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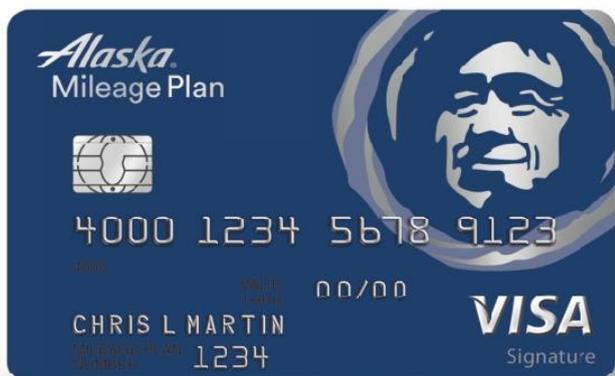
Sports events combine fun  
and fitness **PAGE 22**

**WINE COUNTRY TRAILS**

Memorable hikes for your  
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**BRAD PAISLEY** JUL 27  
WITH BROWN & GRAY

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& ALISON KRAUSS** AUG 3

**GABRIEL "FLUFFY" IGLESIAS** AUG 9

**TRAIN** AUG 10  
WITH PAT MCGEE

**ALABAMA** AUG 15  
WITH TEMECULA ROAD

**HUEY LEWIS AND  
THE NEWS** AUG 19  
WITH RICHARD MARX

**KANE BROWN** SEP 9  
WITH GRANGER SMITH

**THE AUSTRALIAN PINK  
FLOYD SHOW** SEP 13

**JOAN JETT AND  
THE BLACKHEARTS  
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**INSIDE** »

**FEATURES**

- 22 Active Travel**  
Sports tourism combines fun and fitness.
- 29 Destination: Seattle**  
Exceptional experiences, new attractions, side trips, local favorites, sports and more in the Puget Sound region.



**DEPARTMENTS**

- 5 Welcome**  
A message from CEO Brad Tilden.
- 9 In the Know: What's New**  
A new partnership between Alaska Airlines and Aer Lingus.
- 11 In the Know: Airline 101**  
Exciting changes are touching down.
- 15 The Region**
  - Jazz Jubilee.
  - Portland Rose Festival.
  - Chronicles of a Friendship.
  - Feast Whitefish.
  - Get Lost in the '50s.
  - News & Notes.
  - Making an Impression.
- 78 Explore**  
Hiking in Sonoma County/ Napa Valley wine country.
- 90 Crossword**
- 93 Flyer Guide**
- 104 Airtime**  
Trees of knowledge: Branching out in arboreal learning.

**ON THE COVER:** *The Seattle skyline in beautiful morning light, with the Space Needle in the foreground and Mount Rainier in the background.*

**Photo by** *Thomas Kurmeier / Getty Images.*

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# WELCOME»

## HOMETOWN HERO

» **This month**, our Regional VP of Alaska, Marilyn Romano, talks about how Olympic gold medal cross-country skier Kikkan Randall has engaged and motivated people throughout the state of Alaska, and beyond.

—Brad Tilden

Sports heroes often inspire us to be our best—especially when they are from our communities. Alaskan Kikkan Randall’s gold-medal performance at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang was nothing short of exhilarating. Her smile on the podium during the playing of the national anthem was matched by smiles in living rooms throughout the state of Alaska.

The first time I met Kikkan was actually shortly after the 2014 Sochi Games in which she was projected as the cross-country gold-medal front-runner, but in a tough qualifying event, missed advancing by just five-hundredths of a second. I had the honor of introducing her as the keynote speaker at the *Alaska Journal of Commerce’s* annual Top Forty Under 40 event. I was wondering how she was going to address coming up short of her goal. With great courage and grace, Kikkan taught everyone in that room an incredible lesson in strength, in moving forward and in never giving up on your dream.

Kikkan’s life story offers many great lessons. She grew up in Alaska, traversing ski trails in Anchorage at a young age. She trained for not just two, but five, Olympics before medaling.



After her fifth Winter Olympics, Kikkan Randall enjoys time in Anchorage with her husband, Jeff, and son, Breck.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION GO RED FOR WOMEN

And in 2016, she became a mom, to son Breck. Her journey highlights the drive, perseverance and resilience of a world-class athlete.

But Kikkan is also a world-class person who inspires others to get active. I served with Kikkan as an ambassador for the American Heart Association’s 2018 Go Red for Women initiative. Her selfless contribution reminded me how important it is to give back in the communities in which we live.

Last year, Alaska Airlines contributed nearly \$4 million in travel and cash to organizations across Alaska. Much of that has been focused on young people—kids wanting to be like Kikkan. Alaska Airlines’ partnership with the Alaska School Activities Association is one example: Students are able to travel to communities across the state—and beyond—to compete in sports, arts and academic programs.

Likewise, our \$1 million investment in the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program brings hundreds of students from across Alaska to Anchorage every year for a week of STEM classes. By ninth grade, 76 percent of ANSEP students have achieved an Algebra 1 graduation rate, which far exceeds the national average.

And, in a line of support that’s familiar to

Kikkan, we are proud to partner with Alaska Pacific University’s Nordic Ski Center.

Access to high-level competition is vital to achieving success on the global stage. It’s also important for youth sport teams. We fly to 19 communities—of which only three are accessible by road—where scenery can be beautiful, yet conditions harsh. We are the lifeline, the school bus and the delivery system for everything from boat engines to baby food to cross-country skis. We are an integral part of the aviation infrastructure of the state of Alaska, and our 1,800 local employees take our role in this journey seriously.

Back to meeting Kikkan: I had mentioned to her that if she came home with a medal, I would hire a personal trainer and kick myself back into shape. I kept that promise, and have worked through the pain of planks and lunges. I will never win a medal, but when I shared with Kikkan that I was fulfilling my promise, she was quick to point out that her gold medal can inspire all of us. I will try to remember that on those days when I find it hard to move.

Congratulations, Kikkan. From Utqiagvik to Orlando, you’ve made us very proud.

And to all of you onboard today, thanks for flying with us. —Marilyn Romano



**Brad Tilden,**  
Chief Executive  
Officer



**Marilyn Romano,**  
Regional VP of Alaska



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A man with a beard and short hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt and dark blue jeans, stands in front of a white van. The van's side door is open, and the interior is visible. The background shows a bright, sunny outdoor setting with a clear sky and some greenery. The man is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

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Scott Tuttle | Broker | scott.tuttle@cascadesir.com



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# IN THE KNOW»

## WHAT'S NEW: IRISH SKIES ARE SMILING

» **Flights between the Emerald City** and the Emerald Isle are becoming more convenient this spring, thanks to a new partnership between Alaska Airlines and Ireland's Aer Lingus. The arrangement gives Alaska Mileage Plan members more ways to earn and redeem miles to Europe.

Aer Lingus currently serves Dublin from 13 cities in North America, including nonstop from Alaska gateway cities Los Angeles, San Francisco and—starting May 18—Seattle.

"Aer Lingus provides our members even more reach for travel within Europe, with seamless service through Dublin to 24 cities in the U.K. and Europe," says Andrew Harrison, Alaska Airlines' executive vice president and chief commercial officer.

Destinations made more easily accessible to Alaska Mileage Plan members through the new partnership include Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Brussels, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Glasgow, London, Paris and Rome.



"We're pleased to join with Alaska Airlines. It's a meeting of like-minded, service-oriented carriers bringing attractive propositions to their respective travelers," says Greg Kaldahl, Aer Lingus' chief strategy and planning officer.

Aer Lingus, founded in 1936, operates 63 aircraft on more than 100 routes to destinations in the U.K., Europe and North America. It is Ireland's only 4-Star airline, as awarded by Skytrax, the international air-transport-rating organization.

Dublin, Aer Lingus' hub, is the capital and largest city in Ireland, and a center for Europe's tech industry. Because Dublin Airport has a U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility, passengers and bags can be cleared in Ireland before departure, with no need to go through customs and immigration upon U.S. arrival.

Alaska Mileage Plan members earn and use miles flying to more than 900 destinations worldwide served by Alaska Airlines and Alaska Global Partners. Learn more at [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com).

## RECENT RATINGS SHOW THE LOVE

» **If reviews of airlines by national publications** and popular consumer websites are any indication, Alaska Airlines' quest to "create an airline people love" is succeeding in 2018.

In March, *Money* magazine ranked Alaska as the best U.S. airline in the article "The 9 Biggest U.S. Airlines, Ranked from Best to Worst." The report assessed airlines based on pricing, fees, customer experience and flight performance, using metrics such as average price per roundtrip flight, average price per kilometer flown and share of on-time arrivals.

Also in March, Alaska was named best airline in the U.S., for the second year in a row, by The Points Guy, a travel site that reaches 5.2 million unique monthly visitors. Alaska scored well in all categories of the review, including best on-time arrival rates, highest customer satisfaction, best baggage handling and a best-in-the-industry frequent-flyer program.

WalletHub—a personal-finance site that also produces data-driven studies and reviews—named Alaska the Best Airline Overall, in its April report "2018's Best Airlines." The assessment used 13 different criteria to review the nine largest U.S. airlines, plus two regional carriers.

For the second year straight, Alaska Airlines ranked No. 1 in the Airline Quality Rating, a study designed as a comprehensive analysis of major U.S. airlines, based on performance factors important to travelers. The report was released in April by researchers at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Wichita State University, and reflected 2017 performance.

Alaska landed at the top of the charts for economy flights in the latest *Consumer Reports* survey, in March. Overall, the survey ranked Alaska second among 11 top U.S. airlines, based on readers' ratings of service, seat comfort, pricing transparency and more. Alaska received favorable ratings for staff service, check-in ease and cabin cleanliness.

To keep tabs on Alaska's honors, follow [blog.alaskaair.com](http://blog.alaskaair.com).



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» **Over the last 18 months**, we have been on a journey. At Alaska, we love journeys—to Hawai'i, to Mexico, to Boston, to home. There's excitement in the adventure. And even when there's a little turbulence, we work hard to make your flight a great experience. That's why we're delighted to have achieved a point in our integration with Virgin America where your travel with us is more seamless, everywhere we fly. You can now:

- Check in using one website (alaskaair.com).
- Use one mobile app (Alaska's).
- Call one call center (Alaska's).
- Look for Alaska flight numbers.

At the airport, check-in takes place at Alaska ticket counters and kiosks. Regardless of where you're flying, you'll head for Alaska gates.

On the night of April 24, we completed physical changes at 29 airports around the United States and Mexico that were served by both Alaska and Virgin America. The only branding and signage you'll now see is for Alaska Airlines. Signs and screens all changed to Alaska branding at curbside locations, lobbies, ticket counters, gates and baggage areas. While there will be some Virgin America-painted aircraft still flying for a period of time, tickets

will be sold only under the Alaska name.

Alaska Airlines and Virgin America are now one airline—and with our regional carrier, Horizon Air, we're one family, all under the Alaska name and brand. Whether you've flown on Alaska for years, or on Virgin America, or you're new to us, we're proud to be your West Coast airline with great service, low fares and generous mileage awards.

Like most things at Alaska, we do things a little differently—with you in mind.

"We've been working behind the scenes for more than a year, investing thousands of hours of planning, preparation and testing to make sure this transition goes smoothly for all our guests," says Sandy Stelling, who's leading Alaska's transition effort.

Changes come with bittersweet emotions. Just ask Elmer Tosta, a customer service agent who's worked at Virgin America for eight years in San Francisco. He's now an Alaska employee, along with thousands of his colleagues.

"It's a mixture of sadness and excitement. We're optimistic about the future and what Alaska brings to the table," Tosta says. "With strong operational expertise and the service Alaska is known for, we're looking forward to

providing our guests with an even better travel experience. It's going to be very positive."

The new Alaska is more than 23,000 employees strong. We appreciate the infusion of ideas and creativity from Virgin America, and the passion for flying and travel shown by those who've joined us through this acquisition. We're all working hard to continue creating an airline people love.

As you can imagine, fully integrating two airlines takes time. We've already started painting some of Virgin America's Airbus planes in Alaska colors. This fall, we'll begin installing new interiors in these Airbus jets. For a period of time, some guests may board an Airbus plane that has an Alaska exterior and a Virgin America interior. It's expected to take until the end of 2019 for the completion of a single brand experience on all Alaska aircraft.

Our journey continues: painting airplanes, upgrading cabin interiors, installing satellite Wi-Fi and launching new food onboard. We'll keep offering flyers the good stuff, like free texting and movies during flights, incredible service and plenty of hometown pride.

So hold onto your winglets, it's going to be a fun ride.

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# Meet Vacasa, the modern property manager that's changing the vacation rental game

Vacasa, the largest U.S. vacation rental management company, is redefining the \$138 billion global vacation rental industry one property at a time

The first thing you should know is the scale at which Vacasa operates. Vacasa's family of companies provides full-service property management for over 8,000 vacation rental properties around the world. Vacasa guests enjoy the same hotel-like cleanliness and service wherever they're traveling. Homeowners who work with Vacasa can relax knowing they have a trusted partner whose local teams take care of everything for them.

The second thing you should know is that, as a vacation homeowner, Vacasa guarantees you'll make more money with them. They utilize industry-leading marketing strategies to help every guest find the perfect place to stay, and their machine-learning-driven pricing technology adjusts rental rates in real time so that homeowners never leave money on the table.

"Our transition was absolutely seamless," says Renae Leadley, a Portland-based executive who transferred management of her Maui condo to Vacasa Hawaii in 2017. "In comparison to our previous managers, we noticed a marked difference. Our condo was impeccably cleaned and all the special touches are so professionally done and very welcoming."



## Built on trust

Founded in 2009, Vacasa built a foundation of trust with its customers and quickly began growing its portfolio of vacation homes. Today, the company employs a wide range of staff from local housekeepers and tour bus drivers to software engineers.

Driven by technological advancements, the short-term accommodations sector is growing at twice the rate of the entire U.S. travel industry. For vacation rental homeowners, the process for securing consistent bookings and managing rates has become more complex, increasing demand for a simple, all-in-one property management solution. This is what Vacasa does best.

## Full-service solution

Homeowners who don't want their vacation homes to be their full-time jobs are turning to full-service property managers such as Vacasa, which employs local teams and manages everything from bookings and cleanings to navigating local permits and regulations. "For the first time since we bought our condo, we feel comfortable that it's being taken care of professionally," says Leadley. "It's been such an amazing experience for us!"

Ready for a modern property manager to take your vacation home to the next level? Contact Vacasa today at 808.201.4065



[vacasa.com/horizon](https://vacasa.com/horizon)



## INTRODUCING

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# THE REGION»

HEALDSBURG, CA

## JAZZ JUBILEE

» **Legendary jazz artist Charles Lloyd** (shown here) is among the stellar lineup of performers at this year's **Healdsburg Jazz Festival**, June 1–10. The 20th-anniversary event is anticipated to be Healdsburg's biggest jazz festival yet, with approximately 65 performers and a large audience joining the festival from across the nation.

In celebration of the anniversary, many artists who have performed at the festival over the last 20 years are returning. Among the notable musicians scheduled are Grammy Award winner Bill Frisell, as well as Grammy nominees Julian Lage, Anat Cohen and Ravi Coltrane, who is the son of jazz artists Alice and John Coltrane. Some nights will feature special double billings, with more than one band headlining per event. For example, the Fred Hersch Trio and Trio da Paz will both headline on June 2 at the Jackson Theater.

Performers will take the stage at various wineries, restaurants and other venues throughout Healdsburg and Santa Rosa. Festival goals include bringing culture and jazz to the area, as well as educating children and adults about music. During the Student Jazz Combo Competition leading up to the festival, kids work in groups to write and perform their own material. The winning group in the student competition will then have the opportunity to play onstage on June 8.

For more information, visit [healdsburgjazzfestival.org](http://healdsburgjazzfestival.org).

—Kaylee Strachan





## Meet Tasty.

Our winemakers and chefs practice their crafts right in Portland's backyard.

---

Tualatin Valley is home to a wide range of world-class wineries - minus the bumper-to-bumper crowds. Add a dining scene that includes the region's best variety of ethnic eateries, and we're ready to tempt the most adventurous palates. We promise a warm welcome for everyone from wine connoisseurs to families. And don't worry - if your taste runs more to brewpubs and casual cafés than the new and exotic, you'll still be right at home here.

---

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## PORTLAND, OR ROSE FESTIVAL

» **With art shows,** rose exhibitions and other fun activities, the **Portland Rose Festival** invites you to “Play Happy,” which is the theme of this year’s event, May 25–June 10. The festival, which has been running for more than 100 years, will feature dozens of events.

For instance, the RoZone Concert Series hosts high-energy cover band Hit Machine on May 25, German DJ Virtual Riot on May 26, and rapper and producer Sir Mix-a-Lot on June 2.

New this year is an art exhibit titled “Portland Rooted,” May 25–June 30, which showcases rose-centric art displayed in a variety of media, from sculptures to paintings to digital art.

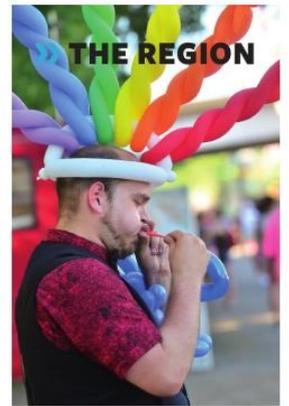
One of the festival’s most popular events, the Starlight Parade, will take place on June 2. The nighttime parade features lighted floats, marching bands and glow-in-the-dark entries.

Another popular event, the Annual Spring Rose Show, marks its 130th year June 7–8. Roughly 4,000 rose blooms will fill the Lloyd Center with wonderful fragrances.

On June 9, an estimated 400,000 people will gather for the popular Grand Floral Parade, a 4.2-mile parade with floral floats, marching bands, equestrian units and parade royalty.

On June 9–10, ornately carved and painted dragon boats, reaching nearly 20 feet in length, will race each other on the Willamette River, against a backdrop of visiting Navy, Coast Guard and Royal Canadian Navy vessels.

Now in its 111th year, the Rose Festival is the nation’s biggest floral fest, attracting approximately 1 million visitors. Alaska Airlines is a premier sponsor of the Portland Rose Festival. For more information, visit [rosefestival.org](http://rosefestival.org). —Chace Mortimer-Davy



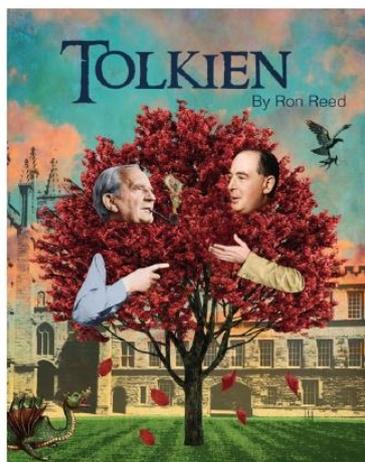
» **The 2017 Rose Festival Queen, Michaela Canete; a fun balloon artist; and a clown at last year’s Grand Floral Parade during the Portland Rose Festival.**

## VANCOUVER, BC CHRONICLES OF A FRIENDSHIP

» **The world-premiere staging of Tolkien,** a play that tells the story of the 30-year friendship between *The Lord of the Rings* author, J.R.R. Tolkien, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* author, C.S. Lewis, is taking place May 11–June 9 at the Pacific Theatre in Vancouver, B.C.

The play is a special project for Ron Reed, who is an actor, director and co-founder of the Pacific Theatre. Inspired by a *New Yorker* article describing the friendship between Tolkien and Lewis, Reed started writing the play eight years ago. In preparing the script, he created a meticulous spreadsheet on Lewis’ and Tolkien’s lives and used it as an outline.

Tolkien and Lewis first met at Oxford University in 1926. Later, they both joined The Inklings, an informal literary discussion group that gath-



ered for nearly two decades, in the 1930s and ’40s, to discuss narrative fiction and fantasy, including the writers’ own works in progress.

Reed adapted Lewis’ *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* for a two-actor staging, and Reed has been nominated six times for the Jessie Richardson Theatre Award, a recognition of professional theater in British Columbia. He has also portrayed Lewis in a stage adaptation of *Shadowlands*—a biography of the relationship between Lewis and his wife, American poet Joy Davidman.

The Pacific Theatre, an award-winning company in its 34th season, presents new plays and modern adaptations of classics. For more information, visit [pacifictheatre.org](http://pacifictheatre.org).

—Michaela Ware

# MY SCHICK STORY:

The journey to sobriety is different for everyone. I remember clearly the day I chose to quit drinking; to FEEL life; to be unapologetically me and fearless in the face of all this life has to offer.

I knew what I had to do, just not how to do it. I tried many times on my own with limited success, always wondering why it didn't work. It was my problem and no one else could help me - I had to do it for myself.

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I like me better when I don't drink.  
Cheers to life!

- Karen



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**WHITEFISH, MT**  
**FEAST**  
**WHITEFISH**

» **Taste a delicious selection** of Montana foods and beverages during **Feast Whitefish**, May 11–19 in Whitefish, Montana, about 15 miles north of Kalispell.

The event begins with the Distiller’s Fest, May 11. Ten local distilleries—including Glacier Distilling Company, which was honored with a 2017 American Craft Spirits Awards silver medal—are each creating a signature cocktail to be judged by the crowd. Each cocktail is also paired with an appetizer from a local restaurant, with the restaurants competing for an award for best appetizer.

Many of the participating distilleries, most

of which craft their spirits with local ingredients, are offering additional unique drinks for attendees to try.

During Restaurant Week, May 14–18, Whitefish restaurants such as Tupelo Grille and the Whitefish Lake Restaurant are presenting menus specifically designed for the festival. Reservations are strongly recommended.

During the Grand Gala, May 15 at Last Chair Kitchen & Bar, a six-course meal created by chef Tim Good, in collaboration with five other well-known Montana chefs, is presented for a group of 75 attendees. On May 19, the Burger Battle features 10–12 of Whitefish’s burger restaurants, each showcasing slider-size creations with a selection of different types of meats and unique toppings. For more info, visit [feastwhitefish.com](http://feastwhitefish.com). —*Chace Mortimer-Davy*

**SANDPOINT, ID**  
**GET LOST IN THE '50S**



» **An annual ode** to the 1950s, featuring a variety of fun events, takes place May 17–19 in Sandpoint, Idaho. The event, **Lost in the '50s**, draws hundreds of festivalgoers to the scenic town, located on the shores of Idaho’s largest lake, Lake Pend Oreille. Sandpoint is about 75

miles northeast of Spokane, Washington.

The '50s festivities begin with the Rock 'n' Roll Heaven concert, May 17 at the Bonner County Fairgrounds. The concert includes performers such as Mary Wilson of The Supremes, Dennis Tufano of The Buckingham and Dolores “La La” Brooks of The Crystals, as well as celebrity impersonators. The festival also hosts nightly live music and dance parties at the fairgrounds. In addition, visitors can enjoy a car parade and a car show, each showcasing hundreds of vintage and classic cars. For more information, see [sandpoint.org/lostin50s](http://sandpoint.org/lostin50s).

