well as representation from every major country of the world there will also be six provincial pavilions — sponsored by British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia — two other federal pavilions — sponsored by the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. They will show the development of transportation and communications in Canada, from the early canoe routes through to the latest technology of today and tomorrow.

## Transportation on site

In keeping with the Expo theme of 'World in Motion, World in Touch', a number of advanced transportation systems have been developed to help people move on, and to and from, the two Expo sites.

The main site is connected end-to-end by a 5.5 kilometre monorail system, elevated five metres above the ground and offering its passengers a panoramic view of the exposition, and by an intra-site ferry service, stopping every few hundred metres along the shore. Backing this up are two skyride transportation systems, the Air Canada and Canadian Pacific gondolas, serving each end of the site.



CANADA PLACE