

# Cultural District

## Self Guided Walking Tour

### The Sculpting of Space

The City of Kelowna is home to 68 works of public art, located in both indoor and outdoor settings throughout the city. Kelowna's Cultural District is home to 22 of these. For complete information, pick up our informative Public Art Brochure at visitor information centres or kiosks.

Look for the following pieces in the Cultural District, as marked by purple dots on the map:

#### Waterfront Park

- 'Rhapsody' by R. Dow Reid, 1993
- 'I Had a Dream' by Zhao Lei, 2002
- 'On the Beach' by Geert Maas, 2002

#### Kelowna Community Theatre

- 'A Quiet Beauty Assumes Our Valley' by Bob Kingsmill, 2000

#### City Hall

- 'Flexible Curves' by Tommie Gallie, 1986
- 'Sentinel' by Dawn MacNutt, 2002
- 'Okanagan Sunflowers' by Jo Scott-B, 2002
- 'Spirit of Kelowna' by Geert Maas, 2008

#### Stuart Park

- 'Bear' by Brower Hatcher, 2010

#### Kasugai Gardens

- 'Circle of Friendship' by Geert Maas, 1997

#### Queensway Transit Hub

- 'WAC Bennett Memorial Courtyard & Clock Tower' by Hartley & Turik Architects & Neon Products, 1981
- 'Running Man' by Marion Lea Jamieson, 2002

#### Memorial Arena

- Military Museum Murals, untitled
- (1) uncredited, 2013
- (2) Michelle Loughery, 2002
- (3) Larry Hunter, 2011