—*Michaela Ware*



■ Watch more than 20 elite free-ride mountain bikers perform a discipline closely related to downhill biking and dirt jumping, focused on tricks and style, while attempting to set records and completing other impressive stunts at the **Biggest Little Fest**, May 14–20 in **Reno**. The festival also includes a scavenger hunt around the city ([biggestlittlefest.com](http://biggestlittlefest.com)).

■ One of the largest and most highly attended film festivals in the country, the **Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF)**, features 400 films from 80 countries, May 17–June 10. Alaska Airlines is a festival sponsor ([siff.net](http://siff.net)).

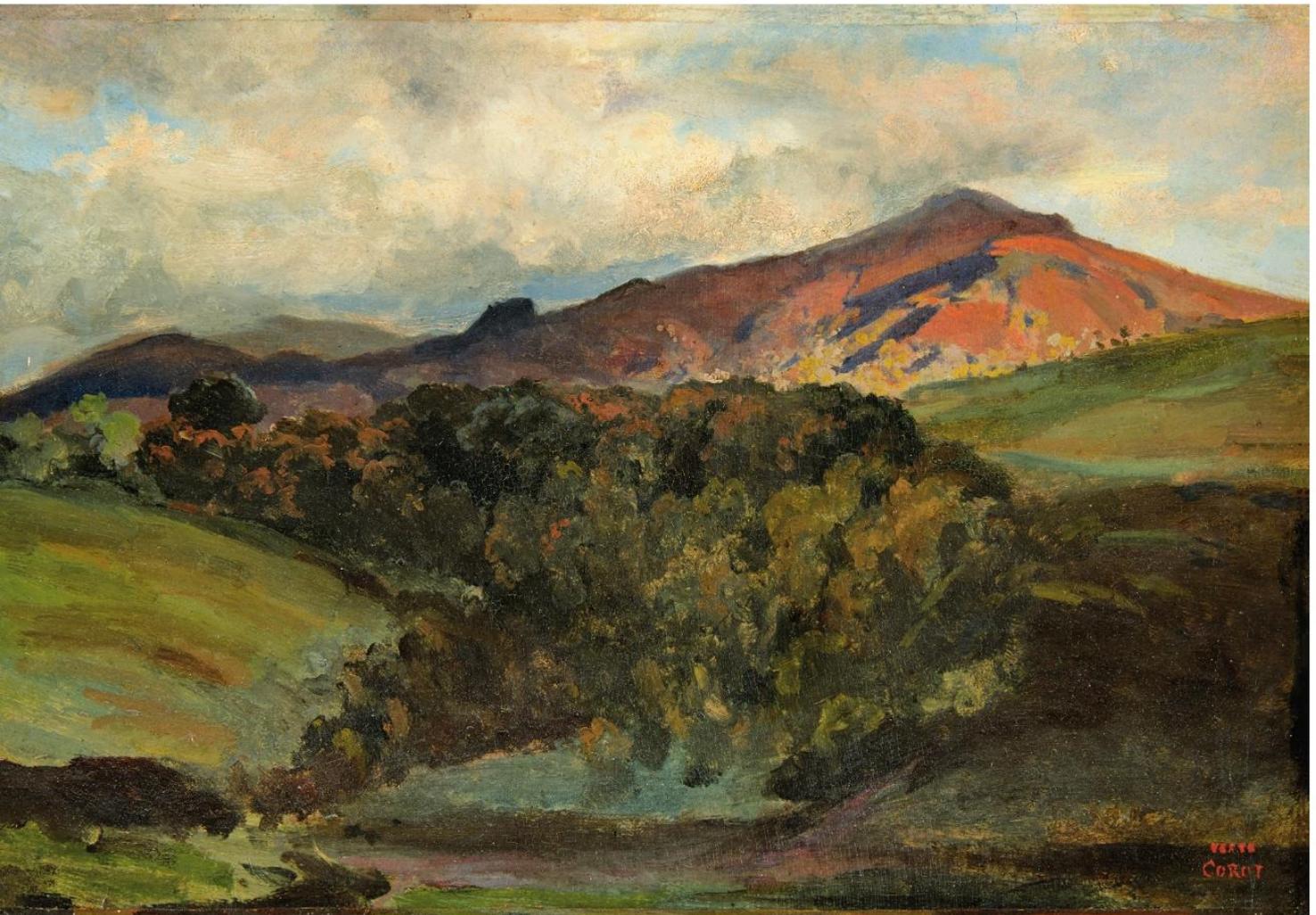
■ The **Prefontaine Classic**, May 25–26 in **Eugene, OR**, is the only stop in North America for the prestigious International Association of Athletics Federations Diamond League Circuit. The invitational track and field meet is named after famed distance runner Steve Prefontaine ([preclassic.com](http://preclassic.com), [goducks.com](http://goducks.com)).

■ A celebration of all things artichoke, the **Castroville Artichoke Food & Wine Festival**, June 2–3 in Monterey County, CA, offers cooking demos, artichoke-themed art and an all-artichoke food court, as well as live music and a wine, beer and spirits garden ([artichokefestival.org](http://artichokefestival.org)).



**Arti the Artichoke.**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: DANITA DELMONT/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO; ALEX GARCIA, MAGONE MEDIA; LINDA LANTZY/IDAHO STOCK IMAGES



## SEATTLE, WA

## MAKING AN IMPRESSION

» In the enchanting Forest of Fontainebleau in the mid-1800s, the ideals of Impressionism began to blossom on the canvas as artists gathered to paint the landscape in a new way. The Frye Art Museum in Seattle features “Towards Impressionism: Landscape Painting from Corot to Monet” May 12–Aug. 5, with a public opening on May 11. This 50-piece exhibit, mostly drawn from the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Reims, France, focuses on French plein-air painting, which simply means to paint outdoors.

The Forest of Fontainebleau, near the town of Barbizon and about 45 miles southeast of Paris, became a gathering place for noteworthy artists such as Théodore Rousseau and Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot. Between 1830 and 1855, the Barbizon school was formed. This school allowed painters to break free from what we now call Neoclassicism—a style influenced by the regulation of the French Academy, which had maintained control of artistic expression from the 17th to 19th centuries.

» Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot’s oil-on-cardboard piece *Monte Cavo* can be seen at the Frye Art Museum’s new “Towards Impressionism” exhibit.

Earlier forms of landscape paintings focused on historical or mythological matter with literary or anecdotal themes, but in the new style that was developing with the Barbizon school, attention shifted to the manipulation of color, tone and texture to represent particular locales through careful observation. Focusing on these new ideals of landscape painting led to a better understanding of light and reflection. The works in the exhibit trace the development of French landscape painting from the Barbizon school through the creation of Impressionism.

Exhibit highlights include oil paintings such as Rousseau’s *La mare* (The Pond), Corot’s *Monte Cavo* (Mount Cavo) and Claude Monet’s *Les rochers de Belle-Île* (Rocks at Belle-Île). For more information, visit [fryemuseum.org](http://fryemuseum.org). —Megan Campbell



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# Active Travel

SPORTS EVENTS COMBINE FUN  
AND FITNESS *By Jeff Layton*

CLOCKWISE: LINDA LANTZY / DAHO STOCK IMAGES; JEFF FERGUSON; MATT ROTH PHOTOGRAPHY; STALINAKERS.COM



» For Phil and Rachel Goodman of Seattle, Bloomsday isn't just another race. It's a family tradition.

During the past decade, the 12K Lilac Bloomsday Run, held in Spokane, Washington, on May 6 this year, has proved to be the most consistent reason for the couple and their children to visit their extended family in the region.

"It's become part of our family culture," says Phil. "This year, it's been really cool to see my father-in-law, who hasn't run any races in years, train for Bloomsday. Knowing his family is going to run has motivated him to lose weight and stay healthy."

Having a race on the calendar gives the family the impetus to organize a long weekend for a reunion. In past years, they've had three generations running among the more than 45,000 participants.

"It's one of the more challenging and fun races

I've done," says Phil. "It starts out chilly but then gets really hot. There's a long downhill at the start, but there's a grueling climb known as 'Doomsday Hill' midway into the race. If you make it to the top, there's a person in a big vulture costume who greets you." (Every year, Spokane resident Bill Robinson dons that vulture costume to support runners. This year's official race medal even features a vulture.)

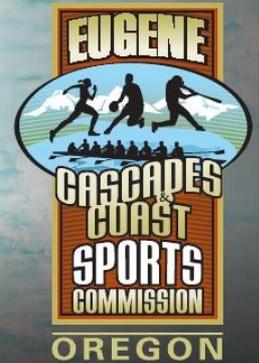
After the race, the family typically explores some of Spokane's beautiful green spaces, such as Riverside State Park. The 12,000-acre park features more than 50 miles of trails and about 200,000 feet of Spokane and Little Spokane river shoreline.

The family also always reserves a table at the quirky Chaps Diner and Bakery, known for its hearty American comfort food and cinnamon rolls—exactly what you want after a race.

» Clockwise from top left: Coeur d'Alene Triathlon; Lilac Bloomsday Run; The American Legion baseball tournament; OHSET equestrian meet.

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For more information on sports events or hosting your next event in the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region call **800.547.5445** or visit **EugeneCascadesCoastSports.org**.



Like the Goodmans, a lot of travelers combine major races or competitions with enjoying a destination's sites and attractions. Events are held throughout the summer in many western locations. Here are more fun options, and the stories of people who love to be part of them.

» **Broken Top's jagged rim forms the backdrop of Oregon's Broken Top Loop, which passes through fields of wildflowers.**

### Oregon Equestrian Meet

The Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center site sits like a bull's-eye, surrounded by circles of outdoor adventure. Just 16 miles northeast of Bend, Oregon, and situated near national forests, volcanic mountains and arid ranchland, the fairgrounds are a natural attraction for visitors who like big, outdoor-themed events.

For Allison Byrne of Portland, that means horses. Every spring, 425 young riders compete in

the Oregon High School Equestrian Teams (OHSET) state meet, which is May 10–13 this year. There are 26 events in three categories: timed, performance and team. More than 1,000 fans are typically on hand to cheer from the stands.

Byrne has competed in the OHSET championships at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds twice, and she says the atmosphere around the arena is one of her favorite parts of the event. A buzzing community of artists sells Western-themed goods behind the viewing concourse, so during the weekend you can shop for purses, blue jeans and tack for the horses.

Another huge plus: the location. "It's a very outdoorsy-oriented area," says Byrne. Central Oregon is well-known for its hiking and biking opportunities. One of Byrne's favorite local trails is Broken Top Loop, a 20-plus-mile loop with views of mountain peaks strung across the horizon. The trail runs near the jagged volcanic caldera of Broken Top and passes through fields stitched with wildflowers.

### California Fishing Derby

Vernon Leyk of Downey, California, near Los Angeles, has traveled to Convict Lake in the Mammoth Lakes area for fishing derbies more years than he can remember. For at least three decades, he's journeyed roughly 300 miles to the slopes of California's Eastern Sierra, where the rugged alpine terrain is dotted with clear, cold lakes teeming with fish.

Leyk doesn't have a boat but says he's hooked plenty of beautiful trout without one. Like about half of the anglers competing in the Hangman's Bonus Derby Weekend, June 1–3 this year, he chooses to hike the picturesque shoreline trail of the 168-acre lake to fish from the shore.

To win the derby, you don't have to catch the biggest fish; you simply have to catch one 14 inches or longer to be entered in the prize drawing. About 70 percent of anglers catch a rainbow or brown trout that's large enough to qualify.

The Convict Lake Resort sponsors several derbies every year, and it's conveniently located less than 10 miles from the Mammoth Yosemite Airport. Other upcoming derbies include the Morrison's Bonus Derby Weekend, October 26–28.

Like many visitors, Leyk travels before and after

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» The crystalline Convict Lake in California's Mammoth Lakes area is a great fishing hole.

the derbies, exploring—and, of course, fishing—tiny remote alpine lakes in the mountainous region. He usually also enjoys a hike or two in the area, which boasts 300 miles of hiking trails, and he often visits nearby Yosemite National Park.

### Montana Baseball Tournament

When you spend a summer with teenagers traveling the country for baseball tournaments, you get to see the maturing effect it has on them.

As the head coach of the Catalyst Cardinals from Golden, Colorado, Scott Payne spends the summer touring with a club team of high school seniors, many of whom have never been away from

their parents for this length of time.

“Being on the road, taking care of yourself, being ready to play and not going home in between—it’s a unique experience,” he says. “They have a lot more freedom than they normally have, and it prepares them for college. So I see them mature, and I see us start to play better as we travel.”

The American Legion Goldsmith Gallery Tournament in Billings, Montana, June 20–24 this year, is one of Coach Payne’s favorite stops.

While there’s lots of baseball on the docket, most of the kids also enjoy the town. A favorite spot near the Dehler Park baseball facility is the

### Event Planning

At the Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center, dirt is often a big topic of conversation. To put on a major competition such as the Oregon High School Equestrian Teams meet in the Bend area, creating a soft carpet of dirt for the horses is just one part of what’s required to stage an event that attracts thousands of visitors.

The effort is also indicative of what’s required to ensure that most major athletic competitions—from equestrian meets to triathlons—run seamlessly.

Major races and tournaments don’t just magically occur. “It’s very labor-intensive,” says Candi Bothum, who chairs OHSET and has been running equestrian events

for about 30 years. The behind-the-scenes work can be a year-round job.

Almost immediately following an equestrian meet, the planning board reviews what improvements can be made. Then, they get started on next year. Reservations for horse stalls are made; invitations are sent to speakers and medics.

Six months before the event, lodging contracts are signed; a budget is set; sponsorships are secured; a schedule is created; judges are booked and volunteers are recruited.

Three months out, awards are purchased; vendors are contracted and bedding for horses is arranged. In addition, equipment such as radios, tents, water trucks and golf

carts must be reserved.

Days prior, stalls are disinfected; the arena is set up; and final tasks, such as printing score sheets, are completed.

All this work helps ensure that by the time event day rolls around, participants can focus and have fun.

The work also brings great benefit to the community. In Deschutes County alone, tourism is a more than \$700 million industry, employing more than 6,000 people, and sports competitions can be a big draw, says Linea Gagliano, a spokeswoman for Travel Oregon.

“Events bring visitors to the area,” she says. “And many people choose to come early, stay late or even plan a return trip.” —J.L.



» Above: The Rimrocks offer a scenic view of Billings, Montana. Below: Lake Coeur d'Alene is one of Idaho's treasured sites.

North 27th Street area, where there are lots of shops and restaurants. It's a good place for the boys to act like teenagers, says Payne.

Payne, meanwhile, likes to fly-fish during his downtime, and with the Yellowstone River flowing through Billings, it doesn't take him long to find a place to cast his line. Payne and his team also enjoy some of the region's other natural features, such as the Rimrocks, which are sandstone bluffs overlooking Montana's largest city. Parks in the area offer opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, bouldering, rappelling or simply taking in a sunset.

Co-Tournament Director Bryan Benjamin recommends a 60-mile side trip to the community of Red Lodge for its quaint downtown and ample hiking trails. Billings is also a gateway to the northeast entrance of Yellowstone National Park.

### Idaho Triathlon

Austin Donohue of Leavenworth, Washington, isn't famous. But when she traveled to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, for a triathlon, she felt like a celebrity.

When big events are hosted in small cities, it can be a transformative experience for both the participants and the community.

"It was incredible," she says. "The years of training were hard work, but the actual event was one of the most rewarding and exhilarating experiences of my life. The energy and support surrounding the event was contagious. I was on cloud nine, and was impressed with the spectators and the enthusiasm they showed the athletes."

When the Coeur d'Alene Triathlon, which is August 11 this year and features an Olympic distance triathlon, a sprint-distance triathlon and a duathlon

(bike and run), was founded in 1984, it was an instant hit thanks to the area's beauty and the difficulty of the course. It helped earn the race the nickname "The Scenic Challenge."

Coeur d'Alene's crystal-clear lake is the starting point for the 1.5K swim of the Olympic distance race, followed by a rugged 40K bike ride with some fast descents in the hills overlooking town. The 10K run travels along the Centennial Trail as it follows the Spokane River.

Donohue, a veteran of nine triathlons, says once the Coeur d'Alene race was over, she admired the town with its picturesque backdrop. One of her highlights was wakeboarding after the race. She also loved canoeing from the front door of her lakeside rental house, and the simple pleasure of wandering through the quaint downtown while enjoying an ice cream cone.

"I would highly recommend just taking some time to walk around the town and waterfront parks. The area is absolutely beautiful," she says. ■

*Jeff Layton writes from Plain, Washington.*



# SEATTLE

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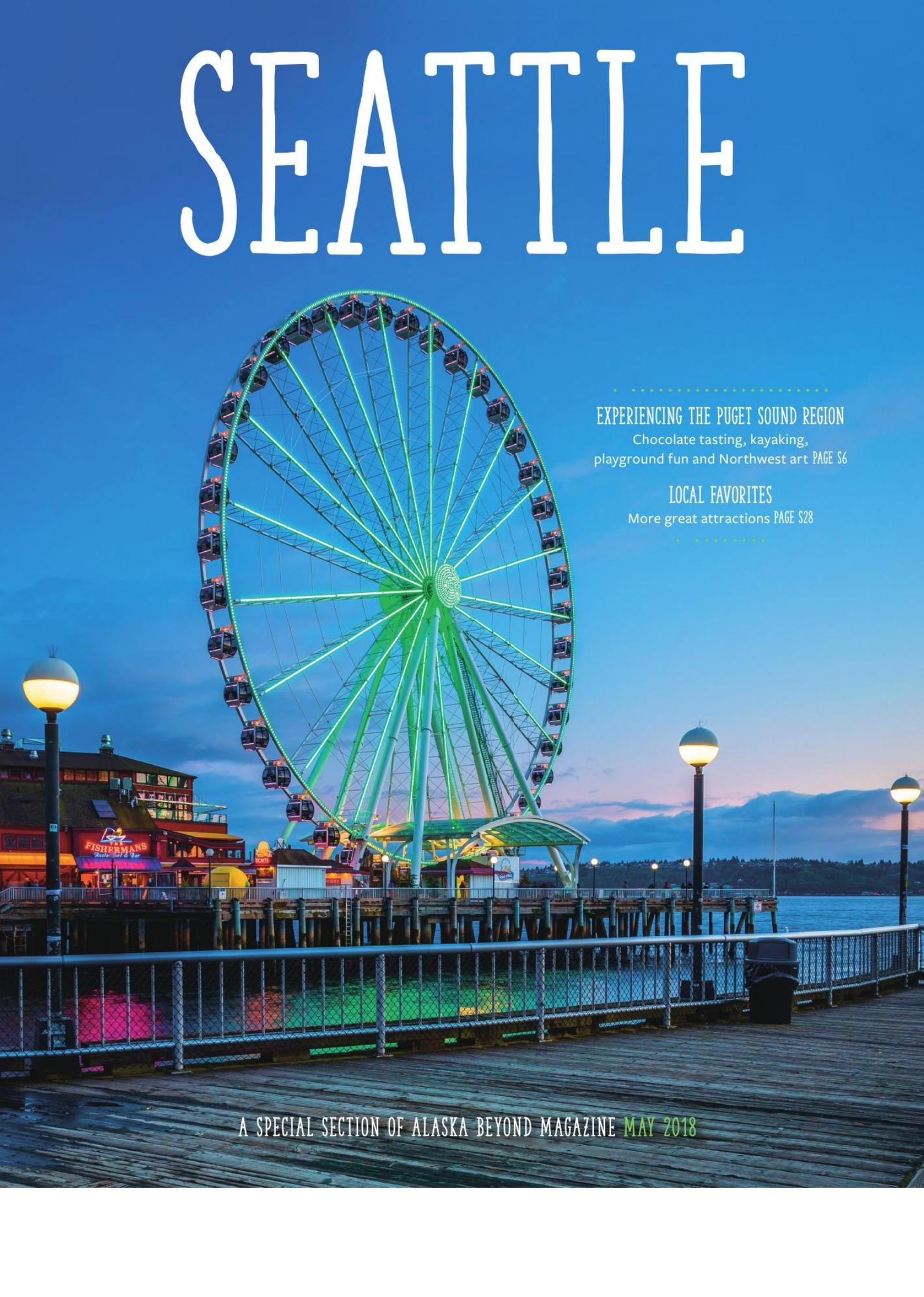
## EXPERIENCING THE PUGET SOUND REGION

Chocolate tasting, kayaking,  
playground fun and Northwest art PAGE S6

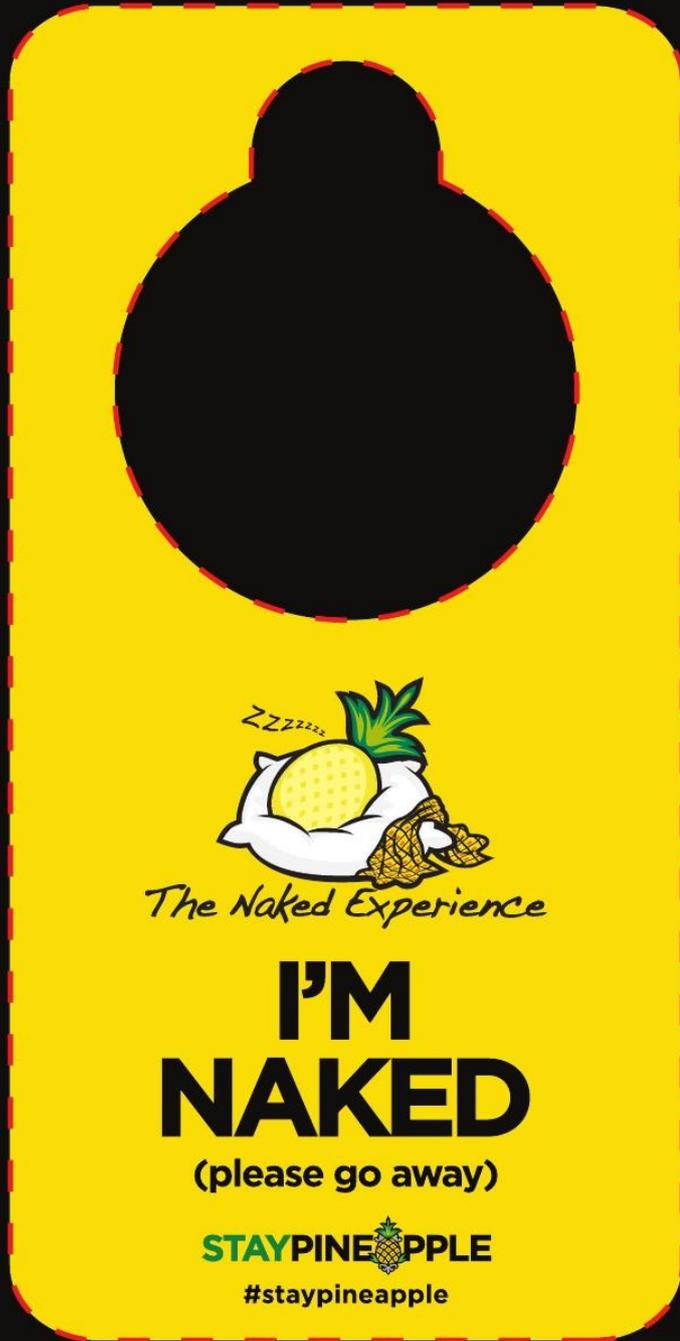
## LOCAL FAVORITES

More great attractions PAGE S28

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## SEATTLE

### S6 EXPERIENCING THE PUGET SOUND REGION

Chocolate tasting downtown, paddling to the south, playground fun to the east and Northwest art to the north.

