

ESSENTIAL TRAVEL GUIDE SERIES

SEATTLE



STYLED to SPARKLE
life & style for the real girl

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, USA

Seattle is a really great place to visit for either a day or a weekend. It isn't a large city, but it's filled with fun things to see and do. It's nice and close to the Canada-US border making it a great spot for a daytrip when visiting Vancouver (or vice versa). The Pacific Northwest region of the United States is a great pock-

et of the country with a unique culture and friendly atmosphere. Being a coastal city, Seattle is a great place to indulge in fresh caught fish and seafood.

The Seattle airport is also a great hub for getting to other parts of the United States,



so this guide may be helpful if you have an extended layover in the city and have a few hours to check out some of the sights! Seattle is home to some iconic places to visit including the first ever Starbucks Coffee shop and the Pike Place Market.

How to Use This Guide

This guide will focus mainly on downtown



Seattle and how to enjoy everything within an easy walking distance. Depending on how many attractions you are looking to visit or activities you are looking to engage in, Seattle can easily be explored for a day trip or a weekend getaway. This guide will provide you with what to pack, how to get around and a list of fun and interesting things to see and do.

Logistics: When to Visit, Where to Stay, How to Get Around

When to Visit

There's no bad time to visit Seattle, just times of year that are rainier than others! I suggest planning your visit around the activities you would like to do. For instance, Seattle is a great city for sports tourism, so consider team seasons and schedules when booking. If you're planning on doing a lot of outdoor activities or hikes in the nearby areas, I suggest visiting in the summer months to avoid the extra rain!

Where to Stay

I highly suggest staying in the downtown area. The area itself isn't overly large so staying in the heart of the city will allow you to walk to everything you'll want to see and do! There are some lovely hotels located in downtown either in the center of it all (steps away from the action), a few blocks from downtown (uphill and a little quieter) and even on the harbor.

Getting Around

I recommend renting a car, walking or using a ride share service. Seattle is full of hills and although you might be ambitious with your walking during the day, you might want to get a ride back to your hotel at night!

What to Pack & What to Wear

Pack an umbrella and a rain jacket – I cannot stress this enough. The Pacific Northwest gets a lot of rain and it can be rainy at any time of year. This is the perfect opportunity to break out a stylish pair of rain boots (with cozy boot liners in cooler months). I also suggest comfortable clothing and walking shoes as there are a lot of hills that you will be walking up and down to see the city. Seattle is a fairly casual city as far as fashion vibes go so there's no need to get super dressed up (remember ripped jeans and flannel shirts with Doc Martens started here!).

THINGS TO SEE & DO

Pike Place Market

Pike Place Market is one of the most iconic

spots to visit in Seattle. The market itself isn't huge but on weekend mornings it spills out into the street in front of it. This several storied market is right on the harbor at Puget Sound and features a number of great boutiques and souvenir shops. It is one of the best places to stop for a bite to eat as many of the restaurants and cocktail bars have harbor views so you can enjoy the coastal atmo-



Pike Place Market

sphere and watch the boats coming in and out while you eat your meal!

The Original Starbucks

Starbucks Coffee originated in Seattle and its first ever location is still open at Pike Place. The coffee house serves the same great beverages that you'll find at other locations, but



with a different selection of beans, brews and souvenir drinkware – the perfect thing to take home with you!

The Space Needle

The Space Needle is another must-see icon of Seattle. Take in gorgeous 360 degree views of the city and the sea from their observation deck. Some of the amazing things you'll be able to take in from this height are the city skyline, the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, Mount Rainier, Mount Baker and the Elliott Bay and surrounding islands. There is also the SkyCity Restaurant at the top observation deck where visitors can enjoy a drink or a meal in this romantic setting.

The Museum of Flight

The Museum of Flight in Seattle is a great place to check out for visitors of all ages.



Museum of Pop Culture Seattle

Learn all about military, commercial air and space craft with interactive exhibits, special programs and daily events. Exhibits include storytelling, flight simulators, live history and behind the scenes tours of the Boeing Field.