#### Doyle Ave. & Ellis St.

- 'Dancers IV' by Robert Holmes, 2010

#### Library Plaza

- 'Natural Language' by Jennifer Macklem & Kip Jones, 2000

#### Artwalk

- 'Fruit Stand' by Glen Anderson & TS Thomas, 2002

#### Rotary Centre for the Arts – South Courtyard

- 'Concept to Creation' by Diane Gorvin, Philip Bews & Jonathan Yeltatzie, 2002

#### Cawston Avenue – Tree grates

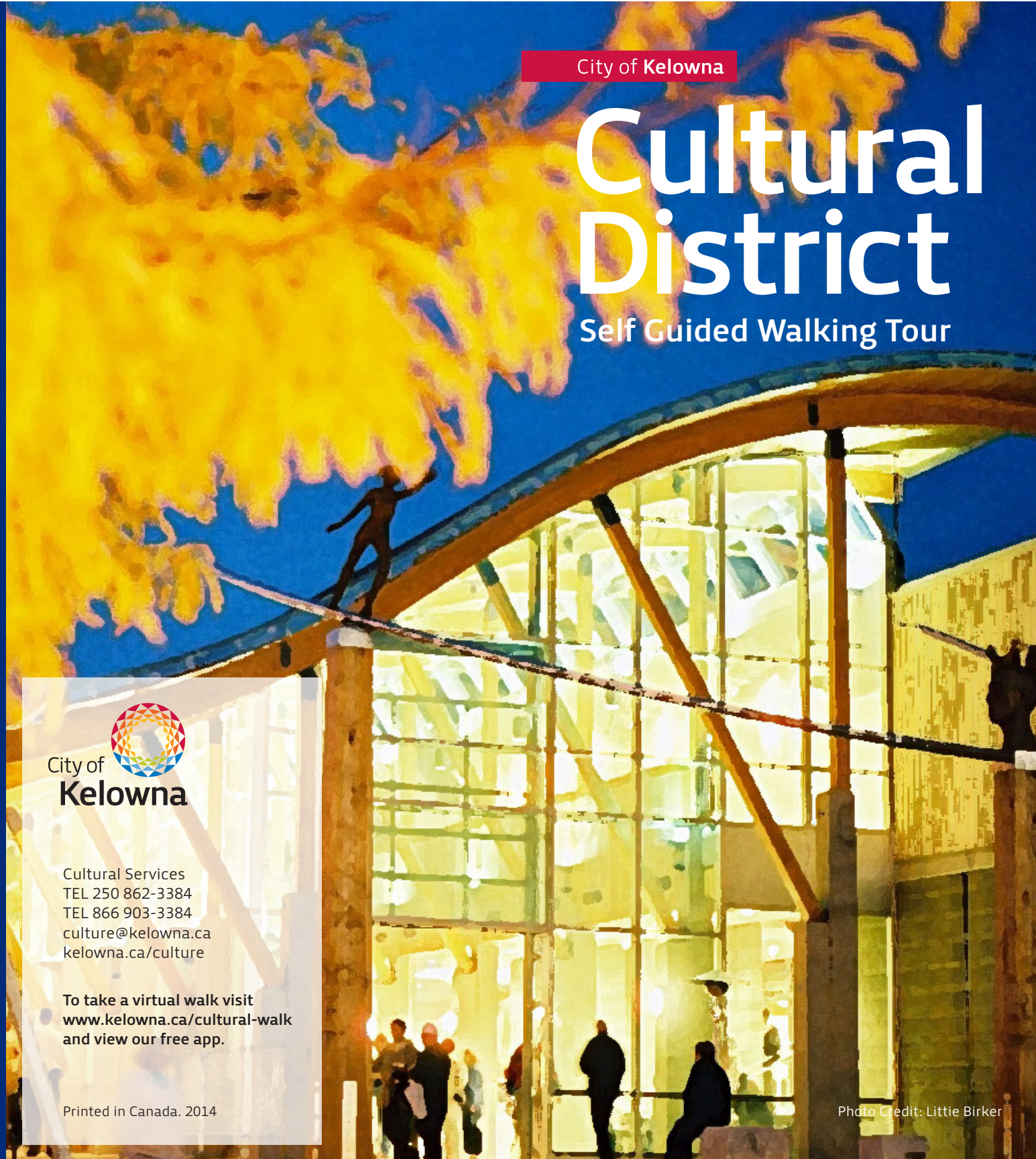
- 'Elemental' by Crystal Przybille, 2002

#### Kelowna Art Gallery

- 'Skagway' by Robert Murray, 1977

#### Old CN Station

- 'The Conductor' by Ken Curley, 2012






**City of Kelowna**

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To take a virtual walk visit  
[www.kelowna.ca/cultural-walk](http://www.kelowna.ca/cultural-walk)  
and view our free app.

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## Welcome to Kelowna's Cultural District

### who

In the north downtown area, City planners were faced with a defunct industrial zone, previously home to canneries, railways, shipping wharves, a sawmill, packinghouse and even a cigar factory. This six-block area, once the centre of the Okanagan fruit-packing industry was ripe for a rethink, with much of this land in public ownership.

### how


In the beginning, the City of Kelowna devoted planning and capital to turn this area into a Cultural District. An expanding collection of galleries, museums, performance venues and art facilities were joined by a resort hotel, upscale residential development and beautiful Waterfront Park.

### what

Starting in 2000, major initiatives were simultaneously undertaken to deliver the City's planned vision of a peopled place, one that lives beyond business hours, and provides for public enjoyment of Okanagan Lake. Today you will find year round arts, entertainment, outdoor festivals, classes and workshops, boutiques and restaurants, sports and natural spaces, and public art.

### In search of...

Check out our information kiosks at the Rhapsody Plaza, Spirit of Sail sculpture and Rotary Centre for the Arts.




