



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



papalars

Seven days in Seattle

Seattle, 7 Days

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: If you really want to see the best of what Seattle has to offer without submitting yourself to guided tours or wasting time in areas that look exactly like every other big city in America, this is the trip for you.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: You can start your day with an impeccable brunch at Café Campagne or Steelhead Diner; or you can save room to sample some fresh pastries, fruit and snacks along the way. Pike Place Market has all the delicious edibles you can imagine. Try to get there before noon as it can get pretty packed in the afternoons especially on weekends. Pick up some white truffle oil or truffle butter from La Buona Tavola, just next door you'll find gourmet herbed vinegars at Sotto Voce. De Laurenti carries hundreds of specialty artisan cheeses and many of them will fare just fine in your hotel fridge until you can get them home. The Pecorinos and Parmesans will last for a month or more so stock up and throw a tasting party when you get home. They also carry an extensive selection of imported meats so you may want to pick up some salami or prosciutto. You can find homemade huckleberry jam and fireweed honey on the main floor of the market which make perfect gifts for friends and family back home and are absolute musts for any well-stocked pantry. Definitely check out Market Spice Tea where you can find an extensive tea selection, perfect herbs de province and Tellicherry black pepper corns which are vastly superior to regular pepper. You can even arrange to have salmon or halibut shipped home upon your return after watching the fishmongers toss fish around at Pike Place Fish Co. Since you're travelling you can't take full advantage of the gorgeous produce but you can always ask the grocer to rinse some berries for you to enjoy just down the street at Victor Steinbrueck Park where you can enjoy the view of the Islands and watch the ferries float by. If you need a break from the hustle and bustle head up Post Alley to the Tasting Room where you will find a cool retreat chock full of the best wines the Northwest has to offer, sidle up to the bar and order a tasting combo. One of the nicest things about the tasting room is that they don't bother stocking the large producers or low quality wines so you can count on every glass to be well balanced and complex at a good value. The Apex Semillon and Cabernet are outstanding and you can have them shipped cases or half cases home. After you've had a chance to relax a bit you can head back down to the market and check out the arts and crafts or head up to Matt's in the Market for dinner and enjoy the sunset. Their food is outstanding, all the produce is fresh from the market that morning and the fish will practically swim off your plate. After dinner you can slip down to Il Bistro for one of their dozens of single malt scotches or stop by Zig Zag for hand crafted cocktails made by Seattle's finest bartender, Murray.



Café Campagne
French Connections



Pike Place Market
Famous produce and seafood market



Pike Place Fish
Flying fish!



Matt's in the Market
In The Heart Of The Market



Il Bistro
A Day In Italy



The Zig Zag Café
Well-appointed bar



Pensione Nichols
800-square-foot suites available










Day 2 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: Historic Seattle Tour Start your day with a beautiful brunch at Maximilien in Pike Place Market and then walk south along First Avenue to Pioneer Square. Pioneer Square is the oldest neighborhood in Seattle, you can get a great sense of Northwest history by taking the Seattle Underground tour and perusing the many shops of the area. The architecture is unique to the region, and many of the buildings were constructed in the late 1800's. A massive fire devastated the area around the turn of the century and due to periodic flooding, when the area was reconstructed they raised the street level to the second floor so what you see today is actually the windows of the second floor of the older buildings. Wander up to the Smith Building and take the beautiful brass elevators to the observation deck to enjoy a stunning view from what was the tallest building west of the Mississippi until the Space Needle was built in 1962. The best artisan cured meats are made at Salumi in the Iron Horse Building. Definitely try their handcrafted salami. They offer fabulous sandwiches which you can eat there while watching the toy train circle the crowds of government workers and corporate doves who are keen enough to know a great Italian eatery when they see one, or take your meal to go and find a corner in the Waterfall garden just around the corner which is the perfect urban oasis. The best way to digest is to head back down to the waterfront and take a round trip ferry from the pier, either to Bainbridge or Vashon. Without a car there is nothing to see on Vashon as the town center is a few miles from the ferry dock, but Bainbridge has some cute shops, however, the main point is to get out on the water and enjoy the view of the Olympic Mountains and the Skyline. The trip will take about 30 minutes each way. When you get back you can walk up to the Wild Ginger for dinner where you can taste the absolute best pan Asian food the city has to offer. Top off the night with a drink at the Alibi Room where

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beautiful people are served substantial c***tails by tattooed ladies.

	Le Pichet Market Fresh Bistro Bonhomie
	Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park Northwest History
	Salumi In The Chef's Care
	Waterfall Gardens An oasis in the historic district.
	Wild Ginger Pan-Asian hot spot
	Alibi Room Arty bar and restaurant
	Seattle Waterfront Waterfront neighborhood
	Washington State Ferry Largest ferry system in United States
	Pensione Nichols 800-square-foot suites available

Day 3 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: Capital Hill Tour Capital Hill is the heart of Seattle's thriving music and culture. Take a cab to Café Presse for breakfast then wander up and down the Pike/Pine Corridor. Many of the shops sell clothing by local designers and locally made crafts. Head over to the Frye Museum for an unique perspective on classical art and a great chance to see some cutting edge modern exhibits. Have a beautiful lunch at Crave on 12th Avenue and then walk northeast to Volunteer Park. Check out the Asian Art Museum which holds one of the most extensive Asian art collections in America. There is a fabulous view of the Olympic Mountains and the Space Needle and the Conservatory houses a beautiful collection of plants from all around the world. The park was designed by the Olmstead Brothers (who designed Central Park in NYC) around the turn of the century and there are glorious specimens of giant sequoia and giant redwood which

are nearly a century old. There is a beautiful dahlia collection as well as a splendid rose garden in bloom over the summer months. The water tower is a lovely vantage point, you can climb the interior stairs up to the top to a 360 degree vantage at the crest of the city, and those interested in rock climbing may find its exterior walls enticing, you can see chalk marks all the way to the top. After enjoying a gorgeous sunset over the Space Needle and Olympics, you can head back down to the row of restaurants along 12th Avenue. Lark is one of the best places to experience fundamentally Northwest cuisine. Their food is almost entirely locally procured - local lamb, quail, pheasant, salmon, and a great variety of produce and artesian cheeses and house-made desserts have given Lark a reputation as one of the best restaurants on the west coast. Since they don't take reservations for parties of less than six you can put your name in early and head next door for a drink at their sister bar Licorace next door. Licorace has developed small plate and cocktail pairings that ranges from Lemongrass martini coupled with tuna tartar to Geoduck ceviche with a Mojito made with single malt rum or if you're a wine fan, they have an extensive selection of local and imported wines to couple with the Salumi plate in case you didn't have a chance to visit Salumi in Pioneer Square. When they call you over you should order whatever strikes your fancy because everything on the menu is spectacular. After dinner, head out for a show at Seattle's hottest nightlife venues. Neumo's, Warroom, ChopSuey or CHAC, you can get a drink before the show at the Cha Cha, Linda's or the Comet. If you're in the mood for something more low-key, head over to the Hideout or the Rosebud.

	Café Presse Café bar tout le jour
	Frye Art Museum American and European Paintings
	Cal Anderson Park Historic and fun
	Crave Contemporary comfort food
	Volunteer Park This historic Capitol Hill park is full of rolling hills and city views.
	Seattle Asian Art Museum Beautiful International Art
	Licorous Great late-night food and drinks

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Lark

Rustic, Artisan-Friendly Cuisine



Pensione Nichols

800-square-foot suites available

Day 4 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: Seattle Art Tour Art lovers have recently discovered that Seattle has finally come into its own when it comes to art. There are several major museums with extensive world class collections, but Seattle's private galleries offer a glimpse into cutting edge artistic movements and the best local and regional art being produced. One day really isn't enough to see it all since many of the galleries are in different neighborhoods so try to set aside two days if you can. Start your day with a light breakfast at Maximilien if its Sunday or at Le Pichet any other day of the week. Head south on First Avenue for two blocks, you'll see the Museum on the East side of the Street. If you know a thing or two about art, the curation will amuse you as the juxtapositions of artistic themes and movements is quite clever. After a couple of hours, you'll probably want to get off your feet so head back up to Post Alley in Pike Place Market where you'll find Steelhead Diner. Try the caviar pie as a starter, and then move on to salmon. If you have room, their crème caramel is superb and it goes perfectly with the Apex Semillon. If it is a beautiful day you can take a stroll in the Olympic Sculpture Park but if not, take a cab to the Henry Art Gallery in the University District. Be sure to get on the road before 3:30 because the traffic can be atrocious. Since traffic won't die down until 6:30 you can take the opportunity to see the Burke Museum on the north end of the University of Washington Campus. By now you're probably hungry and thirsty so since you're already in the north end of the city this is a great chance to experience Lark which was recently named one of the ten best new restaurants by the New York Times. Its quite popular so be sure to make a reservation. If you can't get in, you can probably get in at Sitka and Spruce on Eastlake.



Maximilien In The Market

Traditional French cafe



Seattle Art Museum

Internationally recognized museum specializing in African and contemporary art.



Steelhead Diner

Northwest with a southern twist



Olympic Sculpture Park

Sculpture in an outdoor setting



Henry Art Gallery

Modern and Contemporary Art



Burke Museum

Exhibits of the Pacific Northwest



Tilth

Good earth, good eats



Pensione Nichols

800-square-foot suites available

Day 5 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: There are four main options for getting a chance to see the beautiful mountains, rivers and forests in the Northwest and you should decide based on what interests you most. If you love beaches and forests, the Pacific Coast or the San Juan Islands are your best bet. If you pine for jagged peaks and alpine lakes, Mt. Rainier or the Alpine Wilderness are where you want to go. If you're most interested in volcanic geology then you should drive down to Mt. St. Helens. All of these options require a car rental unless you want to sit on a crowded bus for a guided tour. If you don't have the time to leave the city, then there are plenty of great options right here in Seattle. Snoqualmie Falls is a short 40 minute drive from Seattle. Head East on I 90 and follow the signs. Salish lodge has amazing food so make sure to stop in for a bite. If you're looking for something more strenuous, head straight to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Alpine Lakes Wilderness isn't for the faint of heart. If you don't have the gear you can rent it at REI. The hike in is 10-15 miles depending on which lake you are heading to. The views are absolutely spectacular so it's well worth the climb but be sure to pack accordingly. Even during the summer months you'll at least need a 0 degree bag at this elevation because it's a bit windy and there's nothing worse than a cold night's sleep after hiking all day. There are a few things you can pack to make the hike so much easier and that's really all you should pack, carry a little with you as possible because by the 7th mile the extra pair of pants seems much heavier. Take a shell, a fleece, long underwear, shorts, quick dry pants and extra smart wool socks. You can do the hike in cross trainers but there is an easy stream crossing so bring some sandals. There is water so if you want to save some weight you can pack a water purifier and save yourself room for a nice single malt scotch or a bottle of wine from the Tasting Room or Delaurenti (don't forget your bottle opener). The best way to watch Aurora Borealis is with a perfect Barolo or Laphroaig. You'll need a tent

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and a sleeping pad for sure because this is alpine terrain and it's exposed and not so soft. Be sure to bring a bear bag and a rope to hang your food from a tree away from camp. The easiest way to make dinner is to infuse olive oil with chopped garlic, chili flakes black pepper and fresh basil and use that as the base for everything you make. If you bring a collapsible fishing pole you can probably catch trout but bring plenty of pasta just in case, you'll have quite an appetite. Pack a couple of baguettes (you can hang them off the side of your pack), specialty cheeses and salami for lunch. Cucumbers and carrots are easy to pack but tomatoes always perish. Give up on gourmet coffee, Nescafe or tea is so much more practical. Breakfast oatmeal with freshly picked huckleberries from around the campsite is so delicious. Remember to pack a map, compass, first aid kit, flashlight, iodine, extra energy bars, space blanket, a few lighters and a fully charged cell phone but turn it off so you can save the battery in case you need it. Enjoy!!!!



Snoqualmie Falls

Higher than Niagara Falls



Salish Lodge & Spa Dining Room

Spectacular view of Snoqualmie Falls



Alpine Lakes Wilderness

Alpine Lakes Wilderness encompasses approximately 394,000 acres and is accessed by 47 trailheads and 615 miles of trails.

the best option. You should plan for an overnight stay since it's a four hour drive.



Olympic Peninsula

Fun festivals and forests



Port Angeles, Washington

Small town in lovely setting



Sol Duc

This site lies in the upper Sol Duc River valley. It provides access to hiking, fishing, backpacking and horseback riding.



Olympic National Park

This site lies between the northern park boundary and Port Angeles. It is the main information center for Olympic National Park.



Olympic Rain Forest Scenic Drive

For those who prefer to experience the beauty of the Olympic Rain Forest from their automobile, the following route allows you to see a wide variety of features within a short period of time.



Hoh Visitor Center

This site contains exhibits on the plant and animal communities of the Hoh rain forest. It is staffed by park employees during the summer months.



Hoh

This facility lies in the Hoh temperate rain forest in the upper Hoh River valley. It is open year round on a first come, first served basis.



North Fork

This site lies at the end of North Shore Road in the North Fork Quinault River valley. It supports seven tent sites.



Staircase

The Staircase Campground lies at an elevation of 765 feet north of Lake Cushman. The site is open during periods of high visitation.



Hoh Rain Forest

Hall of Mosses



Queets

This facility consists of 20 tent sites in the temperate rain forest of the Queets River valley. It is open during periods of high visitor use.

Day 6 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: To get to the Olympic Rain Forest you take the ferry from Seattle to Bainbridge and head north to Port Townsend. Drive along Highway 1 around the northern tip of the Peninsula, through Forks to the west coast. You'll hit the Hoh Rainforest and the Queets River both of which have extraordinarily lush emerald green rain forests and pristine rivers teeming with salmon. You can get a permit from the Tribal office if you want to check out the Sea Stacks on the beaches near the Queets, but if you drive south you get to the coastal section of the Olympic National Forest. Third Beach is a mile hike from the road and offers secluded primitive campsites and spectacular views. If you're not interested in camping there are cabins for rent along the beach and motels in Forks but you may need to call ahead during the summer months. It's also entirely possible to rent a beach house for larger groups, some of which have hot tubs and saunas. The restaurants aren't the best so you may want to pack some fruit, baguettes, cheese and cured meats from Pike Place Market for the trip. When you eat out, the fish of the day or crab is always

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Day 7 - Seattle

DAY NOTE: Start your morning with breakfast at Crepes de France in Pike Place then walk four blocks to Westlake Center where you can ride the Monorail to Seattle Center. If you make a reservation for lunch at the Space Needle you won't be charged for the elevator ride to the observation deck. Enjoy the 360 degree view of both the Cascades, the Olympics, the city skyline, the Puget Sound and Lake Union. If you're interested in Science Fiction or Music, head to the Experience Music Project, otherwise jump in a cab to Fremont where you can get a cup of tea at the Still Life Café, walk up to the Troll under the Bridge and then continue by bus or taxi to the Boat Street Café if you're in the mood for quiet, provincial French cuisine or to the Aqua Verde Paddle Club for the best halibut tacos on the west coast. You can rent kayaks and paddle west to Gas Works Park where you'll have a fabulous view of the city or East to the Arboretum where you'll find turtles and a wide variety of birds nestled among the wetlands. After a beautiful day on the lake you'll want to head back to your hotel, tidy up and walk up First Avenue to Marco's Supper Club. Start with the fried sage leaves and their ahi tuna is outstanding and you can't go wrong with their wine list.



Seattle Center Monorail

Seattle's two-stop shuttle was built for the 1962 World's Fair.



Seattle Center

Gathering Place



The Space Needle

Seattle's Iconic Landmark



Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum

From rock out to geek out.



Still Life in Fremont Coffeehouse

Generous portions at great prices



Fremont Troll

Lurking in the shadows



Aqua Verde Cafe

Mexican Hideaway



Boat Street Cafe

Romantic hideaway



Gas Works Park

This gas plant turned park is a popular spot for fireworks and kite-flying.



