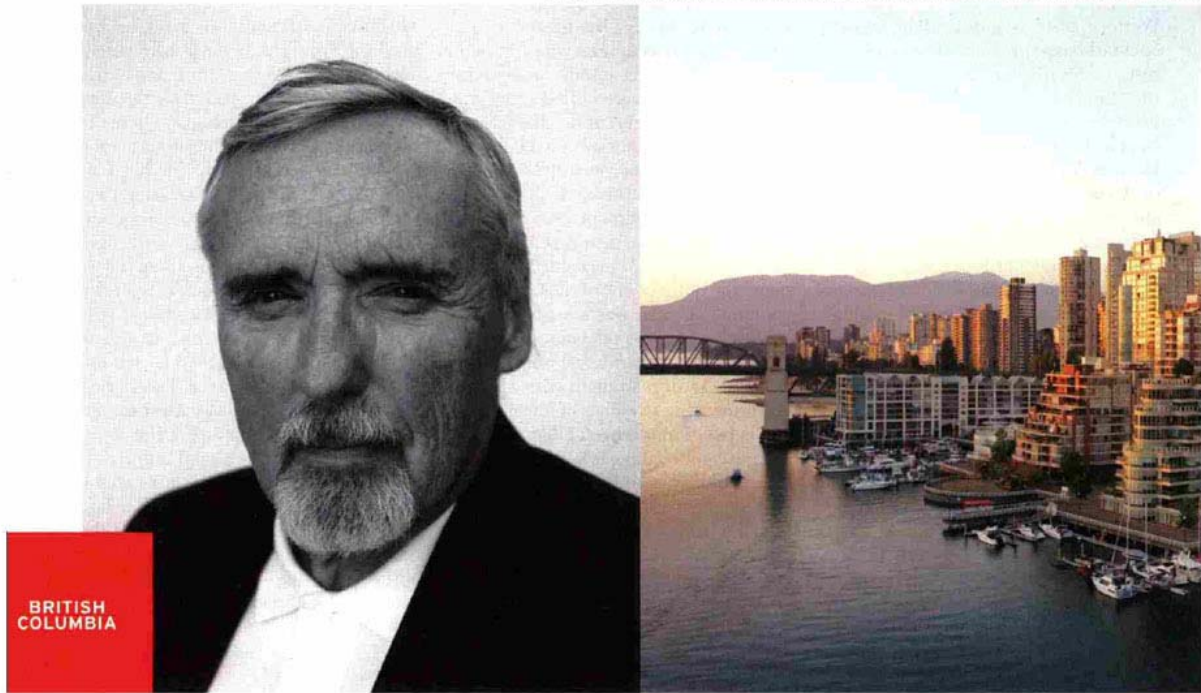


Actor and photographer Dennis Hopper, below left. Right: Vancouver's Yaletown area.



MY FAVORITE PLACE: DENNIS HOPPER

The modern-day Renaissance man tells **Dani Shapiro** about **Vancouver**, and its mix of high design and natural wonders.

I'VE MADE A LOT OF FILMS IN VANCOUVER. THE PEOPLE THERE ARE terrific—friendly, hardworking, and good-looking, too. The architecture of the city is beautiful, and it's changing because of the upcoming Olympics. For many years, the downtown area along the port was overlooked, but now it's filled with shops, clubs, and restaurants. And you can really see the Chinese influence in the new skyscrapers towering above the sea. I think it's one of the most exquisite, aesthetically pleasing cities in the world.

There's often a light rain in Vancouver, which keeps everything green, and because of the Pacific Rim currents, it rarely snows. The Strait of Georgia is very active; it's home to every imaginable kind of sea life, from whales to sea lions. I've enjoyed taking day trips to Victoria, on Vancouver Island. It's an old city—English fur traders were the first settlers—and it's filled with stately architecture. From the island, I like to look back at Vancouver. You can see all the way to the mountain ranges outside Seattle." ✦

*Dennis Hopper stars in the new season of Crash on Starz network this fall.
Dennis Hopper: Photographs 1961–1967, a signed, limited-edition collection of his portraits, is in bookstores now (Taschen, \$700).*