### S16-S23 NEW IN THE AREA

- Openings, renovations and more, from the Sky View Observatory to The Spheres, as well as lodgings.
- The Space Needle's new look.
- New at The Bellevue Collection.

### S25 SIDE TRIPS

Day or weekend adventures from the Emerald City.

### S28 LOCAL FAVORITES

Popular Puget Sound-area attractions.

### S36 SEATTLE SPORTS

Exciting seasons.

### S41 ITINERARY

### S43 CALENDAR

**COVER:** The iconic Seattle Great Wheel on the Seattle waterfront downtown.

Inge Johnsson / Alamy Stock Photo.

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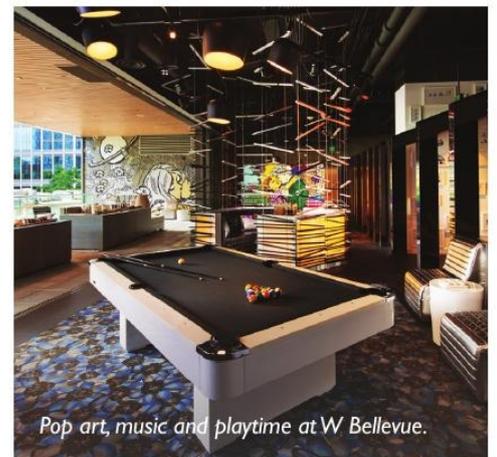
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**STAY** Imagine the lake house of a rock star, and you've got **W Bellevue.** A vibrant three-story mural sets the scene, and the playful design touches just keep coming, with swinging chairs, a library scattered full of fun reads, glass-walled showers in the middle of the rooms, and a modern take on the historic speakeasy, **Civility & Unrest.**



Pop art, music and playtime at W Bellevue.

**SHOP** Stock up on artisan candies from around the world at the luxe **Sugarfina**, slide into a new pair of Italian leather boots at **Domino**, dress to impress with a suit from **Suitsupply**, find the trendiest pieces at Spanish fashion retailer **Zara**, or upgrade your technology at the **Apple** or **Microsoft** stores.

**FOOD & FUN** Kick up your workout at **SoulCycle**, a challenging 45-minute ride set in a candlelit studio. When you're ready for a bite but not sure what you're in the mood for, browse the new **Lincoln South Food Hall**, where you can nosh on gourmet eats in what feels like an indoor take on an outdoor food truck park. Nearby, the swanky **Lucky Strike** brings bowling into the current era with mood lighting and dance floors. End the night right in the **W Living Room Bar** with creative cocktails, and a poppin' DJ—your evening hot spot.



Clockwise from top, left: Lincoln South Food Hall, the neighborhood vibe leading to The Westin Bellevue, a master chef from Japonessa in Lincoln Square South, and Hyatt Regency Bellevue.

## POSH

**STAY** Everything you need is at **Hyatt Regency Bellevue**—effortless and cleverly connected, offering parking, superb service, an indoor lap pool, and tons of amenities right outside your door: Enjoy breathtaking views of the mountains, city, and Lake Washington, for an energizing and inspiring stay.

**SHOP** When it comes to shops, if you can dream it, The Collection has it. Think luxury names like **Burberry** and **Tiffany & Co.**, along with Northwest icon, **Nordstrom**. Treat yourself at confectionery **Lolli and Pops** to find something sweetly satisfying.

**FOOD & FUN** The most important meal of the day is also the most fun at **Eques**, which delights with a Bloody Mary bar and indulgent tiramisu pancakes. After shopping, check out **Cinemark Reserve Lincoln Square**, which elevates the movie-going experience. For a late-night beverage or snack just steps from your room, slide into one of the high-backed booths at **13 Coins**.

The Collection's Dining District boasts more than 50 restaurants and nightlife options including the urban-inspired **Lincoln South Food Hall**, transforming the social scene in Bellevue.



13 Coins. A Delicious, 24/7 tradition. Below, luxe shopping at Bellevue Square.



Scan this code with your smartphone or QR code reader for stay & play packages at Hyatt Regency Bellevue, The Westin Bellevue, W Bellevue.

## ZEN

**STAY** From the moment you walk into **The Westin Bellevue**, with its signature white tea scent and infused water, you know this is a place you can bliss out. The Westin Heavenly Bed and Heavenly Bath ensure you'll relax.

**SHOP** Outfit yourself for your next adventure at **Escape Outdoors**, which carries brands such as Canada Goose and Arc'teryx, or find new workout gear at **lululemon** and **Athleta**. Then check out the **Peloton** showroom for the hottest piece of at-home workout equipment. Next door, find the electric car of your dreams in the **Tesla** showroom.

**FOOD & FUN** Pamper yourself with a cinnamon vanilla sugar scrub at **Truce Spa**. The healthy juices at **Pressed Juicery** are a great afternoon pick-me-up, while lunch or dinner at **Central** dishes up fresh Northwest fare and **Moksha** serves authentic Indian cuisine.

The Collection is located at NE 8th and Bellevue Way, Bellevue, WA. Visit: [bellevuecollection.com](http://bellevuecollection.com). 



## EXPERIENCING THE PUGET SOUND REGION

*Chocolate tasting downtown, paddling to the south, playground fun to the east and Northwest art to the north / BY JEFF LAYTON*

The gently spinning silver bowl is mesmerizing as it stirs a creamy concoction into chocolate deliciousness.

The bowl is part of a device aptly called “a refiner,” which is at work on an experimental combination that may someday become a staple at indi chocolate in Pike Place Market’s new MarketFront expansion.

A window in indi chocolate’s shop provides a view of the adjacent kitchen/factory and the velvety concoction, which started as cocoa beans from a pair of farms in India. The beans were small-batch roasted in Seattle to form cacao nibs, and now the nibs are being slowly whirred together with cocoa butter and sugar, smoothing everything into silky chocolate, in a process that can last five days. Next the chocolate will be heated and poured into molds to form bars.

I move on to the shop counter, where Becca Roebber, sales and marketing director, explains that chocolate isn’t something that should be mindlessly devoured;

rather, it should be approached like fine wine: savored and studied, probing the complex taste for flavor profiles. Using a bar of Peru-based chocolate, she teaches me to break off a small piece and rub it between my fingers. Their heat helps melt the cocoa butter and release the aromas of the chocolate. Then I let the chocolate slowly dissolve on my tongue. The flavors take me on a tropical journey.

For visitors who want to delve deeper into chocolate production and tasting, indi offers classes such as Chocolate Tasting 101 and Chocolate Class for Youngsters (ages 4 to 11). In fact, indi owner Erin Andrews started making chocolate more than 10 years ago because her daughters asked where chocolate came from. A family trip to Belize to see cacao beans growing on trees sparked a passion for all things chocolate, and Andrews subsequently founded her com-

pany in 2010. With her new MarketFront location, she was able to add a cafe, with chocolate-based beverages and coffee-based beverages available to enjoy onsite, and to design a kitchen/factory that customers could view.

After my visit, I add being able to taste chocolate recently crafted in the kitchen to the list of things I love about downtown Seattle’s Pike Place Market, where local artisans abound. From Washington-grown fruit and fresh flowers to seafood straight off the boat, and handcrafted curios proudly displayed by the very people who created them, almost every experience here makes me feel more in touch with the city around me.

The three-quarter-acre MarketFront, which opened last summer and expands the market westward toward Elliott Bay, represents the first major growth in 40 years for the landmark attraction. In addition to the chocolate shop, the

*Facing page and right: Visitors and locals enjoy Pike Place Market’s new MarketFront expansion, which includes a plaza with a phenomenal view.*



LARA SWIMMER (2)

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*Above: Indi chocolate makes artisanal confections in the MarketFront at Pike Place Market. Below: Harbor seal sightings might be part of a scenic kayaking adventure in Seattle's Southside.*

expansion includes a brewery, a biscuit cafe, 40 low-income housing units for seniors, new Northwest-themed works of public art, and new vendor tables open to local farmers, artists and crafters.

On a new open-air plaza next to the added vendor tables, I find a seat where I can slowly nibble my chocolate. I strive to savor it, but I'm distracted by the sweeping view of Seattle's waterfront. The most-photographed part of the Pike Place Market expansion is likely the 30,000-square-foot plaza, which inspires selfies with a background that includes ferryboats in Elliott Bay, with the Olympic Mountains farther west.

I've been to Pike Place Market more times than I can remember, but this is a perspective I've never enjoyed before, and it really spotlights the mountain-and-sea beauty that we Puget Sound-area residents cherish, and love showing off to visitors.

Following are three more new ways to connect with the soul of the region, either as a visitor or as someone who wants to see an old friend through new eyes.

## SEATTLE SOUTHSIDE KAYAK TOUR

The harbor seal that breaks the surface of the water is downright adorable. Big, dark, glassy eyes peer at me like those of a curious puppy. She is close enough to my kayak that I can see salt water gleaming on her long whiskers, and hear her soft panting as she gulps air and readies for another dive.

I'm less than 5 miles southwest of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, but city life seems worlds away. An afternoon paddle in a kayak on Puget Sound, and a close encounter with a creature so wild and beautiful, will do that.

The Olympic Outdoor Center began offering kayak rentals and tours from kiosks at the Des Moines Marina and Redondo Beach (about 6 miles farther south), a couple of summers ago. Between June and September,



guests can simply show up to rent kayaks by the hour—first come, first served—or, with advance reservations, can take a guided tour for four or more people.

Standup paddleboards are also available, and starting this summer, the Redondo Beach location will even offer a Monster SUP (reservations advised) that can hold up to six adults—fewer if two members of the group want to sit onboard in beach chairs, with a cooler, while others paddle.

Before I even left the Des Moines Marina, life had downshifted to a serene gear. Guide John Kuntz led the way as we coasted by a giant purple starfish that clung to a dock within arm's reach, and past a cornflower-blue belted kingfisher that chattered and searched for tiny fish from a perch atop a pier.

Once we were in the open water, it was hard to know where to look. To the southeast, iconic Mount Rainier boasted a sugar-white peak. To the west, Vashon Island was lush with emerald evergreens, and farther west on the Olympic Peninsula, peaks gleamed with late-season snow. Paddling about 2 miles north would take us to Marine View Park, while if we headed about



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*Above: This Dr. Seuss-inspired tree is part of the magical experience at Bellevue Downtown Park. Below: The Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds showcases Northwest artists and art.*

2 miles south, we would reach Saltwater State Park. Both parks have long, rocky, driftwood-adorned beaches popular for a rest or picnic-lunch break.

But, like me, what you might enjoy most is just being out on the

water, where you never know when a bald eagle will fly overhead, or when you might drift over a giant school of herring. If you're extremely lucky, you might even spy orcas that are residents of the Salish Sea, which encompasses waterways from southern Canada to northern Washington, including Puget Sound. And when a seal pops up next to your boat, you'll have a hard time remembering that you're kayaking in an urban area.

## BELLEVUE DOWNTOWN PARK

Have you ever seen a child stop in his tracks with excitement? Think of the first few seconds inside a carnival or when the gates open at Disneyland.

As my 3-year-old steps onto the 21-acre campus of Bellevue's newly completed Downtown Park, I can tell his little heart is off to the races.

Hands tremble. Eyes dart from one awesome activity to the next. He starts to run, but then stalls when a Dr. Seuss-inspired tree sculpture with curly branches grabs his attention. The next few hours at the "Inspiration

Playground" are going to be gloriously fun.

We run between features: a water-spray park; a kid-size climbing wall; slides galore; musical instruments; and countless structures to bounce on, swing on, spin on and discover. As an adult, I also like that the playground is designed to be accessible to children with various physical challenges. For instance, wheelchairs can go on the child-size merry-go-round.

Just beyond the playground, a half-mile circular promenade is lined with shade trees, and on this blue-sky Saturday afternoon, it's packed with joggers and walkers. Beside them, a canal with little bridges adds soft flowing movement and European flair. At the western edge of the circle, a 240-foot-wide waterfall tumbles into a reflecting pond.

The pathway encircles about 10 acres of green—an expansive lawn that often hosts Frisbee-playing workers from nearby office buildings, picnicking couples and families kicking around soccer balls.

When the park first opened in 1984, it was immediately popular,

but it did not contain all the elements of the original vision. Last June, the park reopened with the completion of the playground and the full-circle promenade, among other features. The park now feels like the heart of the downtown core of this vibrant city about 10 miles east of Seattle, much the way Central Park adds a natural element to Manhattan.

In the winter, the park hosts an outdoor ice-skating rink, while during sunny weather, the manicured open space is a magnet for tech workers and others who need to reset, and the terraced lawn seating and big open fields lend themselves to community events.

This summer, for instance, you can enjoy free outdoor movies on the lawn during the Downtown Movies in the Park event. Every Tuesday night (July 10–August 28), a 40-foot inflatable screen will show family-friendly movies. On July 4, during the Bellevue Family 4th event, enjoy live music during the day, performed by various local groups, and then in the evening watch live fireworks set



VIRNA HAFFER (1899-1974), TOTEM, KETCHIKAN, CIRCA 1938. BROMIDE PRINT, COLLECTION OF JACKY RANDALL



to the music of Bellevue's Youth Symphony Orchestra.

### CASCADIA ART MUSEUM, EDMONDS

When I enter the Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds, about 15 miles north of Seattle, my eyes are immediately drawn to a circa-1938 black-and-white photo of downtown Ketchikan, which shows a totem pole standing amid dirt streets and weathered buildings. Taken by Tacoma, Washington, native Virna Haffer, it seems to be a classic Alaska scene from a bygone era.

The 22,000-square-foot museum, founded by Seattle-area resident Lindsey Echelbarger,

seeks to spotlight influential regional artists and art, from Alaska and British Columbia to Northern California.

Artists from northwestern America who have been influential may not be household names, but receiving recognition isn't the same thing as being influential, notes museum curator David F. Martin.

From textiles to jewelry, to popular midcentury furniture designs by George Nakashima, once you look for Northwest influence, you start to see it many places, sometimes heralded, sometimes not.

One example: "Native designs are found all over the world," says



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DARRYL BERNSTEIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Left: *The photo Totem, Ketchikan, circa 1938, is on display at the Cascadia Art Museum. Above: Scratch Distillery near the museum.*

Martin. “The Northwest was on the forefront of using Native art.”

Also influential have been artists such as photographer Haffer (1899–1974). During her time in Alaska in 1938 and 1939, while her husband was pursuing his mining career, she used photography to document daily life in The Great Land.

More than 30 of her vintage photos are on view as part of the exhibit “Modern Alaska: Art of the Midnight Sun, 1930–1970.”

The photos are on loan from

Haffer’s granddaughter’s collection, with the vast majority being shown publicly for the first time.

Running through July 1, the exhibit features 80 total pieces, showcasing a broad mix of media, in addition to photography. Pieces include paintings, etchings, engravings, woodcuts, and even some craft items such as candlesticks and jewelry.

Another exhibit, on view through January 6, 2019, displays the works of Northwest artists who traveled to other parts of the world to expand their subject matter and to seek out opportunities to exhibit their works, says Martin. “Travelogue: Views Beyond the Northwest” includes

private-collection pieces such as the circa 1957 oil-and-collage *Verona at Night*, by Yvonne Twining Humber (1907–2004), who moved from the East Coast to Seattle in 1943 after marrying a local businessman. The artist subsequently traveled extensively through Europe with her Austrian-born husband, Martin says.

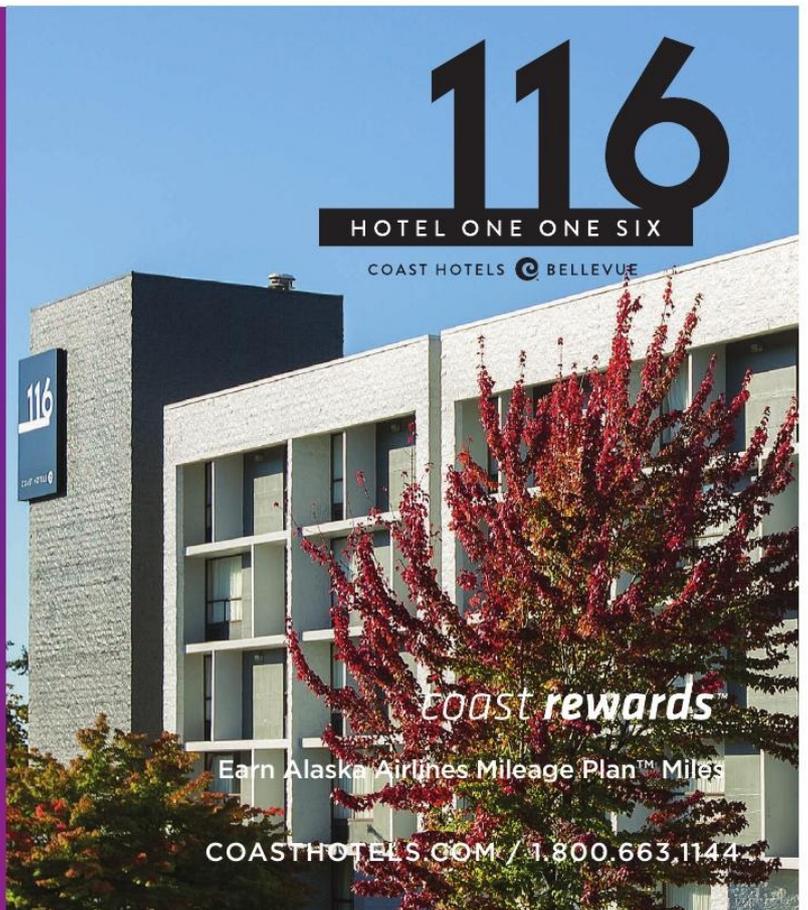
A visit to the museum can anchor a fun full-day excursion in Edmonds. The museum shares a building with Scratch Distillery, which specializes in gin, vodka, and limited-release whiskey, aquavit and bier schnaps. A few blocks east—on and around Edmonds’ Main Street—you



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JIM LUNDGREN / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

**Brackett's Landing  
in Edmonds.**

can visit quaint mom-and-pop coffeehouses, galleries and independent shops.

A few blocks west of the museum, explore the Edmonds waterfront, home to a Washington State Ferries terminal. The Brackett's Landing Shoreline Sanctuary Conservation Area by the ferry terminal is a great place to skip rocks and watch docking boats. Kids love to frolic in the mellow surf, weather permitting, and it's a good place to see harbor seals and sea lions. Watch for diving ducks hoping to snack on mollusks or tiny fish.

Humans diving beneath the surface at Brackett's Landing enjoy the City of Edmonds Under-

water Park. It has a scuba route with sunken wrecks, artificial reefs and a hit parade of cold-water Pacific Northwest critters such as the giant Pacific octopus.

A few blocks south of the ferry terminal, watch anglers on the Edmonds Fishing Pier, which is managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The nearby Olympic Beach Visitor Station is staffed on summer weekends by ranger naturalists and volunteer docents.

For a relaxing sunset dinner, restaurants such as Anthony's HomePort Edmonds and Arnie's Restaurant offer panoramic waterfront dining featuring fresh seafood. As many visitors discov-

er, a day that combines acclaimed Northwest art with artfully prepared Northwest seafood, and a water view, is a quintessential Puget Sound-area experience. ■

*Writer Jeff Layton enjoys discovering new attractions and activities in the Puget Sound region. For more information about area recreation, see websites such as [visitseattle.org](http://visitseattle.org), [seattlesouthside.com](http://seattlesouthside.com), [visitbellevuewashington.com](http://visitbellevuewashington.com), [explorekirkland.com](http://explorekirkland.com), [traveltacoma.com](http://traveltacoma.com), [visitedmonds.com](http://visitedmonds.com), and [experiencewa.com](http://experiencewa.com).*

*Alaska Airlines ([alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com)) provides regular service to Seattle from numerous destinations.*



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# CARLY LOST 40 POUNDS

Got Back Her Quality of Life



*She's almost 78 years old, uses a walker, and has tackled (and conquered) three major forms of cancer in her life. She's currently halfway through the 20/20 LifeStyles program. So far, she has lost 40 pounds – and she's looking forward to losing another 40 by summer because she wants to go whitewater rafting again.*

**Meet Carly.**



#### WHAT PROMPTED YOU TO JOIN 20/20 LIFESTYLES?

I was encouraged by my primary care physician, who had been through the program herself. My first reaction was, "But I'm almost 78. Will they let me in?" My quality of life was getting worse as I became increasingly immobile. It was difficult for me to get in and out of the car, or walk up or down stairs. I wanted to have a knee replacement, but it can't be done without weight loss.

#### WHAT WAS THE HARDEST PART OF GETTING STARTED?

It was a challenge just to get through the front door because I was in judgement of myself. It was also an effort to wake up early in the morning, get dressed, and then walk up from the garage once I got here. It was a workout just getting to the front desk. That alone was worth it! It helped me change my focus from being sedentary to being active.

#### HOW DO YOU FEEL HALFWAY THROUGH THE PROGRAM?

In addition to losing over 40 pounds, I feel so much stronger and better in every way! I enjoy working with my trainer the most. I also love the pool. I went from walking in the water to attending water aerobics twice a week.

I worked for a research-driven, vitamin and supplement distributor for 25 years, so I have a good understanding of nutrition. But I'm always learning more from my registered dietitian.

#### HOW HAS YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE CHANGED?

It's like night and day. Just having the structure that the program provides has changed my life significantly – from getting adequate sleep, eating for health, and being much more mobile. I'm healthier and stronger. All my daily activities are easier.

#### WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

There's not just one thing that stands out – everything does! I lost 40 lbs. I'm stronger. I get dressed more easily. I'm feeling more positive about life. I'm sleeping better. I have more energy. And even the muscles around my knees are getting stronger so I can walk better. There's less pain now. I'm even reconsidering whether I need to have that knee surgery.

But I have to say that I'm most proud of myself for putting on my exercise clothes or a bathing suit, for feeling the self-judgement and doing it anyway.

I didn't know how other people would view me, but I just thought, it doesn't matter. I want to do this. Nobody told me I couldn't. I'd really like to encourage other people to get out and push through their perceived limits – you only limit yourself.

#### ANY FINAL THOUGHTS?

I'm so grateful to have the support and help of my 20/20 LifeStyles team. I'm amazed how well everything is thought out for your success. It was worth every cent because it has given me back my quality of life.