Washington Park Arboretum

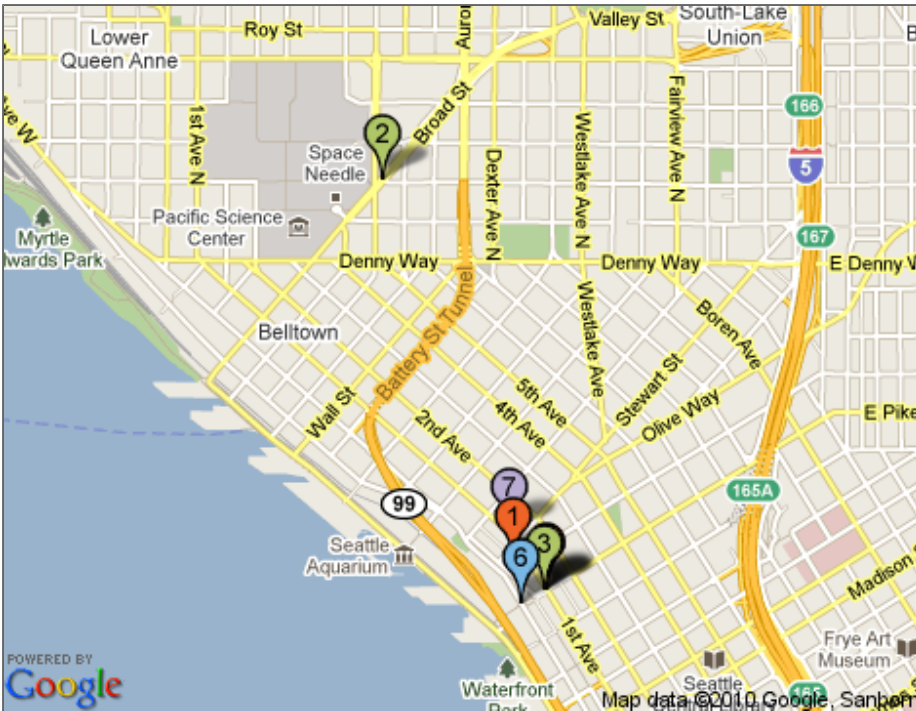
One of The City's Finest Parks



Marco's Supperclub

Updated version of a supper club

Day 1 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

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contact:
tel: 206/728-2233
www.campagnerestaurant.com

location:
1600 Post Alley
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
Mon-Thurs 11am-10pm; Fri
11am-5pm and 5:30-11pm;
Sat 8am-4pm and 5:30-11pm;
Sun 8am-4pm and 5-10pm

1 Café Campagne

DESCRIPTION: Although this little cafe is in the heart of the Pike Place Market neighborhood, it's a world away from the market madness. I like to duck in here for lunch and escape the shuffling crowds. What a relief -- so civilized, so very French. Most people leave this dark, cozy place feeling that they've discovered some secret hideaway. The menu changes with the seasons, and the daily prix-fixe meal is a good deal. The cafe also doubles as a wine bar. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Café Campagne

contact:
tel: 206/682-7453
http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/

location:
85 Pike Street
Seattle WA 98121

hours:
9a-6p M-Sa, 11a-5p Su

2 Pike Place Market

DESCRIPTION: Nine acres of fresh produce, seafood, coffee, donuts, crafts, unique restaurants and friendly vendors, all set against a backdrop of the Puget Sound – that's Pike Place Market, widely recognized as one of the oldest and best farmer's markets in the country. If you only have one day in Seattle, head downtown to get a real taste of the city in every sense. From fresh cheese curds at Beecher's to chowder at Pike Place Chowder, from necklaces and bags to hand-stitched leather journals and hats, from accordions to pianos to hula-hooping guitarists – there's something for your eyes, ears, and nose everywhere you look at the market. © NileGuide



contact:
tel: 800/542-7732
www.pikeplacefish.com

location:
86 Pike Place
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
6:30a-6p M-Sa, 7a-5:30p Su

3 Pike Place Fish

DESCRIPTION: Located behind Rachel, Pike Place Market's life-size bronze pig, this fishmonger is just about the busiest spot in the market most days. What pulls in the crowds are the antics of the workers here. Order a big silvery salmon and you'll have employees shouting out your order and throwing the fish over the counter. These "flying fish" are a major Seattle attraction, so just step right up and pick your salmon. © Frommer's



photo courtesy of Pike Place Fish

contact:
tel: 206/467-7909
www.mattsinthemarket.com

location:
94 Pike St
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

4 Matt's in the Market

DESCRIPTION: This casual gourmet restaurant has the best location of any restaurant in Pike Place Market. Located on the third floor of the Corner Market Building, Matt's faces the big neon clock that is the quintessential symbol of the market. Until 2007, Matt's was a tiny cubbyhole of a place, but an expansion has given it enough tables that you can actually get in to eat here on short notice. The menu changes regularly, with an



Photo courtesy of Matt's in the Market

Mon-Sat 11:30am-2:30pm
and 5:30-10pm

emphasis on fresh ingredients from the market stalls that are only steps away. There's also a good selection of reasonably priced wines. The food reveals whatever influences and styles happen to appeal to the chef at that moment -- perhaps Moroccan, perhaps Southern. However, if the menu happens to list anything with smoked catfish, try it. © Frommer's

contact:
tel: 206/682-3049
www.ilbistro.net

location:
93-A Pike St. and First Ave
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
Daily 5:30-10pm; late-night
menu until 1am

5 Il Bistro

DESCRIPTION: What with the fishmongers and crowds of tourists, Pike Place Market might not seem like the place for a romantic candlelit dinner, but romantic dinners are what Il Bistro is all about. This basement trattoria takes Italian cooking very seriously, and in so doing also puts the Northwest's bountiful ingredients to good use. The menu includes such mouthwatering starters as calamari sautéed with fresh basil, garlic, vinegar, and tomatoes. Hundreds of loyal fans insist that Il Bistro's rack of lamb with wine sauce is the best in Seattle, and I'd have to agree. The pasta here can also be a true delight. You'll find Il Bistro tucked away down the cobblestone alley beside the market information kiosk. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Il Bistro

contact:
tel: 206 625-1146
http://www.zigzagcafe.net/

location:
1501 Western Ave # 202
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
Mo to Su from 05:00 PM to
02:00 AM

6 The Zig Zag Café

DESCRIPTION: Located just below Seattle's famous "Pike Place Market", on the way to the "Seattle Aquarium", the Zig Zag cafe provides a wonderful retreat from the world outside. Inside you will find wonderfully prepared food that spans the globe, but reflects the influences of the Pacific Northwest. Behind its well-appointed bar, you will find some of the city's best bartenders, ready to prepare for you one of the finest drinks in the city.



citysearch

contact:
tel: +1 206 441 7125
http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/wa-seattle-pensione-nichols.html

location:
1923 1st Ave
Seattle WA 98101

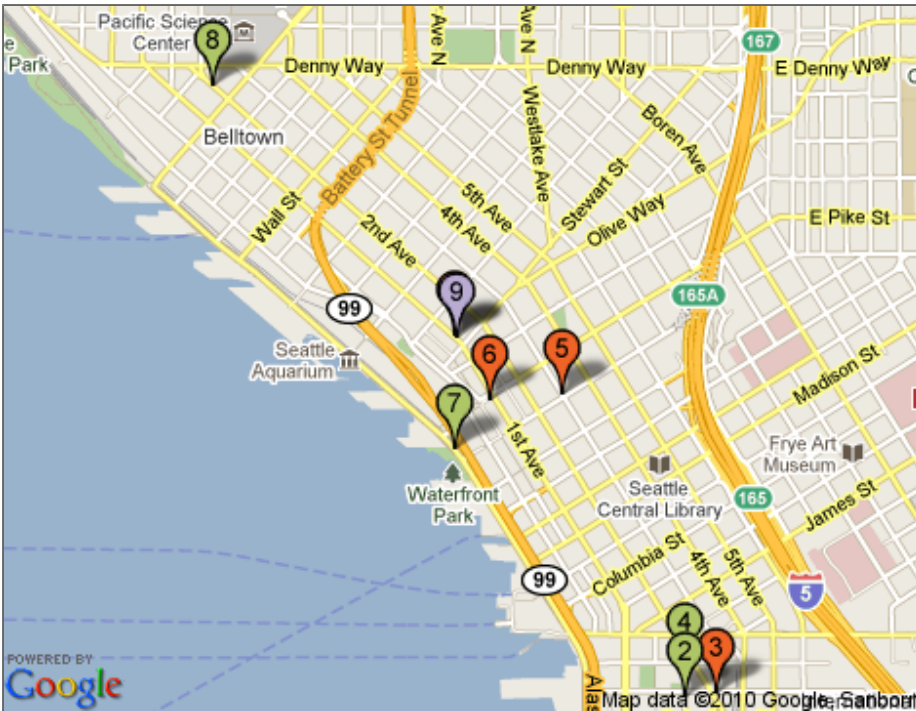
7 Pensione Nichols

DESCRIPTION: Steps from Seattle's historic Pike Place Market, Pensione Nichols is a unique bed and breakfast with a stunning view. The pensione reflects European sense and sensibility married to Pacific Northwest heritage and hospitality. We are cozily situated on the second and third floors of a 100+ year-old building in the historic Smith Block on First Avenue. Pensione Nichols features eclectic antique furnishings, lots of warm light and spectacular bay and mountain views from our inviting living room / dining room and suites. It's a welcome retreat from a busy day, or lifestyle, when you need to "get off the grid" a bit or just slow down and simply plan an evening at one of the many great restaurants, cafes or theaters in the area.



more at
BedandBreakfast.com

Day 2 - Seattle



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contact:
tel: 206/256-1499
www.lepichetseattle.com

location:
1933 First Ave
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
Sun-Thurs 8am-midnight; Fri-Sat 8am-2am

1 Le Pichet

DESCRIPTION: Seattle seems to have a thing for French restaurants. They're all over the place, with a surprising number clustered around Pike Place Market. Le Pichet is one of my favorites. The name is French for "pitcher" and refers to the traditional ceramic pitchers used for serving inexpensive French wines. This should clue you in to the casual nature of the place, the sort of spot where you can drop by any time of day, grab a stool at the bar, and have a light meal. The menu is rustic French, and almost everything is made fresh on the premises. With lots of small plates and appetizers, it's fun and easy to piece together a light meal of shareable dishes. I like the country-style pâté, which is served with honey and walnuts. On Sunday afternoons, there's live music. Le Pichet also operates Capitol Hill's **Café Presse**, 1117 12th Ave. (tel. **206/709-7674**; cafepresseseattle.com). © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Le Pichet

contact:
tel: 206/220-4240
fax: +1 206 381 0664
www.nps.gov/klse

location:
319 Second Ave. S
Seattle WA 98104

hours:
Daily 9am-5pm

2 Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park

DESCRIPTION: "At 3 o'clock this morning the steamship Portland, from St. Michaels for Seattle, passed up (Puget) Sound with more than a ton of gold on board and 68 passengers." When the Seattle Post-Intelligencer published that sentence on July 17, 1897, it started a stampede. Would-be miners heading for the Klondike goldfields in the 1890s made Seattle their outfitting center and helped turn it into a prosperous city. When they struck it rich up north, they headed back to Seattle, the first U.S. outpost of civilization, and unloaded their gold, making Seattle doubly rich. Although this place isn't in the Klondike (that's in Canada) and isn't really a park (it's more of a museum in a historic building), it's still a fascinating place, and it seems only fitting that it should be here in Seattle. (Another unit of the park is in Skagway, Alaska.) © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Klondike Gold Rush - National Historical Park

contact:
tel: 206/621-8772
www.salumicuredmeats.com

location:
309 Third Ave. S
Seattle WA 98104

hours:
Tues-Fri 11am-4pm

3 Salumi

DESCRIPTION: Raise the bar on salami, and you have the artisan-cured meats of this closet-size eatery. The owner, Armandino Batali, who happens to be the father of New York's famous chef Mario Batali, makes all his own salami (as well as traditional Italian-cured beef tongue and other meaty delicacies). Order up a meat plate with a side of cheese, some roasted red bell peppers, and a glass of wine, and you have a perfect lunchtime repast in the classic Italian style. Did I mention the great breads and tapenades? Wow! If you're down in the Pioneer Square area at lunch, don't miss Salumi (even if there's a long line). © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Salumi

contact:
tel: +1 206 684 4075
(Information Center)

location:
219 Second Avenue South
Seattle WA 98104

4 Waterfall Gardens

DESCRIPTION: It's not a grassy, flowery garden – picture a Japanese zen oasis instead, with a high, rocky waterfall blocking the sounds of the city on all sides. With a few plants, benches and tables for two strewn about, this is the ideal spot for a couple looking to escape the hustle and bustle and steal an intimate moment together.
© NileGuide



brewbooks

contact:
tel: 206 623 4450
fax: 206 623 8265
<http://www.wildginger.net>

location:
1401 3rd Ave
Seattle WA 98101

hours:
Lunch: M-Sa 11:30a-3p;
Dinner: M-Sa 5p-mid, Su 4p-mid

5 Wild Ginger

DESCRIPTION: This contemporary pan-Asian favorite is airy, elegant, and always packed with a chic crowd of loyalists. The popular satay bar features chicken, seafood, beef, lamb and pork, grilled and served with a spicy peanut sauce. The Siam lettuce cups, filled with seared Chilean sea bass, are superb. The Dungeness crab will leave you licking your fingers for every last morsel and counting yourself among the converted. A full bar is available. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Wild Ginger

contact:
tel: 206 623 3180
fax: 206 749 0378
<http://www.seattlealibi.com>

location:
85 Pike Street, Suite 410
Seattle WA 94101

hours:
11a-2a M-Su

6 Alibi Room

DESCRIPTION: Situated down a cobblestone alley by Pike Place Market, this little restaurant attracts film and arts lovers. The owners include established local filmmakers. The arty two-story restaurant has wooden tables and chairs, with a private room and bar downstairs. A bookcase near the entrance is filled with play and movie scripts for browsing. On weekends, local DJs spin new beats to the eclectic dining scene. The food is healthy Mediterranean, featuring sandwiches, pasta and salads for lunch. Dinners include Red Beans and Rice, Grilled Beef Tenderloin and Seared Salmon. © wcities.com

Photo courtesy of Alibi Room

contact:
tel: +1 206 223 1767
<http://www.enjoyseattle.com>

location:
Alaskan Way
Seattle WA 98101

7 Seattle Waterfront

DESCRIPTION: The Waterfront offers a traditional, feel-good boardwalk experience that's almost a step back in time. The ferry terminal, as well as smaller cruise and water taxi services, can be found here, along with fish n chips, chowder, and of course, coffee galore. For those looking for a no-cost afternoon out, there are plenty of quiet spots to sit and stare at the water and the mountains.
© NileGuide



Wikimedia Commons

contact:

tel: +1 206 464 6400 / +1 206 515 3400

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferr>
ies

location:

2911 Second Avenue
Seattle WA 98121

8 Washington State Ferry

DESCRIPTION: In an area surrounded by water, travel by boat makes sense. This is the largest ferry system in the United States, serving nearly 18 million commuters and visitors a year. Eight routes service 20 terminals, including the downtown Seattle ferry docks at Piers 50 and 52, Fauntleroy Dock in West Seattle, Bainbridge Island, Vashon Island, Bremerton and others. Operating 365 days a year, the ferries allow passengers to experience the magnificent Puget Sound scenery. The schedule changes seasonally and varies by day of the week, with adjusted schedules on holidays. Call or visit the Web site for schedules, terminals and fares. © wcities.com



contact:

tel: +1 206 441 7125
<http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/wa-seattle-pensione-nichols.html>

location:

