

Vancouver
MAGAZINE

city guide

GET INSIDE THE WORLD'S MOST APPEALING CITY

2008/09

The Best of
B.C. WINES

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DAY TRIPS



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Best Places

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Gastown/Chinatown

IT WAS ONLY a matter of time before the city's oldest neighbourhoods, with their stunning architecture and cobbled streets, were rediscovered. Tacky gift shops are giving way—at warp speed—to designer boutiques and atmospheric bars and bistros, while the spaces above them are being converted into stylish lofts and condos



▲ **Café Medina 1** Strong coffee and warm Belgian waffles (topped with fig/orange marmalade or lavender/milk chocolate) form the basis of the menu at this new on-point coffeehouse from the team behind still-trendy Chambar next door. A new full-service kitchen came on-line in May. 556 Beatty St., 604-879-3114; Medinacafe.com

STATISTICS

Average age

47

Residents per block

232

Percentage of renters

93

Median household income

31,733

Typical household



▲ **Provide 4** Robert Quinnell and David Keeler have created a striking lifestyle store on this once-bleak block of Beatty Street. Cast-resin vessels by noted local artist Martha Sturdy mingle with seashell-like bowls by Rina Menardi. 529 Beatty St., 604-632-0095; Providehome.com



▲ **The Block 3** With so many stores and ateliers opening in these parts, it's easy to overlook the boutique that's been here all along. Local designers get equal billing with exclusive-in-Vancouver brands; look for Anna de Courcy's striking pendant necklaces made from old thimbles and coins. 350 W. Cordova St., 604-685-8885; Theblock.ca

Chinatown Night Market 5 Keeler Street transforms into a lively outdoor bazaar every summer weekend, complete with market finds, free entertainment—some nights it's Cantopop; others, it's traditional Chinese opera—and flavourful street eats. From 6:30 to 11 p.m. every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday between May 16 and September 7



MARKETPLACE

503-36 Water St.
\$645,900

{ MAINTENANCE FEE } \$222.82

{ SPECS } 897 sq. ft., one-bedroom unit in the Terminus building; features geothermal heating and cooling, floor-to-ceiling windows, and rooftop patio

▲ **Nouvelle Nouvelle 2**

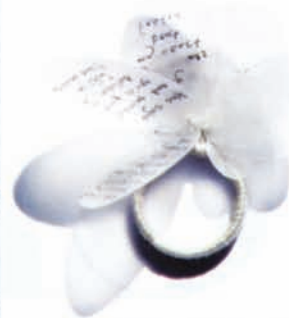
Go for easy-to-wear fashion-forward labels like Insight and Sessun, flattering trouser-cut jeans from Habitual, and a nice selection of accessories. 209 Abbott St., 604-639-9888; Nouvelle-nouvelle.com

TOP LEFT: GRAHAM WINTERBOTTOM; TOP RIGHT: GREGORY CROW



Message in a Bottle

SCENE Cocktails came of age in '07, but 2008 belongs solidly to sophisticated wine bars like the new **YEW** restaurant at the Four Seasons (791 W. Georgia St., 604-689-9333; Fourseasons.com/vancouver), which offers 200 wines by the glass, and its slick cousins **SALT TASTING ROOM** (Blood Alley, 604-633-1912; Salttastingroom.com) and **UVA** (900 Seymour St., 604-683-4251; Modahotel.ca), both of which serve fine cheeses and meats with their deep selections of wines.



BRIEFLY NOTED

FASHION Perhaps no piece embodies Vancouver's style bywords—"organic" and "modern"—better than jewellery designer **COLLEEN BARAN**'s Like Wearing a Love Letter rings. Made of milky polycarbonate, the rings are crafted in layers, with handwritten notes like "I love you" embedded within. Available at Dream, 311 W. Cordova St., 604-683-7326; Colleenbaran.com

Pillow Talk

SHOPPING Looking for the perfect accessories to accent your 500-square-foot condo? Enter **PROVIDE** (529 Beatty St., 604-632-0095, Providehome.com) where Robert Quinnell curates an exquisite collection of exclusive lines, from funky felted placemats to hand-embroidered pillows from Judy Ross textiles, all of with stylish, small-space living in mind.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: LUCAS FINLAY; KYOKO FIERRO; JENNY REED