

Seattle

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Photo: Tim Thompson.

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2701 First Avenue, Suite 250, Seattle, WA 98121
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Publisher Mimi K. Kirsch
Editor-in-Chief Paul Frichtl
Editor Michele Andrus Dill
Contributing Editors Jeff Bond, Lara Douglass,
Ben Raker, Andrew Waite
Art Director Nancy O'Connell
Design & Production Specialist Ellen Ordóñez
Advertising Production Manager Theresa Santucci
Advertising Director Kenneth J. Krass, ext. 11
Seattle Advertising Sales: Stephany Angelacos,
ext. 13; Becca Conversano, ext. 21

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Emerald City Hidden Gems

Experiences to treasure in and around Seattle | By Jeff Layton

Our 28-foot wooden sailboat, made with Northwest cedar, is approaching 100 years old and still going strong. The wind is picking up, and I'm learning how to navigate the restored antique watercraft amid kayakers and seaplanes on Lake Union, north of downtown Seattle.

My turn at the tiller is taking place in conjunction with one of Seattle's best traditions: the free Sunday Public Sail at The Center for Wooden Boats. Every Sunday for more than 25 years, volunteers

have offered approximately hour-long rides aboard historical wooden boats so that visitors can sample the rich nautical culture of the Puget Sound region. I'm with a dozen fellow visitors aboard the *Admirable*, a gillnetter that was once part of a salmon-fishing fleet.

The five to 10 boats used for the Sunday sails also include a steam-powered vessel and an electric-motor watercraft. From the water, our group has fantastic views of downtown skyscrapers, Gas Works Park, compact house-

boats and commercial fishing boats. The *Admirable's* billowing ivory sail provides visual and aural accompaniment.

In addition to the public sail, the center (cwb.org) rents sailboats, rowboats, canoes, kayaks and pedal boats by the hour, and it's a great place to learn the art of wooden-boat restoration.

Wherever I travel, it's easy to find well-known attractions, but when I dig deeper, I usually find hidden gems that provide an enhanced, locally authentic expe-



rience. Here are four more hidden gems worth discovering in the Puget Sound area:

New Smith Tower Tour

Upon entering Smith Tower, I'm transported back in time to 1914,



Far left: The *Admirable* on a Center for Wooden Boats' Sunday Public Sail. **Center:** Smith Tower's speakeasy-inspired bar at the Observatory, and the 1914 Otis elevator that serves the Observatory. **Above and right:** The Boeing Red Barn and one of its several craftsman-sculpture exhibits.



when the 522-foot-tall building was the tallest skyscraper west of the Mississippi. Nowadays, a new self-guided “The Legends of Smith Tower” tour winds through ornate hallways and to switchboard and radio-room exhibits—where flapper-era voices crackle on speakers—and then goes up to the Observatory, which has a new speakeasy-inspired bar.

During my tour, I learn several fun facts about the building. For instance, in 1922, a one-armed stuntman parachuted off the tower, which at the time was also the fourth-tallest building in the world. In addition, during Prohibition the Bootleg King—Roy Olmstead—and his wife, Elsie, had a broadcasting studio in the tower.

As “Aunt Vivian,” Elsie read bedtime stories—broadcasts purported to contain secret messages.

One of the most fun parts of my visit to the Neoclassical-architecture tower, which was developed by typewriter and firearms magnate L.C. Smith, is the ride in a 1914 Otis elevator. It clangs open, and I’m greeted by a smiling elevator operator who whisks me 35 floors to the open-air observation deck, with views of Puget Sound and of attractions such as the Space Needle.

The nearby speakeasy bar, filled with ornate wood decor, was formerly the Chinese Room, and it has retained the Wishing Chair, rumored to have been a gift to Smith, many years before comple-

tion of the tower, by China’s Empress Dowager Cixi. Legend holds that if you are single and you sit in the chair, you will be married within the year.

The speakeasy is a serene setting for a drink, and the Smith Tower’s Prohibition-era roots add to the feeling that I’m in on a secret. I sip my craft cocktail—Aunt Vivian’s Bedtime, featuring locally produced rye whiskey, Foro Amaro, lemon juice and ginger shrub—as I watch the ferries docking below me. I’m delighted that my panoramic view comes with a stylish lounge, a sofa and a fun beverage. On my next visit, I vow to dress the part in a fedora and wax my moustache (smith-tower.com/observatory.php).

Boeing Red Barn

The Wright brothers may have been first in flight, but the Boeing Red Barn is where aviation really got off the ground. Located in a quiet area of The Museum of Flight (museumofflight.org) between Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport, the two-story, gable-roofed barn was the birthplace of Boeing, and its original airplane factory.

In 1975, the 16,000-square-foot building—now on the National Register of Historic Places—was barged 2 miles up the Duwamish River to become part of the museum, where the Red Barn exhibits tell the story of early flight. The 1909 building was originally part of a shipyard, which



Kayaking by Vashon Island.

William Boeing purchased for \$10 in 1910, when he was 28. He bought it to house construction of his yacht, according to the National Park Service (www.nps.gov/nr/travel/seattle/s36.htm), but in 1916, after his interests “shifted from the sea to the air,” he established the engineering offices and manufacturing plant of his fledgling aerospace company in the barn.

The company’s first plane, the 1916 B&W (Boeing and Westervelt) seaplane, was assembled by a team that included shipwrights

along with carpenters, cabinet-makers and seamstresses, according to the park service website.

The 27.5-foot-long, two-crew seaplane, made with wood, linen and wire—with a cruising speed of 67 mph and a range of 320 miles—was sold to the New Zealand Flying School, becoming Boeing’s first international sale, notes The Boeing Company website. In 1917, the company got a big order to construct 50 Navy training aircraft.

I wander around the antique table saw and jointer in the Red

Barn while the sounds of wood-working flood the room, reminding me that airplanes were once routinely made from wood and canvas. From other displays, I learn about the harrowing adventures of trailblazing airmail pilots (Boeing’s first airmail-carrying plane dates to 1919).

The Red Barn is the place to ponder the romantic years of air travel, when flying was still so novel, then continue on to the museum’s other spaces to see fighter planes, spy planes and an actual Space Shuttle Trainer—part of the museum’s collection of more than 175 aircraft and spacecraft. You can also try out your own flight skills in a simulator.

Vashon Kayaking

Harbor seal heads pop up all around me as my kayak skims over the calm waters of Vashon Island’s Quartermaster Harbor. A trip to Vashon Island is a scenic adventure from the Fauntleroy ferry terminal on the West Seattle mainland, which is approximately 10 miles from downtown Seattle. After about a 20-minute water crossing, the Washington State Ferries boat drops you at a forested bedroom community with fabulous waterfront homes and inlets.

Our group paddles over carpets of translucent moon jellyfish, then we scoot up Judd Creek to a half-submerged houseboat guarded by chatty kingfishers,



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which makes me feel like a character in the *Scooby-Doo!* and the *Sunken Ship* adventure.

This fusion of urban and wild kayaking is offered by Vashon Watersports (vashonadventures.com), which also guides summer full-moon tours, as well as providing rentals and classes.

It also provides drop-off/pick-up services for self-guided overnight and multnight camping trips, and—when the conditions are right—for self-guided kayaking along the length of the west side of Vashon on the exiting tide through narrow Colvos Passage.

Only experienced paddlers should do this tide ride, which is known as the “Colvos Flush,” according to Vashon Watersports.

Parsons Gardens

When I was in college, Kerry Park was my go-to on a first date. If you buy a postcard of Seattle’s skyline, there’s a good chance the photo was taken from this overlook atop Queen Anne Hill north of downtown Seattle.

But after that obligatory first stop, I would guide my date out of the crowds, and we would stroll five blocks west to Parsons Gardens (seattle.gov/parks), where we’d find ourselves enveloped in the lush foliage and fragrant perennials of this hidden park less than a half-acre in size.