1923 1st Ave
Seattle WA 98101

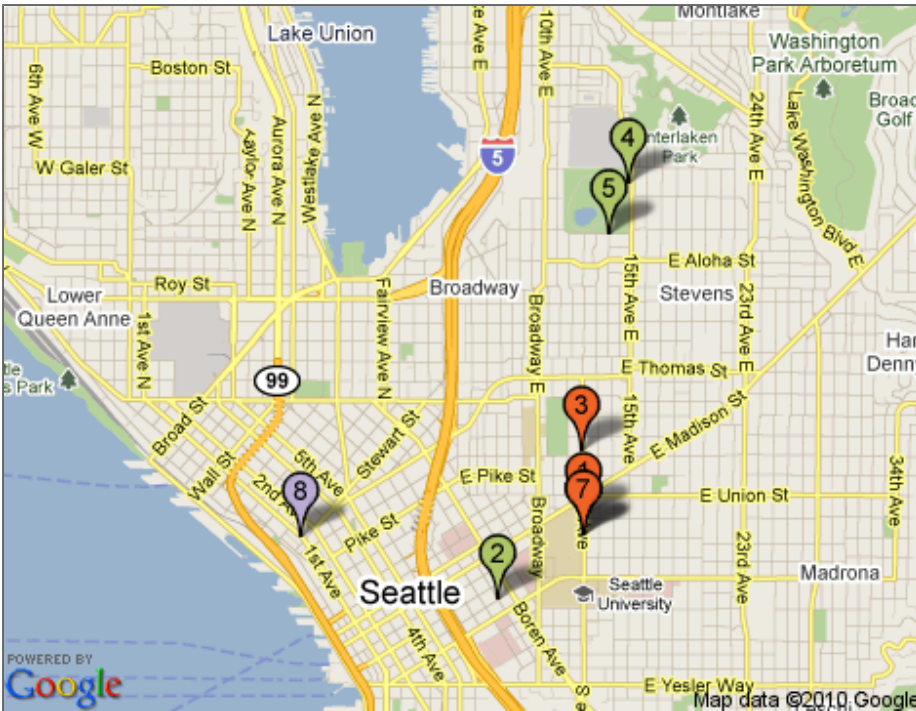
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more at
BedandBreakfast.com

Day 3 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Capital Hill Tour Capital Hill is the heart of Seattle's thriving music and culture. Take a cab to Café Presse for breakfast then wander up and down the Pike/Pine Corridor. Many of the shops sell clothing by local designers and locally made crafts. Head over to the Frye Museum for an unique perspective on classical art and a great chance to see some cutting edge modern exhibits. Have a beautiful lunch at Crave on 12th Avenue and then walk northeast to Volunteer Park. Check out the Asian Art Museum which holds one of the most extensive Asian art collections in America. There is a fabulous view of the Olympic Mountains and the Space Needle and the Conservatory houses a beautiful collection of plants from all around the world. The park was designed by the Olmstead Brothers (who designed Central Park in NYC) around the turn of the century and there are glorious specimens of giant sequoia and giant redwood which are nearly a century old. There is a beautiful dahlia collection as well as a splendid rose garden in bloom over the summer months. The water tower is a lovely vantage point, you can climb the interior stairs up to the top to a 360 degree vantage at the crest of the city, and those interested in rock climbing may find its exterior walls enticing, you can see chalk marks all the way to the top. After enjoying a gorgeous sunset over the Space Needle and Olympics, you can head back down to the row of restaurants along 12th Avenue. Lark is one of the best places to experience fundamentally Northwest cuisine. Their food is almost entirely locally procured - local lamb, quail, pheasant, salmon, and a great variety of produce and artisanal cheeses and house-made desserts have given Lark a reputation as one of the best restaurants on the west coast. Since they don't take reservations for parties of less than six you can put your name in early and head next door for a drink at their sister bar Licorace next door. Licorace has developed small plate and cocktail pairings that ranges from Lemongrass martini coupled with tuna tartar to Geoduck ceviche with a Mojito made with single malt rum or if you're a wine fan, they have an extensive selection of local and imported wines to couple with the Salumi plate in case you didn't have a chance to visit Salumi in Pioneer Square. When they call you over you should order whatever strikes your fancy because everything on the menu is spectacular. After dinner, head out for a show at Seattle's hottest nightlife venues. Neumo's, Warroom, ChopSuey or CHAC, you can get a drink before the show at the Cha Cha, Linda's or the Comet. If you're in the mood for something more low-key, head over to the Hideout or the Rosebud.

contact:
tel: 206 709 7674
<http://www.cafepresseseattle.com>

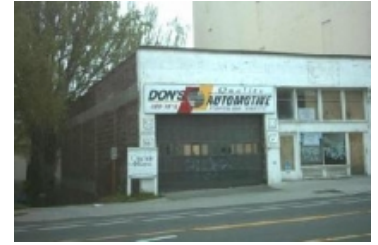
location:
1117 12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122

hours:
Daily: 7a–2a

1 Café Presse

DESCRIPTION: A bright yellow sign with red feather announces Presse, hinting at what's inside. Mixing urban industrial design and European elegance- exposed steel beams and brick walls opposite blue damask wallpaper- this unpretentious café offers local and international newspapers and an eclectic magazine selection. Grab morning coffee and pastry at the streetside counter while perusing Le Monde. Linger at a café table over a baguette sandwich and glass of wine for lunch. Join friends in the evening for cocktails and steak frites among framed football (soccer) jerseys and L'Equipe headlines in back room. Full bar, affordable French wine list. This is spot is full of journalists and rockstars alike, everyone who knows where to find great food and fantastic people is here. © wcities.com

MY NOTE: Breakfa*t of Champions



citysearch

contact:
tel: 206/622-9250
fax: +1 206 223 1707
www.fryeart.org

location:
704 Terry Ave
Seattle WA 98164

hours:
Tues-Wed and Fri-Sat
10am-4:30pm; Thurs
10am-7:30pm; Sun
noon-4:30pm

2 Frye Art Museum

DESCRIPTION: On First Hill not far from downtown Seattle, this museum is primarily an exhibit space for the extensive personal art collection of Charles and Emma Frye, Seattle pioneers who began collecting art in the 1890s. The collection focuses on late-19th-century and early-20th-century representational art by European and American painters, with works by Andrew Wyeth, Thomas Hart Benton, Edward Hopper, Albert Bierstadt, and Pablo Picasso, as well as a large collection of engravings by Winslow Homer. In addition to galleries filled with works from the permanent collection, temporary exhibitions are held throughout the year. © Frommer's



The Puppet Show... is one of those shows you can disappear down into, and at every level you go, you will get something more.

contact:
tel: (206) 684-4075
http://www.seattle.gov/parks/park_detail.asp

location:
1635 11th Ave
Seattle WA

Cal Anderson Park

DESCRIPTION: Recently redesigned, Cal Anderson Park includes a fountain, texture pool, and reflecting pool; promenade paths, landscaping, a shelterhouse, plaza, children's play area, wading pool and lighted sports field. This open park invites walking, sitting, reading, contemplation, informal sports in the meadow and organized sports on the athletic field. Walkers: the circumference of the park on the sidewalks, including Bobby Morris Playfield, is 3,325 lineal feet, or about 2/3 of a mile. An interior loop on gravel paths, using the old concrete gatehouse as the most southern edge and passing the cone water feature to the north, is 1,700 lineal feet, or about 1/3 of a mile.



http://www.seattle.gov/parks/_images/parks/bobbymorpf.jpg

contact:
tel: 206 388 0526
<http://www.cravefood.com>

location:
1621 12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122

hours:
Daily: 7a-11p

3 Crave

DESCRIPTION: Crave has something exceptional to offer for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Almost everything on the menu is made from scratch using fresh, locally grown produce and organic, free-range meats. From handcrafted tables and booths to large picture windows overlooking the funky locals passing by, Crave has a unique ambiance. With fresh pastries every morning and intriguing dinner entrees such as Mole Braised Lamb Shank slow cooked with Ibarra chocolate, there is something to crave here any time of day. For wine lovers their artisan bread selection and extensive rotating cheese menu is delightful. Also offered is free wireless internet access, a tasty weekend brunch, and authentic Italian espresso. © wcities.com



citysearch

contact:
tel: +1 206 684 4555
<http://www.pan.ci.seattle.wa.us/parks>

location:
1247 15th Ave E
Seattle WA 98102

4 Volunteer Park

DESCRIPTION: Built between 1904 and 1912, this park displays the Olmsted brothers' late-Victorian urban style of park design. Vistas of rolling lawns, carefully clumped shrubbery, tree-lined drives and carp ponds almost make you feel like you're strolling with top hat and cane in hand. The Kew Gardens-style glass conservatory, filled with humid tropical and arid desert environments, is free to all. Also visit the Seattle Asian Art Museum. Outside the museum sits Isamu Noguchi's stone sculpture "Black Sun," beloved of clambering children and tourists appreciative of its view of the Space Needle across the park's reservoir. At the southern end of the park stands a 75-foot brick water tower with a spiraling staircase and a 360-degree view of the Seattle area, from the Olympics to the Cascades. The view is a bit obstructed by the bars on the windows, but it's lovely in late afternoon sunlight. The park's name commemorates Seattleites who volunteered for the Spanish-American War. © wcities.com



contact:
tel: 206/654-3100
www.seattleartmuseum.org

location:
1400 E. Prospect St
Seattle WA 98102

hours:
Tues-Wed and Fri-Sun
10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-9pm

5 Seattle Asian Art Museum

DESCRIPTION: Housed in an Art Deco building in Volunteer Park, the art collection at this museum places an emphasis on Chinese and Japanese art, but also includes works from Korea, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Himalayas. Among the museum's most notable pieces are Chinese terra-cotta funerary art, Chinese snuff bottles, and Japanese netsukes (belt decorations). Entire rooms are devoted to Japanese and Chinese ceramics. The central hall contains stone religious sculptures from South Asia (primarily India). The museum hosts frequent lectures and concerts. © Frommer's



photo courtesy of cityofseattle.net

contact:
tel: 206 325 6947
<http://www.licorous.com/index.html>

location:
928 12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122

hours:
Tu-Sa 5p-1a

6 Licorous

DESCRIPTION: Licorous, whose original name means, "tempting the appetite" and "relishing good food," is an ultimate spot that serves great, affordable food and cocktails. The chefs prepare a variety of dishes that are available for order late into the night. Their cocktail menu is diverse and you might even get to enjoy an original mix as the bartender often experiments with new concoctions. Licorous is uniquely decorated in orange and salmon colors that creates an atmosphere of escape from the outer world. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Licorous

contact:
tel: 206/323-5275
www.larkseattle.com

location:
926 12th Ave
Seattle WA 98122

hours:
Tues-Sun 5-10:30pm

7 Lark

DESCRIPTION: You wouldn't think to look at it, but this little neighborhood restaurant on a somewhat run-down back street on Capitol Hill has an impressive pedigree. Chef Jonathan Sundstrom formerly headed the kitchen at the W Seattle's Earth & Ocean restaurant, but Sundstrom fled the downtown financial district in favor of the 'hoods and opened this far more casual bistro. The menu consists of dozens of small plates that you should assemble into a meal to fit your appetite. The menu changes with the seasons, and it pays to be adventurous. You might try carpaccio of yellowtail with preserved lemons and green olives, seared foie gras with rhubarb and spring onions, or rabbit salad with asparagus and herbs. Cheese lovers take note: The cheese list here is one of the best in the city, and whether you order some as an appetizer or as an end to your meal, be sure to try something off this list. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Lark

contact:
tel: +1 206 441 7125
<http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/wa-seattle-pensione-nichols.html>

location:
1923 1st Ave
Seattle WA 98101

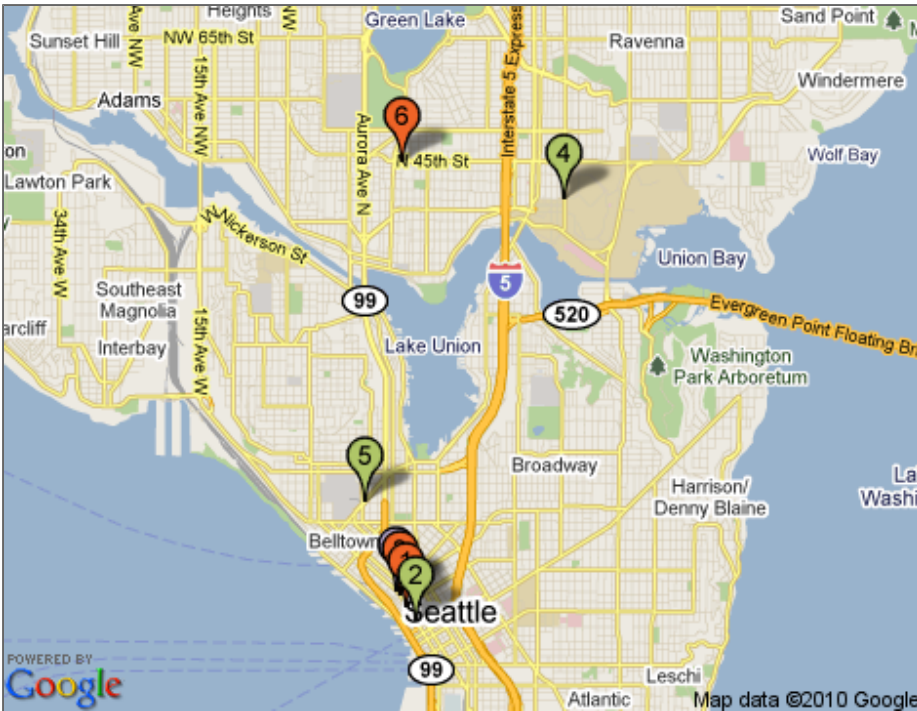
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more at
BedandBreakfast.com

Day 4 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Seattle Art Tour Art lovers have recently discovered that Seattle has finally come into its own when it comes to art. There are several major museums with extensive world class collections, but Seattle's private galleries offer a glimpse into cutting edge artistic movements and the best local and regional art being produced. One day really isn't enough to see it all since many of the galleries are in different neighborhoods so try to set aside two days if you can. Start your day with a light breakfast at Maximilien if its Sunday or at Le Pichet any other day of the week. Head south on First Avenue for two blocks, you'll see the Museum on the East side of the Street. If you know a thing or two about art, the curation will amuse you as the juxtapositions of artistic themes and movements is quite clever. After a couple of hours, you'll probably want to get off your feet so head back up to Post Alley in Pike Place Market where you'll find Steelhead Diner. Try the caviar pie as a starter, and then move on to salmon. If you have room, their crème caramel is superb and it goes perfectly with the Apex Semillon. If it is a beautiful day you can take a stroll in the Olympic Sculpture Park but if not, take a cab to the Henry Art Gallery in the University District. Be sure to get on the road before 3:30 because the traffic can be atrocious. Since traffic won't die down until 6:30 you can take the opportunity to see the Burke Museum on the north end of the University of Washington Campus. By now you're probably hungry and thirsty so since you're already in the north end of the city this is a great chance to experience Lark which was recently named one of the ten best new restaurants by the New York Times. Its quite popular so be sure to make a reservation. If you can't get in, you can probably get in at Sitka and Spruce on Eastlake.

contact:

tel: 1 206 682 7270
www.maximilienrestaurant.com

location:

81A Pike Street
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

1 Maximilien In The Market

DESCRIPTION: With fresh fish, meat and produce coming directly from Pike Place Market, right outside the front door, you know it's fresh at this traditional French Market cafe/restaurant with views of Elliott Bay. The eatery prepares old favorites like Beef Bordelaise and more creative dishes like Panache du Pecheur (a melange of fish in a tomato-basil fondue). There is a separate lunch menu, a light menu served between lunch and



11:30a-10p Tu-Sa, Brunch:
9:30a-3:30p Su

dinner, and a brunch served on Sundays (try the eggs Benedict with smoked salmon). © wcities.com

contact:

tel: +1 206 654 3100
fax: +1 206 654 3135
<http://www.seattleartmuseum.org>

location:

100 University Street
Seattle WA 98101

2 Seattle Art Museum

DESCRIPTION: Seattle Art Museum has recently expanded and the new building houses a much more extensive and impressive collection of modern art in addition to world class collections of Native American, European, African and Asian art. The permanent collection is housed in a bright airy corridor, and spans several floors. Modern pieces playfully juxtapose traditional European works; an Andy Warhol shares space with a John Singleton Copeland and touring exhibits occupy the original structure. Brancusi and Botticelli anchor the second floor. If you've been disappointed by the original Seattle Art Museum, don't let your first exposure prevent you from experiencing the new Seattle Art Museum, the collection is outstanding and the arrangement of the art is in itself a creative endeavor.



contact:

tel: 206 625 0129
<http://www.steelheaddiner.com>

location:

95 Pine Street
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

Tu to Sa from 11:00 AM to
10:00 PM, Su from 10:00 AM
to 03:00 PM

3 Steelhead Diner

DESCRIPTION: A palette of soothing blues and greens reflect the colors of Puget Sound, visible through the front windows of this upscale diner next to Post Alley. Rows of colorful fishing lures encased in plastic separate booths for privacy, but the atmosphere is casual and festive. Chrome stools look into the kitchen, and a long bar encourages cocktails with camaraderie. Chef Davis's time in New Orleans informs such offerings as hominy cakes, gumbo and poutine. The lump Dungeness crab cake is one of the best in town, and desserts like Apple Pan Dowdy are worth the calories. Northwest wines, full bar. © wcities.com



citysearch

MY NOTE: Try the salmon and the caviar pie. If Aaron the manager is there ask him to select your wine for you, he has impeccable taste.