Museum of Pop Culture

The Museum of Pop Culture is exactly what it sounds like – a museum where you can experience modern pop culture. MoPop features interactive exhibits and exciting installations. One of the most interesting things about this museum is how much musical history it contains for the Seattle area and the rock scene that started there in the 1990s.

Chihuly Garden & Glass

The Chihuly Garden & Glass is a fascinating museum and studio that showcases the glass of artist David Chihuly. This installation is inside of a 100-foot-long greenhouse and features a number of beautiful exhibits.

Live Music

Seattle is the birthplace of grunge and is still home to some incredible acoustic live music venues. While you're out and about during the day, pay attention to sandwich board signs on the sidewalk in front of local bars and coffee houses to see which are offering



Museum of Pop Culture Seattle

local live performances that evening. It's a great way to enjoy a craft cocktail and soak up the culture.



Harbor Tours & Cruises

Seattle is located on Puget Sound and is surrounded by water. This provides the unique opportunity for locals and visitors alike to take in harbor cruises to see the interesting coast line and learn about the area from the water. I highly suggest taking a dinner cruise to enjoy fresh caught fish and seafood while experiencing the coast in both the day and the evening.

Sports Tourism

Seattle is an incredible city to visit for sports tourism! With teams in four major sports leagues there is something for everyone. If you time it just right, you can take in the seasons of a few different teams all in the same trip!

MLB Baseball: Seattle Mariners

Seattle's Major League Baseball team is the Seattle Mariners. If you're a fan of baseball or not, a day at the ball park is always a ton of fun. Baseball is one of those sports that is always entertaining to watch live. Seattle's temperate summer climate helps make watching a game in this city enjoyable, too. When the Toronto Blue Jays come to town, expect a large number of away fans. The city's close proximity to the Canadian border makes these games a must-attend for fans living in Western Canada. Baseball seasons run from mid-March until the end of September each year.

NFL Football: Seattle Seahawks

Seattle's National Football League team is the Seattle Seahawks. A NFL football game is always fun to attend, especially if you can take in the experience of a tailgate party, too! Be sure to dress warm and check the weather before heading out to the game as football season is in the fall and winter months.



Football seasons run from the beginning of September until the end of December each year.

MLS Soccer: Seattle Sounders

Seattle's Major League Soccer team is the Seattle Sounders. Soccer is a really fun sport to take in as it is full of action! It is also less expensive than other major sports so it is a great option for taking the entire family to the field. Soccer seasons run from the beginning of March until the beginning of October each year.

NHL Hockey: Coming Soon

Seattle's National Hockey League team is still yet to be named! The NHL has recently announced an expansion team for the city

of Seattle. Their inaugural season will be in 2021-22. Hockey seasons run from the beginning of October until mid-April each year.

Where & What to Eat

You will be able to find fresh fish almost everywhere you go, so I highly recommend indulging in the local cuisine. There are a number of higher end restaurants downtown and a mix of different fare around the Pike Place Market area. Chain restaurants are easily found as well as a mix of great fresh sushi and other international cuisines. For major foodies, there are food walking tours that you can take as well.

Coffee houses are still a popular thing in Seattle and they're a great spot to enjoy a drink to warm you up when it's raining or a little bit



Space Needle

chilly outside. Don't forget to visit the original Starbucks Coffee Shop located in Pike Place Market!

SHOPPING

Pike Place Market & Local Boutiques

Inside the Pike Place Market you will find a farmer's market, antique shops, kitschy souvenir stores and much more. You'll also find a great selection of smoked salmon, sea salts, maple syrup and other local delicacies that can be purchased in beautiful gift packaging.

Shopping Downtown

Steps away from Pike Place Market is down-

town where you'll find major department stores and well known brands as well as a number of great discount stores (i.e. Nordstrom Rack, Saks Off 5th) and local shops. The shopping streets offer a number of great spots to eat or stop for a coffee or a cocktail, too!

Outlet Centers

Just north of Seattle is where you'll find a great outlet mall in the town of Tulalip. This Premium Outlet Mall features over a hundred different designer stores, restaurants and a few fun things to entertain the kiddos. It is also right next to a large casino hotel which offers a great place to stay if you're looking to spend the night outside of the city.



Chihuly Garden Glass



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