A dense canopy of green branches waved in the breeze above rhododendrons, camellias, hydrangeas and hellebores, creat-

ing the sense of a secret garden.

Then, rounding the corner and traveling a sidewalk north along Eighth Avenue West, we would enjoy a vintage promenade featuring early-1900s mansions on one side of the street, with ornamental streetlights and the setting sun ducking behind the Olympic Mountains on the other. A simple stroll was all a poor college student needed to impress his date. **s**

Jeff Layton is always on the lookout for hidden gems in his home state. For more information on Puget Sound-area recreation, see visitseattle.org, visitbellevuewashington.com, explorekirkland.com, seattlesouthside.com, traveltacoma.com and experiencewa.com.



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Sharing the Pleasures of Hospitality

Master Sommelier Shayn Bjornholm always keeps the customer in mind | By Nicholas O'Connell

When Shayn Bjornholm talks wine, people listen. As the examination director for the Court of Master Sommeliers, America, an exclusive group of less than 200 top wine experts, Bjornholm is privy to the latest trends in wine. Publications ask for his advice and list his favorite vintages.

Even with such wine expertise, Bjornholm focuses his attention on the customer. He says that the Court of Master Sommeliers, America, “sets the global standard of excellence for beverage service within the hospitality industry, with integrity, exemplary knowledge and humility.”

Bjornholm does this by keeping in mind the real reason for his job. “The endgame has always appealed to me,” he says. “You’re doing your utmost to make guests’ lives better.”

The one-time actor never set out to become a sommelier. He grew up in Lexington, Massachusetts, and attended the University of Virginia, where he majored in architecture.

However, Bjornholm found he was more interested in acting and moved to New York City to pursue his passion. He supported himself by working in restaurants. During the early 1990s, he came to Seattle to join its theater scene. But after several years, Bjornholm

grew disenchanted with the actor’s life, and, instead, fell in love with wine. He got a job at a now-closed restaurant where he developed his expertise for combining wine with food.

“I realized I wanted to be in the sommelier game,” Bjornholm says. “So I got up at 4 A.M. every Monday and drove up to Vancouver, B.C. to attend the eight-hour course to obtain the Canadian Sommelier Guild Diploma, and then drove back to Seattle. I got really good at tasting and spitting [wine].”

When the Canlis restaurant’s legendary sommelier Robert Bigelow moved on to a new job, Bjornholm was hired as the new sommelier in 2000. He later went on to earn his Master Sommelier Diploma in 2005.

Bjornholm found the process fascinating and knew the training would challenge him and build on his intellectual understanding of wine and the factors that help determine how wines taste.

Today, Bjornholm works full-time as the examination director for the Court of Master Sommeliers, America. He also promotes the enjoyment of wine around the world.

While he could live anywhere, Bjornholm and his family have chosen to live in the Seattle area, giving him a front-row seat to the local wine and food culture.



“Seattle is an astounding gastronomic destination,” he says. “There are supremely talented chefs and sommeliers creating with some of the greatest local foodstuffs in the world. Our scene is sophisticated, authentic, imaginative and delicious.”

Bjornholm and his family live on Bainbridge Island, which he says is the perfect place to raise kids. “Bainbridge Island is my soul spot,” he says. “This quiet, idyllic, rural area, just a 45-minute trip from one of the more exciting cities in the United States, is hard to beat.” **s**

Nicholas O'Connell writes from Seattle.

SHAYN BJORNHOLM'S SEATTLE-AREA FAVORITES:

- Eating Sunday brunch at Café Campagne located in Pike Place Market. The *Oeufs en Muerrette* is a perfect dish.
- Kayaking with my daughters on Lake Union to see the floatplanes fly right over our heads.
- Taking the Winslow Ferry to Seattle so that my 5-year-old daughter can see the Seattle Great Wheel, the aquarium and the “big loud city.”



Gas Works Park.



Starbucks Reserve Roastery & Tasting Room.



View of downtown and Mount Rainier from the Space Needle.



Kayaking Portage Bay.



Sunset over Puget Sound.

SEATTLE

PHOTO SAFARI

Fun shots of the Emerald City, taken and curated by the magazine staff



The Giant Shoe Museum, Pike Place Market.



Go, Sounders!



International Fountain and the Space Needle, Seattle Center.



Simultaneous sun and rain shower—very Seattle.

SEATTLE



Georgetown neighborhood.



Melrose Market, Capitol Hill neighborhood.



Seattle Aquarium.



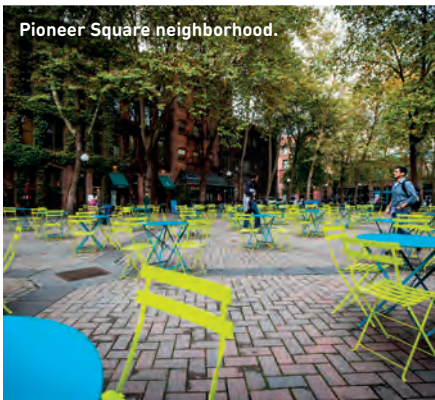
Suzzallo Library, University of Washington.



U.S. Navy Blue Angels at Seafair.



Volunteer Park.



Pioneer Square neighborhood.



Olympic Sculpture Park.



Seattle Great Wheel.



Fish ladder plaza, Ballard Locks.



A path and restful spot off the Burke-Gitman Trail.

SEATTLE

New in Town

Attractions, hotels and restaurants in the Puget Sound region

| By Michele Andrus Dill

We can feel the wind sweeping by as we fly behind a giant “spirit eagle” over Cape Flattery, the northwesternmost point in the contiguous United States. As we glide low over Skagit Valley tulip fields, we catch the fragrance of flowers. And spray mists our faces as we descend toward the splash of a breaching orca in the San Juan Islands, then skim Snoqualmie Falls and zoom over hydroplane roostertails on Lake Washington during Seattle’s summer Seafair festival.

It’s all part of **“Wings Over Washington: A Flying Ride,”** next to the Seattle Great Wheel at historic Miners Landing on the Seattle waterfront. “Wings Over Washington,” which opened in August, is an immersive high-definition-film experience, featuring a curved screen, seat rows that rise and dip in concert with the flight path, and sensory involvement as you cross the state to visit 14 iconic sites from the perspective of an eagle in flight.

In the Olympic National Forest, our feet seem to touch the treetops and we smell evergreens before we swoop low over mountain bikers. A breeze brushes past as we float amid hot-air balloons above a Walla Walla vineyard. We hear the roar of football fans as we dart over the University of Washington’s Husky Stadium. At Mount

St. Helens, we dive right toward the heart of the snowy crater and into the rising steam cloud.

“We’ve never made it out to Mount St. Helens in person, but now we’ve even seen the crater,” my husband, Michael, raves. He knows his comment won’t disturb the people around us, because they’ve been punctuating the entire experience with cries of “Whoa!” “Awesome!” and “Wow!”

Including a pre-ride introduction—which features a separate video presentation by Ranger Jesse; five wooden, Native-inspired animal masks, from bear to raccoon, that move and make the appropriate creature sounds; and a walk through a holographic fire to enter the theater—the experience lasts about 15 minutes.

“If you go into the night sky when the stars are burning their brightest,” Ranger Jesse told us, “the spirit of the thunderbird [eagle] will take you on a magical journey to reveal the spirit of Washington.” That certainly describes our aerial adventure over Evergreen State wonders (wingsoverwa.com).

The following are also among the many new attractions, hotels and restaurants in the Puget Sound area.

Attractions

Center for Wooden Boats Wagner Education Center (cwbw.org): Expected to open sometime this summer, the 9,200-square-



Top: “Wings Over Washington: A Flying Ride” is an exciting and fun immersive experience that showcases Evergreen State scenery and icons. Above: The Pike Place MarketFront at famous Pike Place Market is scheduled to open the end of June and will include new artisan vendors.

foot center will include a gallery with historic photos and models; a boat shop where visitors can see classic boats being repaired; a glass-enclosed viewing area overlooking Lake Union; and a classroom/sail loft where visitors can learn skills such as navigation and rope work, kids can build toy boats, and volunteers will demonstrate sail-making techniques.