Olympic Sculpture Park

DESCRIPTION: The Olympic Sculpture Park transforms a nine-acre industrial site into open and vibrant green space for art. This new waterfront park gives Seattle residents and visitors the opportunity to experience a variety of sculpture in an outdoor setting, while enjoying the incredible views and beauty of the Olympic Mountains and Puget Sound. Admission is free.

contact:

tel: 206/543-2280
fax: +1 206 685 3123
www.henryart.org

location:

15th Avenue North East and
41st Street
Seattle WA 98105

hours:

Tues-Wed and Fri-Sun
11am-5pm; Thurs 11am-8pm

4 Henry Art Gallery

DESCRIPTION: Expect the unexpected here -- and prepare to be challenged in your concept of what constitutes art. The focus of the Henry Art Gallery, on the west side of the UW campus, is on contemporary art with retrospectives of individual artists, as well as exhibits focusing on specific themes or media. The museum benefits from large, well-lit gallery spaces illuminated by pyramidal and cubic skylights that can be seen near the main entrance. Photography and video are both well represented, and for the most part, the exhibits are the most avant-garde in the Seattle area. The museum's permanent Skyspace installation by James Turrell, who uses light to create his artwork, is worth the price of admission if you're the contemplative type. The Skyspace is a small room with an oval ceiling opening that frames the sky. At night, the outside of the glass Skyspace is illuminated by an ever-changing light show. The museum also has a cafe and a small sculpture courtyard. Parking is often available at the Central Parking Garage, at NE 41st Street and 15th Avenue NE. © Frommer's

MY NOTE: Since this gallery is in the University district be sure to jump in a cab before rush hour.



Photo courtesy of Henry Art Gallery

contact:

tel: 206/543-5590
fax: +1 206 685 3039
www.burkemuseum.org

location:

Northeast 45th Street and
17th Avenue
Seattle WA 98121

hours:

Daily 10am-5pm (1st Thurs of
each month until 8pm)

5 Burke Museum

DESCRIPTION: At the northwest corner of the University of Washington campus, the Burke Museum features exhibits on the natural and cultural heritage of the Pacific Rim and is the Northwest's foremost museum of paleontology, archaeology, and ethnology. Permanent exhibits include Life & Times of Washington State, which covers 500 million years of Washington history (and prehistory) with lots of fossils, including a complete mastodon. The second permanent exhibit, Pacific Voices, focuses on the many cultures of the Pacific Rim and their connections to Washington State. In front of the museum stand several modern totem poles that are replicas of totem poles carved in the late 19th century. Because this museum is fairly large, it mounts touring shows that often make only a few other stops in the U.S., so be sure to check the exhibition schedule when you are in town. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Burke Museum

contact:

tel: 1 206 633 0801
fax: 1 206 633 0801
http://www.tilthrestaurant.com
/

location:

1411 N. 45th Street
Seattle WA 98103

hours:

6 Tilth

DESCRIPTION: Chef Maria Hines proves that you can be a good steward of the earth and still delight your palate. Entering the old craftsman bungalow with a rocking chair porch feels like going to a friend's house for dinner. The décor is sparse, but original leaded glass windows, a brick fireplace and painted green chairs add to its inherent charm. Using only locally sourced and organic ingredients, menu items change seasonally. Try the mini duck burgers with homemade ketchup and mission fig at dinner or weekend brunch. A chalkboard



citysearch

Mon-Thurs 5-10pm; Fri
5-10:30pm; Sat 10am-2pm
and 5-10:30pm; Sun
10am-2pm and 5-10pm

highlights artisanal cheese selections, and the extensive wine
list features several eco-friendly choices. © wcities.com

contact:

tel: +1 206 441 7125
<http://www.bedandbreakfast.com/wa-seattle-pensione-nichols.html>

location:

1923 1st Ave
Seattle WA 98101

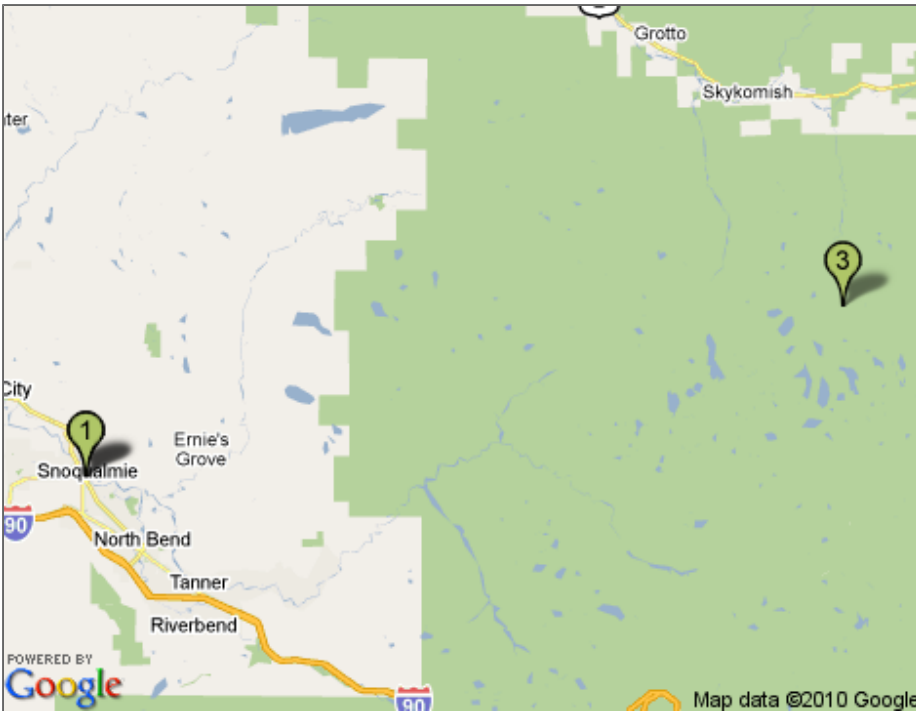
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more at
BedandBreakfast.com

Day 5 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: There are four main options for getting a chance to see the beautiful mountains, rivers and forests in the Northwest and you should decide based on what interests you most. If you love beaches and forests, the Pacific Coast or the San Juan Islands are your best bet. If you pine for jagged peaks and alpine lakes, Mt. Rainier or the Alpine Wilderness are where you want to go. If you're most interested in volcanic geology then you should drive down to Mt. St. Helens. All of these options require a car rental unless you want to sit on a crowded bus for a guided tour. If you don't have the time to leave the city, then there are plenty of great options right here in Seattle. Snoqualmie Falls is a short 40 minute drive from Seattle. Head East on I 90 and follow the signs. Salish lodge has amazing food so make sure to stop in for a bite. If you're looking for something more strenuous, head straight to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Alpine Lakes Wilderness isn't for the faint of heart. If you don't have the gear you can rent it at REI. The hike in is 10-15 miles depending on which lake you are heading to. The views are absolutely spectacular so it's well worth the climb but be sure to pack accordingly. Even during the summer months you'll at least need a 0 degree bag at this elevation because it's a bit windy and there's nothing worse than a cold night's sleep after hiking all day. There are a few things you can pack to make the hike so much easier and that's really all you should pack, carry a little with you as possible because by the 7th mile the extra pair of pants seems much heavier. Take a shell, a fleece, long underwear, shorts, quick dry pants and extra smart wool socks. You can do the hike in cross trainers but there is an easy stream crossing so bring some sandals. There is water so if you want to save some weight you can pack a water purifier and save yourself room for a nice single malt scotch or a bottle of wine from the Tasting Room or Delaurenti (don't forget your bottle opener). The best way to watch Aurora Borealis is with a perfect Barolo or Laphroaig. You'll need a tent and a sleeping pad for sure because this is alpine terrain and it's exposed and not so soft. Be sure to bring a bear bag and a rope to hang your food from a tree away from camp. The easiest way to make dinner is to infuse olive oil with chopped garlic, chili flakes black pepper and fresh basil and use that as the base for everything you make. If you bring a collapsible fishing pole you can probably catch trout but bring plenty of pasta just in case, you'll have quite an appetite. Pack a couple of baguettes (you can hang them off the side of your pack), specialty cheeses and salami for lunch. Cucumbers and carrots are easy to pack but tomatoes always perish. Give up on gourmet coffee, Nescafe or tea is so much more practical. Breakfast oatmeal with freshly picked huckleberries from around the campsite is so delicious. Remember to pack a map, compass, first aid kit, flashlight, iodine, extra energy bars, space blanket, a few lighters and a fully charged cell phone but turn it off so you can save the battery in case you need it. Enjoy!!!!

contact:

tel: +1 425 888 2556
http://www.snoqualmievalleytourism.com/snoqualmiefalls.html

location:

6501 Railroad Avenue
Southeast
Snoqualmie WA 98065

hours:

Trails open dawn-dusk

1 Snoqualmie Falls

DESCRIPTION: Snoqualmie Falls is one of Washington state's most popular scenic attractions. At the Falls, you will find a two-acre park, hiking trail, observation deck, gift shop, and the famous 270 foot waterfall. This is where the TV series Twin Peaks was filmed.

contact:

tel: 425 888 2556 / 1 800 272 5474 Toll free
fax: 425 888 2533
http://www.salishlodge.com

location:

6501 Railroad Ave SE
Snoqualmie WA 98065-1109

hours:

Breakfast: M-F 7a-11a, Sa-Su 7a-2p, Dinner: Tu-Th & Su 5p-9p, F-Sa 5p-10p

2 Salish Lodge & Spa Dining Room

DESCRIPTION: Nestled in green foothills east of Seattle, this lodge sits above 268-foot Snoqualmie Falls and the view from the award-winning restaurant is spectacular. The long, narrow dining room has wide windows across one side. Dark wood contrasts nicely with the linen-topped tables and the lush green backdrop outside. The creative Northwest menu changes often but might include Pheasant Breast, Grilled Beef tenderloin or Grilled Salmon. The lodge has an impressive 600-item wine list. It also serves a five-course country brunch on Sundays. The Attic, a casual dining spot upstairs, has a full bar. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Salish Lodge & Spa

contact:

tel: 425-775-9702

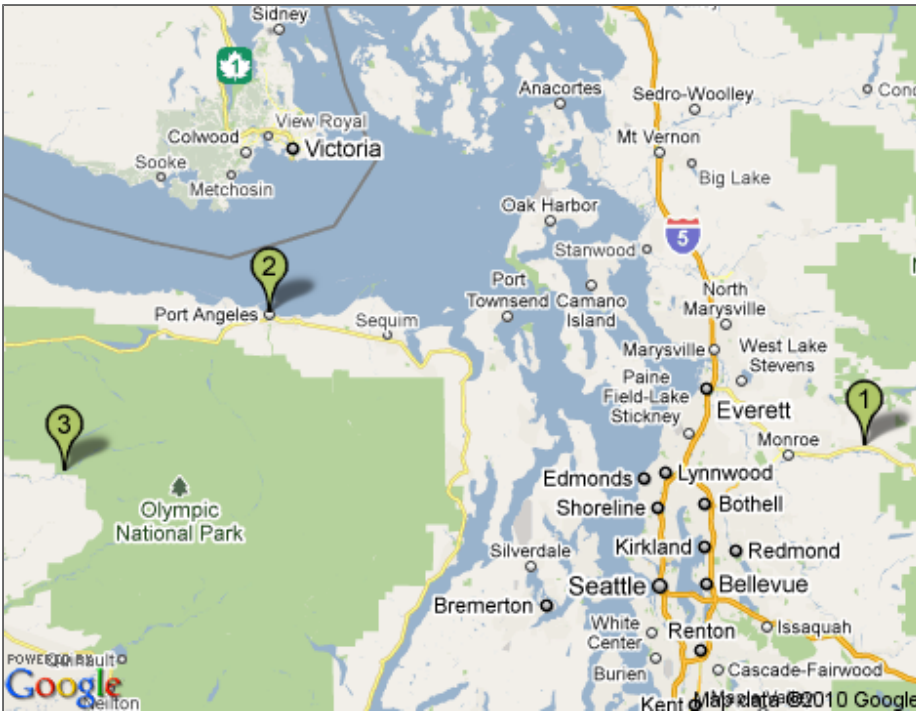
location:

WA 98288

3 Alpine Lakes Wilderness

DESCRIPTION: The name Alpine Lakes takes its origin from the nearly 700 small mountain lakes nestled like jewels among the high rock peaks and timbered valleys of the region. With nearly 150,000 visitors each year, many with little understanding of wilderness ethics, the Alpine Lakes is hard to manage under the guidelines of the 1964 Wilderness Act. In order to preserve the integrity of the Wilderness it has become necessary to impose restrictions in many areas. The recreational opportunities are plentiful within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Hiking, backpacking, dispersed camping, fishing, horseback riding, and mountain climbing activities are numerous. The Alpine Lakes Wilderness is located in the rugged Central Cascades region of Washington state and is jointly administered by the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Wenatchee National Forest. The Wilderness is primarily located within the Skykomish and North Bend Ranger Districts. The Wilderness can be accessed from the north via U.S. Hwy. 2 off of Forest Roads #6410, #68, #6830, and #6095 and from the south via I-90 off of Forest Roads #0606, #9030 and #144.

