

Public Consumption

This factsheet addresses provincial laws and regulations for public consumption of non-medical cannabis.



Who can consume cannabis in B.C.?

Adults age 19 and over can consume cannabis in B.C.



Where is smoking or vaping of cannabis permitted?

Adults can generally smoke or vape cannabis in a public place where smoking and vaping tobacco is not prohibited, but there are some additional areas where smoking and vaping cannabis will not be permitted.

Public places where cannabis smoking and vaping **is not** allowed include:

- » Health board property, **except** in designated smoking areas;
- » Public buildings, workplaces, or common areas of apartments, condos, or dormitories;
- » Within 6 metres of air intakes, windows, and doorways that are attached to places listed above;
- » At a bus stop, transit shelter, train station or stop, taxi stand, ferry dock or stop, or similar place marked for passenger loading or unloading;
- » Within 6 metres of a bus stop;
- » At the following outdoor places: playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks, swimming pools and spray pools, and on any decks or seating areas associated with those places;
- » In regional and municipal parks, **except** for designated campsites;
- » In provincial parks, **except** for areas identified or designated by a sign or a park officer; and

Community care facilities, assisted living residences, and hospitals may designate specific rooms in which residents or patients can smoke or vape cannabis.

If a hotel allows it, registered hotel guests can smoke or vape cannabis in their hotel room.

Note: Local governments may impose additional restrictions on public consumption of non-medical cannabis. You should contact the applicable local government to find out if there are further restrictions on public consumption in your area.



Are there any other restrictions on cannabis use in public places?

Yes. In addition to the smoking and vaping restrictions above, there are some places where all forms of cannabis consumption, for example, ingestion of cannabis oil, are prohibited:

- » In or on school property, and on sidewalks and boulevards adjacent to school property;
- » In private licensed cannabis stores and in BC Cannabis Stores;
- » While being a passenger in a vehicle or boat (see exceptions below);
- » While operating a vehicle or boat.



What are the exemptions to prohibitions on consuming cannabis in a vehicle?

An adult is allowed to consume cannabis in a vehicle if the vehicle is:

- » A motor home, camper, or trailer;
- » Being used as a temporary or permanent residence; and
- » Parked in an area where camping is allowed, provided it is not a public road or forest service road.



What are the exemptions to prohibitions on consuming cannabis on a boat?

An adult is allowed to consume cannabis on a boat if:

- » The boat has permanent sleeping accommodations, cooking facilities, and a toilet;
- » Is being used as a temporary or permanent residence; and
- » Is moored or anchored.

An adult is allowed to consume cannabis on a commercial boat if:

- » They are a passenger on a commercial boat that allows consumption of cannabis onboard,
- » They have an assigned enclosed room; and
- » The cannabis is only consumed in their assigned enclosed room.