KidsQuest Children’s Museum (kidsquestmuseum.org): KidsQuest moved into a new 13,500-square-foot location in

downtown Bellevue in January, doubling its exhibit space. Exploration areas, ranging from a two-story climbing feature to a Water Gallery, emphasize science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM).

Living Computers: Museum + Labs (livingcomputers.org): The museum reopened in November after an expansion that created hands-on opportunities in areas ranging from robotics and virtual reality to creating videogames and trying out a self-driving car simulator. A vintage-computers section of the museum includes computers dating to the 1960s.

The Museum of Flight “Apollo” exhibit (museumof-flight.org): Starting May 20, the museum will offer the first permanent public display of Apollo 12 and 16 F-1 rocket engines that launched Apollo astronauts to the

moon but then lay at the bottom of the sea for many years, until Seattle area-based Bezos Expeditions located and raised them in 2013. The “Apollo” exhibit will also include actual moon rocks, space suits and a lunar rover.

Pike Place Market MarketFront (marketfront.org): The grand opening of this expansion of famous Pike Place Market is scheduled for June 29. The new MarketFront will feature 30,000 square feet of open space, including a public plaza and viewing deck; 47 new table spaces for farmers and craftspeople; four new artisan vendors, such as Old Stove Brewing and indi chocolate; and three art installations.

SODO Track (sodotrack.com): Fifty artists—from Seattle’s Mary Iverson to the Netherlands’ Joram Roukes—are creating a 2-mile-long street-art corridor on Fifth Avenue South between Royal Brougham Way and Spokane Street. The track is along a frequently traveled bus and light-rail route, and the theme of the corridor is “motion, speed, progression.” A total of 32 walls will be painted. The first nine large-scale murals are already completed, with up to 15 more scheduled to be painted sometime in July, and the remainder slated for completion next summer.

Space Needle Digital Experiences (spaceneedle.com): Seattle’s most recognizable icon is offering several digital experiences, such as the free “Space Needle 360°” virtual-reality app, with options such as walking on the Needle’s outer edge and flying over the city in a floatplane. Other digital experiences range from a free “selfie” taken by a mounted

camera on the Needle’s Observation Deck to “SpaceSpots” that offer augmented-reality experiences, such as standing over a virtual glass floor that shows the ground level 520 feet below.

Upstream Music Fest + Summit (upstreammusicfest.com): Founded by Paul Allen’s Vulcan Inc. company, the inaugural event, May 11–13, will include performances by more than 300 bands, as well as speakers and breakout sessions. Scheduled keynote speakers include Seattle rapper Macklemore.

Lodging

Thompson Seattle (thompsonhotels.com/hotels/seattle/thompson-seattle): The sleek, luxury boutique hotel, which opened last summer near Pike Place Market, boasts water and mountain views, including from The Nest rooftop bar, and has a culinary partnership with the noted Huxley Wallace Collective local restaurant group, which operates The Nest and the gourmet Scout PNW at the hotel.

Upcoming openings:

Embassy Suites by Hilton Seattle Downtown—Pioneer Square (hiltonworldwide.com): The hotel is expected to open in January 2018 in the new 1.5 mil-



Terrestrial Melody (detail shown), is part of 32 walls of murals being painted for the SODO Track. Below: The lakeside Hyatt Regency Lake Washington at Seattle’s Southport, expected to open in June, will offer water views.

lion-square-foot Stadium Place mixed-use development near Seattle’s football and baseball stadiums. The local 13 Coins restaurant group—which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and is known for dining rooms that are open 24/7 and that offer more than 100 menu choices—will open a restaurant in the hotel.

Hotel Theodore (hoteltheodore.com): The 1929 Roosevelt

Hotel, near the Washington State Convention Center, is being reborn this summer as “a refined urban escape.”

Hyatt Regency Lake Washington at Seattle’s Southport (lakewashington.regency.hyatt.com): Expected to open in June, the upscale lakeside hotel in Renton, south of Seattle, will offer water and Seattle-skyline views, with the Water’s Table restaurant featuring alfresco dining and Northwest seasonally inspired cuisine. Also in development is the Hyatt Regency Seattle, expected to be the region’s largest hotel, with 1,260 guestrooms, when it opens in late 2018 in Seattle’s Denny Triangle area near numerous tech companies.

Moxy Seattle South Lake Union Marriott (marriott.com): Marriott is expected to bring its “spirited and fun” Moxy boutique-hotel concept to Seattle’s South Lake Union neighborhood this summer. Marriott’s AC Hotel Seattle Bellevue/Downtown is expected to open this summer in Bellevue, and Residence Inn by Marriott in the Denny





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Triangle is scheduled to open in late 2017.

SLS Seattle (sbe.com/hotels/locations/sls-seattle): Slated to open this summer, the downtown hotel will offer modern luxury on 16 floors of the new 48-story The Mark, whose other floors contain office space. The website promises “nearly 27,000 sq. ft. of food and beverage offerings,” which will be presided over by prominent local chef Gavin Stephenson.

W Bellevue, scheduled to open in June, will include this vibrant library. Right: No Anchor is known for distinctive beverages, and dishes featuring Northwest ingredients.

W Bellevue (wbellevue.com): Scheduled to open June 15, the modern hotel, with a new contemporary Northwest restaurant, The Lakehouse, by local chef Jason Wilson, is part of the 1.5 million-square-foot Lincoln Square Expansion in The Bellevue Collection

shopping/dining/entertainment/office/hotel/residential development east of Seattle.

Dining

Cafe Hitchcock (cafehitchcock.com): Produce and pork from chef/owner Brendan McGill’s Bainbridge Island farm influences dishes ranging from breakfast biscuits to lamb osso bucco at this restaurant in downtown Seattle.

Circadia (circadiaseattle.com): The decor of this new downtown restaurant evokes the glamour of Hollywood, while the creative menu features classic dishes with a modern twist and world flavors, and the service is deliberately warm, without “pomp and pretense.”

Derby at The Shop

(ethanstownrestaurants.com): Expected to open in June, the SoDo (south of downtown) restaurant will be located within a new car club called The Shop, providing diners with a view of luxury and classic cars to complement American-classic fare.

Heartwood Provisions

(heartwoodsea.com): Showcases unique food and beverage pairings, and both artful and rustic cooking methods.

Kiki Ramen

(kikiramen.com): The latest of more than a half-dozen new restaurants by local chef Josh Henderson, the new Kiki, formerly Bar Noroeste, in the South Lake Union area, features traditional ramen dishes.



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mbar (mbarseattle.com): This lively indoor/outdoor rooftop space in the South Lake Union neighborhood features a contemporary menu inspired in part by Italian, Spanish and Middle Eastern flavors.

Minamoto Japanese Cuisine (facebook.com/minamotobellevue): Minamoto provides a fine-dining experience in Bellevue,

with creative, modern Japanese cuisine available à la carte, as well as *omakase*, featuring seasonal ingredients, with your food selections entrusted to the chef.

No Anchor (noanchorbar.com): One of the two Seattle restaurants named a James Beard Foundation 2017 Best New Restaurant semifinalist, No Anchor, located in the Belltown neighborhood, serves distinctive beer, spirits and cocktails, complementing a menu emphasizing fresh Northwest ingredients. About a third of the menu is vegetarian.

Outlier (outlierseattle.com): Shareable plates and global flavors, as well as Northwest influences, are the focus at this downtown restaurant, whose bar menu

includes farm-fresh juices as well as specialty cocktails.

Rhein Haus Tacoma (rheinhaustacoma.com): The fun Bavarian-inspired restaurant/beer hall in Tacoma, south of Seattle, also has four indoor bocce ball courts.