Day 6 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: To get to the Olympic Rain Forest you take the ferry from Seattle to Bainbridge and head north to Port Townsend. Drive along Highway 1 around the northern tip of the Peninsula, through Forks to the west coast. You'll hit the Hoh Rainforest and the Queets River both of which have extraordinarily lush emerald green rain forests and pristine rivers teeming with salmon. You can get a permit from the Tribal office if you want to check out the Sea Stacks on the beaches near the Queets, but if you drive south you get to the coastal section of the Olympic National Forest. Third Beach is a mile hike from the road and offers secluded primitive campsites and spectacular views. If you're not interested in camping there are cabins for rent along the beach and motels in Forks but you may need to call ahead during the summer months. It's also entirely possible to rent a beach house for larger groups, some of which have hot tubs and saunas. The restaurants aren't the best so you may want to pack some fruit, baguettes, cheese and cured meats from Pike Place Market for the trip. When you eat out, the fish of the day or crab is always the best option. You should plan for an overnight stay since it's a four hour drive.

contact:
tel: +1 800 942 4042
<http://www.northolympic.com>

location:
US Highway 101
Sequim WA 98362

1 Olympic Peninsula

DESCRIPTION: The trip around this heavily forested peninsula is a magical experience. Olympic National Park encompasses most of the land and includes Hurricane Ridge, Lake Crescent and Hoh Rain Forest. Winding Highway 101 passes through the mid-sized towns that dot the coastline and that offer seasonal festivals, great dining, historical parks and superb lodgings. Sequim has some of the sunniest weather in Western Washington, while Port Townsend celebrates with a summer-long music festival. Port Angeles lies minutes from great fishing, and Lake Quinault Lodge offers a real chance to commune with nature. For a shorter excursion, the Hood Canal Bridge brings you to the southeastern corner and the Port



Photo courtesy of Olympic Peninsula

Ludlow Resort, hotel of choice for visitors to the Olympic Music Festival. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: +1 360 452 2363 / +1
877 456 8372 (Port Angeles
Chamber of Commerce)
fax: +1 360 457 5380
<http://www.portangeles.org/>

location:
121 East Railroad Avenue
(Port Angeles Chamber of
Commerce)
Port Angeles WA 98362

2 Port Angeles, Washington

DESCRIPTION: Often a stopping point for ferry travelers bound for Victoria, BC, this small city is a worthwhile destination in its own right. For lodgings, try Domaine Madeleine Bed and Breakfast, and enjoy fine French dining at C'est Si Bon. Easy access to several spots in Olympic National Park makes this town a great starting point for outdoor adventures, with nearby Lake Crescent and Hurricane Ridge being especially popular. There's a small farmer's market every weekend, and plenty of concerts, theatrical events and shopping to keep you busy. © wcities.com

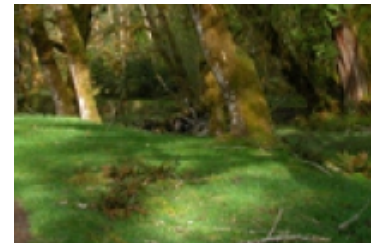


contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olym/

location:
WA

Sol Duc

DESCRIPTION: The Sol Duc Campground lies 12 miles east of Highway 101 along the Sol Duc River Road. The facility lies within the montane forest community at an elevation of 1,680 feet. It consists of 82 individual and group sites available during periods of high visitation. The individual camping sites are available on a first come, first served basis, and the group sites are available by reservation. Amenities at this facility include drinking water, wheelchair accessible toilets, garbage removal and an RV dumping station. Each campsite consists of a picnic table, fire pit and grate.



Backpacker in the Hoh Rainforest

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olym/

Olympic National Park

DESCRIPTION: At Olympic National Park, you can reach nearly a mile in elevation with a trip to Hurricane Ridge, where you'll find a visitor center and nature trails. Beginning early in the morning will increase your chances of seeing wildlife and help avoid the larger number of visitors later in the day. From Hurricane Ridge, a three-hour drive to the west will bring you to the Hoh Rain Forest. A visitor center, picnic area and short nature trails can enhance your rain forest visit. After leaving the Hoh, an hour and a half drive toward the northwest will bring you to Rialto Beach on the Pacific Ocean in time for sunset. Grocery stores, restaurants and other amenities are available in the towns of Port Angeles, Forks and at other locations along Highway 101 and the park access roads.

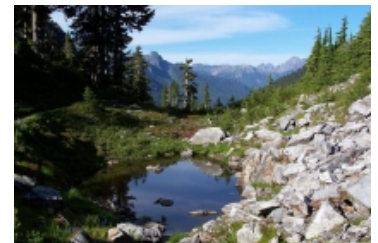


photo courtesy of ((brian))

contact:
tel: 360-288-2525

location:
WA

Olympic Rain Forest Scenic Drive

DESCRIPTION: There are many ways to explore and enjoy the unique beauty of the Olympic Rain Forest. For those who prefer to experience the rain forest from their automobile, the following route provides excellent opportunities to see a wide variety of features within a relatively short period of time. Allow approximately one and a half hours to complete this 31 mile loop around Quinault Lake. You can begin your tour from any spot along the loop, however, the following description starts at the Forest Service Quinault Ranger Station on the South Shore of Quinault Lake. From

the ranger station, drive northeast on the South Shore Road. Watch for open vistas of Quinault Lake as you travel past Falls Creek Campground (.1 mile), several recreational residences, and Gatton Creek Campground (.5 mile). The Gatton Creek site provides excellent opportunities to access the water's edge and has picnic facilities and toilets. Beyond the Forest boundary, the road continues through mixed ownership private lands. The Colonel Bob Trailhead (3.8 miles) is the major portal for hiking into the Colonel Bob Wilderness. Watch for Merriman Falls (4.4 miles) on the right side of the road. The road parallels the Quinault River for several miles, providing views of an ever-changing stream. Notice the wide river bed and large gravel bars. Near the Olympic National Park boundary (9.8 miles) there is a small but spectacular waterfall at Bunch Creek that can be seen from the road. Turn left at the next road junction (10.8 miles) and cross the Quinault River. Across the bridge the road forks again. Turn left and begin your tour along the North Shore. Look for Roosevelt Elk and other wildlife in the open fields. The Olympic National Park's Quinault River Ranger Station and a small Visitor Center (19.6 miles) provide a good opportunity to stretch. If time allows, walk the short half mile self-guided Maple Grove Nature Trail which begins near the Visitor Center. July Creek Campground (22 miles) is a walk-in campground. The route leaves the Park (25.3 miles) and intersects with Highway 101 (25.5 miles). Turn left onto Highway 101 and drive 2 miles to a road junction just across the Quinault River. Turn left after crossing the bridge. In a short mile, the road junctions with the South Shore Road. Turn left and drive to the Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail (29.1 miles). This trailhead has a large parking lot and restrooms. The loop trail offers an excellent opportunity to hike through lush understory, hanging mosses, and giant conifers. Small signs interpret the features of the rain forest. From the trailhead, the road continues northeast to Willaby Campground (29.4 miles). This popular site has a boat ramp and picnic facilities. The Lake Quinault Lodge (31.3 miles) is near the end of the loop. This rustic lodge has a gift shop and bar and provides meals and rooms with spectacular views. There is a gas station and small mercantile across from the lodge. A return to the Quinault Ranger Station completes the loop. NOTE: This route is mostly a two-lane paved surface road. However, there is a short, narrow, one lane section of gravel road north of the Park's Ranger Station on the North Shore. This section is not recommended for wide vehicles or trailers over 19 feet.

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olymp/

Hoh Visitor Center

DESCRIPTION: This visitor center focuses mainly on the temperate rain forest in the Hoh River valley. The site contains interpretive exhibits and informative literature on the park and its plant and animal communities. Also on site are three nature trails. Park Service staff is on hand at this site during the summer months to provide interpretive programs. The facility is usually not staffed during the winter months.



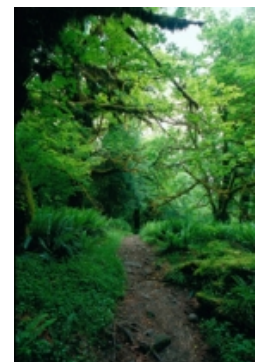
Photo courtesy of Hoh Visitor Center

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olymp/

location:
WA

Hoh

DESCRIPTION: This facility lies within the Hoh Rain Forest at an elevation of 578 feet. It provides access to trails within the Hoh River valley. Other facilities accessible from this campground include the Hoh Ranger Station, Picnic Area and Nature Trail. The ranger station provides naturalist programs during the summer months, open to all visitors. This site is open year round on a first come, first served basis. It consists of 88 sites some of which can accommodate trailers up to 21 feet in length. Campground amenities include drinking water, garbage collection, wheelchair accessible toilets and an RV dumping station. Each campsite consists of a picnic table, fire pit and grate.



A trail in the Hoh Rain Forest

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olym/

location:
WA

North Fork

DESCRIPTION: The North Fork Campground lies at the end of North Shore Road at an elevation of 520 feet. It consists of 7 individual camping sites that can accommodate tents. There is no drinking water provided at North Fork Campground. Each site includes a picnic table, fire pit and grate. Visitors to this site can enjoy hiking and backpacking in the Quinault River valley. Permits and information can be obtained at the North Fork Ranger Station located next to the campground.



Photo courtesy of North Fork

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olym/

location:
WA

Staircase

DESCRIPTION: This site lies at the end of Jorsted Creek Road in the southeastern corner of Olympic National Park. It provides access to the trails within the North Fork Skokomish River valley. The facility consists of 59 individual campsites available during high visitation periods on a first come, first served basis. Amenities at the Staircase Campground include drinking water, garbage collection and wheelchair accessible toilets. Each site consists of a picnic table, fire pit and grate. The Staircase Ranger Station lies near the campground and provides trail information and backcountry permits.

contact:
tel: +1 360 374 6925 (Hoh Ranger Station)/ +1 360 452 4501 (Park Headquarters)
<http://www.northolympic.com/onp/hohforest.html>

location:
18 miles east of US Highway 101
Forks WA 98831

hours:
Call for details

3 Hoh Rain Forest

DESCRIPTION: With an average annual rainfall of 150 inches, this lush temperate rain forest requires waterproof shoes. Trees soar more than 300 feet into the sky, while mosses, lichens and mushrooms cover the ground. Three nature walks, including the trek through the Hall of Mosses, are easy enough for the entire family, while more adventurous hikers can load up the gear and spend the weekend along the Hoh River or on the slopes of Mount Olympus. The folks at the ranger station happily provide suggestions and maps to various points of interest. No matter which path you take, chances are you'll spot some wildlife: Raccoons, hares, elk and cougar all make their homes here. Nature lovers staying overnight will appreciate nearby Kalaloch Lodge, the only hotel in the vicinity. Overnight camping spots are available in the forest on a first-come, first-served basis, for \$10 per night. © wcities.com



Hoh Rain Forest

contact:
tel: 360-452-4501
www.nps.gov/olym/

location:
WA

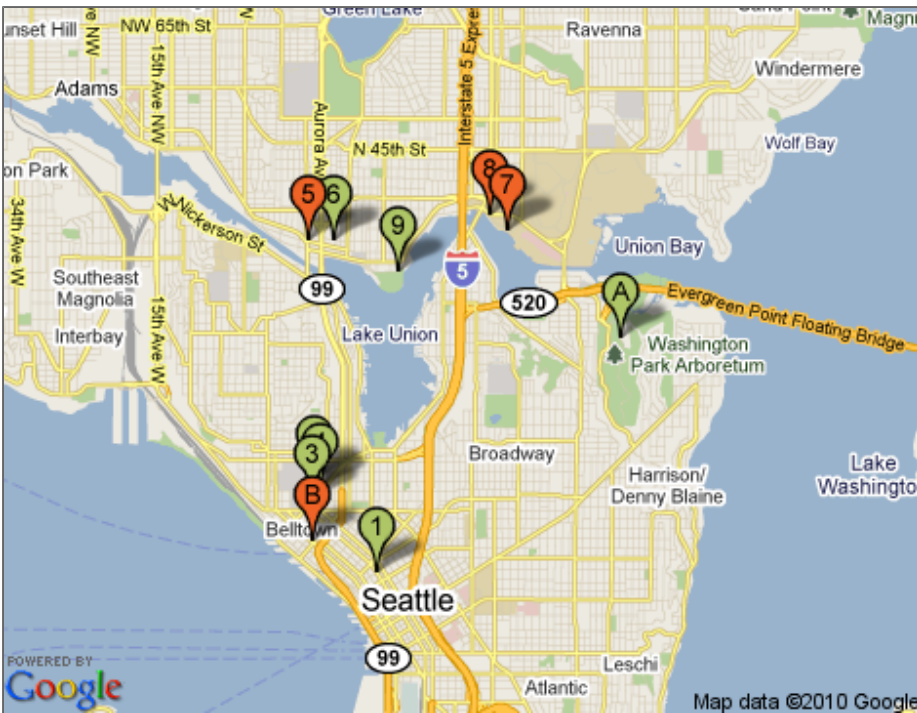
Queets

DESCRIPTION: The Queets Campground lies along Queets River Road at an elevation of 290 feet, 13.5 miles northeast of the Olympic Highway. The temperate rain forest of the leeward Olympic Peninsula surrounds the campground. This campground consists of 20 sites that accommodate tents. There is no potable water available on site and all water obtained from the Queets River should be treated before consumption. This site provides access to the Queets River Trail for hiking, backpacking and stock packing. Permits, and information, are available at the Queets Ranger Station.



photo courtesy of Queets

Day 7 - Seattle



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: Start your morning with breakfast at Crepes de France in Pike Place then walk four blocks to Westlake Center where you can ride the Monorail to Seattle Center. If you make a reservation for lunch at the Space Needle you won't be charged for the elevator ride to the observation deck. Enjoy the 360 degree view of both the Cascades, the Olympics, the city skyline, the Puget Sound and Lake Union. If you're interested in Science Fiction or Music, head to the Experience Music Project, otherwise jump in a cab to Fremont where you can get a cup of tea at the Still Life Café, walk up to the Troll under the Bridge and then continue by bus or taxi to the Boat Street Café if you're in the mood for quiet, provincial French cuisine or to the Aqua Verde Paddle Club for the best halibut tacos on the west coast. You can rent kayaks and paddle west to Gas Works Park where you'll have a fabulous view of the city or head to the Arboretum where you'll find turtles and a wide variety of birds nestled among the wetlands. After a beautiful day on the lake you'll want to head back to your hotel, tidy up and walk up First Avenue to Marco's Supper Club. Start with the fried sage leaves and their ahi tuna is outstanding and you can't go wrong with their wine list.

contact:

tel: +1 206 905 2620

fax: +1 206 905 2206

<http://www.seattlemonorail.com>

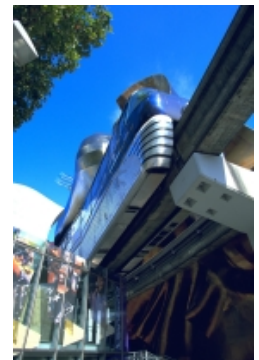
location:

370 Thomas Street

Seattle WA 98101

1 Seattle Center Monorail

DESCRIPTION: The Seattle Center Monorail is temporarily shut down for system repair and refurbishment. Please visit website for further notice (Noted 9/04). Like the Space Needle, this train is a remnant of the 1962 World's Fair. Riding above ground, it takes passengers on a two-minute ride between two terminals: Westlake Center downtown and Seattle Center. Although short, the trip has nice views (on a clear day) of Elliott Bay, downtown and the Capitol Hill area. © wcities.com



contact:
tel: 206/684-7200
www.seattlecenter.com

location:
305 Harrison St
Seattle WA 98121

hours:
Fun Forest outdoor rides:
mid-June to Labor Day daily
noon to between 8 and 10pm
depending on season (call
for hours). Indoor attractions
open year-round at 11am
(closing time varies)

2 Seattle Center

DESCRIPTION: If you want to keep the kids entertained all day long, head to Seattle Center. This 74-acre cultural center and amusement park stands on the northern edge of downtown at the end of the monorail line. The most visible building at the center is the **Space Needle**, which provides an outstanding panorama of the city from its observation deck. However, of much more interest to children are the **Fun Forest** (tel. 206/728-1585; www.funforest.com), with its roller coaster, log flume, merry-go-round, Ferris wheel, arcade games, and minigolf; the **Children's Museum**; and **Seattle Children's Theatre**. This is also Seattle's main festival site, and in the summer months hardly a weekend goes by without some special event filling its grounds. On hot summer days the **International Fountain** is a great place for kids to keep cool (bring a change of clothes).
© Frommer's



contact:
tel: 206/905-2100
fax: +1 206 905 2107
http://www.spaceneedle.com

location:
400 Broad St
Seattle WA 98121

hours:
Sun-Thurs 9am-11pm; Fri-Sat
9am-midnight

3 The Space Needle

DESCRIPTION: Built for the 1962 World's Fair, this 605-foot towering structure may also rate as one of the nation's most recognized structures...and one of its most overrated tourist traps. The \$22 adult day-and-night ticket is about as steep as the Needle itself, and one's wait in line will often exceed the time spent at the top. The views are free and just as impressive atop the Columbia Tower nearby on Fifth Avenue.
© NileGuide



editor

contact:
tel: 877/EMPLIVE
http://empsfm.org

location:
325 Fifth Ave. N
Seattle WA 98121

hours:
Memorial Day to Labor Day
daily 10am-7pm; Labor Day
to Memorial Day Wed-Mon
10am-5pm (until 8pm 1st
Thurs of each month)

4 Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
First Thursday of the month is free admission!

