



**WORLD'S MOST LIVEABLE CITIES \***

- 1 Vancouver (Canada)
- 2 Vienna (Austria)
- 3 Melbourne (Australia)
- 4 Toronto (Canada)
- 5= Perth (Australia)
- 5= Calgary (Canada)
- 7 Helsinki, Finland
- 8 Geneva, Switzerland
- 9= Sydney, Australia
- 9= Zurich, Switzerland
- 46 Manchester
- 51 London (UK)
- 140 Harare (Zimbabwe)

\*According to EIU Liveability survey 2009

**CANADA LEADS THE WORLD IN CITY LIVING**

If you could pack your bags and move to any city in the world, where would it be – Barcelona, Sydney, New York, or even Bangkok?

Vancouver should be at the top of your list, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) latest liveability survey, which assesses living conditions

in 140 major cities around the world.

To reach its results, the EIU rated each city using five categories: stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure.

While Vancouver scored the highest, there was little difference in the scores of cities in the top ten, which included

European cities Vienna (2nd), Helsinki (7th), Geneva (8th) and Zurich (joint 9th).

So how did the UK fare? Manchester was our highest scoring city (46), followed by London (51). How could we resist – here's our fast guide to what Vancouver has to offer, compared to Manchester.



**MANCHESTER**

**Famous in 4** Football clubs (Manchester United and Manchester City), red-brick architecture, its music scene (Oasis, Stone Roses), colourful nightlife (Canal Street).

**Hip district** The Northern Quarter between Piccadilly and the Ancoats is also known as the creative quarter. It's home to fashion designers, creative agencies, art galleries, bars and quirky retailers. You'll find students in the Rusholme and Fallowfield areas.

**Desirable district** Neighbouring suburbs Didsbury – very *Cold Feet* – and Chorlton, both south of the centre.

**Climate** Four seasons – but its nickname isn't the Rainy City for nothing.

**Where's the work?** Said to be the world's first industrialised city, Manchester was the centre of the world's textile industry (most of its suburban mills are now swanky apartments).

These days the majority of the jobs are in sales, services and finance companies, as well as media.

This modern two-bed flat in the centre of Manchester is on the market for £235K



**VANCOUVER**

**Famous in 4** The active lifestyle (with every kind of sport from mountain-climbing to kitesurfing), Stanley Park (North America's largest urban park), the high-density architecture known as 'Vancouverism', and Chinatown, one of the city's most popular areas for hanging out.

**Hip district** Main Street/Fraser Street, a culturally diverse area with plenty of eateries, bars, and unique clothing stores.

**Desirable district** West Vancouver, with its fine water views.

**Climate** Rainy and often foggy but warm in summer and with guaranteed snow in winter, although less in the city centre.

**Where's the work?** Vancouver is a mix of new and traditional industries. It's big in the video-game industry and is

known as Hollywood North for the number of films made there. It is also a transport hub for the Eastern Seaboard. Other industries include lumber, shipbuilding, fish processing, sugar- /oil-refining, textiles and plants for metal, wood and mineral products.



In Vancouver's Gastown district, Terminus has one- and two-bed flats. Prices from \$465,000 (£245,000). [www.BestHomesBC.com](http://www.BestHomesBC.com)