RN74 (michaelmina.net): New executive chef Ben Godwin, whose credits include the three-Michelin-starred The Fat Duck in England, is combining his world culinary expertise with local ingredients at this downtown restaurant serving modern interpretations of French cuisine.

Upper Bar Ferdinand (barferdinandseattle.com): The other Seattle restaurant named a James Beard Foundation 2017 Best New Restaurant semifinalist,

Upper Bar Ferdinand, in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, showcases wines from family-owned, small-production wineries around the world. Likewise, chef/co-owner Matt Dillon's food menu spotlights simply prepared food, with meats and vegetables from his Vashon Island farm.

Young American Ale House (youngamericanalehouse.com): Launched by Maria Hines, who was the James Beard Best Chef: Northwest winner in 2009, the Ballard neighborhood gastropub offers creative, fresh and local takes on American classics and comfort food. **s**

Michele Andrus Dill is the senior editor of the magazine.

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Perennially Popular

Favorite Puget Sound-area attractions | By Michele Andrus Dill

Dave and Veronica, visiting from the New York area, stand enthralled by the Puget Sound panorama visible from the 902-foot-tall Sky View Observatory on the 73rd floor of the Columbia Center. “This view is gorgeous!” Veronica enthuses.

She points across today’s calm aqua waters to Bainbridge Island, which the couple explored the day before, then gestures toward the 605-foot Space Needle, built for the 1962 World’s Fair and now likely Seattle’s best-known attraction, and the 175-foot-tall Seattle Great Wheel on the waterfront. “You can see so many iconic things—it’s just so expansive,” she says.

Billed as “the highest public observatory in the Northwest”—the aerie-height space offers a view that extends west to the Olympic Mountains, south to Mount Rainier and north to Mount Baker. And an expansion scheduled to be finished in early June will complete the observatory’s “necklace of views,” allowing visitors to stroll in a 360-degree

circle for a broader vista of landmarks to the east such as Lake Washington and the Cascade Range.

Interpretive panels identify various sites visible from the observatory and provide additional information. For example, one display explains that the term “flying saucer” was popularized in 1947 after a mysterious sighting near Mount Rainier was reported by a man named Kenneth Arnold.

Northwest wines and craft beers are available from the Sky View Cafe by Ravishing Radish, whose food menu includes “Picnic in the Sky”—an array of French Brie, herbed salami, Tillamook sharp white cheddar, fresh grapes, spiced almonds and rosemary crackers—to accompany the spectacular view.

Tickets to the observatory (skyviewobservatory.com) allow in-and-out privileges all day (10 A.M. to 8 P.M., or 8 A.M. to 11 P.M., depending on time of year), so you can come back to enjoy the city’s sparkling night lights.

Here are some more of the many popular attractions in the Puget Sound area:



Top: The Sky View Observatory provides a breathtaking view of downtown Seattle and Puget Sound. **Above:** Chihuly Garden and Glass, showcasing glass art such as *Pacific Sun*, shown here, is one of the spectacular attractions at Seattle Center.

Archie McPhee (archie-mcpheeseattle.com): Novelty items from a toy/gift/craft/party-supply shop that prides itself on being weird.

Bellevue Botanical Garden (bellevuebotanical.org): Celebrating its 25th anniversary in June. Boasts more than 50 acres of gardens, woodlands and wetlands.

The Bellevue Collection (bellevuecollection.com): Shops

such as ExOfficio, restaurants, 365 by Whole Foods Market, cinema, nightclubs, comedy, bowling, billiards, hotels such as the excellent Hyatt Regency Bellevue, and more.

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Visitor Center (gatesvc.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): Entertaining history-and-culture walking tour. Fun fact: A TV movie pilot for *Kolchak: The Night Stalker* was filmed in the Underground.

Brewery Tours (seattlebrewerytour.com): Visit three Seattle breweries in three hours, led by Road Dog Tours. Also enjoy:

One-hour Redhook Woodinville Brewery tours (redhook.com).

Chambers Bay (chambersbay-golf.com): This scenic 7,585-yard traditional links course on Puget Sound shoreline hosted the 2015 U.S. Open.

Children's Museum of Tacoma (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) 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** (waterwayscruises.com).

Dunn Gardens (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): Exciting thoroughbred racing through Sept. 17 this year.

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

Hiram M. Chittenden Locks (ballardlocks.org): Watch boats transfer between freshwater and saltwater, and June to September, watch salmon on the fish ladder.

LeMay—America's Car Museum (americascarmuseum.org): Vintage vehicles, modern marvels, simulators and special events.

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

Nightlife: Many options, such as **The Crocodile** live music; **Foundation Nightclub** electronic dance music; **Muckleshoot Casino** live music, comedy and DJ dance parties; **The Triple Door** live music; and the **Tractor Tavern** live music.

Point Defiance Park (pointdefiancepark.org): Sweeping water and mountain views, and Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.



The Seattle Monorail passes Hotel Five.

Seattle Center (seattlecenter.com): Numerous attractions, such as the Space Needle; Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP); Chihuly Garden and Glass; KeyArena; Pacific Science Center; Seattle Children's Museum; International Fountain; KEXP Live In-Studio performances; and ballet, opera and theater companies. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of Seattle Center.

Seattle Monorail (seattlemonorail.com): Built for the 1962 World's Fair, the monorail provides a two-minute ride between Westlake Center downtown and a Seattle Center station near the

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MONORAIL / HOTEL FIVE SEATTLE: WILLIAM JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY; FERRY: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

Space Needle and Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP), along the way passing sites such as the flagship cafe of the locally based Top Pot Doughnuts group, and the hip red neon sign on the side of fun and funky Hotel Five Seattle, part of locally based Pineapple Hospitality.

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

Starbucks Reserve Roastery & Tasting Room (roastery.starbucks.com): Some of the world's rarest coffees are roasted and brewed in this fascinating space that also serves specialty espresso and tea.

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

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

Washington State Ferries (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): Exhibits bring the state's past to life and show how history connects communities and resi-

dents. "Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame" will be on view May 27–Sept. 10.

Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (wingluke.org): Features intriguing items

such as a Chinese opera costume and the Mahjong room in a historic hotel. Also: guided walking tours.

Woodinville Wine Country (woodinvillewinecountry.com): More than 100 wineries (including Chateau Ste. Michelle) and tasting rooms, representing every Washington appellation.



Ferries travel scenic Western Washington routes.

Woodland Park Zoo (zoo.org): More than 1,000 animals—including four Asian-small-clawed otters born in December—represent 300-plus species from around the world. ZooTunes concerts take place June through August each year. **s**

Michele Andrus Dill is senior editor.



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Playoff Potential

Seattle teams are poised for a strong year

With a solid mix of veteran players and new talent, the Seattle Mariners, whose sponsors include Alaska Airlines, should be a fun team to watch this season at Safeco Field.

The nucleus of All-Stars second baseman Robinson Canó, designated hitter and outfielder Nelson Cruz, pitchers Félix Hernández and Hisashi Iwakuma, and third baseman Kyle Seager, remains intact for 2017. To complement this group, the Mariners have added speed and athleticism with players such as outfielders Jarrod Dyson and Mitch Haniger and shortstop Jean Segura.

The team also boasts the young and talented closer Edwin Díaz, whose fastball can reach 100 mph. If this mix of veteran leadership and new athleticism clicks, the Mariners could be playoff bound.

The team's season-long 40th-anniversary celebration is being sponsored by Alaska Airlines (mariners.com).

Seattle Sounders FC

The Sounders are out to prove that their MLS Cup Championship last season was no fluke.

Superstar forward Clint Dempsey, who has been central to the team's attack in recent years, was sidelined for much of last season with an irregular heart-beat. However, he made a spectacular return to the pitch this spring with the U.S. Men's



All-Star second baseman Robinson Canó, above, is expected to lead the Mariners' offensive attack this season. Coming off her WNBA 2016 Rookie of the Year season, the Storm's Breanna Stewart, left, is continuing to improve her game in 2017.

