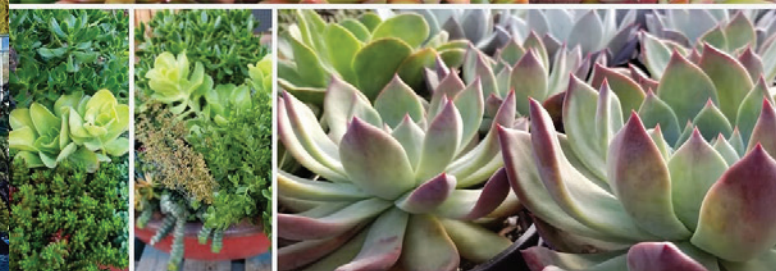


# BURNABY FARM TOUR

*Experience Urban Agriculture*



## Discover More About Burnaby

Check out the Tourism Burnaby website and social channels to help with your trip planning and learn more about the passionate makers, bakers, and growers you'll find at Burnaby farms, eateries and experiences.

Let the exploration begin!



  
 @exploreburnaby  
 TourismBurnaby.com



City of Burnaby  
 Planning and Development Department  
 604-294-7400 | [planning@burnaby.ca](mailto:planning@burnaby.ca)

## BIG BEND:

### *A Historic Farming District*

The Big Bend area was once a natural cranberry marsh where hən̓q̓əmiñəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples harvested berries and other resources for thousands of years.

After the colony of British Columbia was established in 1858, European settlers were encouraged to claim land through preemption, which allowed non Indigenous people to become landowners. Indigenous people were excluded from this system.

The first farmers in the 1860s were of European origin and grew crops and raised animals. By the early 1890s, the area had attracted a more diverse group of farmers, including Chinese Canadians.

Most early Chinese Canadian farmers leased or rented farmland from European landowners due to discriminatory legal and social restrictions on land ownership. By 1946, Chinese Canadian farmers rented an estimated 200 acres of Burnaby land.

Laura Jung at her family farm located near the Douglas Road interurban tram station.

BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM BV017.24.26. COURTESY OF JULIE LEE.



Members of the Hong family harvesting green onions at Hop On farm in the 1980s.

BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM BV017.36.11. COURTESY OF THE HONG FAMILY.

Gail Yip (centre), Carolyn Law with neighbour Tommy Yee on the Law family farm on Marine Drive in the Big Bend in 1955. COURTESY OF GAIL (LAW) YIP.



Produce Truck at Tong Yip Farm, established by D.T. Yip in 1948.

COURTESY OF KEN YIP

Chinese Canadian farmers worked together to share the labour intensive work. They achieved high levels of productivity on small size farms using traditional farming techniques and supplied fresh food to produce distributors and supermarkets in Burnaby and Greater Vancouver.

The active participation of Chinese Canadians during the Second World War changed social attitudes towards the community. Land ownership opportunities became available to Chinese Canadian farmers shortly after.

By 1974, there were approximately 27 farms in the Big Bend area operated by Chinese Canadian farmers. Most were less than 12 acres in size. Some families continue to operate these farms today, growing a variety of produce and plants.

Over 550 acres of land between Marine Drive and the Fraser River is protected under the City's Urban Agricultural Land Reserve. Big Bend's agricultural lands remain distinctive because of the relative small farm size and proximity to urban areas.

## Heritage Resources

Burnaby has a rich and diverse history. For additional information, visit the Heritage Burnaby website or download a copy of a resource guide.

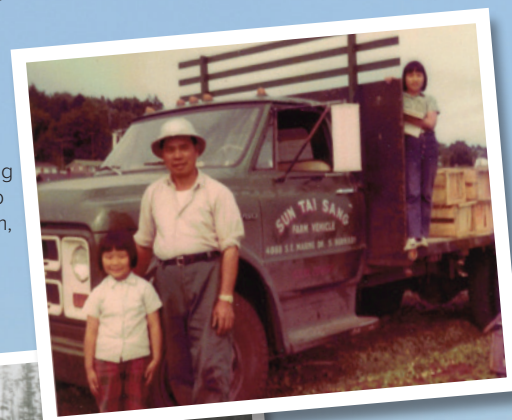
[HeritageBurnaby.ca](http://HeritageBurnaby.ca)

Information about Burnaby's history is also available at the Burnaby Village Museum, which features 38 exhibits in a 10-acre open-air museum.