DESCRIPTION: A glance at the two joined buildings tells you these are museums like none you've ever visited. Experience Music Project is an interactive music museum that started out as a tribute to Hendrix, but grew to include everything from doo-wop to Seattle grunge. If the kids are in tow, bring them upstairs to the interactive rooms, where they can play and learn on real electronic drums, turntables, keyboards and guitars – they can even get "on stage" to play for a crowd!
When your inner rocker is appeased, give your inner geek a peek at costumes and props from Star Wars, Star Trek, and any other movie or TV show that explored other galaxies over at the Science Fiction Museum. Permanent exhibits include a weapons unit (from lightsabers to Klingon daggers) and wall-sized computer-generated computer generated images of sci-fi cities from The Jetsons, The Matrix and more.
© NileGuide



contact:
tel: 206 547 9850

location:
709 North 35th Street
Seattle WA 98103

hours:
7:30a-9p M-Su

5 Still Life in Fremont Coffeehouse

DESCRIPTION: It seems that each Seattle neighborhood has a cafe that perfectly reflects its personality. In Fremont, it is undoubtedly this light, bright and slightly eclectic coffeehouse. Founded in the 1960s, its activist roots have mostly been quietly absorbed. Nevertheless, the inexpensive, generous portions of ham-free split pea soup, vegetable-crammed salads and whole grain breads still harken back to the early days. Outdoor seating is available in warm weather, but the long tables and plush couches inside invite long conversations any time of year. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: +1 206 632 1500
http://www.fremontseattle.com/urb_frameset.htm

location:
N 36th St
Seattle WA 98103

6 Fremont Troll

DESCRIPTION: Just another quirky spot to visit in Fremont! The neighborhood's infamous troll, 18-feet high and clutching a VW bus it seemingly grabbed off of the Aurora bridge, is a great place for tourists to take a few funny photos. The troll is part of Fremont in every way, from making appearances in the Solstice Parade to donning his own Halloween costume every October. © NileGuide



Roshan V

contact:
tel: 206/545-8570
www.aguaverde.com

location:
1303 NE Boat St
Seattle WA 98105

hours:
Mon-Wed 11am-9pm;
Thurs-Sat 11am-10pm; Sun
noon-6pm

7 Agua Verde Cafe

DESCRIPTION: Set on the shore of Portage Bay, which lies between Lake Union and Lake Washington, this casual Mexican restaurant is a hit with college students from the adjacent University of Washington. Consequently, there's often a line out the door as customers wait to give their orders at the counter. The menu is limited to tacos, Mexican-style sandwiches, empanadas, quesadillas, and, at dinner, a handful of more substantial entrees. It's hard to go wrong, but I especially recommend the tacos, which come three to an order. Try the grilled halibut or yam versions, both of which are topped with a delicious avocado sauce. Add a couple of sides -- cranberry slaw, pineapple-jicama salsa, or creamy chile potatoes -- for a filling and inexpensive meal. Agua Verde also serves pretty good margaritas and rents kayaks for \$15 to \$18 per hour. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Agua Verde Cafe

contact:

tel: 1 206 632 4602
<http://www.boatstreetcafe.com>

location:

909 North East Boat Street
Seattle WA 98105

hours:

Lunch: 11:30a-2:30p Tu-F,
Dinner: 5:30p-10p W-Sa,
Brunch: 10:30a-2:30p Sa-Su

8 Boat Street Cafe

DESCRIPTION: Located in the middle of boat repair shops and supply stores, this often-overlooked cafe is a wonderful little hideaway, perfect for a romantic tete-a-tete and yet casual enough to be relaxing. Some of the French country favorites include pears with cheese and walnuts, Chicken Liver Pate in a hard-Cider Cream Sauce and a delicious Pear-Gorgonzola Flan. For dessert, try the legendary Bread Pudding soaked in Rum, Amaretto and Cream. The restaurant does not allow smoking. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Boat Street Cafe.

contact:

tel: +1 206 684 4075
http://www.seattle.gov/parks/park_detail.asp

location:

2101 North Northlake Way
Seattle WA 98102

9 Gas Works Park

DESCRIPTION: This is an example of urban renewal at its best. Take an old gas-processing plant that has outlived its usefulness, and transform it into something everyone can enjoy. Located on the north shore of Lake Union (opposite downtown), the park has excellent water views and a spectacular, unobstructed view of the city skyline. It is a popular spot for concerts, bikers, kite flyers, families on picnics and just about everyone else. This is also a prime spot from which to view the Fireworks on the Fourth of July. © wcities.com



contact:

tel: 206/543-8800
<http://depts.washington.edu/wpa/general.htm>

location:

2300 Arboretum Dr. E
Seattle WA 98112

hours:

Daily dawn to dusk; visitor center daily 10am-4pm

A Washington Park Arboretum

DESCRIPTION: Over four thousand varieties of plants, flowers, and trees can be found in this 230-acre arboretum, including cherry trees, dogwoods and rhododendrons. Those who enjoy kayaking and canoeing will enjoy the marshes on the northern end, while the boardwalk offers a gorgeous view of Lake Washington for anyone interested in a leisurely stroll. © NileGuide



Photo courtesy of Washington Park Arboretum

contact:

tel: 1 206 441 7801
<http://www.marcosupperclub.com/>

location:

2510 First Avenue
Seattle WA 98121

hours:

5:30p-11p Su-Th, 5:30p-midnight F-Sa

B Marco's Supperclub

DESCRIPTION: This candlelit Belltown restaurant has become one of the area's most popular eateries. The patrons tend to be couples out for romantic evenings or small groups of friends. On warm summer nights, there is outdoor dining, so you can gaze into someone's eyes under the stars. The eclectic, multicultural menu features everything from Thai-spiced seared tuna to luscious gnocchi to a fried sage leaf appetizer-one of the specialties of the house. A full bar is available. © wcities.com



citysearch

contact:

tel: 1 206 323 8881
www.laspiga.com/

location:

1429 12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122

hours:

Su to Th from 05:00 PM to
11:00 PM, Fr to Sa from 05:00
PM to 12:00 AM

1 Osteria la Spiga

DESCRIPTION: Osteria la Spiga's new space is 4 times the size of its old one and more beautiful than ever. They offer an expanded menu, and an additional bar menu served until 1:30am. Enjoy your authentic Italian meal while listening to live jazz music 4 nights a week. Dine on the patio, or let them host an event for you in the separate private room.



citysearch

contact:

tel: +1 206 624 0474
fax: +1 206 624 9596
<http://www.stimsongreen.com>

location:

1204 Minor Avenue
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

Events: 11:30a-5p & 6p-11p
M-Su

2 Stimson-Green Mansion

DESCRIPTION: This mansion is of historic as well as architectural importance. Built at the turn of the century, it predates the famous Millionaires' Row. It was once home to mill owner Charles Stimson, one of Seattle's founders, and it is now an in-house catering service. This beautiful Tudor-style house is available for elegant weddings, receptions, corporate seminars, banquets, formal sit-down dinners and lunches, holiday parties and breakfast meetings. There is room for up to 48 guests for sit-down meals and 200 guests for buffet-style meals. Linens, dishes and clean-up are provided for your event.
© wcities.com



<http://stimsongreen.com/SGM-Images/Dining-Room-lrg.jpg>

contact:

tel: 206/764-5720
fax: +1 206 764 5707
www.museumofflight.org

location:

9404 E. Marginal Way S
Seattle WA 98168

hours:

Daily 10am-5pm (until 9pm
1st Thurs of each month)

3 Museum of Flight

DESCRIPTION: Right next door to Boeing Field, at an active airport 15 minutes south of downtown Seattle, this museum will have aviation buffs walking on air. Housed inside the six-story glass-and-steel repository are some of history's most famous planes. The collection of planes starts with a replica of the Wright brothers' 1903 plane and continues through to the present state of flight. Suspended in the Great Hall are more than 20 planes, including a 1935 DC-3, the first Air Force F-5 supersonic fighter, and the Gossamer Albatross, a human-powered airplane. The Personal Courage Wing houses 28 World War I and World War II fighter planes. You'll also see one of the famous Blackbird spy planes, which at one time were the world's fastest jets (you can even sit in the cockpit of one of these babies), as well as a rare World War II Corsair fighter that was rescued from Lake Washington and restored to its original glory. Visitors also get to board a retired British Airways Concorde supersonic airliner. An exhibit on the U.S. space program features an Apollo command module. Of course, you'll also see plenty of Boeing planes, including a reproduction of Boeing's first plane, which was built in 1916. The museum also incorporates part of Boeing's old wooden factory, a remnant



Image courtesy of The Museum of Flight

from the company's earliest years. While any air-and-space museum lets you look at mothballed planes, not many have their own air-traffic control tower and let you watch aircraft taking off and landing at an active airfield. You can even take to the air here during the summer, when biplane rides are usually offered from in front of the museum. The **Museum of Flight Restoration Center**, 2909 100th St. SW, Everett (tel. **425/745-5150**) is north of Seattle at Paine Field, which is near the city of Everett. Here you'll see planes in various stages of restoration. The center is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8am to 4pm and Saturday from 9am to 5pm. Call for directions. Paine Field is also where you'll find the **Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing Tour**. Together, these two make a fascinating half-day outing. © Frommer's

contact:
tel: +1 206 684 4075
http://www.seattle.gov/parks/park_detail.asp

location:
1702 Alki Ave SW
Seattle WA 98116

4 Alki Beach

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Alki Beach is a popular spot in the summer and can get crowded, so if you want to make a day of it, get there early.

DESCRIPTION: Looking for a Cali beach town vibe in the Pacific Northwest? The Alki Beach isn't just a hotspot for getting some sun and surf, it gives visitor's a chance to explore the historic Alki Point, where the first settlers began what would become the city of Seattle. Alki beach is a great place for all of your favorite beach activities – swimming, sunning, biking, volleyball, grilling – and there are dozens of shops, cafes and restaurants to explore after you've soaked in enough sun. Be sure to check out the Alki Lighthouse and the miniature Statue of Liberty while you're there.
© NileGuide



jeffwilcox

contact:
tel: +1 206 728 1980
fax: +1 206 728 1980
<http://www.cocaseattle.org>

location:
410 Dexter Ave N
Seattle WA 98109

hours:
W-Su noon-5p

5 Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA)

DESCRIPTION: Focusing on contemporary art, this center has everything from more or less traditional theater to performance art to visual art installations. Count on the shows, which change every two months or so, to maintain the reliable curatorial insistence on pushing, rather than playing with, viewers' minds. Expect to be surprised, pleased and intrigued. For a complete list of shows for the year, please check the Web site. A donation is requested for admission. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA)

contact:

tel: 1 206 324 3633
http://seattle.citysearch.com/profile/10772942/seattle_wa/aoki_japanese_grill_sushi_bar.html

location:

621 Broadway E
Seattle WA 98102

hours:

Tue-Thu 11:30am-3pm,
5pm-10pm Fri-Sat
11:30am-3pm, 5pm-11pm
Sun 5pm-10pm

6 Aoki Japanese Grill & Sushi Bar

DESCRIPTION: Aoki, a long-time sushi favorite on Capital Hill, has a relaxed sushi bar in the front and an intimate dining room in the back. Perfect for sushi before or after a movie at Harvard exit or a walk in Volunteer Park. The sushi chefs are super cool and the staff are incredibly nice.



citysearch

contact:

tel: 206/583-0382
fax: +1 206 583 0133
www.tangorestaurant.com

location:

1100 Pike St
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

Sun-Thurs 4:30-10pm; Fri-Sat
4:30pm-midnight

7 Tango Tapas Restaurant & Lounge

DESCRIPTION: In Spain, the appetizer-size plates of food known as tapas are traditionally served with drinks in bars. Here at Tango, however, tapas are front and center, taking cues from both classic and creative Spanish and Latin cuisine. Many of the items on the menu are substantial enough to serve as entrees, but you'll be much happier if you order lots of different plates and share everything with your dinner companions. Don't miss the gambas picantes (chipotle-pepper-flavored tiger prawns with a sauce made from pumpkin seeds and cilantro). On Monday nights all wines by the bottle are half price, and Sunday through Friday nights, half-price tapas are served in the lounge between 4:30 and 6:30pm. © Frommer's



Photo courtesy of Tango Tapas Restaurant & Lounge

contact:

tel: 1 206 325 2111
<http://www.monsoonseattle.com/>

location:

615 19th Avenue East
Seattle WA 98112

hours:

Dim Sum Brunch: Sa-Su
9a-2:30p, Dinner: Daily
5p-10p

8 Monsoon Restaurant

DESCRIPTION: With its elegantly minimalist decor of light wood with black accents and its artfully presented food, this sleek spot is quite a leap from the hash-slinging Asian joints on nearby Broadway. This place offers Eastern elegance with queues to match. Once you get a seat, you'll be pleased with such inventive house specialties as La Lot Beef (jicama wrapped in beef and betel leaves) and Salmon Steeped in Green Tea Leaves. The fantastic preparations are overseen by brother-sister duo Sophi and Eric Banh. © wcities.com



citysearch

contact:

tel: +1 360 288 2900 / +1 800
562 6672 (toll free)
fax: +1 360 288 2901

9 Lake Quinault Lodge

DESCRIPTION: Built in 1926, this lodge once hosted President Roosevelt, and the dining room still proudly bears his name. Rooms vary greatly as continual redecoration efforts improve one at a time. Many rooms offer private patios or decks, clawfoot tubs, gas fireplaces and bedside

<http://www.visitlakequinault.com>

coffeepots. Most rooms have lovely views of Lake Quinault. The restaurant serves three meals a day, and your server may offer stories about the lodge's resident ghost, Beverly. On weekends, the lodge features an on-site massage, just the thing after a long day on the lake. © wcities.com

location:

345 South Shore Road
Quinault WA 98575

contact:

tel: +1 877 805 0868 / +1 360 437 7000

fax: +1 360 437 7410

<http://www.portludlowresort.com>



Port Ludlow Resort

DESCRIPTION: Located 90 minutes from Seattle on the Olympic Peninsula, this resort sits right at the edge of the Olympic National Park. The resort offers a variety of activities, including a 27-hole golf course, tennis, swimming, a beach and a marina. Choose a single guest room or a full condominium with up to four bedrooms. The condominiums have full kitchens, fireplaces, and decks or patios. Many rooms offer spectacular water views. Room rates vary by season. © wcities.com

location:

1 Heron Road
Port Ludlow WA 98365

contact:

tel: +1 360 376 2222 / +1 866 801 7625

fax: +1 360 376 2289

<http://www.RosarioResort.com>



Rosario Resort

DESCRIPTION: This beautiful property on Orcas Island was built in 1904 as a retirement home for Robert Moran, shipping magnate and two-term mayor of Seattle. In 1960, the mansion was converted into the resort it is today. Enjoy natural surroundings, fishing, golf, whale-watching and hiking in the rugged terrain. Or just relax at the spa. Rooms have old-time charm updated with more modern decor. Room rates vary by view and season. Package deals are available. The resort has three restaurants and a lounge, ranging in decor from casual to elegant. © wcities.com

location:

1400 Rosario Road
Eastsound WA 98245

contact:

tel: (360) 376-4114

<http://www.cabinsonthepoint.com/>



Cabins on the Point

DESCRIPTION: There are only a few cabins on this beautiful property situated right on the water on Orcas Island, each has a fireplace, full kitchen and living room and some have beds perched in bay windows. Wake up to surrounded by water and watch the sun set over the bay. This is the most romantic weekend get away destination in the Northwest if you're looking for seclusion and natural beauty.

location:

2101 Deer Harbor Rd
Eastsound WA 98245

contact:

tel: +1 360 457 4174 / +1 888 811 8376 (toll free)

<http://www.domainemadeleine.com>



Domaine Madeleine Bed and Breakfast

DESCRIPTION: With lush gardens, elegant suites and a gourmet breakfast, this posh bed and breakfast is ready to revive you after a busy week. Each suite has a fireplace, down comforter, Jacuzzi and a gorgeous view. Upon arrival, you'll find chocolates, fresh fruit and flowers, French perfume, scented candles and original works of art. Art lovers will delight in the garden area, an exact replica of Monet's garden. Look for deer, eagles and gray whales from the bluff. The impressive breakfast includes fresh bread, seafood omelets, rich pastries and specially blended coffee. © wcities.com

location:

146 Wildflower Lane
Port Angeles WA 98362

contact:

tel: +1 866 525 2562 / +1 866 525 2562

fax: +1 360 962 3391

<http://www.visitkalaloch.com/>

location:

157151 US Highway 101
Forks WA 98331

14 Kalaloch Lodge

DESCRIPTION: This lodge's spectacular setting inside Olympic National Park more than makes up for the lack of luxury. Five of the rooms and 22 of the cabins have astonishing ocean views. Many have full kitchens and either fireplaces or wood stoves, and all have large windows, separate bathrooms and comfortable beds. The restaurant features a variety of fresh seafood for dinner, and breakfast is an all-you-can-eat pancake extravaganza. From watching whales to hiking old-growth forests, the area has something for everyone. © wcities.com

contact:

tel: 206 448 2001

<http://tomdouglas.com/index.php/restaurants/palace-kitchen>

location:

2030 Fifth Avenue
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

Dinner: 5p-1a M-Su, Cocktails until 2a M-Su

15 Palace Kitchen

DESCRIPTION: It could be the applewood grill, the gorgeous bar, or the romantic atmosphere that attracts Seattleites to Palace Kitchen on a regular basis. Or maybe it's a menu that includes Cayenne Spiked Crispy Pig's Ear, Goat Cheese and Lavender, and Wood-Roasted Lamb Sirloin, or the weekend happy hour that lasts until 1:00 a.m. Really, you don't have to try hard to find an excuse on chowing down at Tom Douglas's restaurant at 5th and Lenora – the food is reason enough. © NileGuide



Roland

contact:

tel: 206 624 2196

<http://www.pikeplacemarket.org/>

location:

93 Pike Street
Seattle WA 98101

hours:

Mo to Su from 10:00 AM to 06:00 PM

16 Crepe De France

DESCRIPTION: If you are hungry for something light and sweet, crepes (or French pancakes) are the snack for you. These wonderful thin round cakes are wrapped around luscious fruit fillings and then topped with a dollop of whipped cream. They are the specialty of this little creperie located in the Pike Place Market Arcade. Go there hungry because you might want to try a couple of flavors. Bring cash as credit cards are not accepted. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Crepe De France

Seattle Snapshot

Local Info

If all you know about Seattle is rainy days and the Space Needle, come take a closer look. Seattle (which, incidentally, gets less rainfall per year than New York City) is divided into several neighborhoods, each with their own main strips, nightlife, parks and exciting points of interest. Pick a zone, any zone, and spend the day getting to know the real Seattle.

Ballard

One of the most popular neighborhoods for those not willing to live "in" the city, Ballard has a personality all its own. Golden Gardens Park is a great place for a walk or bike ride, and there's plenty of drinks and seafood available at restaurants like Bad Albert's Tap & Grill and Ray's Boathouse.

Capitol Hill

A political-sounding name for what is unmistakably a liberal, life-loving neighborhood. If you've only got a few days in Seattle, you could easily spend an entire day just in Capitol Hill, checking out the Seattle Asian Art Museum, grabbing a latte at one of dozens of cafes, or browsing for books at the Elliot Bay Bookstore's new location.

Fremont

"Welcome to the Center of the Universe"; this is the sign that greets you in Fremont, and it only gets quirkiest from there. There's the famous Fremont Troll hiding under the Aurora Bridge, as well as a statue of none other than Lenin in the center of the neighborhood. This is the place for the Fremont Oktoberfest (for beer lovers) and Fremont Fair and Solstice Parade (for those who can't get enough of the naked body-paint bike parade). Of course, there's shops, cafes and restaurants galore, each with its own flavor and personality.

Madison Park

Looking for a relaxing day to take a stroll, see a few sights and find a nice cafe to chat over a cup of coffee? Madison Park has all this and more, with the Madison Park & Beach offering gorgeous views, and the bistro-style menu at Madison Park Café offering classic French food and wine, the perfect end to the day.

International District

If dim sum, sushi, or bibimbap is what you're craving, head to the International District, east of downtown Seattle. In addition to a selection of various Asian restaurants, take some great family photos under the pagoda at Hing Hay Park, or visit the Wing Luke, a small museum that offers a big peek into the art and culture of Japan and China.

Kirkland

Kirkland, in a word, is classy. A quick drive across the lake brings you to a selection of trendy cafes, fabulous art galleries, and world class restaurants like Trellis, which features a menu of seasonal, "farm-to-table" meals. Wine enthusiasts will appreciate not only the many wineries, but also Kirkland Uncorked, the neighborhood's annual "Wine, Dine and Design" festival.

Pike Place Market

The market on any given weekend is buzzing with tourists and locals alike, sampling fresh local produce, checking out the catch of the day, or shopping for the perfect souvenir. Pike Place is the United States' oldest farmer's market, and in addition to groceries boasts a huge variety of restaurants, including the original Starbucks. Piroshky Piroshky is an iconic stop, where visitors line up to purchase delicious sweet and savory Russian piroshkys, and a hot bread bowl of seafood bisque or one of several chowders at Pike Place Chowder is the perfect meal on a chilly, gray day.

Pioneer Square

As the historic area of Seattle, Pioneer Square is one of the biggest tourist attractions in the city. History lovers will adore the Underground Tour, which leads you beneath the city to the original Seattle. This is also a popular area for nightlife, with options like a drink at Central Saloon or an evening belting out your favorite tunes at 88 Keys Dueling Piano Bar.

Queen Anne Hill

This is what suburbs are meant to be; at least, for those who don't want to give up the convenience and quirk of the city. Queen Anne manages to be both trendy and understated, from indie bookshops like Queen Anne Books to the hip martini stop Tini Bigs.

Redmond

Its country location doesn't hide the fact that Redmond is home to huge corporations, including Microsoft and Nintendo, which make this one of the more affluent neighborhoods. Both Marymoor Park and the Lake Sammamish State Park are on the list for cyclists and walkers, and for those more interested in shopping, check out Redmond Town Center.

Seattle Center

So much more than just the Space Needle; if you're looking for a place to take the kids on a nice day, Seattle Center is the place to be. In addition to famous Seattle events like Bumbershoot and The Bite of Seattle, the center has plenty of restaurants, rides and arcade games for the kids, as well as the Pacific Science Center, Seattle Opera, and Intiman Theater. Museum lovers can't miss Seattle's famous Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum & Hall of Fame, which is also the end of the Monorail (which goes straight to Westlake Center).

University District

That's a mouthful; locals call it "U-Dub," the neighborhood known for fantastic restaurants, bars, shops, and the beautiful campus of the University of Washington. This is a hip, energetic neighborhood with everything from clubs to farmer's markets, as well as the fabulous University Bookstore. For Apple geeks, University Village houses the only full Apple Store in Seattle.

Waterfront

Get your quintessential West Coast fix with a stroll along Seattle's Waterfront, with an endless supply of picturesque scenes perfect for capturing a great family photo. In addition to the ferry terminal, where you can head off to Bainbridge or Bremerton Islands, you can also catch a fun water taxi over to West Seattle (much more fun than the long bus ride). Some of Seattle's most well-known restaurants are on the waterfront, including Elliott's Oyster House and Ivar's, and kids and adults alike will have a blast at the Seattle Aquarium.

West Seattle

Five minutes strolling down the street, sand and ocean on one side and bungalow-

Seattle Snapshot continued

style houses, burger joints and cafes on the other, you'll swear you were in California instead of Washington. The West Seattle vibe is laid back and a popular place for water sports as well as bikers and joggers. Don't miss Alki Beach, Seattle's most famous beach, where you can lay in the sun with a view of downtown on the other side of the bay.

© NileGuide

History

Alki Beach wasn't warm and sunny when the Denny Party landed there in the fall of 1851, where they met a few Native American tribes, including the Suquamish and the Snohomish. After a temporary winter stay in West Seattle, the new settlers crossed Elliot Bay to what is now the downtown Seattle area, including Pioneer Square.

At the time, Pioneer Square became known as Skid Row, due to the downward sloping Yesler Way, which runs straight into the Puget Sound and provided loggers with an easy way of transporting lumber. Thanks to the economic boost from the timber industry, Seattle quickly became a rather wealthy city, founding the University of Washington in 1861.

By the late 1880s, the Seattle population was booming; but almost all was lost in the Great Seattle Fire in June of 1889. Despite the destruction of all their wooden buildings, the fire ended up being a blessing in disguise for the town. Within a year, well over 100 new buildings (this time, made of brick) were built on top of the old city, which also solved Seattle's messy and rather smelly plumbing problem. Some parts of Old Seattle are still intact, and can be visited via the Underground Tour.

The oldest continually operated public farmer's market, Pike Place Market opened in 1907, and is today one of the most popular tourist spots in Seattle. In addition to timber, the aerospace industry also helped boost the city's wealth, particularly when Bill Boeing developed the 707 commercial jet and tested his company's plane out in 1916.

One of Seattle's other most famous landmarks, the Space Needle, was built in 1962 for that year's World's Fair, along with the Monorail, which is still the quickest way to get from the Seattle Center to downtown. The Fair brought even more tourists to

Seattle, and the population continued to grow.

As it had with the timber and aerospace industries, Seattle continued to stay on top of modern times when Microsoft started doing business in the city in the 1980s. Seattle was also the birthplace of Starbucks, the original of which can still be visited at Pike Place. In addition to these businesses, other major companies such as Nintendo, Nordstrom, and Immunex call Seattle home for their headquarters.

© NileGuide

Hotel Insights

Over the past several years, Seattle has become quite a popular tourist destination, especially in the summer when the threat of rain diminishes. Most hotels are located in the downtown area, but visitors can certainly find excellent lodging options in the outlying areas as well.

Bellevue and the Eastside

Seattle's sister city across Lake Washington, Bellevue has boomed with the growth of high-tech companies. It's an ideal spot for visitors who don't mind a short commute, although at rush hour crossing the bridge can take up to an hour. Hotels here include the posh Bellevue Club Hotel and the beautifully appointed Hyatt Regency. More moderately priced hotels include Red Lion Bellevue Inn and the Sheraton Bellevue. If you're looking for an even more casual place to stay, try the Bellevue Silver Cloud Inn or the Bellevue Lodge. These centrally located hotels, convenient to business and shopping, are ideal for business travelers visiting Microsoft, US West, Nintendo or any of the other companies filling the ever-expanding business parks in Bellevue, and in Redmond just five minutes to the east.

A few minutes east on the shore of Lake Washington, Kirkland is filled with condominiums, restaurants, art galleries and yachts. Kirkland's impeccable Woodmark Hotel sits right on the water and offers beautiful sunrises.

Downtown Business/Shopping Area

Most of the larger hotels are located here in the heart of the action. These are also the city's most expensive hotels. Accommodations for the shopping set

include the Westin, Mayflower Park Hotel and the Fairmont Olympic, all high-quality hotels within easy walking distance of Pacific Place Shopping Center, Westlake Center, Nordstrom and Pike Place Market. Near the Washington State Convention Center, you'll find the Sheraton and the Seattle Hilton. The Hotel Monaco is also nearby.

SeaTac

If you don't want to stray far from Seatac Airport, which is about half an hour from downtown, there are plenty of options, as long as you don't mind the sound of airplanes taking off and landing. The Red Lion Hotel Seattle Airport and the Seattle Marriott Sea-Tac Airport are a few among many along the Pacific Highway (US 99) corridor.

University District

This part of town is always bustling. College students form the core population of the area, so inexpensive stores and restaurants abound. The hotels here are less expensive than those downtown, and considering the proximity to the city, it's not a bad place to stay. The University Tower Hotel and the University Inn provide comfort at reasonable prices.

Waterfront

While the Waterfront is a tourist Mecca, it is not the easiest place to find a hotel, so book early. The Edgewater is perched over the water on a pier, and every window has a view. As a matter of fact, Edgewater is the only waterfront hotel downtown. Located at the south end of downtown in historic Pioneer Square, the Pioneer Square Hotel is also close to the waterfront. And between those two sits The Inn at the Market, a nice hotel located at the frenzied Pike Place Market and only steps from the bustling waterfront.

©

Restaurants Insights

Seattle is a city growing up. Neighborhoods like the University District, Ballard, Fremont and Capitol Hill attract younger crowds of students and artists with diverse tastes and small budgets. Downtown Seattle and Belltown have become hot spots for new entrepreneurs, high-tech employees and anyone else with extra spending money.

Seattle Snapshot continued

Belltown

One of the fastest-growing and trendiest downtown neighborhoods, Belltown is a popular hangout for yuppies. Hip restaurants here include Flying Fish and Shiro's.

Capitol Hill

This neighborhood is known for the numerous shops and theaters along Broadway Avenue and for the variety of alternative lifestyles it welcomes. Tasty bites include Pagliacci Pizza and the popular Siam on Broadway, which serves excellent Thai food. If you're in the mood for a casual night out or a hangover breakfast, head to Linda's Tavern. Relax at a booth with friends, shoot a game of pool with the regulars or get some fresh air on the patio out back. For a swanky, sultry night, rock the casbah at The Capitol Club. The Mediterranean menu and romantic vibe make it a great date spot. Capitol Hill, known for its close-knit gay community, also has some of the best dance clubs in Seattle. For an all-out, get-down-and-boogie experience go to Neighbours, a primarily gay bar, for dancing into the night. Or try The Baltic Room for top-notch live shows and a stylish crowd. Nearby sits the Comet Tavern where an entertaining mix of people go for beer and pool.

Fremont/Ballard

Continuing westward, the nightlife seeker enters the quaint districts of Fremont and Ballard. In Fremont, drink a beer at the Dubliner, an authentic Irish pub. If you're in the mood for a mellow evening, sip coffee in the Still Life Coffeehouse, a Seattle classic. West of Fremont in Ballard, Irish pubs and seafood abound. Enjoy Irish brews at Conor Byrne's Pub or Bad Albert's Tap & Grill. For more elegant dining make your way to Shilsole Bay, where good restaurants like Ray's Boathouse line the shores of Puget Sound, offering great views and delicious seafood.

Midtown and Waterfront

Don't miss downtown dining, but do bring your credit cards because prices are higher here than elsewhere in the city. The Brooklyn offers a happy hour oyster and beer selection. Fine dining establishments on the piers of Elliott Bay include Anthony's Pier 66 & Bell Street Diner, Elliott's Oyster House and The Seattle Crab Company.

For a little less pretense and expense, try Red Robin. Other noteworthy downtown restaurants include Wild Ginger and Dragonfish Asian Café. Pacific Place, an upscale shopping mall, features famous chain restaurants like the Gordon Biersch Brewing Company.