Seattle Reign FC

The Reign FC soccer team is regrouping after a difficult offseason, which saw top players retire or leave, including high-scoring Scottish midfielder Kim Little, who has returned to her former English club, Arsenal Ladies FC. Reign FC is counting on veteran Megan Rapinoe and co-captains Jessica Fishlock and Lauren Barnes to lead the retooled team back to the playoffs (reignfc.com).

Seattle Storm

Led by forward Breanna Stewart, the 2016 WNBA Rookie of the

Year, and guard Jewell Loyd, the 2015 Rookie of the Year, the Storm are ready to make another run at the postseason. Last season, Stewart was a force under the rim, and Loyd developed into one of the league's best backcourt players. If the two continue to progress, Seattle will have one of the league's most potent combinations. Veteran guard Sue Bird is expected to be back for her 16th season (stormbasketball.com).

Seattle Seahawks

While questions about the team's offensive line persist, the Seahawks are still the odds-on favorite to win their division, as long as quarterback Russell Wilson (Alaska Airlines' Chief Football Officer) is healthy and protected. The team's defense remains one of the best units in the NFL, and coach Pete Carroll continues to get the most out of his players (seahawks.com). —Jeff Bond

National Team, including scoring three goals against Honduras.

Sounders fans are hoping such scoring feats will continue now that he has rejoined Seattle for the season.

Seattle native Jordan Morris, who was named MLS Rookie of the Year in 2016, looks to be back in scoring form, and midfielder Nicolás Lodeiro of Uruguay, who was acquired last summer, has been an excellent addition to the team (soundersfc.com).

A Whale of an Excursion

Experiencing the mighty mammals in the Salish Sea | By John Nelson

I am standing on the deck of the *Chilkat Express*, a whale-watching boat, staring at the Puget Sound waters in hushed anticipation.

The other passengers and I know that gray whales are nearby, since we earlier saw the spray from their spouts as our boat, the Puget Sound Express company's high-speed foilsat, cruised through the area. However, we haven't actually gotten a look at the huge creatures just yet.

Suddenly, as if by magic, an enormous gray head rises straight up out of the chilly Puget Sound waters close to our boat, and it seems to stare right at us.

"Ooooh!" the passengers say in happy unison at the whale's "spy-hopping" display. We are all overjoyed to end up being the ones watched by the whale.

For the next 45 minutes, we stay with three grays—two males and a female—as they search for ghost shrimp off Hat Island in the waters west of Everett, Washington. It is fascinating to observe these mammals, which can grow to be 45 feet in length, as they swim in the shallow waters near the island. Eventually, we say goodbye as the whales swim north into deeper waters.

Every spring, about 20,000 gray whales travel 5,000 miles from the Baja Peninsula in Mexico to the Bering Sea in Alaska. In the fall, they turn around and head back to Baja. This is one of the longest

migrations of any mammal in the world. A special subgroup of about 12 gray whales makes a side trip into Puget Sound every spring to snack on the local seafood.

"This is the only group of gray whales that visits the Puget Sound, and nobody knows why," says Renee Beitzel, marine naturalist onboard the *Chilkat*, one of three vessels in the whale-watching tour company's fleet, which is based in Edmonds and Port Townsend, Washington (pugetsoundexpress.com).

Unlike orcas, which travel in pods and can be seen year-round in this area, gray whales don't have formal groupings. This contingent returns to Puget Sound every year because it feels some connection, almost like a social club going to an annual reunion, Beitzel says. "They tend to form loose associations or friendships," she explains.

Whale-watching has long been a popular pastime in what has become known as the Salish Sea, comprising coastal waterways that stretch from Puget Sound north into British Columbia. The region's dozens of whale-watching operations form a loose-knit group that shares information on where whales can be seen and which way they are headed.

Orcas are a commonly seen mammal in the Salish Sea and are most prominent from late April to early October. The best-known "resident" orca group is J Pod,



Top: Passengers on the deck of the Puget Sound Express boat the *Chilkat Express* watch as a group of orcas swims by. Above: Two orcas breach at the same time in the Salish Sea. Orcas are commonly seen during whale-watching tours in the waters around the San Juan Islands.

24 whales that live in the waters around the San Juan Islands. While resident pods are primarily salmon eaters, transient orcas—which may roam from Southern California to the waters of Alaska—are increasingly venturing into the Salish Sea to hunt for seals and sea lions, says Pete Hanke, owner of this family business and the captain of today's whale-watching cruise.

Another year-round resident of the Salish Sea is the minke whale. This species, which can grow to

about 30 feet in length, is sometimes seen during whale-watching tours. Other whale species in the area include the humpback whale.

While still endangered, the humpback's numbers are on the rise and some members of the species have made a return to the Salish Sea, where they spend the summer. They are most often seen in and around the Strait of Juan de Fuca, between Port Townsend and Victoria, British Columbia. "We've seen some incredible displays with the humpbacks," Hanke says, as he pilots the *Chilkat Express* back to our starting point in Edmonds. We dock, and 41 happy whale-watchers disembark the ship.

"This was a good trip," Hanke says, smiling as our excursion comes to an end. "We pinch ourselves every day that we get to do this for a living." **s**

Outdoor Experiences

Adventurous ways to enjoy the Greater Seattle area | By John Nelson

Seattle is one of the nation's most outdoorsy cities for a reason. Within the metropolitan area, you'll find gorgeous hikes, watery playgrounds and scenic cycling routes. And just a short drive away are wilder adventures and some of America's favorite national parks. Here's a sampling:

Bike the Burke-Gilman Trail: The 27-mile paved multiuse recreation trail is perfect for cyclists traveling from Ballard east to Lake Washington and then north to

Bothell. The trail passes through many picturesque neighborhoods and park areas.

Stand-up paddleboard in West Seattle: Survey the often bustling beach area from your paddleboard, available for rent at places along Alki Beach.

Explore Green Lake Park: Rent a pedal boat, a kayak or a small sailboat at this urban lake in North Seattle. You can also swim at a kid-friendly beach, as well as run, walk or skate on the lovely

GREGOBAGEL / GETTY IMAGES



Green Lake Park offers a variety of outdoor activities.

2.8-mile paved path around this popular lake.

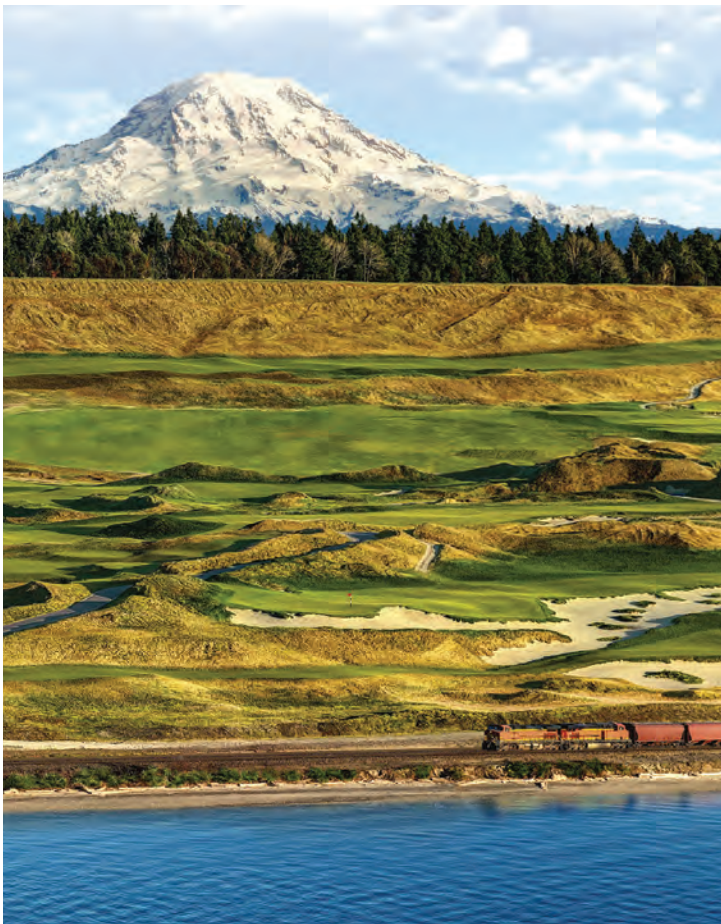
Bike Discovery Park: Enjoy a network of multiuse trails that are great for biking and hiking.