[BurnabyVillageMuseum.ca](http://BurnabyVillageMuseum.ca)

Yung Quon Yu and his nieces Fannie (Chan) Chong and Mary (Chan) Yip at Sun Tai Sang farm, 1970s.

COURTESY OF THE YEE FAMILY.



The North Arm Dairy at Marine Drive and Nelson Avenue was established by Harriet and Frederick Thrusell family in the 1890s.

CITY OF BURNABY ARCHIVES 275-001

Chinese Canadian History in Burnaby Resource Guide



Indigenous History in Burnaby Resource Guide



Burnaby is located on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to be on this territory.





# BURNABY FARM TOUR

## Experience Urban Agriculture

Located in the unique urban farming district in Burnaby's Big Bend neighbourhood, this self-guided tour is a must-see for those who enjoy purchasing nursery plants and farm products directly from the farmers who grew them. Experience a variety of plants, vegetables, vendors, nurseries and other attractions of this historic farming district.

## Visiting Big Bend

Visit Burnaby farms today to experience agriculture in the City. We are easily accessible by personal and public transport.

Visit TransLink's trip planner if you are taking transit. Check out TransLink's Cycling in Metro Vancouver page or the Burnaby Bike Map to plan a bike route. Be prepared to ride some steep hills on the return journey.

Public washrooms are available at the Riverway Sports Complex, Taylor Park, and Fraser Foreshore Park.



### SOUTHWEST GARDEN SUPPLIES

As a proud family-run business, Southwest Garden Supplies is a comprehensive supplier of ornamental nursery products ranging from perennials, shrubs, evergreens, ornamental grasses and more. They serve landscapers, contractors, homeowners, school boards, community gardens, and local film crews. There is plenty of parking.

Address: 4838 Byrne Road  
Phone: 604-454-9744  
Hours: Visit [swgarden.ca](http://swgarden.ca) for details.



### SUN TAI SANG FARM

This family-run farm and garden centre offers vegetable starters, shrubs, annuals, and perennial plants. They also have seasonal local produce. Visit [SunTaiSangFarm.com](http://SunTaiSangFarm.com) for details. There is ample parking.

Address: 4886 Marine Drive  
Phone: 604-434-3663  
Hours: 9 am-6 pm daily from April to October.  
Visit [suntaisangfarm.com](http://suntaisangfarm.com) for details.



### WING WONG'S NURSERY

Wing Wong's Nursery is a 40-year old family-run business providing nursery plants, fresh flowers, and vegetable plants for Metro Vancouver residents to take home and grow themselves. The facility has a public washroom, is wheelchair and dog friendly, and has ample parking.

Visit [Facebook.com/wingwongfarm](https://www.facebook.com/wingwongfarm) or [Instagram.com/wingwongfarm](https://www.instagram.com/wingwongfarm) for more details

Address: 4892 Marine Drive  
Phone: 604-433-5685  
Hours: 9:30 am-5:30 pm, daily from April to October (Thanksgiving weekend).



### WESTERN INDEPENDENT GREENHOUSES

Western Independent Greenhouses is a family-run greenhouse specializing in succulents, hanging baskets and potted plants. The seasonal garden centre features in-house grown succulents collected from around the world. They also have Westminster moss baskets, fresh and innovative low maintenance container gardens, and more. The facility is wheelchair accessible and has ample parking.

Address: 6151 Thorne Avenue  
Phone: 604-521-3138  
Hours: 9 am-6 pm, daily, including holidays from mid-March to early September.  
Visit [wigplants.com](http://wigplants.com) for details.



### IT'S ABOUT THYME NURSERY

"It's About Thyme" is a Beattie family-owned and operated nursery featuring hardy perennials, shrubs, grasses, trees and ground cover. They also offer landscape products and firewood. Visitors can park at the front and back of the facility.

Address: 7509 Meadow Avenue  
Phone: 604-454-0766  
Hours: visit [itsaboutthyme.ca](http://itsaboutthyme.ca) for details.



### LEONG'S NURSERY

Leong's Nursery has been supplying the Lower Mainland with bedding plants and vegetable starters since 1979 (wholesale and retail).

Address: 7487 Meadow Avenue  
Phone: 604-438-8860  
Hours: visit [leongsnursery.com](http://leongsnursery.com) for details.