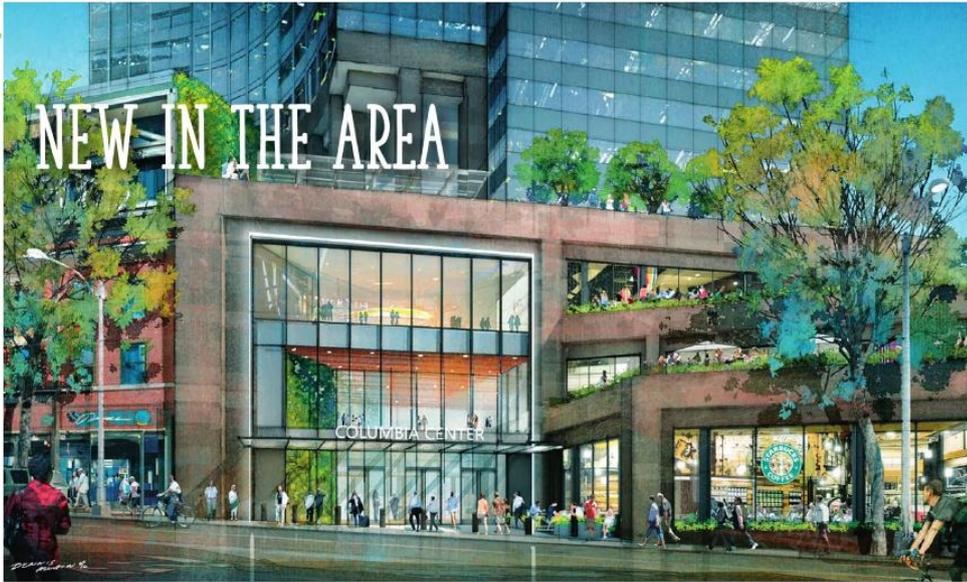
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## Ideas for sightseeing and lodging

BY MICHELE ANDRUS DILL

A 30-something tech-company manager named Piotr, from Europe, and his wife, Barbara, an administrative manager, move enthusiastically from window to window at the Sky View Observatory on the 73rd floor of the Columbia Center in downtown Seattle. “The view is beautiful,” Barbara says. “We can see so many things. We are very happy we came up here.”

Nearby, a retired couple from London point out sites below that they’ve already explored and sites they still plan to see, while a Seattle-area millennial shows a friend from California around, and they pause at interpretive panels with information such as the number of major glaciers—more than two dozen—on Mount Rainier.

The panorama visible from the observatory, at 902 feet above street level, includes Puget Sound, with its flurry of ferryboats and freighters; numerous islands and inlets; the 175-foot-tall Seattle Great Wheel; the 605-foot Space Needle; Lake Union; the Port of

Seattle’s red cranes; Mount Rainier; Mount Baker; and the Olympic Mountains on the horizon to the west.

And the vista to the east, including Lake Washington and the city of Bellevue, is now displayed in full, thanks to an expansion of the observatory last summer that provided a 360-degree view by allowing sightseers to make a complete picture-windows circuit of the 73rd floor.

Beginning early this summer, the spectacular eastward view will be what greets visitors arriving on the observatory floor via two new express elevators now under construction. The elevators will whisk guests in just 70 seconds from the Columbia Center’s Fourth Avenue lobby to the observatory, eliminating the need to make a connection between two different banks of office-worker elevators. The observatory is also gaining a new food-and-beverage option, with cocktails and bar bites complementing the view.

In addition, the Fourth Avenue

lobby itself is being completely renovated to include the observatory box office, observatory-related retail space and a grand staircase connecting the first and second levels of a three-story atrium that contains various eateries. The renovation is designed to provide an impressive welcome before people board the elevators to what is described as “the tallest observatory in the Northwest.”

“We wanted to streamline the guest experience to reach the observatory,” says Jennifer Tucker, general manager of the sky-high attraction. “And we feel like any visit to Seattle should start here. The city is at your feet. You can see it all. If you’re a visitor, you can see how everything relates, and if you’re a local, you get a good sense of how the city is being transformed. I bring my own friends and family here. I use it as a place to show off my city. It’s stunning. It’s amazing.”

For more information, see [skyviewobservatory.com](http://skyviewobservatory.com).

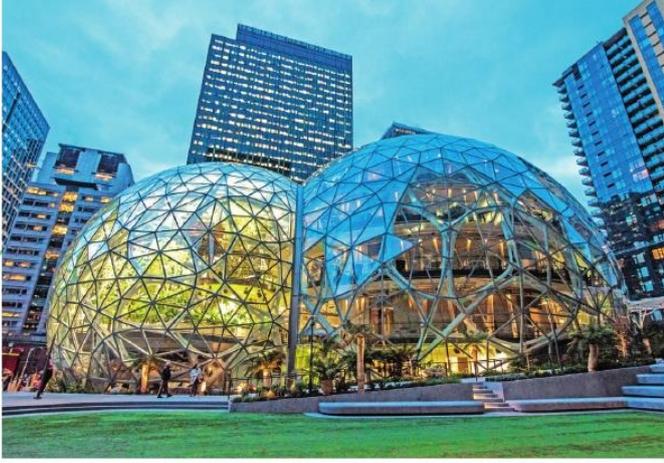
The following are some of the many other new options in the Puget Sound area:

## ATTRACTIONS

- **Nordic Museum** ([nordicmuseum.org](http://nordicmuseum.org)): The Ballard-neighborhood museum, scheduled to open May 5 in a new 60,000-square-foot building, will provide expanded exhibit space and programming/event options featuring Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

- **SODO Track** ([sodotrack.com](http://sodotrack.com)): Expected to be completed by this August, the art project—a

*Above: The new Fourth Avenue lobby at Columbia Center will provide an inviting welcome for people visiting the Sky View Observatory.*



public-private collaboration—features the work of 50 artists along a 2-mile street-art corridor on Fifth Avenue South between Royal Brougham Way and Spokane Street downtown. A total of 32 walls are being painted.

- **The Spheres** (seattlespheres.com): Amazon's three connected glass-domed green spaces—with thousands of plants, from orchids and passion-flowers to spike moss and fan-leaved aloe, curated with the help of botanical gardens and universities across the globe—are open to visitors two Saturdays a month by reservation (available 30 days in advance).

- **State Route 520 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail** (wsdot.wa.gov): On this new 14-foot-wide concrete path, separated from car traffic by a barrier, you can ride or walk 2.7 miles across the bridge over Lake Washington between Seattle and Bellevue. The bridge trail includes 11 viewpoints, and connects to more than 60 miles of additional trails.

## LODGING

### Recent Openings/Remodels:

- **Embassy Suites by Hilton Seattle Downtown Pioneer Square** (embassysuites.com): Located near CenturyLink Field, the hotel offers amenities such as an indoor pool and a sun deck,

with an acclaimed 13 Coins restaurant also onsite.

- **The Even Hotel and Staybridge Suites** (ihg.com): Sharing a bar, lounge and outdoor patio, the side-by-side hotels in the South Lake Union neighborhood promise style and serenity.

- **Hotel Interurban** (hotelinterurban.com): An indoor saline pool, the Waterleaf Restaurant & Bar, a robot that makes deliveries to guestrooms, and views of Mount Rainier will be among the amenities at this hotel expected to open before the end of May in Seattle's Southside.

- **Hotel Theodore** (hoteltheodore.com): This upscale hotel in a historical building downtown features photography and drawings from Seattle's Museum of History & Industry that pay tribute to Seattle innovators. The onsite restaurant, Rider, celebrates forest and ocean.

- **Hyatt Regency Lake Washington at Seattle's Southport** (lakewashington.regency.hyatt.com): Guests enjoy water and Seattle-skyline views at this lake-front hotel in Renton, south of Seattle. Water's Table restaurant features alfresco dining and sea-



sonal, Northwest-inspired cuisine.

- **Loews Hotel 1000** (loewshotels.com/hotel-1000-seattle): A multimillion-dollar renovation, completed this past fall at the downtown hotel, updated guestrooms, meeting spaces, the lobby and the restaurant, which now has a strong seafood focus as the All Water Seafood & Oyster Bar.

- **Motif Seattle, A Destination Hotel** (destinationhotels.com/motif-seattle): A \$10 million renovation of all the guestrooms in the chic, boutique downtown hotel—which has a popular fifth-floor rooftop lounge and deck—included significant investment in local art pieces.

- **Salish Lodge** (salishlodge.com): A \$12 million remodel of this property, known for its views of Snoqualmie Falls, includes expansion to 85 guestrooms, and redesign of all guestrooms, with features such as gas fireplaces.



*This page, clockwise from top left: The Spheres green spaces; Water's Table restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington at Seattle's Southport; the Embassy Suites by Hilton Seattle Downtown Pioneer Square; and a section of Andrew Hem's SODO Track painting, Underwater Squad.*

SKILLET RENDERING COURTESY PORT OF SEATTLE



## NEW AT SEA-TAC

• **At Seattle-Tacoma International Airport** (seatacshops.com), new attractions include the Terminal Getaway Spa, and dining options such as Alki Bakery, Floret by Cafe Flora, Qdoba, Rel'Lish Burger Lounge and Starbucks Evenings, with

more additions anticipated this year, including Poppa Woody's, Stonehouse Cafe, Camden-foodco., Le Grand Comptoir, Capitol Hill Food Hall and Ballard Brew Hall. Restaurants expected to open next year include Skillet and Sunset Fried Chicken Sandwiches.

• **Sheraton Seattle Hotel** (sheratonseattle.com): The downtown hotel has completed most of a \$53 million renovation, creating a more contemporary feel in spaces ranging from the guestrooms to the lobby.

### Upcoming Hotel Openings:

• **The Charter Seattle, Curio Collection by Hilton** (curiocollection3.hilton.com): Scheduled to open downtown in third-quarter 2018, the hotel includes a 16th-floor rooftop lounge, and an Argentina-inspired restaurant, Patagón.

• **Graduate Seattle** (graduatehotels.com/seattle): Located in a 1930s Art Deco

building in the University District, the hotel is expected to open this fall. Decor will pay tribute to local scenery, music and business, and to famous University of Washington alumni.

• **Hyatt Regency Seattle** (hyattregencyseattle.com): Expected to be the region's largest hotel, with 1,260 guestrooms, it is scheduled to open this fall in the Denny Triangle area. The hotel is seeking LEED Gold certification.

• **The State Hotel** (statehotel.com): Scheduled to open this summer in a 1904 building downtown, the boutique hotel will have amenities such as an eighth-floor rooftop terrace overlooking Pike Place Market. **S**

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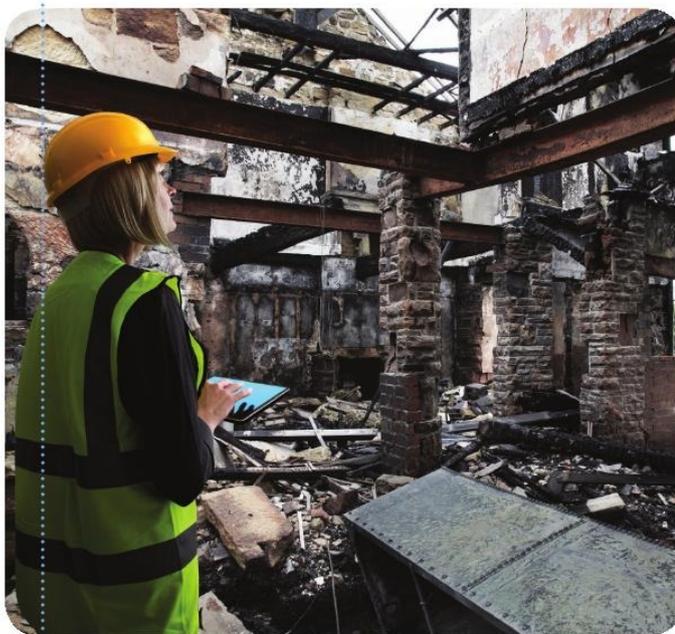
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# THE SPACE NEEDLE'S NEW LOOK

BY ANDREW WAITE

Some of the earliest sketches of the Space Needle depicted an observation deck with glass walls. But in 1962, when the iconic tower opened for the Seattle World's Fair, there weren't glass panels large enough to withstand the elements at 500 feet. Nor was there a way to transport large sheets of glass to such heights. Now, thanks to advancements in technology, a privately funded \$100 million renovation is finally fulfilling the vision that the original architects had for this beacon of the future.

Much of the renovation is made of glass—176 tons, to be exact. The result is better sightlines, with views increased by more than 35 percent. The 520-foot upper observation level, for instance, now feels like an infinity pool, with unencumbered views of Puget Sound, Seattle and other sights. This effect comes from glass windows stretching from the floor to the ceiling (the old windows stopped about 3 feet from

*On the upper observation level, glass replaces wire caging as the outer barrier, and glass windows now stretch from the floor to the ceiling.*



the floor) and an all-glass exterior barrier. Gone is the wire caging. In its place are 48 glass panels—each 7 feet wide, 11 feet tall, 2.5 inches thick. These panels are in place thanks to a custom-built machine that uses hydraulics and tablet-shaped suction cups to position sheets of glass.

The revamped Space Needle creates an experience, visceral and thrilling, says Karen Olson, the Space Needle's chief marketing officer.

*The outer rim of the lower observation level was redesigned with a rotating glass floor. A new engine with rubber mechanisms should make for a smoother spin.*



That experience includes 24 glass benches, the backs of which are the outward-leaning glass walls of the exterior barrier. Sit down and feel as if you're floating above the city. (Don't forget to snap a selfie.)

Another feature is the lower observation level's rotating glass floor, which is the world's first rotating glass floor in a public building, Olson says. From the glass floor, visitors can see the structure, elevators moving up and down, and the ground below. A "restaurant of the future" will open later this year.

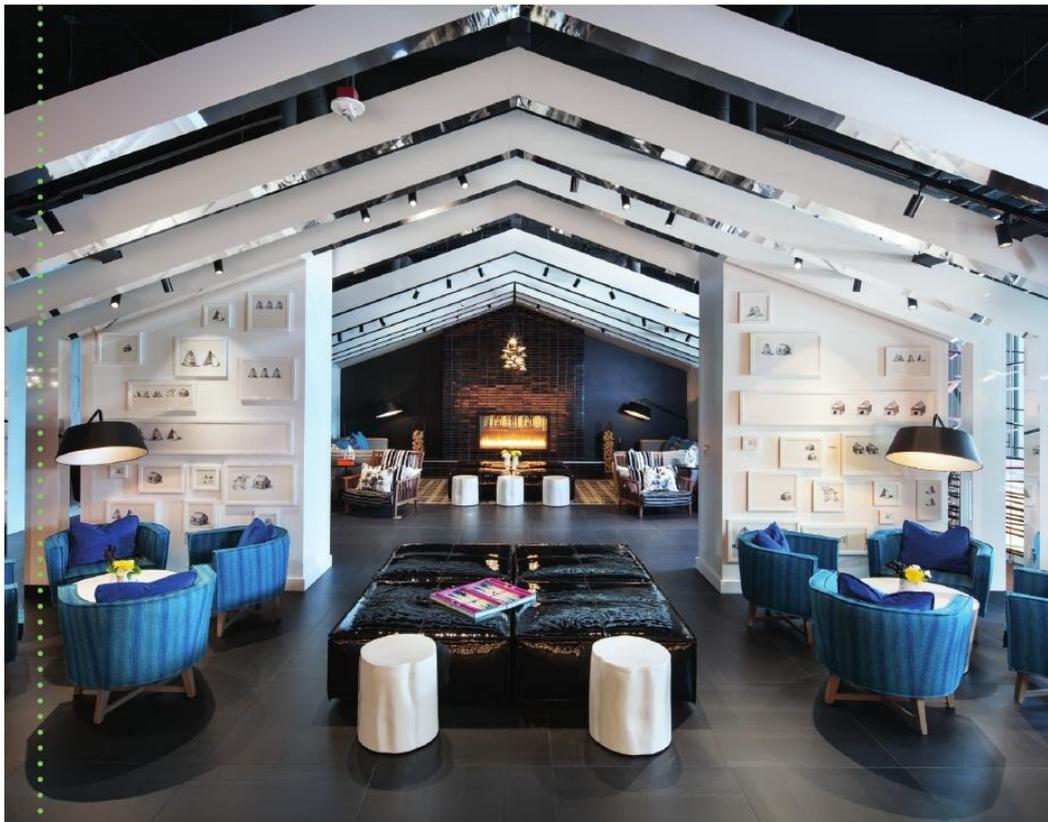
At a new cafe on the upper observation level and a new lounge expected to open this month on the glass-floor level, visitors can enjoy small plates sourced by Northwest vendors such as Beecher's Handmade Cheese and Snake River Farms beef, as well as drinks from area breweries, distilleries and wineries.

*A grand staircase spirals between the upper and lower observation levels and features an open side that looks down on the rotating glass floor.*

The new local-tastes theme is fitting, because the iconic Space Needle reflects the Seattle area—a region that prides itself on innovating for the future. Atop the Space Needle, guests can now see that future through unobstructed views. **S**



## NEW AT THE BELLEVUE COLLECTION BY MICHELE ANDRUS DILL



When my husband and I were hosting visitors from out of town, we wanted to provide them with a fun experience that combined shopping, dining and entertainment, and offered Northwest fashion and flair. On another occasion, when my spouse and I were celebrating a special wedding anniversary, we wanted to create a full day of memorable experiences, from shopping together for gifts to dining in style.

In both cases, we headed to The Bellevue Collection, in the lively city of Bellevue, just 10 miles east of Seattle. Long a

premier shopping/dining/entertainment destination for Northwest locals and visitors alike, The Bellevue Collection has become even more exciting with the addition of many new retailers, restaurants and experiences over the past year. You can now enjoy more than 200 excellent shops, 50 destination-dining and nightlife venues, 30 quick-service-food and cafe spots, two state-of-the-art cinemas, three luxury hotels, three spas, and attractions ranging from a comedy club/billiards parlor to a bowling alley with two dance floors.

Comprising Bellevue Square,

Bellevue Place and the newly expanded Lincoln Square—all connected by sky bridges and car/pedestrian tunnels—The Bellevue Collection attracts everyone from fashionistas to foodies, from craft-beer aficionados savoring local beers at upscale Henry's Tavern to fitness enthusiasts taking an invigorating class at SoulCycle.

Following are just a few examples of what's new at The Bellevue Collection:

### W BELLEVUE

This W Hotels property is modern and chic, yet also relaxing. The hotel's Living Room—a modern twist on the lobby concept—is decorated in restful blues and elegant whites, with a gas fireplace. Another gas fireplace warms The Porch, an open-air extension to the Living Room. The Porch, which is covered on top and provides blankets for cooler days, has hanging swing seats that are great spots for reading a book borrowed from The Library. Or lounge on the plaid couch in The Library itself, where the ring pattern on the orange area rug suggests grand Northwest trees.

In the hotel guestrooms, colors such as white and purple, and elements such as plush-pillowed window seats and tony dressers supporting flat-screen TVs, create an ambiance that is both classic and contemporary.



The hotel's dining options include The Lakehouse, with farmhouse-inspired meals by James Beard Award-winning local chef Jason Wilson. The decor, with its wood floor and wood beams, is designed to evoke a warmly sophisticated lakefront home.

Wilson also owns and runs Civility & Unrest, the speakeasy-inspired cocktail experience at W Bellevue. With a whiskey bar in front and a cocktail lounge in back, C&U offers vintage spirits from around the world, as well as local craft brews, sparkling libations and unusual cocktail creations. For instance, a signature cocktail, The Civil Unrest, features Four Roses bourbon, dry vermouth, crème de cassis and orange biters. The cocktail is a play on a Manhattan, offering a classic with a new twist.

### WAYWARD

In keeping with the Puget Sound area's outdoors-appreciation ethos, Wayward, which opened its Bellevue Collection store last year, sells gear, clothing and more for explorers and adventurers. From bags to bandannas, shirts to shorts, coolers to craft-your-

own-bitters kits, the store has something for everyone. It is one of the 16 new stores—including the only Northwest location for Amsterdam-based Suitsupply—that have joined The Bellevue Collection, with six more new stores coming soon.

### BARRIO LUCHADOR, LINCOLN SOUTH FOOD HALL

At Barrio Luchador, one of the seven quick-casual "feasting spots" at the new Lincoln South Food Hall, guests can enjoy dishes—served from an Air-stream trailer—that range from carne asada, with wagyu steak from Seattle-based Mishima Reserve, to vegetarian mushroom mole made with unsweetened chocolate from Seattle's famed Theo Chocolate.

Other Lincoln South Food Hall sites offer items ranging from bao to baguette, poke to pizza, while Dote Coffee Bar combines its locally roasted coffee with hand-crafted chocolate. The above options are among The Bellevue Collection's 20 new restaurants and casual dining spots.

### ASCEND PRIME STEAK & SUSHI

Fine dining will be paired with fantastic views—of Bellevue, Lake Washington, the Seattle skyline, the Cascade Range and even the Olympic Mountains—at Ascend, on the 31st floor of the Lincoln Square South tower. The



restaurant, expected to open in late May, will highlight prime beef, premium seafood and fine wines.

### CINEMARK RESERVE LINCOLN SQUARE

At this cinema, you can select your reserved seat when you buy your ticket at the box office or online, and then relax in a heated reclining luxury lounge (with footrest). A swivel tray table holds food and beverages delivered seatside at the touch of a button before or during the show. The theater, for ages 21 and older, has six auditoriums, all with wall-to-wall screens and enhanced sound systems. It complements Cinemark's all-ages-friendly Lincoln Square Cinemas, which has 16 auditoriums, including one with Imax technology.