Canoe Mercer Slough: Paddle into a wetland ecosystem filled with birds, beauty and quiet

Bellevue. You can pick berries at the Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm mid-July to early September.

Go to the Alps: The Issaquah Alps, that is, where trails take hikers to the summits of Cougar, Squak and Tiger mountains.

Dive in Edmonds: The Edmonds Underwater Park includes



Chambers Bay – Site of the 2015 U.S. Open Championship

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The Home Course – Future site of 2017 Junior America's Cup

various sunken ships at different stages of decomposition, a man-made reef of concrete blocks and other items, and a network of guide ropes anchored to the bottom for easy movement through the 27-acre park.



AUROBA PHOTOS / ALAMY

Cyclists enjoy picturesque Discovery Park.

Fish the Snoqualmie River: Cast your flies near Carnation and you might hook a steelhead; go farther upstream on the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie for trout.

Mountain bike the John Wayne Pioneer Trail: Starting

near North Bend, follow a former railway roadbed that is now a gravel path as it runs east through the Cascade Range.

Summit Mount Si: Hike 3,100 vertical feet in 4 miles on this mountain trail for amazing views of the area's rugged landscape.

Hike the Pacific Crest Trail: Go north from Snoqualmie Pass into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness to explore one of the most scenic sections of the PCT.

See local national parks: Experience Mount Rainier National Park from every angle on the 93-mile Wonderland Trail. Hike the breathtaking landscape in the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. And visit Hurricane Ridge on the northern



THINAIR28 / GETTY IMAGES

Stunning views abound when hiking in Mount Rainier National Park.

side of the Olympic Peninsula, where you can see amazing views of Olympic National Park. **s**

John Nelson writes from Seattle.

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Mountains as Metaphors for Life

Elite alpinist Ed Viesturs knows how to overcome obstacles | By Nicholas O'Connell

It was a step into the unknown. In 1990, American mountaineer Ed Viesturs started for the summit of Mount Everest (29,029 feet) from a high camp at 27,000 feet. He planned to climb the peak without supplemental oxygen, something only a handful of climbers had managed to do. He'd failed on two previous attempts, once getting within 300 feet of the top before turning back.

He left his high camp at 1 A.M., using a headlamp to find his way in the dark. He'd already been on the mountain for two months, acclimating to the altitude, in which the air has less oxygen the higher you go.

He'd also endured terrible cold, ferocious winds, and separation from friends and family—all for the chance to put himself in a position to do something few had accomplished.

"The norm was to use oxygen when climbing as it, in effect, decreases the altitude of the mountain by several thousand feet," says Viesturs who now splits his time between Seattle and Sun Valley, Idaho. "I considered it a contrived way of gaining success. If I couldn't climb Everest without oxygen, I wouldn't climb it."

Viesturs relied on intensive training and long experience at high altitudes. He'd gained these skills while working on Mount Rainier for Rainier Mountaineering

Inc. Viesturs became a guide for the company in 1982 while attending the University of Washington. He has since climbed Washington's highest peak 215 times.

"Rainier has all of the elements of a mini Himalayan peak," he says. "I could learn about altitude, glacial terrain and bad weather. It became my classroom. It's fairly easy to access from Seattle, even in the winter. Within a couple of hours from downtown you can be on an amazing adventure."

Growing up in Illinois, Viesturs first became interested in climbing after reading Maurice Herzog's classic tale, *Annapurna*, about the first successful climb of the 26,545-foot Nepalese peak. The book inspired him to attend school in a place surrounded by mountains. Seattle fit the bill.

Viesturs' experience climbing and guiding on Mount Rainier allowed him to move up to the higher Himalayan peaks. He undertook months of endurance and strength training in preparation for the Everest climb.

"You have to have that deposit of physical fitness," he says. "But the mental part is big; you have to be comfortable being uncomfortable. It's so hard to keep going above 20,000 feet."

While making that final ascent on Everest, he breathed 15 times for every step. He would focus on short-term goals such as the rock 100 yards ahead. Then he'd find another rock, then another.



Around 1 P.M., he finally stood on the summit, with the entire world at his feet. "It was one of those dream-come-true moments," Viesturs says. "I had this notion of climbing Everest without oxygen. I lived that dream."

Today, Viesturs makes his living in part as a corporate speaker, talking about his ascent of Everest and of the 13 other mountains he's summited that are at least 26,000 feet high, and all without oxygen. The feat puts him in extremely rarefied mountaineering company. He helps audience members find the inspiration to overcome their own obstacles.

"Mountains are great metaphors for life," Viesturs says. "Maybe not literally, but figuratively, because everyone's trying to climb a mountain." **s**

Nicholas O'Connell is a Seattle-based climber and writer.

ED VIESTURS' SEATTLE-AREA FAVORITES:

- When I'm not climbing on Mount Rainier, I enjoy hiking and climbing in the alpine environment of the Stuart Range, located in Central Washington, outside of Leavenworth.
- I like to ski at Mt. Baker Ski Area in the North Cascades and Crystal Mountain Resort located to the northeast of Mount Rainier.
- Attending Seattle Sounders and Seahawks games at CenturyLink field is a lot of fun for the family.
- In summer, I visit the beaches and wakeboard on Lake Washington.



Bellevue Arts Museum.



Marymoor Park.



Local strawberries.



Bellevue Square.



Bellevue Botanical Garden.

EASTSIDE

PHOTO SAFARI

Our selection of colorful photos showcasing sites east of Seattle



Shopping, The Bellevue Collection.



Juanita Bay Park.



Chateau Ste. Michelle winery.



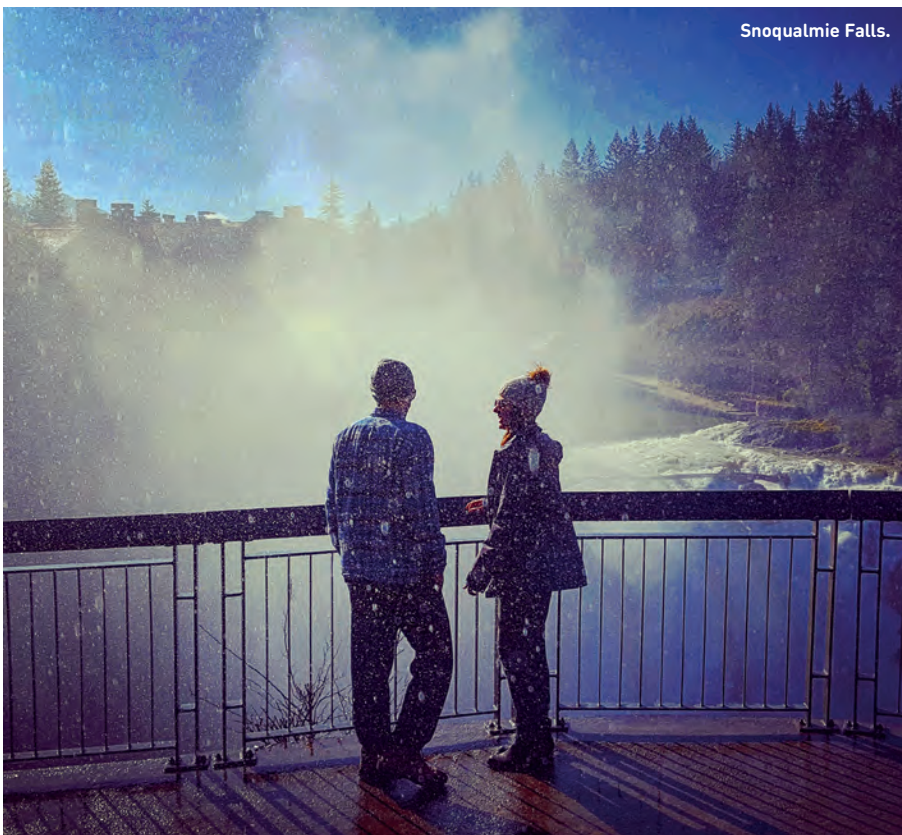
Carillon Point.