Pioneer Square

Most of the nightlife in downtown Seattle clusters around the famous Pioneer Square. On weekends, this four-block radius fills up with college students, beer enthusiasts, local band fans, jazz devotees, sports fans and others. By paying a single joint cover charge during the weekend, one can enter any of nine affiliated Pioneer Square bars and clubs including the Central Saloon, one of Seattle's oldest taverns. The Last Supper Club is also a popular spot in the downtown nightlife, offering a trendy New York-style club experience. Showbox, northeast of Pioneer Square, is a large nightclub featuring highly regarded DJs on weekends and nationally-known bands on other nights.

University District

This is a favorite area for diners and drinkers on smaller budgets. Check out "The Ave" (University Way) for vegetarian restaurants like Flowers, which serves a lovely vegetarian buffet during the day and great mixed drinks at night. The Ave has cuisines for all tastes: Mexican, Indian, Vietnamese, Japanese and Chinese among others. Barhopping on the Ave is popular as well. Join student crowds for beer at the Big Time Brewery then shoot some pool at the College Inn Pub. About six blocks west lies the popular Rainbow Bar & Grill, which features local and national jazz, rock and blues acts.

©

Nightlife Insights

The entertainment options in a city the size of Seattle are numerous. There are plenty of art museums, theaters and music venues for visitors to explore.

Art

The patriarchs of the local art scene, the Seattle Art Museum (SAM) and its brother the Seattle Asian Art Museum (SAAM), have been pushing steadily away from exclusively showing antiquities to showcasing more contemporary art.

At SAM, look for rotating modern art shows, and be sure to check out the Native American and African galleries. At SAAM, the vibe is quieter, but spectacular nonetheless.

The contemporary art shows at the Henry Art Gallery at the University of Washington always have an academic background and a flair for challenging conceptions. The Center on Contemporary Art (CoCA) and a host of edgy galleries like James Harris and Greg Kucera, showcase young, impoverished, enthusiastic local talent. Check it all out during the monthly neighborhood Artwalks, during which galleries stay open late and serve wine and cheese. The Pioneer Square area holds its Artwalk on the first Thursday of every month, Capitol Hill follows suit on the first Saturday, Kirkland opens its doors on the second Thursday and Ballard rounds out the cycle on the second Saturday.

Cinema

Hollywood glitz rules the downtown scene at Pacific Place and the Meridian. Art-house funkiness rules Capitol Hill at the Egyptian Theatre and the Harvard Exit, and over the University District at the Neptune, the Varsity Theatre, the Seven Gables Theatre and the Grand Illusion. Those with various tastes can have fun at the various annual film festivals, where sneak previews of blockbusters play alongside obscure Yugoslavian flicks. The biggest festival is the Seattle International Film Festival, which takes the town over for three weeks in May and June. Also keep a lookout for the Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

Comedy

Admittedly, there are those who think watching nerdy Seattleites try to negotiate downtown with flapping rain ponchos and lattes in recycled, unbleached cups is comedy enough. But if you want something a bit more organized, try Giggles in the University District, where professionals take over the stage on the weekends.

Dance

Apart from the deservedly renowned Balanchine-school Pacific Northwest Ballet, and the beloved contemporary dance house On The Boards, good dance in Seattle is hard to come by on a regular basis. The best pickings include the University of Washington excellent World Music & Dance Series, which brings top-

Seattle Snapshot continued

notch groups such as the Paul Taylor Dance Company into town every year.

Museums

The Frye Art Museum has a pleasant collection of 19th and 20th Century paintings, while the Museum of History and Industry covers the same time period but with its focus on Seattle's history.

The Burke Museum and the Museum of Flight offer glimpses of natural history and Boeing science respectively, with towering artifacts (dinosaurs and airplanes, naturally) at both.

The history of Seattle's ethnic minorities gets a thoughtful, detailed look at the Wing Luke Asian Museum. The Seattle Children's Museum and the Pacific Science Center, both at the Seattle Center, are paradises of activities for kids. Further afield, the Bellevue Art Museum has a good collection of 20th Century art, while the Washington State History Museum is Tacoma's look at the state's history.

Classical Music

The Seattle Symphony performs in the acoustically crisp Benaroya Hall, which also provides much-needed concert space for the excellent Seattle Men's Chorus and other classical groups. Recent years have also seen the rise of an early-music movement, with several period ensembles garnering acclaim and audiences under the aegis of the Early Music Guild. Churches around town and the Seattle Art Museum often stage lovely chamber music concerts as well.

Okay, so grunge is dead. But that doesn't mean that the local rock scene is dead with it. The scene is just a bit more upbeat, with international groups finding a warmer welcome. Experimental rock groups and other combinations of world, funk and pop music play frequently at the Showbox and the Crocodile Cafe. Jazzmen and blues masters hold down regular gigs at the Tractor Tavern and the Baltic Room. There's also a lively Irish scene in town, with live traditional and modern music at Conor Byrne's, the Owl'n' Thistle and Kells Irish Pub.

Opera

The Seattle Opera is internationally famous today for its Wagner productions, most notably its four-day Ring cycle. The company was actually founded in the

1960s specifically to present Wagner's warhorses. The opera has broadened its range considerably, from sparkling Mozart to serious Prokofiev.

Theater

Mainstream houses include the Seattle Repertory Theater, the Intiman, A Contemporary Theater and the Empty Space Theater. These companies put on strong seasons every year, usually comprised of modern classics and premieres. Fringe theater groups, such as the Annex Theater, the Book-It Repertory Theatre and Theater Schmeater provide well-produced, eclectic alternatives. There's also a manic fringe festival in early spring, when dozens of groups materialize out of nowhere to put on shows. In the niche bracket, Seattle Children's Theatre presents extremely professional, creative productions for kids ages 4-14, while the 5th Avenue Theatre brings Broadway musicals to town.

©

Things to Do Insights

Seattle is a culturally and visually stunning place to visit: from the visual wonder of the Space Needle to the treasures of the Seattle Art Museum, there are many things to see and do.

Seattle Center Located downtown is the Seattle Center, built in 1962. It houses numerous tourist attractions including the Pacific Science Center, Paul Allen's Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum & Hall of Fame and KeyArena, home of the Seattle Supersonics. Try the clams at the Palace Kitchen. Most visitors come to the Center for Seattle's most famous and most visible landmark, the Space Needle, and all will enjoy the ride on its glass elevators and the panoramic views from the observation deck.

Westlake Center The Seattle Center is also at one end of the Monorail, and the tour continues with the 90-second, 1.3-mile ride from the Seattle Center to the Westlake Center, a popular arcade for shoppers. The Brooklyn is an excellent dining option in this area. When you've had your fill, head south to Seattle's historic multi-level Pike Place Market.

Seattle Art Museum Stop by the Seattle Art Museum near the Waterfront, and just

a few blocks onward, you'll enter Pioneer Square. If you're with children, or have a taste for kitsch, cap off your walk with the 1.5-hour Underground Tour, which gives a sense of what Seattle life was like before the fire and provides details of the reconstruction process. The Pike Place Market is also located near the Museum. Here you can find something tasty to eat.

Seattle Waterfront The views of the surrounding natural beauty from the Seattle Waterfront are spectacular. Take a ferry to Bainbridge Island or visit the Seattle Aquarium and the Odyssey Maritime Discovery Center. You can grab some food to go from one of the many Waterfront restaurants, like Waterfront Seafood Grill, and hang out in the nearby Myrtle Edwards Park.

Seattle Opera The Seattle Center Opera House hosts the Seattle Opera, one of the most acclaimed opera companies in the United States. This is also home to the Seattle Symphony, in an excellent acoustic space. Stop for a quick bite at the Pike Street Cafe. Theater buffs will seek out the nationally-recognized A Contemporary Theater (ACT) a few blocks away.

With so much to see and do, visitors usually opt for a tour company to help them see it all. Catch a ride on a dinner train, or choose the more traditional bus or van ride, the choice is yours.

Bus Tours Gray Line of Seattle(+1 206 624 5077/ <http://www.graylineofseattle.com/>)

Van Tours Show Me Seattle(+1 206 633 2489/ <http://www.showmeseattle.com/>)

Historical Tours The Underground Tour(+1 206 682 4646/ <http://www.undergroundtour.com/>)

Air Tours Ride the Ducks of Seattle(+1 206 441 3825/ <http://www.ridetheducksofseattle.com/>) Classic Helicopter Corp.(+1 206 767 0515/ <http://www.classichelicoptercorp.com/>)

Boat Tours Ride the Ducks of Seattle(+1 206 441 3825/ <http://www.ridetheducksofseattle.com/>) Kenmore Air Seaplanes(+1 425 486 1257/ +1 800 543 9595/ <http://www.kenmoreair.com/>) Argosy Cruises(+1 206 623 1445/ +1 800 642 7816/ <http://www.argosycruises.com/>) American West Steamboat Co.(+1 800 434 1232/ <http://www.columbiarivercruise.com/>)

Seattle Snapshot continued

Train Tours Spirit of Washington Dinner Train(+1 206 227 7245/ +1 800 876 7245/ http://www.spiritofwashingtondinnertrain.com/)

Wine Tours Chateau Ste. Michelle(+1 415 3300/ http://www.ste-michelle.com/) Columbia Winery(+1 425 488 2776/ +1 800 488 2347/ http://www.columbiawinery.com/)

Brewery Tours Maritime Pacific Brewery(+1 206 782 6181) Redhook Ale Brewery(+1 425 483 3232/ http://www.redhook.com/)

Adventure Tours Downstream River Runners Inc.(+1 800 234 4644/ http://www.riverpeople.com/) Brew Hops Tours(+1 206 283 8460)

Kayaking Tours Moss Bay Rowing& Kayak Center(+1 206 682 2031/ http://www.mossbay.net/)

Sports Tours Big League Tours(+1 866 619 1748/ +1 317 534 2475/ http://www.bigleaguestours.com/)

©

Travel Tips

By Air

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport(+1 206 433 5388/http://www.portseattle.org/seatac/) serves the Seattle and Tacoma areas, with flights to destinations in the United States, Europe and East Asia. It is located 1.5 miles off Interstate 5.

Air Canada(+1 888 247 2262/http://www.aircanada.com) Air France(+1 800 237 2747/http://www.airfrance.com) Alitalia(+1 800 223 5730/http://www.alitalia.com) American Airlines(+1 800 433 7300/http://www.aa.com) British Airways(+1 800 247 9297/http://www.ba.com) Continental(+1 800 523 3273/http://www.flycontinental.com) Delta(+1 800 221 1212 domestic/+1 800 241 4141 international/http://www.delta-air.com) Frontier(+1 800 432 1359/http://www.frontierairlines.com) JetBlue(+1 800 538 2583/http://www.jetblue.com) Midwest Express(+1 800 452 2022/http://www.midwestexpress.com) Lufthansa(+1 800 645 3880/http://www.lufthansa.com) Qantas(+1 800 227 4500/http://www.qantas.com) United(+1 800 241 6522/http://www.ual.com) US Airways(+1 800 428 4322/http://www.usairways.com) US Helicopter(+1 877 262 7676/http://

www.flyush.com) Virgin Atlantic(+1 800 862 8621/http://www.virgin-atlantic.com) Zoom Airlines(+1 866 359 9666/http://www.flyzoom.ca)

By Car

Approach Seattle from the east by Interstate 90, and from the north and south via Interstate 5.

Getting Around

By Public Transit

The Metro Transit(+1 206 553 3000/ http://transit.metrokc.gov) offers public bus service throughout Seattle and its surrounding communities. A Seattle landmark is the nation's first tunnel for dual-power buses that runs throughout the heart of downtown. The tunnel stops are included in the free ride area of downtown Seattle.

The Seattle Monorail(+1 206 905 2600/ http://www.seattlemonorail.com) provides transportation from downtown to Seattle Center. The monorail runs weekdays from 7:30a-11p and weekends 9a-11p.

By Taxi

Farwest Taxi(+1 206 622 1717) Graytop Cab(+1 206 282 8222/http://www.yellowtaxi.net) Orange Cab Company(+1 206 522 8800) STITA Taxi(+1 206 246 9999) Yellow Cab(+1 206 622 6500/ http://www.yellowtaxi.net)

By Bike

Take in Seattle from a bike or scooter by renting either at Bikestation Seattle(+1 206 332 9795/http://www.bikestation.org).

By Foot

Enjoy Seattle on foot with the several walking tours available including:

Bainbridge Island Downtown Association(+1 206 842 2982/http://www.bainbridgedowntown.org) Market Heritage Tours(+1 206 682 7453 x653/ http://www.pikeplacemarket.org) Seattle Walking Tours(+1 425 885 3173/ http://www.seattlewalkingtours.com) Stroll Seattle(+1 206 736 4336/http://www.strollseattle.com)

Traffic Information

To find out city traffic information go to: http://www.traffic.com

If traveling overseas, take the safety precaution of registering your trip at https://

travelregistration.state.gov and for helpful, practical advice about traveling technicalities and safety standards check out: http://travel.state.gov/

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Fun Facts

1. One interesting (and intellectual) fact about Seattle: it's the most literate city in the U.S. We have the most bookstores and libraries per capita, and the most library card-holders to check them out!
2. The Space Needle: Iconic landmark, so it must be the most photographed object in the city, right? One random fact a few tour guides like to point out is that it actually comes second – to the giant Pink Elephant car wash sign on Battery Street and Denny Way downtown.
3. Seattle might be the only city that can claim to be built on top of another city. After the Great Fire of 1889, citizens raised the street level and started over – you can tour parts of old Seattle thanks to the city's Underground Tour.
4. Why so eager to raise the streets? The Seattle sewers flowed with the tides – in other words, at some point in the day, toilets became more like fountains and the streets were...well, gross. Fun fact: the incredible rebuilding job that followed the fire firmly placed Seattle ahead of Tacoma in the race to become the most industrialized city in the Pacific Northwest. Call it bathroom humor.
5. Next time someone complains about the rain in Seattle, surprise them with this interesting fact: Seattle's annual rainfall is less than that of Houston, Chicago and New York City.
6. Then toss in this fun little tidbit: Folks in Seattle buy the most sunglasses per capita than any other U.S. city.
7. The first female mayor of Seattle, and of any U.S. city, was Bertha Landes, elected 1926. Weird fact: Seattle hasn't had a female mayor since, which is perhaps why Bertha is said to haunt The Harvard Exit Theater in Capitol Hill.
8. Notice a lot of cafes around here? There's probably a glassblowing studio next door. Seattle has the second most glassblowing studios in the world. The first is Murano, an island near Venice, Italy.

Seattle Snapshot continued

9. When it comes to live music and performances per capita, Seattle is second in the U.S. only to New York City.

10. But we beat'em in ballet- Seattle's Pacific Northwest Ballet has

the highest per capita attendance in the country.

11. Seattle's annual Hempfest is the largest "Legalize It" festival in the country, and is a favorite among Seattle cops due to the general friendly, no-violence atmosphere.

12. Random fact: More folks bike to work here than in any other city in the U.S.- and Seattle was the first city to put cops on bikes, too.

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Weather

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temperature C												
Average High	8	10	12	15	18	21	24	24	21	16	11	8
Average Mean	5	6	8	10	13	16	19	19	16	12	8	5
Average Low	2	3	4	6	9	12	14	14	11	8	5	2
Temperature F												
Average High	47	51	54	59	65	69	74	75	70	60	51	47
Average Mean	41	44	46	50	56	61	65	66	61	53	45	41
Average Low	36	37	39	42	48	53	56	57	53	46	40	36
Rainy Days	18	15	17	14	11	9	5	6	8	11	18	18
Rain Fall (cm)	13.3	10.4	10.0	7.0	5.2	3.9	2.4	3.0	4.1	8.2	14.4	15.4
Rain Fall (in)	5.2	4.1	3.9	2.8	2.0	1.6	0.9	1.2	1.6	3.2	5.7	6.1

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