



Tourism Tofino Visitor FAQs– Stage 3 Water Conservation

Updated September 5, 2023

Like much of BC, Tofino is experiencing a historic + prolonged drought, which is having significant impacts on Tofino's water supply. This week, Tofino's reservoirs reached their lowest levels of 2023. Tofino has received 75% less rainfall compared to an average summer.

Tofino is currently in Stage 3 conservation measures and is making every effort to avoid escalating restrictions. All businesses, residents and visitors are urged to decrease consumption as officials consider further conservation measures.

As a visitor, what can I do to help?

- If you are camping/RVing, please consider topping up water tanks and emptying sani tanks prior to travelling to Tofino,
- Take a shorter shower instead of a bath,
- Skip daily towel and linen changes,
- Brush sand off feet/wetsuits, rather than rinsing,
- Run only full loads of laundry and dishes,
- Use the kitchen stopper to plug sink,
- Flush toilets less frequently,
- Do not let the water run while brushing your teeth, shaving, or rinsing dishes,
- When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.
- No rinsing of vehicles, boats, or boards

What can I expect from my accommodation provider?

Resorts, vacation rentals + campgrounds may:

- Limit laundry service
- Remove unnecessary linen such as bathrobes
- Encourage guests to bring their own bedding + towels
- Close guest access to laundry machines and dishwashers
- Provide disposable/compostable dishware and cutlery
- Suggest bottled/boxed water to guests
- Encourage use of dunk buckets to rinse equipment
- Replace shared-washrooms with portable-washrooms

Visitor FAQs

What do you mean by a “shorter shower”?

Showers and toilets account for 44% of daily household water use in Tofino. Cutting shower time from the average 7-minute shower to a 4-minute shower will save up to 36 litres of water.

Where can I fill my water bottle?

Public drinking fountains are temporarily closed as all outdoor use of water is prohibited. The Tofino Visitor Centre, open daily from 8:30am to 6:00pm, has a drinking fountain/water bottle filling station. Also fill up before leaving your accommodation.





Are public washrooms open in Tofino?

Public washrooms have been replaced with portable washrooms at most beach locations and downtown at the Village Green. All outdoor water use is prohibited

Are outdoor showers open in Tofino?

Outdoor public showers are temporarily closed as all outdoor use of water is prohibited.

Is there a public sani station for RVs?

There is no public sani-dump or water filling station in Tofino. The sani station located at the Tofino Co-Op Gas Bar is closed currently due to water restrictions. Consider filling your RV water tanks before you arrive + contact your campground to see if they have a sani-station.

Are Ucluelet and Pacific Rim National Park Reserve experiencing water shortages?

Ucluelet and the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve have separate water sources from Tofino

Can I still surf?

Surf schools are open and they're working to efficiently clean wetsuits for hygiene purposes.

Tofino is in a rainforest: How could there be a water shortage?

Tofino's tap water is collected with gratitude from the rainforests protected by Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks in the Hahuulthii of the Tla-o-qui-aht Ha'wiih, specifically from four (4) surface water sources on Meares Island.

Surface water means that the source is replenished by the hydrological cycle, which includes snowmelt and rainfall. However, a historic and prolonged drought is having significant impacts on Tofino's water supply. Tofino has received 75% less rainfall compared to an average summer.

Are visitors welcome to Tofino during Stage 3 water restrictions?

Businesses are open and we are welcoming visitors to Tofino. Tofino is currently in Stage 3 conservation measures, and is making every effort to avoid escalating restrictions.

Where can I find updates?

Water Conservation Updates <https://tourismtofino.com/bulletins/water-conservation/>
What's Open Food + Drink <https://tourismtofino.com/news/2021/06/01/business-modifications-closures/>
Tour + Activities: Current vacancies <https://tourismtofino.com/things-to-do/tour-vacancies-and-deals/>
Accommodations: Current Vacancies <https://tourismtofino.com/places-to-stay/current-vacancies/>

We invite you to contact our team at the Tofino Visitor Centre for assistance:

Email info@tourismtofino.com

Call 1.888.720.3414

Message us on our social channels,

or come in and see us between 8:30am-6:00pm daily.