For more information on what's new at The Bellevue Collection, visit [bellevuecollection.com](http://bellevuecollection.com). ■



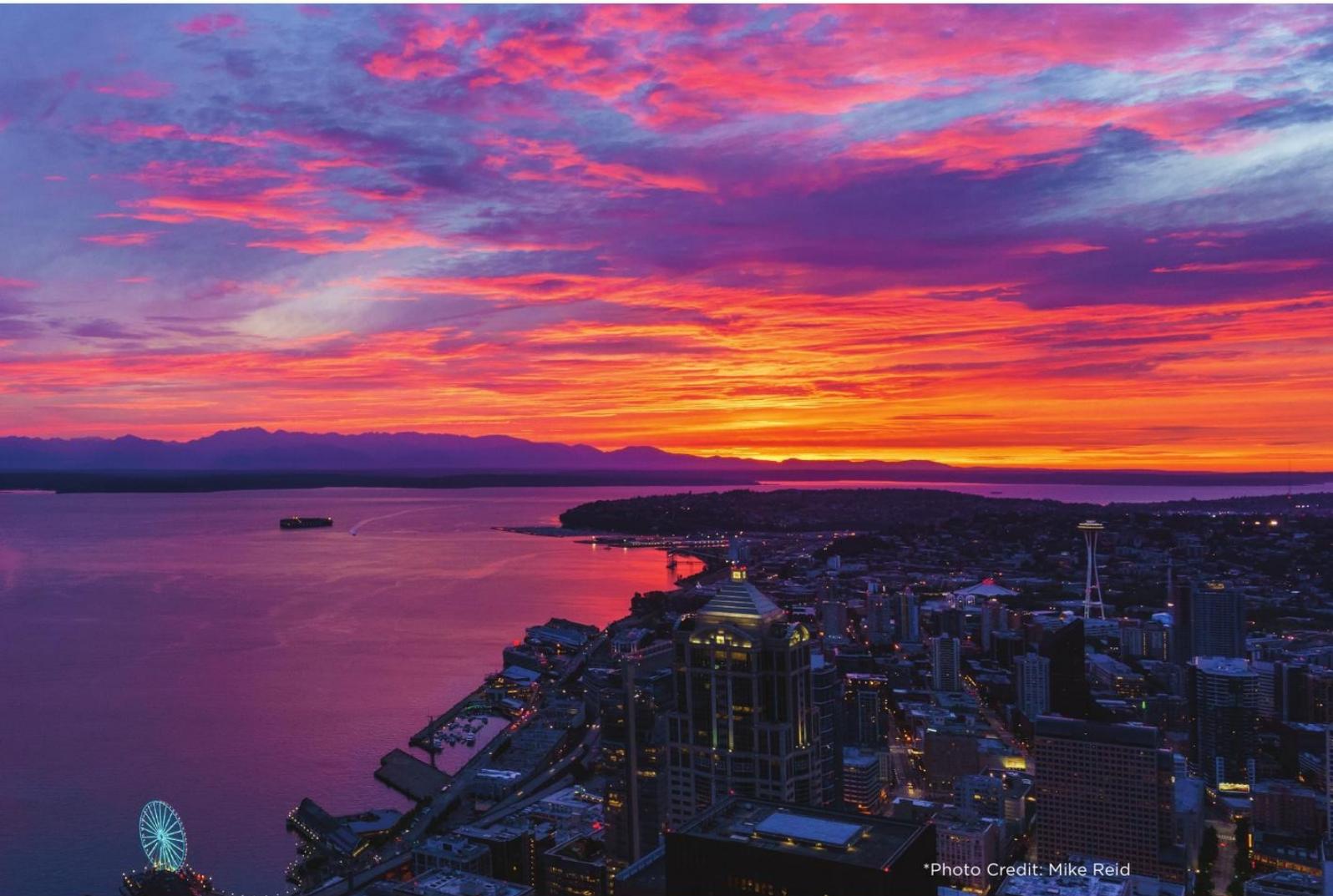
*Facing page: The Living Room at W Bellevue, in Lincoln Square South. This page, clockwise from top left: Wayward in Bellevue Square, Ascend Prime Steak & Sushi in Lincoln Square South, Cinemark Reserve Lincoln Square, and Barrio Luchador in the Lincoln South Food Hall.*



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Sky View Observatory is the tallest public observatory in the Pacific Northwest and the perfect place to begin any Seattle experience. Take in the breathtaking 360° views and plan your visit with the city at your feet. It all starts at Sky View.



\*Photo Credit: Mike Reid

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## SIDE TRIPS

Day and weekend touring around the area

**Bellingham/Whatcom County** (bellingham.org): An area known for its outdoor adventures, Whatcom County offers everything from whale watching to mountain climbing. Bellingham has an exciting microbrew scene and a charming waterfront promenade. Semiahmoo Resort (semiahmoo.com) offers spa treatments, kayaking and golf; and the Mount Baker Scenic Byway boasts wondrous views of mountains, forest and meadows in the Mount Baker–Snoqualmie National Forest (www.fs.usda.gov/mbs).

• **Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum** (flyingheritage.com): With 26 aircraft—many of them WWII planes from five different countries—and more than 25 vehicles, such as tanks and other military equipment, on display in two large hangars at Everett’s Paine Field, the museum is a historic treasure trove. There are special events held at the museum throughout the year.

• **Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour** (futureof-flight.org): See Boeing’s production line in Mukilteo, where you can view how jetliners are built in one of the world’s largest buildings. You can learn about the airplane designs, the materials used to construct planes and the future of plane production.

• **Gig Harbor** (gigharborguide.com): Just across Puget Sound from Tacoma, the town of Gig Harbor allows for an easy getaway vacation, with many summer activities, including fishing, scuba diving, boating and guided beach walks with Harbor WildWatch. You can also cycle, golf, hike, peruse boutique shops, relax with a local wine or cocktail, and savor water-view dining.

• **The Hibulb Cultural Center & Natural History Preserve** (hibulbculturalcenter.org): Located on the Tulalip Reservation, west of Marysville, the Hibulb

Cultural Center tells the journey of the Tulalip People through the stories of the tribe. You will learn about the importance of the cedar tree to their culture and the seven value stories. Guided tours are available.

• **Leavenworth** (leavenworth.org): Celebrate spring with Maifest 2018, May 11–13, at the Bavarian-themed village, where there will be dancing, entertainment and a “maipole.” Located amid the Cascade Range, Leavenworth is known for its shopping, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. The town is also famous for the many outdoor activities available in the area, from camping,



hiking, horseback riding and whitewater rafting in the summer to Nordic skiing and dogsledding in the winter.

• **Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater area** (visitolym pia.com): Tour the 1928 state capitol building and enjoy artisanal farmers markets, the South Sound Wine Trail, distilleries, the Thurston Bountiful Byway agritourism self-tour and kayak rentals. You can also explore the trails in the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge (fws.gov/refuge/Billy\_Frank\_Jr\_Nisqually).

*Above: The Deception Pass Bridge area offers breathtaking views of Puget Sound. Right: Leavenworth celebrates Maifest, May 11–13.*



The iconic Fairmont Empress Hotel is known for its afternoon tea service.

● **San Juan Islands** ([visitsanjuan.com](http://visitsanjuan.com)): These spectacular islands offer recreation ranging from kayaking and whale watching (and The Whale Museum, [whale-museum.org](http://whale-museum.org)) to cycling, climbing, hiking and ziplining. Also enjoy the many pottery studios, seaports, villages and boutique shops. The islands have award-winning restaurants, as well as locally made wine, beer, cider and spirits.

● **Victoria, B.C.** ([tourismvictoria.com](http://tourismvictoria.com)): From downtown Seattle's Pier 69, you can travel in style on the high-speed *Victoria Clipper* ([clippervacations.com](http://clippervacations.com)) catamaran. In less than three hours, you will arrive in British

Columbia's charming capital, which offers attractions such as the Royal BC Museum and afternoon tea at the Fairmont Empress Hotel. You can tour the British Columbia Parliament Buildings, enjoy The Butchart Gardens and ride in a horse-drawn carriage. Overnight packages are available.

● **Whidbey Island** ([whidbey-camanoislands.com](http://whidbey-camanoislands.com)): A short ferry ride from Mukilteo, near Everett, Whidbey Island offers outdoor attractions such as camping, fishing and hiking. A must-see is the view from Deception Pass Bridge, which connects Whidbey Island and Fidalgo Island. ■

—Jeff Bond



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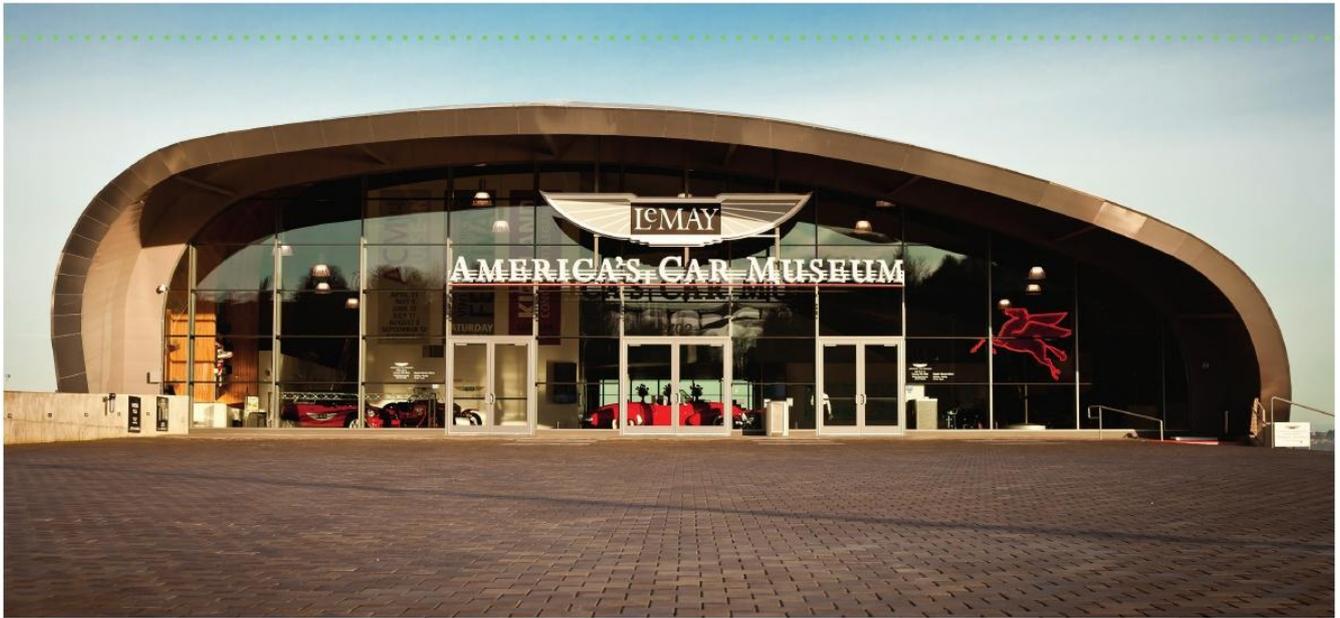
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## LOCAL FAVORITES

Popular Puget Sound-area attractions **BY MICHELE ANDRUS DILL**

Docent Jim Culp dons white gloves to gently open the back door of a sapphire-blue custom-made 1916 Pierce-Arrow. I'm getting an inside look at one of the many fascinating cars on display at **LeMay—America's Car Museum**. Culp points out special features such as the mounted crystal vase for flowers, the mohair interior, the wooden doorframes and the two telephone handsets—one on each side of the passenger compartment.

The phones connect with wires to the driver's ear trumpet. "But the driver doesn't get to talk back," Culp comments with a grin. "He doesn't have a mouthpiece."

The knowledgeable docent is guiding me

on a White Glove VIP Tour, usually 75 to 90 minutes in length, that is offered daily at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma museum, just 35 miles south of Seattle. While I could have done a fun self-guided tour by paying the regular \$18 adult admission, the \$33 docent-guided White Glove tour, which includes museum admission, is a marvelous upgrade. It features various "White Glove Stops" for up-close, open-door views of vintage cars, as well as in-depth information on dozens of the 350 cars and motorcycles on display at any given time in the 165,000-square-foot museum, which regularly rotates vehicles on view. The tour itinerary varies each day based on the docent doing the guiding.

Today, we also pause at a 1923 Lincoln Touring Car. Franklin D.

Roosevelt rode in this very car when he visited Tacoma as a presidential candidate in 1932, and other dignitaries and celebrities also enjoyed this ride, including actress Lana Turner when she visited Tacoma in 1942 for a war bond rally, Culp says.

I'm particularly enthralled by the oldest car in the museum, an 1899 Baldwin Steamer—steam-powered via a boiler right under the front seat. The car took about 20 minutes to get started; it could go about 25 mph; and its boiler needed to be refilled about every 20 miles, Culp says.

He makes sure I notice the three-wheel, crank-start 1911 Kelsey Motorette, steered via tiller, but otherwise sporting a design much like that of a traditional horse-pulled carriage. He also draws my attention to the 1915



Baker Electric. It was powered by batteries but never gained popularity because its average range, depending on terrain, was about 35 miles before you had to recharge it overnight, Culp explains.

He says the Brewster-bodied 1917 Crane-Simplex Model 5 on display had been ordered by John D. Rockefeller Jr. as a birthday gift for his father, while the 2010 Tesla Roadster is similar to the red one Elon Musk sent into space on his SpaceX Falcon Heavy Rocket this past February.

One of the rarest cars in the collection is a 1930 Duesenberg Model J. From the engine to the fenders, it was built by hand, which meant that fewer than 500 of the cars were completed during the model's nine-year production period, Culp notes.

At a 1983 DeLorean gull-wing-door coupe, Culp unhooks the rope guarding the car, points out the vehicle's unusual brushed stainless steel exterior, and opens the driver's door so I can crouch near the seat for a selfie, one of the highlights of the White Glove tour. A DeLorean DMC-12 similar to this model played a prominent time-travel role in the 1985 film *Back to the Future*, but Culp assures me: "It's safe. We have the flux capacitor locked in the basement, so we will not go back to the future involuntarily."

White Glove tourees also typically get to see private collectors' vintage cars parked in the exclusive Club Auto room, and may also get to toot vintage car horns from the early 1900s. After the VIP treatment, you'll be free to enjoy additional exploration, as

well as activities in the free Family Zone, or you can test your driving skills in a simulator (extra fee).

New museum exhibits include the permanent "Powering the Future Learning Lab," which opened in April and features hands-on experiences, and the BMW-focused "Heroes of Bavaria," opening May 12 and expected to be on view for about a year. For more information, see [americascarmuseum.org](http://americascarmuseum.org).

### MORE OF THE MANY POPULAR ATTRACTIONS IN THE PUGET SOUND AREA

- **Alki Beach** ([seattle.gov/parks](http://seattle.gov/parks)): Site of the 1851 landing of white settlers in West Seattle; includes a 2.5-mile path with water views, volleyball sites and a small replica of the Statue of Liberty.
- **Bellevue Arts Museum** ([bellevuearts.org/exhibitions/upcoming/posada](http://bellevuearts.org/exhibitions/upcoming/posada)): "José Guadalupe Posada and the Mexican Penny Press: Prints from the David J. Sellers Collection," through Aug. 19. The artist has been called "the father of modern Mexican art."
- **Bellevue Botanical Garden** ([bellevuebotanical.org](http://bellevuebotanical.org)): Celebrat-

ed its 25th anniversary last year. Boasts more than 50 acres of gardens, woodlands and wetlands.

- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Discovery Center** ([discovergates.org](http://discovergates.org)): Exhibits tell the stories of work being done to improve people's lives, and activities show how each person can make a difference.
- **Bill Speidel's Underground Tour** ([undergroundtour.com](http://undergroundtour.com)): Entertaining history-and-culture walking tour.

- **Brewery Tours** ([roaddog-tours.com/cities/seattle](http://roaddog-tours.com/cities/seattle)): Visit three Seattle breweries in three hours. Also: Enjoy area special events, such as Elysian Brewing's Search Party, benefiting The Vera Project, and including beer, music and art, June 30 ([elysianbrewing.com](http://elysianbrewing.com)).

- **Burke-Gilman Trail** ([seattle.gov/parks](http://seattle.gov/parks) and [kingcounty.gov/services/parks-recreation/parks.aspx](http://kingcounty.gov/services/parks-recreation/parks.aspx)): Approximately 20-mile paved recreation trail; includes Lake Washington views on its way from Golden Gardens Park north to Bothell, where it connects with the Sammamish River Trail.

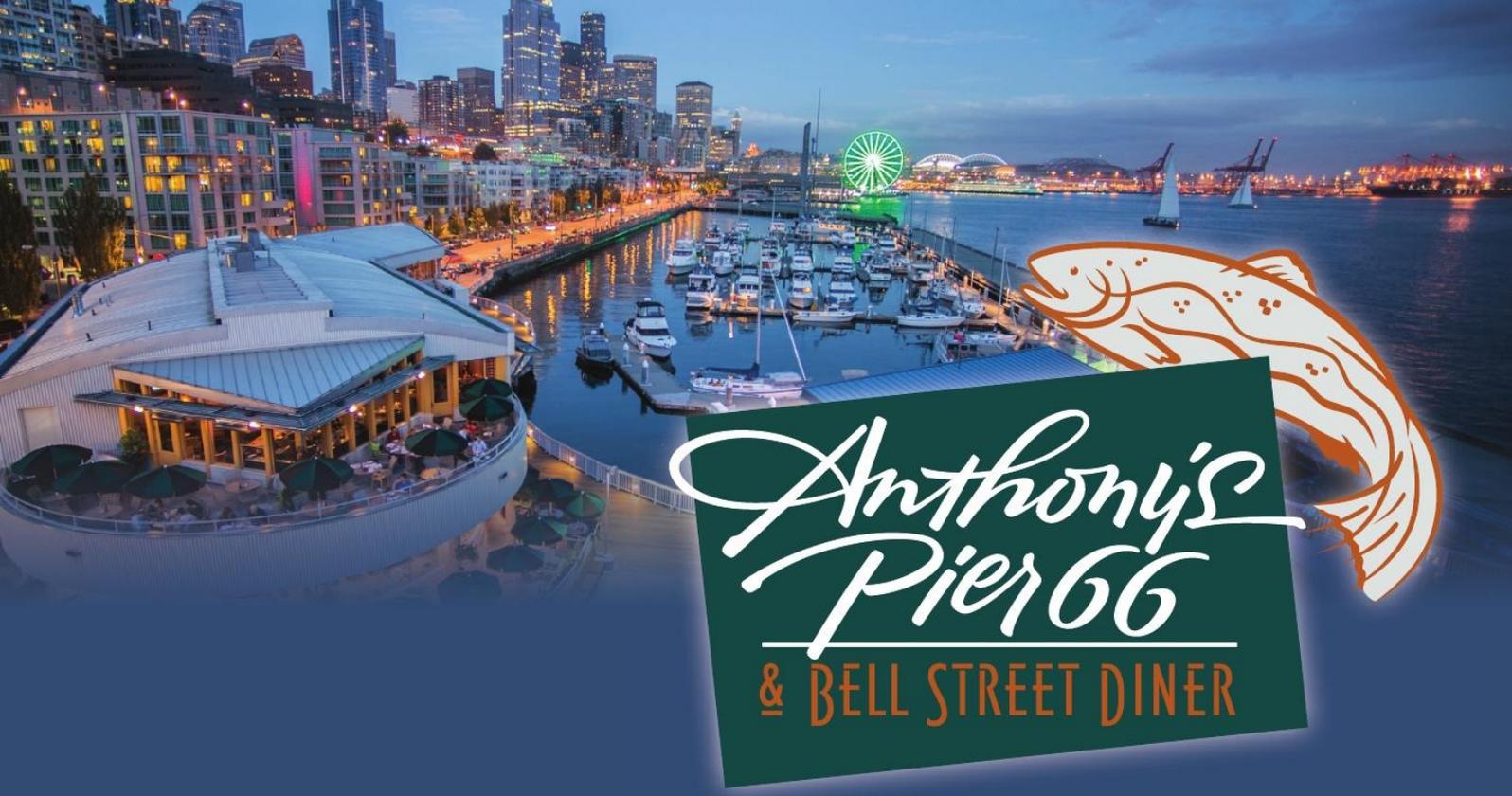
- **The Center for Wooden Boats** ([cwb.org](http://cwb.org)): Public sails on



Facing page and above: LeMay—America's Car Museum displays vintage autos such as the 1916 Pierce-Arrow, left, and the 1899 Baldwin Steamer. Right: The Center for Wooden Boats offers watercraft rentals and public sails.

FACING PAGE AND ABOVE: COURTESY LEMAY—AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM (3); RIGHT: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM





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*Above: The Fremont Troll sculpture is one of the stops on the fun Fremont Tour. Below: Vintage aircraft on display at The Museum of Flight.*

Lake Union, watercraft rentals and vintage-boat displays.

- **Chambers Bay** ([chambers-baygolf.com](http://chambers-baygolf.com)): Scenic 7,585-yard traditional links course on Puget Sound shoreline in the Tacoma area; the course hosted the 2015 U.S. Open.

- **Children's Museum of Tacoma** ([playtacoma.org](http://playtacoma.org)): Playscapes from "Voyager" to "Invention."

- **Cruises:** Among the many options, cruise Puget Sound on the **Blake Island/Tillicum Excursion with Argosy Cruises** ([argosycruises.com](http://argosycruises.com)) to enjoy the scenery, a Native storytelling show and a buffet meal with alder-fire-roasted fish. Also: Cruise **Lake Union and Lake Washington** for brunch or a sunset dinner with **Waterways Cruises and Events** ([waterways-cruises.com](http://waterways-cruises.com)).

- **Dunn Gardens** ([dunngardens.org](http://dunngardens.org)): Century-old gardens with a lovely 7.5-acre Olmsted Brothers design; guided tours, by reservation, select days and times, April–July and September–October.

- **Emerald Downs Racetrack** ([emeralddowns.com](http://emeralddowns.com)): Exciting live or simulcast thoroughbred racing in Auburn, through Sept. 23.

- **Emerald Water Anglers** ([emeraldwateranglers.com](http://emeraldwateranglers.com)): Guided fly-fishing trips on area rivers and Puget Sound.

- **Fort Steilacoom Park** ([cityoflakewood.us/parks-and-recreation/parks](http://cityoflakewood.us/parks-and-recreation/parks)): Trails, historical barns, radio-controlled-aircraft fly area, and orienteering course in Lakewood; nearby is the 9-hole Fort Steilacoom Golf Course, providing flat terrain in a natural-plains-type setting.

- **The Fremont Tour** ([thefremonttour.com](http://thefremonttour.com)): Guided tour spotlighting quirky art and street theater in the Fremont neighborhood, June 17–Sept. 2.

- **Frye Art Museum** ([fryemuseum.org](http://fryemuseum.org)): "Towards Impressionism: Landscape Painting from Corot to Monet," May 12–Aug. 5.

- **Green Lake Park** ([seattle.gov/parks](http://seattle.gov/parks)): Enjoy the scenic 2.8-mile paved path around the lake, or swim or paddle in the water.

- **Hiram M. Chittenden Locks** (<http://bit.ly/BallardLocks>): Watch boats transfer between freshwa-

ter and saltwater, and June to September, watch salmon on the fish ladder.

- **Juanita Bay Park** ([kirklandwa.gov/depart/parks](http://kirklandwa.gov/depart/parks)): Nearly 200 species of birds live in or visit the Kirkland park; several different habitat areas, ranging from wet meadow to open water to intermittent marsh; guided tours available.

- **KidsQuest Children's Museum** ([kidsquestmuseum.org](http://kidsquestmuseum.org)): Exploration areas range from a climbing feature to a Water Gallery at this Bellevue museum.

- **Living Computers: Museum + Labs** ([livingcomputers.org](http://livingcomputers.org)): Vintage computers, and hands-on opportunities in areas such as virtual reality and creating a videogame.