### Self Guided Walking Tour Legend

- 1 WATERFRONT PARK
- 2 TUGBOAT BEACH
- 3 ROTARY MARSH
- 4 SIMPSON BOARDWALK
- 5 KELOWNA COMMUNITY THEATRE
- 6 STUART PARK
- 7 KASUGAI GARDEN
- 8 OKANAGAN HERITAGE MUSEUM
- 9 OKANAGAN MILITARY MUSEUM
- 10 LIBRARY
- 11 ARTWALK
- 12 RCA (ROTARY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS)
- 13 KELOWNA ART GALLERY
- 14 LAUREL PACKINGHOUSE
- 15 OLD CANNERY BUILDING
- 16 OLD CN STATION

- PUBLIC ART
- INFORMATION KIOSK
- PUBLIC WASHROOMS
- KELOWNA CULTURAL DISTRICT
- DOWNTOWN KELOWNA
- PARKING LOT



1

## Begin at Waterfront Park.

'Rhapsody', the sculpture at the entrance to the park, was commissioned in 1993 by Kelowna's Mayor and the former Grand Okanagan Hotel developer. It was created by local artist Robert Dow Reid who also created the 'Spirit of Sail' sculpture in City Park.

At the foot of the canal bridge is a three-sided information kiosk, where you'll find historical references, events listings and City brochures. There are four kiosks in total as identified by red dots on the map.

Walk over the Harmony Bridge towards the lake.



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At Tugboat Beach, there are two public art installations: the poetic sculpture 'I Had a Dream' by Zhao Lei, and the bronze family 'On the Beach' by Geert Maas.



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Just north of the Okanagan Heritage Museum on Ellis Street is the Memorial Arena and the Okanagan Military Museum dedicated to collecting, preserving and interpreting memorabilia relating to the military service of Okanagan Valley residents. The location of the museum has historical significance, as the Arena was built in 1946 and dedicated to WWII soldiers.

On the opposite side of Ellis Street, from Queensway to Clement Avenue, is a collection of unique boutiques and restaurants along with the Kelowna Actors Studio located directly across Ellis Street from the Library. This unique performance venue, housed in a former cold storage warehouse, is Kelowna's only dinner theatre, offering year-round entertainment.

Walk north along Ellis Street crossing Doyle Avenue.

The Kelowna Library was built in 1996. Its architecture quotes from the District's industrial past. Other new buildings in the District also reflect this history. Prominent in the Library's front plaza is 'Natural Language', a two-piece stainless steel sculpture installation by Jennifer Macklem and Kip Jones. The spiral bench and rotating infinity form are popular spots for parents and children.



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Walk past the front entrance of the Library and just past the Library parkade, at the entrance of the Artwalk, is the award-winning directional sign which directs viewers to the various Cultural District facilities through the image of books on a shelf.



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The Artwalk connects pedestrian traffic through the Cultural District. The grape vines are North American native vitis labrusca. 'Fruit Stand', a sculpture grouping of seven fruit forms, benches and apple box mosaics by Glen Andersen and TS Thomas, pays tribute to Kelowna's agricultural history.

To your right is Rotary Marsh, a natural wetland at the mouth of Brandt's Creek preserved during the residential development of this area. A boardwalk built over the marsh allows you to enjoy waterfowl in their natural surroundings. Watch for the osprey nest as well.

Return to Tugboat beach and continue walking along the promenade.



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The Simpson Boardwalk is named after local sawmill and box factory owner Stanley Simpson, who sold much of this waterfront property to the City in 1945.

Island Stage is at the center of Waterfront Park, a prominent feature of the Cultural District, made possible by a public/private partnership involving the former Grand Okanagan Hotel and several condominium developments.

As you continue to walk along the waterfront, you will come upon the marina and new 2014 clubhouse of the Kelowna Yacht Club. The yacht club was established in 1946 and had its original clubhouse located just south of the new facility.

Across Water Street from the yacht club sits the Kelowna Community Theatre built in 1962. It is Kelowna's first performance theatre, seating 868. The Community Theatre is home to Kelowna's two professional touring arts groups, the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra and Ballet Kelowna. Its lobby boasts the ceramic mural 'A Quiet Beauty Assumes Our Valley' by Bob Kingsmill.



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Walk through the Artwalk towards the Rotary Centre for the Arts.