Hiking, Cascade Range.



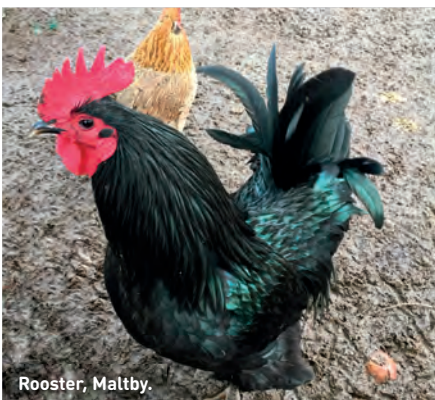
Parasailing practice, Marymoor Park.



Snoqualmie Falls.



Spring blooms, Bellevue.



Rooster, Maltby.



Kirkland Library, wall detail.



Marsh Park on Lake Washington.

Exhibiting Excellence

Artwork offers inspiration | By Ted Fry

Striding into the Seattle Art Museum, I quickly was struck with awe as I marveled at the 105-foot-long replica of a 140-year-old western hemlock that was hanging high above my head.

The new installation, titled *Middle Fork*, by John Grade, is a naturalistic wonder created by first using a plaster cast to replicate an old-growth specimen that still stands somewhere in the Cascade Range, then weaving together precision-cut, inch-long pieces of salvaged cedar to mimic the tree's trunk and branches. The sculpture is a breathtaking apparition of life-size magical realism. It spans the museum's Brotman Forum, a soaring foyer that's part gathering place and part exhibition space for large-scale installations that are suspended from the ceiling.

I've been a SAM fan for more than 30 years, starting when it was housed in a stately Art Deco structure in Volunteer Park. The magnificent original structure became a sister site as the Seattle Asian Art Museum, now undergoing its own massive makeover for a 2019 debut.

I was delighted along with the rest of the city when SAM opened the 9-acre outdoor Olympic Sculpture Park, which became home to an ever-expanding collection of large artworks, such as renowned sculptor Richard Serra's 300-ton iron piece, *Wake*.

A new sunset-hued indoor

installation, *The Western Mystery*, by Spencer Finch, also is on view, inside the park's Paccar Pavilion.

I've found inspiring moments in SAM's permanent collections as well. For instance, Albert Bierstadt's dramatic oil-on-canvas evocation of Northwest atmosphere, *Puget Sound on the Pacific Coast*, and the angular intensity of Morris Graves' gaze in his *Self-portrait* stay vivid in my memory. So does the sublimity pervading paintings such as



Top: *Middle Fork*, by John Grade, in the Seattle Art Museum. Above right: *En Paysage dans l'Île Saint-Martin*, by Claude Monet, at SAM. Above left: *The Western Mystery*, by Spencer Finch, inside the Olympic Sculpture Park's Paccar Pavilion.

Claude Monet's *En Paysage dans l'Île Saint-Martin*, in "Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection," SAM's featured exhibit through May 23.

SAM's legacy endures as it continues to enthrall—now more than ever, under the sweep of a majestic tree beckoning visitors to grow alongside the city's art. **s**



ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS

- **Bellevue Arts Museum**, Bellevue: "The Contact: Quilts of the Sierra Nevada by Ann Johnston," through June 11; "Future Machine," through Sept. 10; "Emerge/Evolve 2016: Rising Talents in Kiln-Glass," May 26–Oct. 1.
- **Cascadia Art Museum**, Edmonds: "Botanical Exuberance: Trees and Flowers in Northwest Art," through June 25; "Northwest Sculpture: Five Decades of Form and Innovation," through Sept. 24.
- **Chihuly Garden and Glass**, Seattle: Includes glass art, drawings and stunning installations by Dale Chihuly.
- **Frye Art Museum**, Seattle: "Between the Frames: The Frye Art Museum Collection After 1952," through July 23; "Frye Salon," through Jan. 21; "Amie Siegel: Interiors," May 20–Sept. 3.
- **Museum of Glass**, Tacoma: "Art Deco Glass from the Huchthausen Collection," through Aug. 13; "Into the Deep," through Aug. 20; "Linda MacNeil: Jewels of Glass," through Oct. 1; "Ispirazione: James Mongrain in the George R. Stroemple Collection," through Oct. 15.
- **Tacoma Art Museum**, Tacoma: "Cultural imPRINT: Northwest Coast Prints," through Aug. 20; "Familiar Faces & New Voices: Surveying Northwest Art," May 13–Summer 2019.
- **Online maps** are available for **self-guided art tours** of Seattle (seattle.gov), Kirkland (explorekirkland.com) and Bellevue (visitbellevue-washington.com).

Crowd Connections

Fostering community through film | By Ted Fry

Sarah Wilke has been a fan of the Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) since she first attended with her parents in the 1990s. “Film was a primary art form in my family,” she says. “It was a real shared experience in terms of how we gained empathy and started thinking about how to see the world.”

This year, as SIFF’s executive director, Wilke is guiding the film festival, May 18–June 11, with a more-important-than-ever mandate to manage an inclusive experience for one of the most vibrant film communities anywhere. This year, especially, emphasis is on bringing together the diverse populations in the Seattle area through the inherent connection moviegoers share.

Wilke, who led the estimable Seattle theater organization On the Boards for 12 years, says she’s grateful to be helping another organization with such a heralded reputation. SIFF showcases more than 400 films from more than 80 countries in 25 days. Hence the excited queues in front of theaters all over town.

“The conversations that are happening in line? Those are life-changing,” says Wilke. She’s overheard “everything from reunions to recommendations for the festival and beyond.”

A sense of anticipation is among the most memorable parts of the festival for SIFF audience members. Being on the edge of our seats during a film—or per-

haps jumping out of our seats—may be when we’re most aware of the collective feeling of immersive participation.

“The first thing I want to do when I have a strong response in a movie theater is look to the person to the left and to the right, and have that as a shared experience,” Wilke says. “It’s fun to see the way other people react, and remember that my reactions are part of a larger conversation.”

Wilke’s mission is getting a boost from the massive influx of new people in the area searching for community. “We need to be able to meet the needs of people who are coming in with their own diverse experiences and abilities to expect a wider conversation,” she says. “It’s a huge opportunity for SIFF, especially since we’re bigger than just the festival.”

SIFF operates several year-round theaters, curates an array of educational and community-outreach programs and offers filmmakers opportunities to grow in a city known for film lovers.

When people in Seattle come to SIFF, they really engage in the film experience, she says. “We don’t have to teach the audience to be that way; we just get to help foster it.” **s**

Ted Fry is a Seattle-based writer.

The Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF), May 18–June 11, showcases more than 400 films from 80-plus countries. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of SIFF.