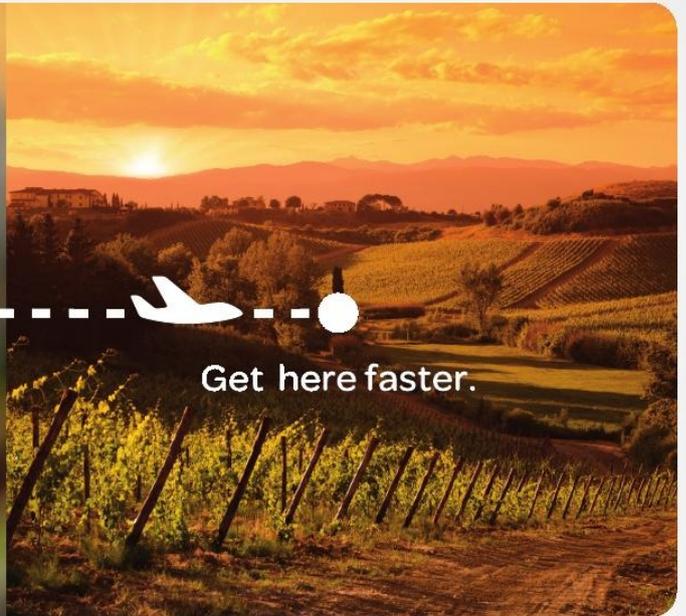
- **Marymoor Park** ([king-county.gov/services/parks-recreation/parks.aspx](http://king-county.gov/services/parks-recreation/parks.aspx)): Bird-watching, velodrome, climbing structure, extensive lawn space, and summer concert and movie series at this Redmond park.

- **The Museum of Flight** ([museumofflight.org](http://museumofflight.org)): Boasts the first permanent public display of Apollo 12 and 16 F-1 rocket engines that launched astronauts to





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*Above: One of the two Crystal Towers on the Chihuly Bridge of Glass leading to the Museum of Glass. Right: The acclaimed Starbucks Reserve Roastery.*

the moon; new “Vietnam Divided” exhibit will open Memorial Day weekend; the museum also has vintage aircraft, hands-on experiences and 3D films.

- **Museum of Glass**

(museumofglass.org): “Foraging the Hive: Sara Young and Tyler Budge,” May 26, 2018–early 2019; plus regular glass-blowing demonstrations by expert artists in the Hot Shop; located in Tacoma.

- **Museum of History & Industry** (mohai.org): Seattle-area history enlivened by interactive exhibits and intriguing objects.

- **Nightlife:** Many options, such as live music at The Crocodile, Neumos, The Showbox, The Triple Door and Tractor Tavern; Foundation Nightclub electronic dance

music; and Muckleshoot Casino live music, comedy and DJ dance parties.

- **Point Defiance Park**

(pointdefiancepark.org): Beaches, forest and sweeping views, and Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, in Tacoma.

- **Seattle Art Museum**

(seattleartmuseum.org): “Double Exposure: Edward S. Curtis, Marianne Nicolson, Tracy Rector, Will Wilson,” June 14–Sept. 9.

- **Seattle Center** (seattlecenter.com): Numerous attractions, such as food and entertainment in Seattle Center Armory; Chihuly Garden and Glass; International Fountain; KEXP Live In-Studio performances; KeyArena; Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP); Pacific Science Center; Seattle Children’s Museum; Space Needle; and ballet, opera and theater performances. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of Seattle Center. Head a block north to The Maxwell Hotel on Roy Street to see a colorful mural, by artist/author Victor Ostrovsky, celebrating Seattle Center and Seattle arts (staypineapple.com).

- **Seattle Waterfront** (visitseattle.org/neighborhoods/waterfront): Top Seattle attractions, including The Seattle Great Wheel and Wings Over Washington: A Flying Ride; the Seattle Aquarium; and the Olympic Sculpture Park; plus water-view, seafood-focused restaurants such as Anthony’s Pier 66, The Crab Pot, Elliott’s Oyster House and Ivar’s on Pier 54.

- **Self-guided art tours,** with online maps, are available for Seattle (seattle.gov), Kirkland (explorekirkland.com) and Bellevue (visitbellevuewashington.com).

- **The Shops at The Bravern** (thebravern.com): High-end shops, plus restaurants such as the lauded John Howie Steak, in Bellevue.

- **Smith Tower** (smithtower.com): The 1914 building was once the tallest building west of the Mississippi; the “Legends of Smith Tower” experience includes exhibits and a ride on an Otis elevator to the 35th floor observation deck, where you can also enjoy cocktails in a speakeasy.

- **Snoqualmie Falls** (pse.com/inyourcommunity/toursandrecreation/pages/snoqualmie-tours.aspx): Great views of the waterfall, east of Seattle, as well as a park with picnic tables, a hiking trail and interpretive displays.

- **Starbucks Reserve Roastery** (roastery.starbucks.



com): Some of the world’s rarest coffees are roasted and brewed here; also serves specialty espresso and tea.

- **Tacoma Art Museum**

(tacomaartmuseum.org): “Familiar Faces & New Voices: Surveying Northwest Art,” ongoing.

- **University of Washington** (washington.edu/discover/visit):



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Waterfront Activities Center canoe and rowboat rentals; Meany Center performing arts; and attractions such as the Burke Museum ([burkemuseum.org](http://burkemuseum.org)), which features cultural and natural history specimens and artifacts.

- **VRcade** ([muckleshootcasino.com](http://muckleshootcasino.com)): Virtual-reality experiences ranging from fighting off zombies to taking an undersea adventure; located in Auburn.

- **Washington State Ferries** ([wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://wsdot.wa.gov/ferries)): Scenic routes such as sailings to Bainbridge Island (museums, restaurants, wine-tasting rooms, Mora Iced Creamery) and Bremerton (USS *Turner Joy* naval-ship tours, fountain parks, and restaurants

such as Anthony's at Sinclair Inlet).

- **Washington State History Museum** ([washingtonhistory.org](http://washingtonhistory.org)): "Toytopia," including a vintage video arcade with games set for free play for visitors, through June 10 at this museum in Tacoma; also special events such as Bigfoot Night on May 10 (for ages 21 and older).

- **Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience** ([wingluke.org](http://wingluke.org)): Intriguing items such as a Chinese opera costume, and interesting spaces such as the mahjong room in a historic hotel. Also: guided walking tours.

- **Woodinville Wine Country** ([woodinvillewinecountry.com](http://woodinvillewinecountry.com)): More than 100 wineries and tasting rooms, including Chateau Ste. Michelle, representing every Washington appellation; plus more than a dozen breweries, distilleries and cideries.

- **Woodland Park Zoo** ([zoo.org](http://zoo.org)): The 1,000-plus animals, representing more than 300 species from around the world, include two sloth bear cubs born in December. Two greater one-horned rhinos are joining the zoo for a special exhibition scheduled to open May 5. ZooTunes concerts take place June through early September. **S**



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## EXCITING SEASONS

*A summer full of Seattle sports*

### SEATTLE MARINERS

It may feel a little like old times at Safeco Field this year with the ageless wonder and possible future Hall of Famer Ichiro Suzuki slapping singles and robbing visiting teams of home runs in the outfield. Suzuki, 44, who played for the Mariners from 2001 to 2012, was signed in the offseason and is expected to be a backup outfielder. Still, he has already

shown flashes of his legendary defensive flair during the season's opening series against the Cleveland Indians by catching a sure home run ball hit by José Ramírez above the left field fence.

Other bright spots include eight-time All-Star second baseman Robinson Canó, who started the season swinging a hot bat, and right fielder Mitch Haniger, who is

back from an injury-plagued 2017 season and showing power at the plate. Slugger Nelson Cruz, who led the American League in 2017 with 119 RBIs, and had two home runs in 2018's first two games, is expected to bounce back after a minor ankle sprain he suffered in this season's first series.

The pitching rotation is anchored by 2010 Cy Young Award-winner Félix Hernández, talented left-hander James Paxton and closer Edwin Díaz.

The Mariners start this month with a weeklong home stand in which they play the Oakland Athletics and Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. Later in the month, the Texas Rangers, Detroit Tigers and Minnesota Twins visit.

Alaska Airlines is a corporate partner with the Mariners. For every home run hit by a Mariners player, Alaska Airlines donates miles to the United Negro College Fund ([mariners.com](http://mariners.com)).

### SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC

After winning the MLS Cup in 2016 and losing the title game to Toronto last season, the Sounders are looking to make another run at a championship in 2018. However, early-season injuries, including losing star forward Jordan Morris for the season with a torn ACL, have made that task much more challenging.

Veteran forward Clint Dempsey, who scored a team-high 12 goals in 2017, and fellow forward Will Bruin, who added 11 goals, will be the firepower for this year's squad. Midfielder Nicolás



*Mariners second baseman Robinson Canó, opposite left, started the 2018 season swinging a hot bat. The Sounders will be relying on the scoring ability of forward Clint Dempsey, above, this season. The Storm's Breanna Stewart, right, has developed into one of the WNBA's best forwards. Megan Rapinoe, below, was dominant for the Reign last season, scoring 12 goals.*



Lodeiro, who added seven goals and 12 assists last year, will also be crucial to the offense. On the defensive side, goalkeeper Stefan Frei will need to continue his stellar play in front of the net.

Rivalry games against the Portland Timbers are must-see events for local soccer fans. The Sounders will be at Portland's Providence Park on May 13 and then will host the Timbers at Seattle's CenturyLink Field on June 30 (soundersfc.com).

### SEATTLE REIGN FC

It's been a year of change for the Reign, including a new coach, 13 new players and even a new name for their stadium. Laura Harvey, the team's legendary coach and general manager for its first five years, stepped down in 2017, after leading the Reign to the best record in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) in

2014 and 2015. In an ironic twist, Harvey is now the coach of the NWSL's Utah Royals, which moved last year from Kansas City. That franchise's former coach, Vlatko

Andonovski, is the new coach of the Reign. Among the new players to watch are midfielder and Olympian Allie Long, goalkeeper Lydia Williams and forward Jodie Taylor. Megan Rapinoe, who led last year's squad with 12 goals, returns to lead the offense.

As for the stadium, the Seattle Center facility is now named UW Medicine Pitch at Memorial Stadium.

A few games to circle in the schedule are the meetings between the Reign and their Interstate-5 rivals, the Portland Thorns, on May 5 in Portland and June 30 in Seattle. Another match with special meaning is the July 11 Seattle match with the Royals, marking the first time Harvey will return to Seattle with her new team (reignfc.com).

### SEATTLE STORM

With the leadership of new head coach Dan Hughes, veteran guard Sue Bird, 2017 All-Star Breanna Stewart and 2015 Rookie of the Year Jewell Loyd, Seattle appears to have the nucleus for success in 2018.

The team has continued building for the future by choosing UCLA star point guard Jordin Canada with the fifth overall pick in the WNBA draft last month. Canada is expected to eventually replace Bird, one of the league's greatest players, who is entering her 16th season.

Last year, forward Stewart continued to develop, becoming a dominant force on the inside and averaging nearly 20 points per

game, second in the league. Loyd also made strides, averaging 17.7 points per game, ninth-best in the league. However, a midseason slump slowed the team, and resulted in head coach Jenny Boucek being replaced by interim coach Gary Kloppenburg. The Storm rallied at the end of the season to make the playoffs, but lost in the first round.

This season is expected to be



different, with Stewart and Loyd continuing to improve and veterans Bird, Crystal Langhorne and Alysha Clark helping the burgeoning superstars.

If the Storm can play a tougher brand of defense to go along with one of the league's most potent offenses, the team could regain its championship form (storm.wnba.com).

### SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

The 2018 offseason appears to be the beginning of a rebuilding phase for the Seahawks. A num-

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SEATTLE



ALEX MENENDEZ / GETTY IMAGES

Russell Wilson drops back to pass during the NFL Pro Bowl between the AFC and NFC at Camping World Stadium on January 28, 2018, in Orlando, Florida.

ber of players were let go or traded in the offseason, including defensive star cornerback Richard Sherman and defensive end Michael Bennett.

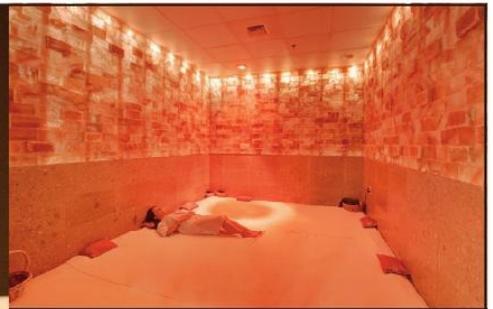
Not only are the Seahawks rebuilding a once-dominant defense that led the team to two Super Bowl appearances and one Lombardi Trophy, but they are also working on the offensive line, wide receiver, tight end and running back positions. The only sure thing about the Seahawks right now is quarterback Russell Wilson (Alaska Airlines' Chief Football Officer).

If coach Pete Carroll can retool the defense, protect Wilson, find quality wide receivers and improve the backfield, the Seahawks should have a good chance of making the playoffs in 2018.

The Seahawks will begin training camp at the Virginia Mason Athletic Center in Renton at the end of July. The Seahawks will begin the preseason in the second week of August by hosting the Indianapolis Colts. Fans can get tickets to certain training camp sessions, and buy tickets to preseason football games at [seahawks.com](http://seahawks.com). **S** —Jeff Bond

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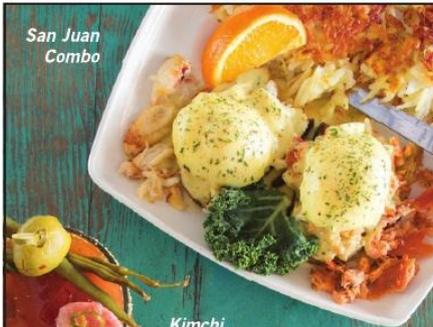
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- Kirkland Summerfest August 10 –12



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## SEATTLE ITINERARY

*A few of the Puget Sound area's top events this spring and summer*

### SEAFAIR SIGHTS

**One of the Puget Sound region's** ultimate summer experiences, the 69th-annual Seafair festival attracts more than 2 million people to 75 events, including the Seafair Pirates Landing on Alki Beach on July 7, parades in just about every area of the city, numerous festivals and the Milk Carton Derby at Green Lake Park.

One of the highlights of the celebration is the Alaska Airlines Seafair Torchlight Parade, being held Saturday, July 28, at 7:30 P.M. this year. Clowns and Seafair Pirates will be giving out candy;

marching bands will be performing; and amazing floats will greet crowds along the 2.5-mile parade route through downtown Seattle.

The festival will culminate with Seafair Weekend, August 3–5, when the nation's top hydroplanes compete on Lake Washington for the Seafair Cup.

The weekend draws thousands of people and will also include many special events, including the U.S. Navy Blue Angels performing their famous air show. Alaska Airlines is an official sponsor of Seafair. For a complete schedule of events, visit [seafair.com](http://seafair.com).

*Alaska Airlines employees wave to the crowd as they march in the Seafair Torchlight Parade in 2017.*





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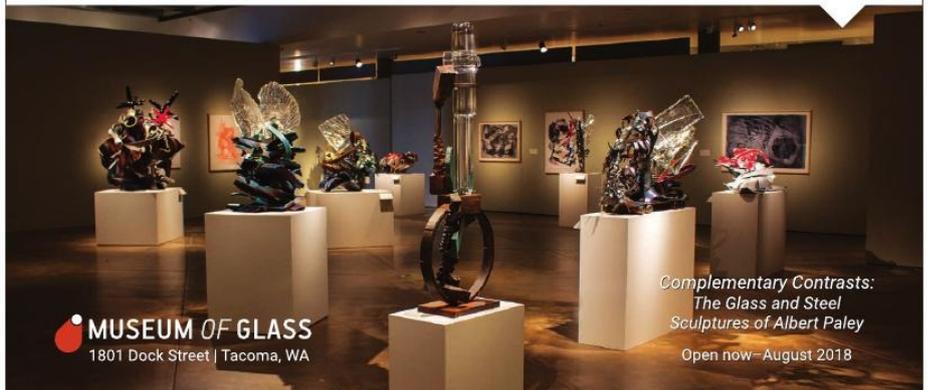
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## SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

One of the nation's largest film events, the Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) is expected to draw an audience of more than 140,000 people to watch more than 400 features, documentaries and short films.

The works come from about 80 countries and will be shown at various locations during a 25-day span, May 17–June 10. SIFF is launching a number of new



initiatives this year, including an episodic program that features the Best of Web Fest—online content from around the world.

Some 2018 festival favorites are expected to include *Disobedience*, starring Rachel McAdams

and Rachel Weisz; *The Third Murder*, a drama that won the Japan Academy Prize for the 2018 Picture of the Year; and the comedy *Eighth*

*Grade*, a movie created by stand-up comedian Bo Burnham.

Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of SIFF, which has a curated channel of films on Alaska flights, called SIFF Selects.

For more information about SIFF, visit [siff.net](http://siff.net).

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS USA GAMES



This July, an estimated 4,000 athletes and coaches will gather in Seattle for the fourth

Special Olympics USA Games. Like the Olympic Games, the Special Olympics USA Games (July 1–6) are held every four years. The event features 14 sports, including soccer, swimming and powerlifting.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at the University of Washington's Husky Stadium in Seattle on July 1, and will include the Parade of

Athletes, the lighting of the Special Olympics Flame of Hope, plus a 2,018-member choir and other entertainment. The competitions are expected to draw 70,000 spectators.

Alaska is a sponsor of the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games. To volunteer or attend, please go to [specialolympicsusagames.org](http://specialolympicsusagames.org).

## SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

The delightful *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience* is a rock 'n' roll musical children will love. Based on the book by Mo Willems, the production runs through May 13 at the Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) at Seattle Center.

In production through May 20 is the play *The Lamp is the Moon*, which features Shawn, a young girl who goes on a fantastic



adventure with her lamp during naptime.

The 2018–2019 season starts September 13, with a production of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*, based on Eric Carle's beloved book. The production includes adaptations of three other Carle books such as *Brown*

*Bear*, *Brown Bear*, *What Do You See?* Other productions next season include *And in This Corner: Cassius Clay*; *The Velveteen Rabbit*; *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*; *Balloonacy*; and *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

For tickets or more information, visit [sct.org](http://sct.org).

## CALENDAR

### Bite of Seattle, Seattle

**Center:** Features food samples from more than 60 restaurants, along with craft-beer and cider tasting, cooking demonstrations, live music, a free movie night and a Family Fun Zone; July 20–22 ([biteof-seattle.com](http://biteof-seattle.com)).

### • Bumbershoot, Seattle

**Center:** Enjoy music, comedy, theater, film, dance and more at one of the Puget Sound area's biggest cultural events, Aug. 31–Sept. 2 ([bumbershoot.com](http://bumbershoot.com)).

### • Chateau Ste. Michelle

**2018 Summer Concert Series, Woodinville:** This year's series, June 10–Sept. 15, will feature 25 concerts, with performers such as Jackson Browne, Sheryl Crow, John Fogerty and ZZ Top ([ste-michelle.com](http://ste-michelle.com)).

### • Chihuly Garden and Glass, Seattle Center

"Yoga Under Glass" takes place in the lovely Glasshouse, May 13 and 27, and June 10 and 24 ([chihulygardenandglass.com](http://chihulygardenandglass.com)).

### • Holocaust Center for Humanity, downtown

"Let Me Be Myself: The Life Story of Anne Frank," which includes photos, a replica of Anne's diary, a scale model of her hiding place, and stories of young people today, is on view through May 30 ([holocaust-centerseattle.org](http://holocaust-centerseattle.org)).

### • Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP), Seattle Center

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## CALENDAR

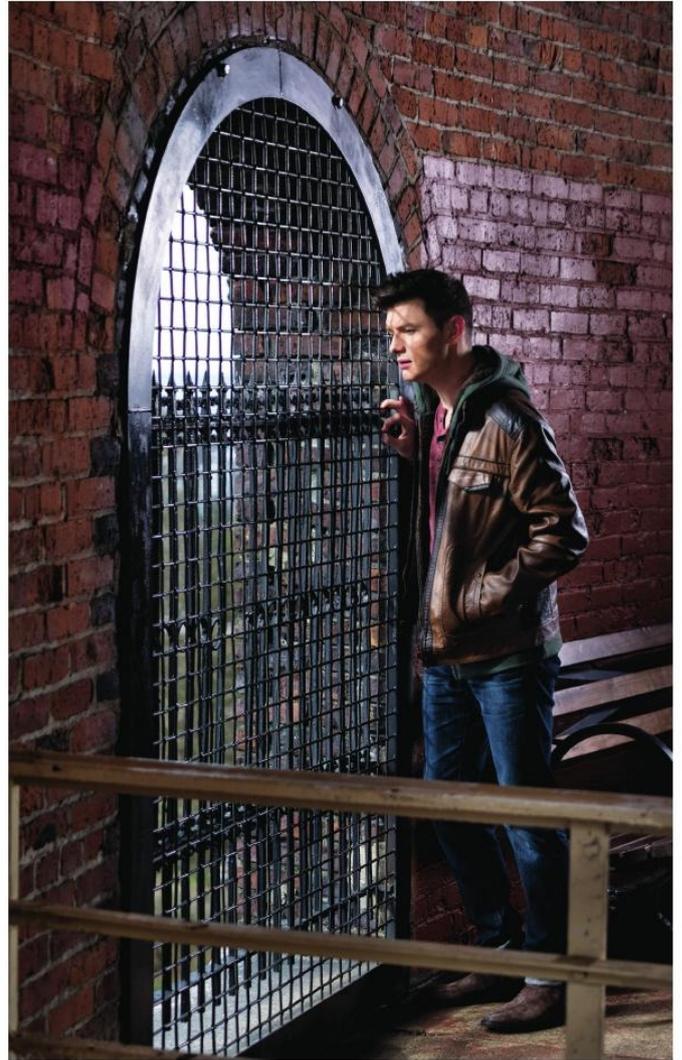


of “Marvel: Universe of Super Heroes,” through Jan. 6, 2019, features more than 300 artifacts, including pages, costumes and props, as well as films, narratives of individual characters, immersive set pieces and immersive sound (mopop.org).

- **Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle Center:** The festival, which is in its 47th year, is a spring tradition, featuring more than 5,000 performers celebrating many cultures, including a focus on the Mexican American and Chicana/o roots in the Northwest. The music ranges from Irish folk music to Cajun dancing to sea shanties, May 25–28 (nwfolklife.org/festival).

- **Pacific Science Center, Seattle Center:** The documentary *Pandas 3D* shows in one of the center’s Imax theaters through June 14, and possibly beyond; also enjoy new virtual-reality experiences and numerous exhibits (pacsci.org).

- **Shakespeare in Parks: GreenStage** (greenstage.org) celebrates its 30th season with *The Three Musketeers* and *Henry IV, part 1*, and also abbreviated versions of *The Two Gentlemen*



*Above: The official poster for the “Marvel: Universe of Super Heroes” exhibit at MoPOP. Right: Joshua Castille plays Quasimodo in The Hunchback of Notre Dame at The 5th Avenue Theatre.*

of *Verona* and *The Winter’s Tale*, July 13–Aug. 18, with performances at various parks.

**Wooden O** (seattleshakespeare.org/woodeno) celebrates its 25th anniversary with *King Lear* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, July 12–Aug. 12 at various parks. (GreenStage and Wooden O performances are free.)

## GENERAL THEATER

- **ACT**, *Ride the Cyclone*, through May 20; also plays such as Tony Award–winning *Oslo*,

Oct. 12–Nov. 11 (acttheatre.org).

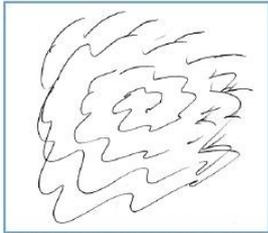
- **Book-It Repertory Theatre**, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, June 6–July 1 (book-it.org).