As you arrive at the south side of the Rotary Centre for the Arts courtyard, you'll spot From 'Concept to Creation', a sculpture created by Diane Gorvin, Philip Bews and Jonathan Yeltatzie. This work illustrates the creative process from idea to finished form.



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The Arts Common is a City park located between the RCA and the Kelowna Art Gallery, and is used for festivals and performances.

The Kelowna Art Gallery (KAG) is strategically located across from the only hotel in the Cultural District. Founded in 1976, KAG hosts a diverse calendar of local, national and international exhibits, with innovative and educational public programming for all ages. 'Skagway' by Robert Murray enhances the outdoor space adjacent to the Gallery.

Keep left as you walk through Arts Common Park to arrive at the Kelowna Art Gallery.

The Kelowna Art Gallery (KAG) is strategically located across from the only hotel in the Cultural District. Founded in 1976, KAG hosts a diverse calendar of local, national and international exhibits, with innovative and educational public programming for all ages. 'Skagway' by Robert Murray enhances the outdoor space adjacent to the Gallery.

Turn back up Cawston Ave. and walk east past the RCA until you reach the Laurel Packinghouse.

As you walk along Cawston Avenue look for decorative tree grates, titled 'Elemental', created by Crystal Przybylio as a public art project.



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Next along the promenade is Stuart Park, named after former Kelowna Mayor James (Jim) Stuart. Completed in 2010, this City property features a lakeside promenade, performance platform and a civic plaza which doubles as a recreational ice rink during the winter months. This park is also home to a significant piece of public art, 'Bear', by Brower Hatcher.

Cross Water Street at the roundabout and continue walking east along Queensway Ave.

On your left is City Hall. Built in 1950 it was the first of a city-core move away from historical Bernard Avenue. It is open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. 'Spirit of Kelowna', by Geert Maas, and 'Sentinel', by Dawn MacNutt, are prominent art features of the foyer.



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Tucked in behind City Hall is Kasugai Garden, a symbol of friendship with Kelowna's Sister City, Kasugai Japan. It was completed in 1987 by Kelowna farmer Roy Tanaka, with assistance from visiting Japanese gardeners. The sculpture 'Circle of Friendship' by Geert Maas stands at the double gates.

Beside Kasugai Garden is Kelowna's most timely public art – the 'Bennett Courtyard' and 'Clock Tower', a memorial to distinguished Kelowna resident and politician WAC Bennett. Across the busy transit exchange is Marion Lea Jamieson's whimsical sculpture aptly named 'Running Man'.

Continue walking along Queensway Ave. toward Ellis St.

Set back from the corner sits the Okanagan Heritage Museum dedicated to Okanagan natural and human history.



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Built in 1917 using local brick, the Laurel Packinghouse is the oldest building of its kind in the province. Its unique architecture and angled southeast corner were designed to accommodate one of the many railway spurs that connected this and other packinghouses to the main rail line.

In 2010 the Laurel Packinghouse underwent an extensive structural upgrade to help ensure this valuable heritage site will be around for years to come. The Laurel is home to the Okanagan Wine & Orchard Museum located inside the Packinghouse.

Across Cawston Avenue from the packinghouse sits the Old Cannery Building, built in 1912 as a cigar factory and operating as a cannery from 1918 to 1960. Bumpershoot Children's Theatre makes its home here along with other shops and galleries.



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Just outside the Cultural District on the corner of Ellis Street and Clement Avenue sits the Old CN Station. The first passenger train arrived in Kelowna in 1925 but the Kelowna station was constructed in 1927, marking the beginning of passenger service to Kelowna which ended in 1965. This heritage building has undergone a major restoration and now operates as a pub restaurant.

At the north end of the Cultural District, across from Waterfront Park, is Prospera Place, which opened in 1999. This 6,000 seat venue hosts major concerts, events and trade shows. It is home to the Kelowna Rockets hockey team (the 2004 Memorial Cup and 2009 WHL Champions).

For brochures and more information on arts, culture and heritage in Kelowna visit [kelowna.ca/culture](http://kelowna.ca/culture)