- **The 5th Avenue Theatre**, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*—starring Deaf actor Joshua Castille as Quasimodo, who is deaf in Victor Hugo’s book—June 1–24. Also this year: The Broadway hit *Come From Away*, kicking off the national tour, Oct. 9–Nov. 4, and *Annie*, Nov. 23–Dec. 30. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of The 5th Avenue Theatre (5thavenue.org).

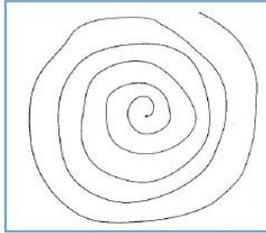
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## SEATTLE

- **The Paramount Theatre**, *Love Never Dies*, May 8–13, and others, including Tony Award-winning *Dear Evan Hansen*, Jan. 23–Feb. 2 ([stgprepresents.org](http://stgprepresents.org)).
- **Seattle Gilbert & Sullivan Society**, *Patience*, July 13–22 ([seattlegilbertandsullivan.com](http://seattlegilbertandsullivan.com)).
- **Seattle Repertory Theatre**, *Familiar*, through May 27 ([seattlerep.org](http://seattlerep.org)).
- **Seattle Shakespeare Company**, *Shakespeare in Love*, May 2–June 3 ([seattleshakespeare.org](http://seattleshakespeare.org)).
- **Taproot Theatre Company**, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, May 16–June 23 ([taproottheatre.org](http://taproottheatre.org)).



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- **Village Theatre**, *Hairspray*, Issaquah, May 10–July 1, and Everett, July 6–29 ([villagetheatre.org](http://villagetheatre.org)).
- **Additional Performing Arts:** **Pacific Northwest Ballet**, “Love & Ballet,” June 1–10 ([pnb.org](http://pnb.org)). **Seattle Opera**, Verdi’s *Aida*, May 5–19 ([seattleopera.org](http://seattleopera.org)). **Seattle Symphony**, “The Sounds of Simon and Garfunkel,” June 8–10 ([seattlesymphony.org](http://seattlesymphony.org)).

For more information about Puget Sound-area attractions, activities and events throughout the year, see websites such as [visitseattle.org](http://visitseattle.org), [visitbellevue-washington.com](http://visitbellevue-washington.com), [explorekirkland.com](http://explorekirkland.com), [seattlesouthside.com](http://seattlesouthside.com), [traveltacoma.com](http://traveltacoma.com) and [experiencewa.com](http://experiencewa.com).

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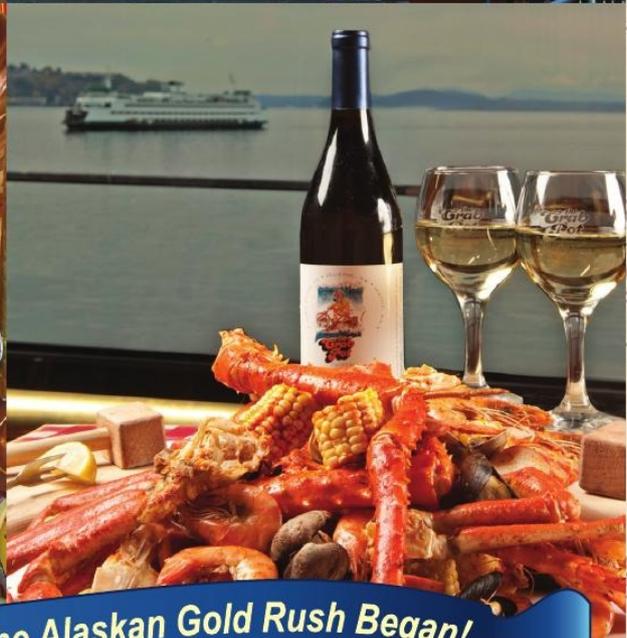


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# WINE COUNTRY TRAILS

Memorable hikes for your next adventure

By **Matt Villano**

» **It's no wonder** Robert Louis Stevenson loved Mount St. Helena.

The poet and author spent a couple of months in 1880 on the shoulder of the highest spot in what is now known as California wine country, and often waxed poetic about how it was one of the best times of his life. In the 1883 book *Silverado Squatters* he wrote glowingly about how, from his perch on the mountain, he could look down on the valley and watch as the weather blew in and out.

After a recent sunrise hike on the Stevenson Memorial Trail to the summit of the 4,342-foot peak, I understood Stevenson's passion. There at the top, sharing a bottle of rosé to celebrate our accomplishment of tromping 5 miles almost straight uphill, a friend and I drank in the 360-degree

*Trails near Blind Beach, in Sonoma County, afford beautiful panoramic views of the Pacific coast.*



# EXPLORE»

view, marveled at the hilltops that looked like islands in a sea of fog, then oohed and aahed as the fog burned away to reveal vineyards that looked like corduroy from above.

Many locals consider the 10-mile roundtrip Mount St. Helena hike to be one of the most iconic excursions in the entire area. I've done it with a friend or family member every summer for 10 years straight, and I couldn't agree more.

The trail that runs through Robert Louis Stevenson State Park is one of wine country's many hiking routes worth exploring. The region, renowned for its wine, food and luxury lodging, is also one of the best hiking destinations in all of

California, with numerous trails in both Napa Valley and Sonoma County. The local climate only makes the experience better—mornings are cool, damp and foggy, while afternoons are warm, dry and clear. In fact, you could book an entire week's vacation in the area and hike a different trail every morning before wine-tasting after lunch (please see sidebar, page 81).

## **SONOMA COUNTY SPLENDOR**

I've been hiking this region for years. I live with my wife and three daughters in the Sonoma County town of





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around two lakes, Wilson and Benoit. We like the Lake Trail, which is the primary trail and circles the larger of the lakes, Lake Benoit. After wading in the water up to their knees, my older daughters enjoy following a well-trodden spur to a beach on the bank of the Russian River.

There's also a half-mile trail, aptly named the Redwood Hill Trail, that climbs up a hill through a grove of redwoods.

*Visitors can enjoy relatively easy hikes on trails surrounding the Russian River, left.*

*Jack London State Historic Park, below, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1963.*

Healdsburg, and the five of us enjoy local trails whenever we have the opportunity.

Because our youngest child is only 2, many of our hikes are easy and flat, such as the Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail near Sebastopol, which is about 10 miles from the Charles M. Schulz Sonoma County Airport in Santa Rosa. This 1.8-mile-loop trail winds through part of the county's largest freshwater wetland (and the second-largest freshwater marsh in all of Northern California). In summer, a floating bridge connects the main trail to a section of spur trails on the west side of the marsh. In the winter and spring, the area serves as a flood plain and, especially after rainstorms, transforms into a marshy landscape that attracts more than 200 species of birds—especially near Kelly Pond.

My girls love clomping in rain boots on the boardwalk portions of the trail that stretch over flood zones. They also love recounting the morning we saw a river otter frolicking just off the boardwalk in a patch of fresh mud.

Riverfront Regional Park, along the Russian River on the outskirts of the Dry Creek Valley growing region, is another of our favorite family-friendly hiking spots. Trails here wind

Also popular are the host of trails in the Mayacamas Mountains between Sonoma and Napa counties—trails in places such as Jack London State Historic Park in Glen Ellen, Crane Creek Regional Park in Rohnert Park, and Trione-Annadel State Park in Santa Rosa.

Farther west, in Sonoma Coast State Park, another of



TOASTING TO A GREAT HIKE

» **One of the highlights** of the Napa Valley/Sonoma County area is, of course, wine-tasting. When you've finished your hike for the day, consider these options.

**Benziger Family Winery:** This sustainably farmed winery offers a variety of tour-and-tasting options, including a vineyard tram tour that teaches visitors all about the biodynamic practices at the winery (benziger.com).

**JaM Cellars:** This winery's downtown Napa location feels more like a nightclub than a tasting salon, complete with leather couches, a huge vinyl collection, a recording studio and a small stage for live music (jamcellars.com).

**Kendall-Jackson Wine Estate & Gardens:** The winery famous for its Chardonnay has built an elaborate visitor center with a top-notch culinary program and gardens worth strolling (kj.com).

**Round Pond Estate:** What sets this winery apart is its olive mill, and its tours that wind through an orchard of olive trees. Tastings take place inside the mill and incorporate seasonal bites (roundpond.com).

**Wine Road:** This association of wineries and lodgings of Northern Sonoma County hosts events such as Esprit du Rhone, May 18–19, and offers information and maps on its website for self-guided tours (wineroad.com). —M.V.

## » EXPLORE SONOMA/NAPA HIKES

our most frequently visited trails provides a dreamy and unobstructed perspective on the mighty Pacific Ocean. The Kortum Trail runs nearly 5 miles atop the bluffs along the coast between Blind Beach and Wright's Beach outside Jenner. The trail parallels Highway 1 but is far enough to the west that you don't even know cars are nearby.

We enjoy this trail because it, too, is mostly flat, meaning everyone in our clan can do it without assistance. In spring, the Kortum also provides a great vantage point from which to look for whale spouts. Perhaps the only downside: It is completely exposed to the elements, which, in this part of the California coast, means it can be really windy. It's worth noting that this trail is named for Bill Kortum, a Petaluma resident who strived for more than three decades to protect open space until his death in 2014. Many regard him as the father of the Sonoma County environmental movement.

### NAPA VALLEY KNOW-HOW

Because my parents live in Napa Valley and always are happy to watch the girls, my wife and I usually hit these trails solo.



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Going sans kiddos affords us trail experiences that are longer and more challenging.

Which explains how we happened upon the 8.3-mile Oat Hill Mine Trail. The former stagecoach road (and historical route that miners used to reach cinnabar and mercury mines) starts just outside of downtown Calistoga and winds up and over the Vaca Mountains and out to the western end of Aetna Springs Road in Pope Valley. This trail is not for beginners. Less-experienced hikers should be prepared for a steep hike of 1,500 feet in elevation, and may want to stick to the first few miles or the front side of the mountain, which are a bit less challenging. The trail's backside gets technical

*The Mayacamas Mountains, between Sonoma and Napa counties, have many popular hiking trails with expansive views.*

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and would be advised for advanced hikers only.

From the summit, the views are stunning. On a clear day from the top of the Oat Hill Mine Trail, you can see all the way to Mount Tamalpais in Marin County, more than 40 miles away.

The Ritchey Canyon and Coyote Peak trails at Bothe-Napa Valley State Park, the farthest inland of the region's coast redwood parks, offer similar views and require similar effort.

Bothe-Napa has approximately 10 miles of trails in all, and the Ritchey Canyon/Coyote Peak combo from the campground and picnic area is a 5-mile loop that winds past redwoods, fir trees and patches of spicebush before turning around at a 1,170-foot summit that offers commanding views of the entire valley.

Elsewhere in the park, the 1.1-mile History Trail winds past an old cemetery (with tombstones dating back to the 1850s) to Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park, which still has a functioning mill that—under the supervision of park staff—grinds wheat into flour on weekends. (For those interested in spending the night at Bothe-Napa, the park offers restored



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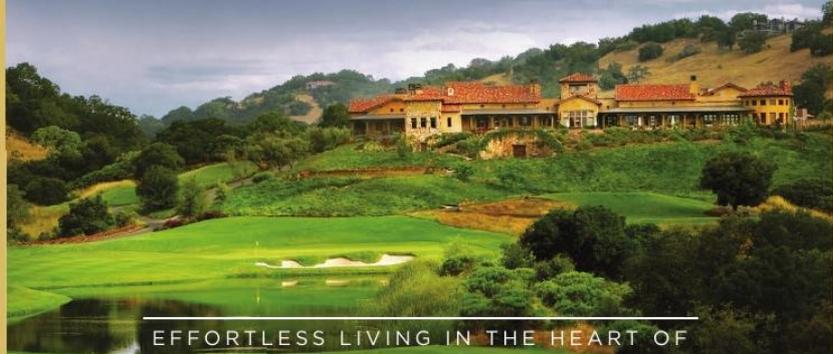
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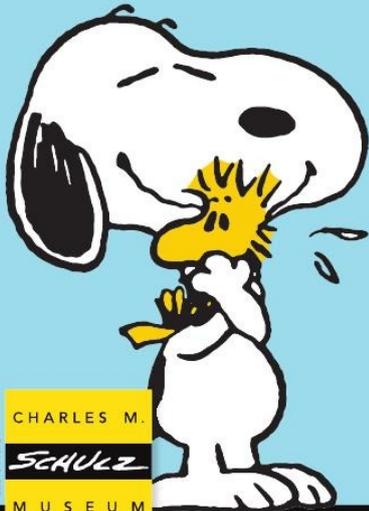
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Finally, no rundown of trails in Napa County would be complete without at least a nod to the trails on the east side of the Vaca Mountains, out near Lake Berryessa. The wilderness in this part of the county is breathtaking, with oak forests running right up to the lakeshore and very little foot traffic, even on the most beautiful summer days. Our favorite trail is the easy 2-mile Pope Canyon Trail, which starts along Pope Canyon Road, then runs along Pope Creek to the lake and ends at some scenic rock outcroppings where we have spotted great blue herons, red-tailed hawks and other birds.

For a longer lakeshore experience, we also like the 2.6-mile out-and-back Smittle Creek Trail, which parallels the lake's shoreline between Smittle Creek and Oak Shores parks, but tends to see more hikers than Pope Canyon does.

Really, most of the Berryessa trails are worth a wander, and offer a memorable way to experience wine country. One you'll remember forever. ■



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Matt Villano writes from Healdsburg. To learn more about Sonoma County, see [sonomacounty.com](http://sonomacounty.com). For more info on Napa Valley, see [visitnapavalley.com](http://visitnapavalley.com). Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan members can check their first case of appropriately packaged wine free of charge on flights from Santa Rosa on Alaska Airlines. For details, see [alaskaair.com/wine](http://alaskaair.com/wine).

**A runner enjoys the beautiful Vaca Mountains near Lake Berryessa.**

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R	O	T	S	A	V	E	S	T	E	X	T	E	S	S	E			

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US 101 TO EXIT 484. 288 GOLF COURSE DRIVE WEST, ROHNERT PARK, CA P 707.588.7100

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Chambers Bay



The Home Course



Gold Mountain

# REST ASSURED

» CROSSWORD

## A C R O S S

- 1 DEA worker
- 5 Caroled
- 9 Barrier
- 14 Swindle
- 18 Stave off
- 20 With wings
- 21 Melding
- 22 It's blowin' in the wind
- 23 Navigation device
- 24 Moon over Milan
- 25 Random tries
- 26 Sicilian peak
- 27 Christmas carol
- 30 Rick or Willie
- 32 Slanted
- 33 Heraldic border
- 34 \_\_\_\_-colored
- 35 Negative word
- 36 Immigration island
- 38 Whodunit poison
- 41 Clothed like a judge
- 44 Mr. Dennehy
- 45 Peevishness
- 46 Lao-tzu's doctrine
- 47 Newspaper page
- 48 Lena \_\_\_\_ of "Alias"
- 49 Weed removers
- 51 Resistance measures
- 52 Disappointed
- 53 Hits the sack
- 56 New cadet
- 57 Marker brand
- 60 "White Men Can't Jump" star
- 61 Bring to light
- 62 Nostrils
- 63 Mich.'s neighbor
- 64 Rug site
- 65 Avoids
- 67 Come to terms
- 69 Plank cutters
- 72 Cloister
- 73 Cheater's notes
- 76 Dunk
- 77 Dist.
- 78 Eight singers
- 80 Molding curve
- 81 Earthenware jug
- 82 Consume
- 83 Health havens
- 84 Kermit and Michigan J.
- 86 Freezing rain
- 87 More substantial
- 89 Snares
- 90 British corp.
- 91 "South Park" kid
- 92 Part of QED
- 93 Raises up
- 96 Muffle
- 98 Television viewers
- 102 Nicholas or Ivan
- 103 Film's Flynn
- 106 Greek goddess

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13		14	15	16	17	
18				19		20				21							22			
23						24				25							26			
27					28					29					30	31				
	32								33					34						
				35			36	37					38					39	40	
41	42	43				44						45					46			
47					48					49	50					51				
52					53				54	55					56					
57			58	59					60					61						
			62						63					64						
65	66					67	68							69					70	71
72						73						74	75					76		
77					78	79					80						81			
82				83						84	85					86				
87			88							89					90					
		91							92					93					94	95
96	97								98				99	100						101
102						103	104	105				106							107	
108						109													111	
112						113													115	

- 107 Impatient and assertive
- 108 "Casablanca" lady
- 109 Fishing leader
- 110 Chaos goddess
- 111 Slumbered
- 112 Goes bad
- 113 Preserves
- 114 Printed words
- 115 Being, to Brutus

## D O W N

- 1 Astronauts' org.
- 2 Promises
- 3 Kidney-related
- 4 Colored in
- 5 Dinner course
- 6 College grad
- 7 "Peter Pan" dog
- 8 Healthy cereal
- 9 Still by-products
- 10 "\_\_\_\_ Nous"
- 11 Long or Vardalos
- 12 Corn core

- 13 Tangles
- 14 Lithe
- 15 Harry Chapin hit
- 16 \_\_\_\_ Domini
- 17 Nasty
- 19 Camera holder
- 28 Clear
- 29 Big smile
- 31 Scots Gaelic
- 34 Duo
- 36 Ireland, to poets
- 37 Bond
- 39 Metrical feet
- 40 Smaller math grouping
- 41 Betsy or Diana
- 42 Colorful fish
- 43 Local accommodation
- 44 Jazz genre
- 45 Julie \_\_\_\_ of "Angel"
- 48 Theater awards
- 49 Crowds
- 50 Be in hock
- 51 Hodgepodes

- 54 Soul
- 55 Star in Cygnus
- 56 Fall heavily
- 58 Wrathful person
- 59 Victim
- 61 Upper crust
- 64 Liberates
- 65 Fact
- 66 Corpulent
- 67 Pretends
- 68 Coll. test
- 70 Ruse
- 71 Quarrel
- 74 Circle
- 75 Incubated orbs
- 78 Honesty
- 79 Grant or Elwes
- 81 Print variety
- 83 Trig ratio
- 84 German lady
- 85 Move by degrees
- 86 Summer ermines
- 88 Bright fish

- 89 Gnomes
- 90 City parcel
- 92 Pierre's school
- 93 Show off
- 94 Small sharks
- 95 Leaks
- 96 Wield a whisk
- 97 Norwegian city
- 99 Present!
- 100 Grand \_\_\_\_
- 101 Surfeit
- 104 Genetic letters
- 105 Race (an engine)

Solution on page 88.

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# Flyer guide

Your overview of the Alaska experience.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

- A2 Beverages**
  - Regional wines and microbrews
  - Our fleet
  - Feedback
- A3 Your safety and comfort**
  - Discover Alaska Airlines
- A4 Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan**
  - Welcome to a world of rewards
- A6 Global Partners**
  - Travel the world with our airline partners
- A8 Where we fly**
  - 115+ destinations and counting
- A10 Airport terminal maps**



# Enjoy a drink

## Refreshing selections, for free or for purchase.

The menu card in your seatback pocket displays all our food and beverage options.

### COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGES



#### Sodas

- Coca-Cola
- Coke Zero
- Diet Coke
- Sprite
- Sprite Zero
- Seagram's Ginger Ale
- Seagram's Seltzer
- Seagram's Tonic

#### Other

- Bottled Water
- Orange Juice
- Cranberry Juice
- Apple Juice
- Bloody Mary Mix

#### Coffee

- Proudly serving Starbucks®
- Pike Place® Roast



### LIQUOR

Spirits USD \$7.50

- Crown Royal
- Crater Lake Hazelnut Espresso Vodka
- Dewar's White Label Scotch



NEW!

- Tito's Handmade Vodka
- Cruzan Aged Rum
- Tanqueray London Dry Gin

### REGIONAL WINES AND MICROBREWS

You are welcome to enjoy a glass of Northwest wine or microbrew at no additional charge on select flights. Please refer to the card in your seatback pocket for more information.

Beverage service may vary due to time of day and flight-segment time limitations. Items limited and based on availability. Individuals must be 21 years or older to consume alcoholic beverages. Government warning: According to the Surgeon General, women should not drink alcoholic beverages during pregnancy. Consumption of alcoholic beverages impairs your ability to drive a car or operate machinery, and may cause health problems. Pike Place is a registered trademark of The Pike Place Market PDA, used under license.

## Horizon Air's fleet

### BOMBARDIER Q400

Our 76-seat Bombardier Q400 is among the most environmentally friendly aircraft in the skies today. The Q400 is ideally suited for short hops across the Pacific Northwest, California and Alaska.



### EMBRAER E175

Last year, we placed our largest aircraft order in our history, ordering 30 Embraer E175 regional jets. The new aircraft will offer a first-class cabin, spacious overhead bins, inflight Wi-Fi and the Alaska Beyond Entertainment streaming entertainment system. The first two of these new aircraft recently entered service.



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# Your safety and comfort

## AT YOUR SEAT

- Buckle Up. Please fasten your seat belt whenever the seat belt sign is illuminated. We ask that you keep your seat belt fastened throughout the flight whenever you are seated in case of undetectable clear-air turbulence.
- Seat backs and tray tables must be in the upright, locked position during taxi, takeoff and landing.
- All carry-on baggage, including laptop computers, must be stowed under a seat or in an enclosed overhead bin upon boarding and prior to landing, as directed.
- Pets must remain in their carrier for the entire flight. The carrier must be stowed under a seat for taxi, takeoff and landing.

## WHILE IN THE AIR

- Interference with crew members' (including flight attendants') duties is a violation of federal law. Under the law, no person may assault, threaten, intimidate or interfere with crew members in the performance of their duties.

- Smoking is not permitted on any flight.
- Child-restraint devices must bear the FAA approval sticker.
- Seat-belt extension use is not allowed in exit rows for the safety of all passengers due to the possibility of entanglement by the extensions.
- Horizon Air prohibits the use of items that do not meet Federal Aviation Regulations or Company regulations, including the use of seat-belt extensions not provided by Horizon Air.
- Chewing tobacco and electronic cigarettes are not permitted.
- Alcohol may not be consumed unless it has been provided by a Flight Attendant.
- Cellphones may be used while the boarding door is open until advised by your Flight Attendant that cell service must be turned off. Upon landing, your Flight Attendant will advise when cell service can be enabled.
- Headphones must be worn when using portable electronic devices that produce sound.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Alaska Airlines have set these rules and regulations to assure your safety and comfort.

## USING YOUR DEVICES

We know use of your electronic devices is important, and we've adjusted our procedures to give you more time with those devices.

### Allowed on the ground and in the air

- Laptops (must be stowed for taxi/takeoff/landing)
- Tablets/smartphones (Airplane Mode after door closure)
- Wireless mouse/keyboard
- e-readers
- Media/CD/DVD players
- Noise-canceling headphones
- Cellphones (prior to door closure only)

### Not allowed during flight

- Voice calls of any kind, including VoIP
- Devices with cell service enabled
- AM/FM radios or TVs
- Personal air purifiers
- Remote-control toys
- Electronic cigarettes

## Start every trip at [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com).

- Always find our lowest fares, guaranteed
- Check out our weekly flight deals
- Plan your trip with hotel, car and vacation packages
- Manage your Mileage Plan account and use miles
- Check-in, print boarding passes and baggage tags

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Come chat with us—and your fellow flyers—online. Tag your journey with #iFlyAlaska so we can all share in your adventures. Have a question? Ask away. Our Social Care Team is available 24/7 on Facebook and Twitter.



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## Our app keeps you mobile on any device.

We have several mobile options to keep you moving when you're on the go: iPhone, Android and our mobile website at [m.alaskaair.com](http://m.alaskaair.com).

- Find and book flights
- Check in from your phone
- Access Mileage Plan™ information
- No more paper—access your mobile boarding pass and Alaska Lounge membership card.
- Pre-reserve meals

# Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan™

Welcome to a world of rewards.

Earn miles on hotel stays, car rentals, and everyday purchases, too.



See the world and earn miles doing it.

Earn or redeem miles on every Alaska flight and flights to more than 900 destinations worldwide with our airline partners.



The more you fly, the richer the rewards.

Partner miles flown also count toward elite status qualification.\*

## MVP

(20,000 miles flown on Alaska)

- Priority check-in
- Two free checked bags
- Eligible for complimentary First Class upgrades
- 50% bonus miles and more

## MVP GOLD

(40,000 miles flown on Alaska)

- All MVP® benefits, plus:
- Waived ticket change fees on Alaska
  - Four annual guest upgrades
  - 100% bonus miles and more

## MVP GOLD 75K

(75,000 miles flown on Alaska)

- All MVP Gold benefits, plus:
- Complimentary inflight entertainment player
  - Four Alaska® Lounge day passes
  - 125% bonus miles and more

\*Miles flown on PenAir and Ravn do not count toward elite status qualification.



EASTER ISLAND  
LATAM AIRLINES



## Carry the card for even more rewards.

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- **Up to 31,000 bonus miles** after qualifying purchases.
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**Cardholder perk:** There's no limit to the number of miles you can earn.

Learn about all card benefits at [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com). The benefits above apply to Visa Signature® accounts only and different benefits apply to Platinum Plus® accounts. Card type is determined by creditworthiness.

### Apply at [AlaskaOffer.com](http://AlaskaOffer.com) or ask your flight attendant.

The Visa Signature® card benefit described herein is subject to certain restrictions, limitations and exclusions. For more information about rates, fees, other costs and benefits of this credit card, or to apply, visit [AlaskaOffer.com](http://AlaskaOffer.com) and refer to disclosures accompanying the application. This credit card program is issued and administered by Bank of America, N.A. Visa and Visa Signature are registered trademarks of Visa International Service Association and are used by the issuer pursuant to license from Visa U.S.A., Inc. ©2018 Bank of America Corporation.

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You can now book nonrefundable one-way award travel within the continental United States and Canada starting at just 5,000 miles.\*

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New starting price*	Previous starting price*	Distance each way	Sample routes
5,000 miles	7,500 miles	Less than 700 miles (intrastate)	San Jose–Orange County
5,000 miles	12,500 miles	Less than 700 miles	Seattle–San Francisco
7,500 miles	12,500 miles	701 to 1,400 miles	Los Angeles–Portland
10,000 miles	12,500 miles	1,401 to 2,100 miles	Portland–St. Louis
12,500 miles	12,500 miles	More than 2,101 miles	New York–Seattle

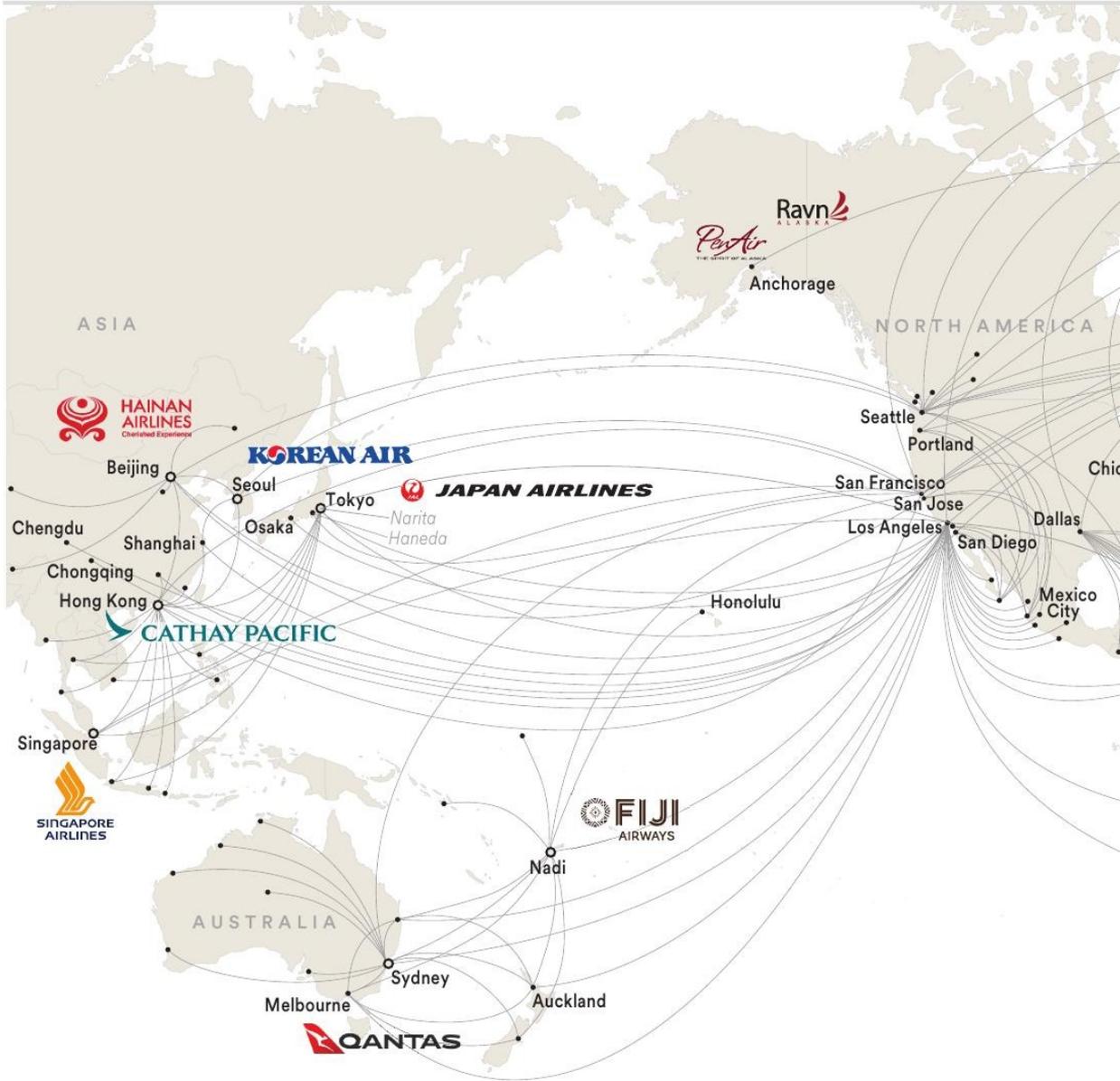
\* Plus taxes and fees from \$5.60 each way. Award availability and pricing may vary.

Join today and start getting rewarded. [alaskaair.com/mileageplan](http://alaskaair.com/mileageplan)

# Mileage Plan gives you the world

## Earn and redeem your Alaska Airlines miles to more than 900 destinations worldwide.

Find tips on how to earn and use miles on our global partners at [blog.alaskaair.com/mileage-plan](http://blog.alaskaair.com/mileage-plan).



Explore more with Mileage Plan.



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Qantas



**LEGEND**

- International partner hubs
- Partner destinations



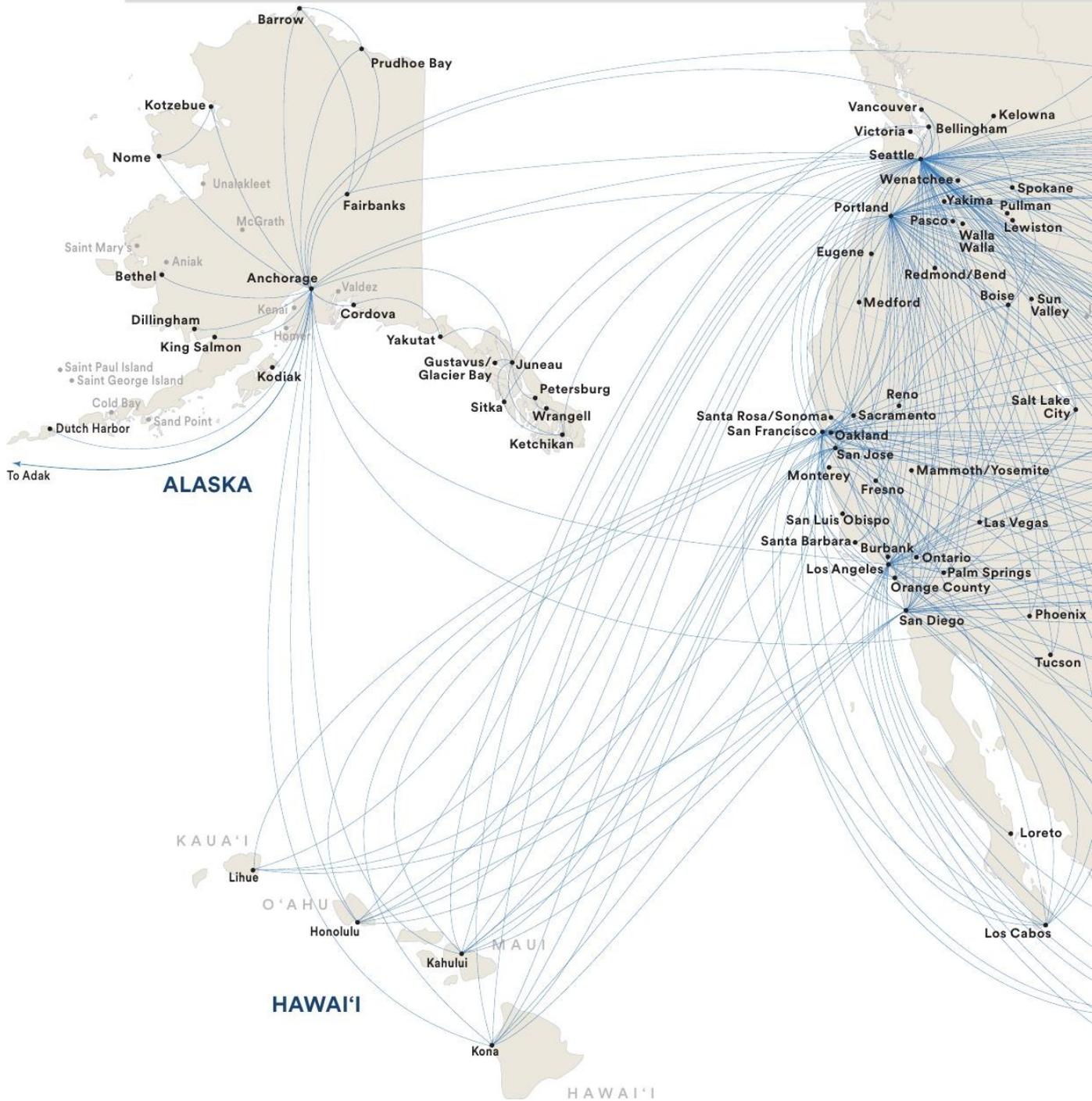
**London, England**  
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# Where we fly

115+ destinations and counting.

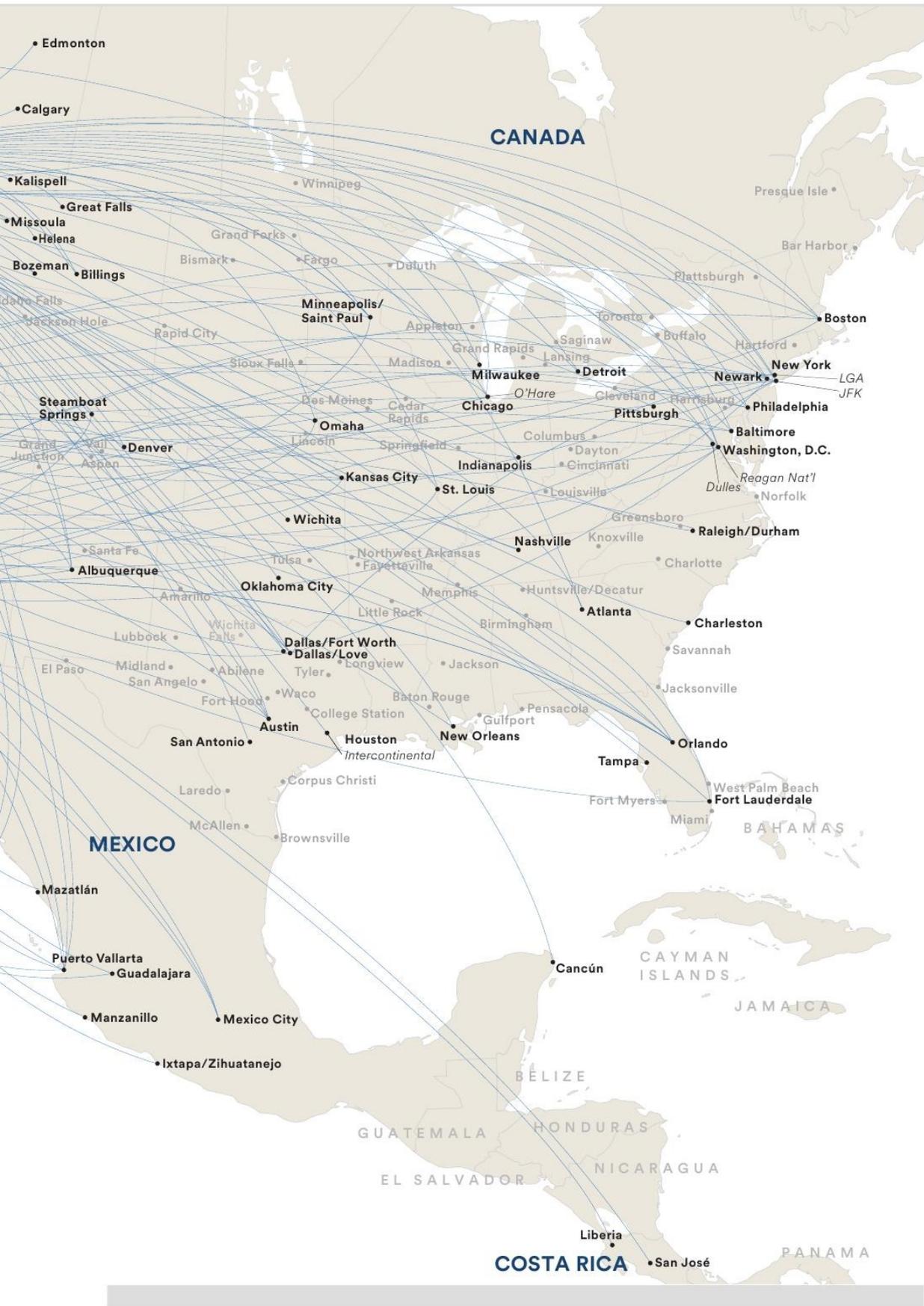


## LEGEND

- Destinations
- Partner destinations
- Alaska Airlines routes

## UPCOMING NEW SERVICE

Route	Service Begins
Seattle, WA—Pittsburgh, PA	September 6, 2018



Some Alaska Airlines service operated by Horizon Air or SkyWest Airlines.

Some routes shown operate seasonally.

# Airport terminal maps

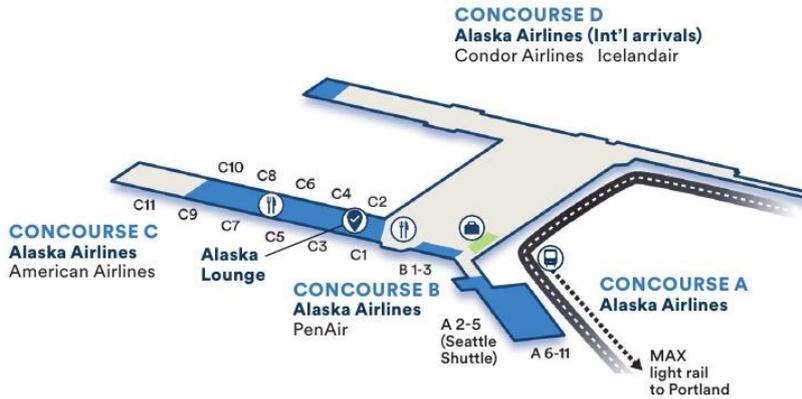
## SEA Seattle/Tacoma International Airport

**Tip:** Connecting to an Alaska Global Partner? You'll need to take the shuttle train to the South Loop Train to get to the S gates.

**Tip:** Our new Alaska Lounge opened in the C Concourse: Raise your "preflight" game. We have complimentary food, premium drinks, Wi-Fi and great views.



## PDX Portland International Airport



**Tip:** Head's up: We fly out of more than one terminal at SFO, please check your boarding pass to ensure you arrive at the correct gate.

**Tip:** Alaska Lounge members have access to the Cathay Pacific Lounge at SFO when traveling on Alaska.

## SFO San Francisco International Airport

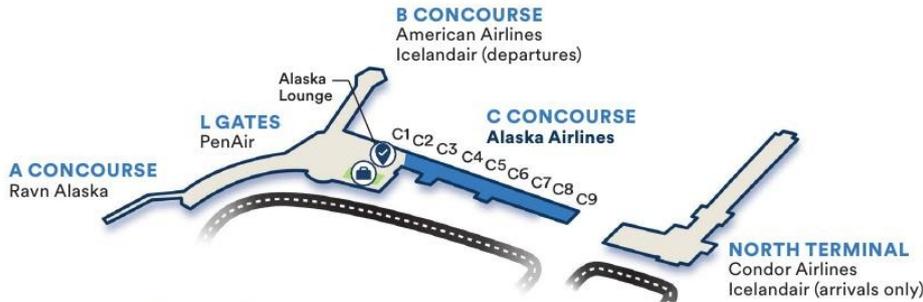


- Legend: Lounge Alaska Airlines check-in Public transportation  
 Dining Options Airport transportation Underground walkway

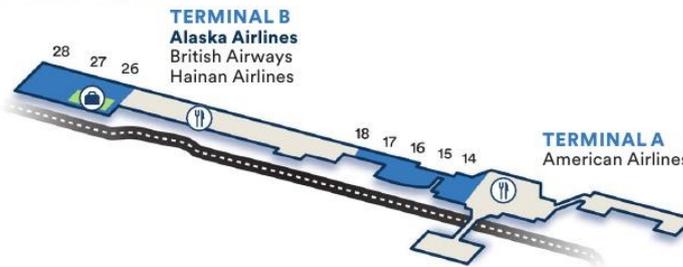
## LAX Los Angeles International Airport



## ANC Anchorage International Airport



## SJC San Jose Mineta Airport



## SAN San Diego International Airport



# TREES OF KNOWLEDGE

Arboreal learning can take you many unexpected places

Susan G. Hauser

» **I've acquired a lot of knowledge in my life.** Somehow the new facts just pile atop the old. With a sense of happy astonishment, I often can dredge up data gathered decades ago—for example, the facts and skills I mastered in childhood to earn my Girl Scout merit badges. My badge sash, which was a part of my uniform, was a testament to the rewards reaped by a young dilettante, willing to learn or try anything just to get a pretty, round, embroidered badge, but not necessarily interested in studying too hard.

I still know how to paddle a canoe, swim the width of a (small) lake and mend a sock, all skills I learned in Girl Scouts. Also, almost every day, as I walk around my verdant Portland neighborhood, I employ the knowledge I gained to earn a tree-identification badge.

As I've grown older, I've occasionally questioned my memory—is that a hawthorn or a hemlock? Sometimes I give up my guessing game and turn to my assortment of tree guidebooks, just to make certain. (Alas, the tree catalog in my head is not as clear as it was in my Scouting days!) However, among my neighborhood's green and stalwart sentries are a few old friends whose names I can never forget. At the top of that list is the Douglas fir.

Until recently, my knowledge of this tree, which is one of the tallest tree species on Earth, was limited to the requirements of my Scout badge. I recognized the Douglas fir by its rough bark, its flat green needles and its pendulous brown cones. Of course, I knew that it was the Oregon state tree. I also knew that it was named after David Douglas, a 19th century Scottish botanist. In the Portland area, there are parks and schools named for him.

But a few years ago, my enduring appreciation of the iconic Douglas fir provided a welcome but unexpected opportunity. An old friend and fellow former Girl Scout, who had also earned the tree-identification badge, called to invite me to be the writer for her documentary film, *Finding David Douglas*, about Douglas' brief (1799–1834) but spectacular life as a traveling plant collector.

My friend, Lois Leonard, and I had first met at a Girl Scout summer camp called Wind Mountain that was on the Washington side of the

Columbia River. It's about 150 miles upriver from the spot on Baker Bay where David Douglas in 1825 stepped off the ship that brought him from London on behalf of the Royal Horticultural Society, and 50 miles east of Fort Vancouver, where Douglas stayed between his plant-hunting expeditions.

Lois had not forgotten our shared reverence for the Douglas fir and the fact that at camp we had often lifted our voices to join other Scouts in singing, "Neath the whispering firs of Wind Mountain, Girl Scouts learn the way of the woods." So, after I said yes, it wasn't long before Lois and I were standing 'neath whispering firs halfway around the world.

In a rainstorm at David Douglas' birthplace in Scone, Scotland, we stood 'neath a formidable Douglas fir tree grown from seeds Douglas had sent home in 1826 while plant collecting in the Pacific Northwest. Following Douglas from cradle to grave, Lois and I later found ourselves standing 'neath whispering firs on the northeastern flank of Hawai'i Island's dormant volcano, Mauna Kea. A small grove of Douglas fir trees was planted there to mark the place where the intrepid plant collector had died.

Lois and I had learned much and traveled far in order to tell the story of David Douglas and his namesake tree. I have to smile to think it all started with a Girl Scout merit badge.

The 18th century English poet Alexander Pope famously wrote: "A little learning is a dangerous thing ..." Such words of warning are useful to any child whose inclination is to memorize just a handful of facts or to learn a new skill in the most rudimentary fashion. However, as Lois and I can attest, a little learning, sometimes in the form of a merit badge, may change your life. It can take you down unexpected but rewarding tree-lined paths that lead to more knowledge.

After all these years, I think I understand what the firs were whispering, and what they're still telling me as I stroll past them in my neighborhood: There is so much more to learn and a multitude of places to go. Now I wonder if I would qualify for a lifelong learning badge. ■

*Susan G. Hauser admires the Douglas firs in Portland, Oregon.*





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