SARAH WILKE'S SEATTLE-AREA FAVORITES:

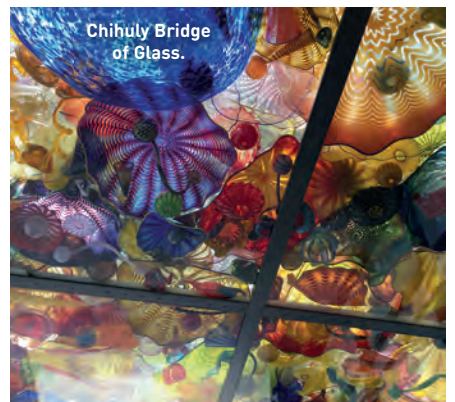
- Carkeek Park. I love combining the forest and the beach in a single hike. It’s by my house, and I am there at least once a week.
- Low-tide days are my favorite days in Seattle. I explore the usually hidden sea creatures. Green shrimp are still my favorite find. I think the best spot is near the Fauntleroy ferry dock.
- My favorite quiet spot is Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. James Cathedral on First Hill. When all the candles are lit, it is particularly amazing.
- When I have a free night, I always look at the Town Hall Seattle website (townhallseattle.org).
- I really like any Danish bakery, but Larson’s Danish Bakery in Ballard and Nielsen’s Pastries in Uptown are my favorites. Nielsen’s famous potato pastry is worth a taste.



LeMay—America's Car Museum.



Chambers Bay.



Chihuly Bridge of Glass.

SOUTH PUGET SOUND

PHOTO SAFARI

Our collection of vibrant images highlighting locations south of Seattle



Pacific Bonsai Museum.



Emerald Downs.



Museum of Glass.



Des Moines Marina.



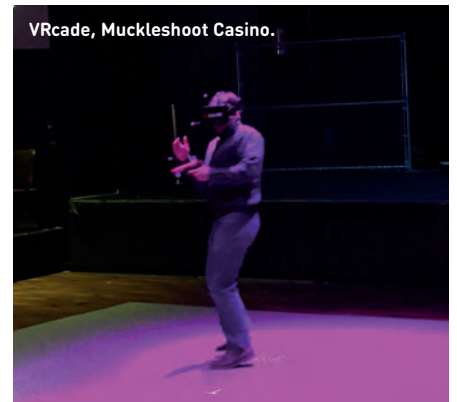
Rhododendron
Species Botanical
Garden.



Point Defiance Park.



Tacoma Union Station.



VRcade, Muckleshoot Casino.



Tacoma Art Museum.



Saltwater State Park.

SEATTLE

More to See

● **Bellingham/Whatcom County** (bellingham.org): You can take your pick of numerous outdoor adventures in this scenic region, and also taste locally made wine, beer and spirits. At **Semiahmoo Resort** (semiahmoo.com), enjoy the waterfront, beach and exceptional golf. And drive the **Mount Baker Scenic Byway** to mountain, forest and meadow views in the Mount Baker–Snoqualmie National Forest (www.fs.usda.gov/mbs).

● **Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum** (flyingheritage.com): More than 25 aircraft—many of them WWII planes from five different countries—along with tanks and other rare artifacts, are on display in two large hangars on Paine Field in Everett; also special events throughout the year. The collection is owned and displayed by Seattle Seahawks owner/Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen.

● **Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour** (futureof-flight.org): See Boeing’s production line in Everett during North America’s only publicly available tour of a commercial jet-assembly plant; also hands-on activities such as digitally designing an airplane.

● **Gig Harbor** (gigharborguide.com): Go fishing, scuba diving, boating, golfing or bicycling, or take a guided beach walk with **Harbor WildWatch**, in this delightful maritime area. You can also peruse boutique shops, relax with a local beer or cocktail, and savor water-view dining.

● **Leavenworth** (leavenworth.org): Known for its Bavarian-themed village and shops, this picturesque region amid the Cascade Range also offers wineries, breweries, distilleries, restaurants, and myriad outdoor activities, from horseback riding and whitewater rafting to Nordic skiing and dogsledding.

● **North Bend & Snoqualmie:** This month Showtime launches its



Top: Hikers in the Mount Baker–Snoqualmie National Forest in the Bellingham area. Above: Dancers in Bavarian-themed Leavenworth. Above right: A horse-drawn carriage in front of the Parliament Buildings in Victoria, BC.

limited-event *Twin Peaks* TV series, based on the early 1990s original, which was set in a fictional Northwest town; filming locations included the North Bend (northbendwa.gov) and Snoqualmie (cityofsnoqualmie.org) areas, making this a great time to visit. In addition to seeing landmarks such as **Twede’s Cafe** (“home of Twin



● **San Juan Islands** (visitsanjuans.com): These internationally acclaimed islands offer recreation ranging from cycling and hiking to kayaking and whale-watching (plus **The Whale Museum**, whalemuseum.org). Also enjoy village;

Peaks cherry pie”), enjoy outdoor activities, view Snoqualmie Falls, and take a train ride offered by the Northwest Railway Museum.

● **Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater** area (visitolympia.com): Attractions include tours of the 1928 **state capitol**; the **Thurston Bountiful Byway** agritourism self-tour; the **South Sound Wine Trail**; distilleries; one of the world’s largest collections of beads, at **Shipwreck Beads**; kayak rentals; and trails in the **Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge** (www.fws.gov/refuge/Billy_Frank_Jr_Nisqually).

es; artist studios; boutique shops; local wine, beer, cider and spirits; farm visits; and the **San Juan Islands Scenic Byway**, which includes ferry and driving routes.

● **Victoria, BC** (tourismvictoria.com): Options for visiting British Columbia’s charming capital include the **Victoria Clipper** ferry (clippervacations.com) from Pier 69 in Seattle. It’s about a 3-hour trip on the Salish Sea, and overnight packages also are available. Victoria’s many attractions include the **Royal BC Museum**, the **Parliament Buildings**, **The Butchart Gardens**, horse-drawn carriage rides and afternoon tea. —*M. Dill*

Seattle Calendar

SEATTLE



Summer Fun at Seafair

Seafair—one of the Puget Sound area’s largest festivals—includes popular events such as the **Alaska Airlines Rock ‘n’ Roll Seattle Marathon & 1/2 Marathon**, the **Alaska Airlines Seafair Torchlight Parade**, and exciting hydroplane races. Seafair events will take place June 14–Aug. 20 this year.

Music will be playing at about every mile of the course for the marathon and half marathon, June 18. The parade, July 29, along a 2.5-mile route downtown, will include clowns, pirates, bands, floats, and drill teams such as the Alaska Airlines Flight Attendant Drill Team, a crowd favorite. And the **Seafair Torchlight Run 5K and 8K** will let race participants run the parade route before the procession starts.

On **Seafair Weekend**, Aug. 4–6, spectators will be thrilled by the hydroplane racing and the Boeing Seafair Air Show, which includes the aerial acrobatic feats of the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. For a complete schedule of events, visit seafair.com. —*Kara Spencer*



Mesmerizing **Luzia**.

- **Cirque du Soleil’s Luzia**, Marymoor Park, Redmond: A beautiful world of astounding acrobatics, costumes, music and staging, inspired by Mexico, creates a mesmerizing and magical experience, through May 21; cirquedusoleil.com/luzia.

- **Holocaust Center for Humanity**, downtown: “The Journey That Saved Curious

George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey” exhibit is on view through May 24; holocaustcenterseattle.org.

- **Nordic Heritage Museum**, Ballard: “Marimekko, With Love” looks at how Marimekko’s designs helped shape an international revolution in pattern and textile production, through July 9; nordicmuseum.org.

- **Pacific Science Center**, Seattle Center: The world-premiere exhibition of “Terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor,” whose local sponsors include



“Terracotta Warriors.”

Alaska Airlines, is on view through Sept. 4; pacsci.org.

- **Northwest Trek Wildlife Park**, Eatonville: Species such as the snowy owl, cougar, bobcat, lynx, wolf and more can be seen at this park dedicated to native Northwest wildlife; nwtrek.org.

- **Chihuly Garden and Glass**, Seattle Center: “Yoga Under Glass” will be held in the beautiful Glasshouse, May 6 and 21; chihulygardenandglass.com.

- **Town Hall Seattle**: Upcoming events include “Tommy Caldwell: Climbing ‘Beyond the Limits,’” May 31, in which he will talk about achieving the first free ascent,



“Jim Henson” exhibit.

with Kevin Jorgeson, of Yosemite’s nearly vertical 3,000-foot Dawn Wall in 2015; townhallseattle.org.

- **Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP)**, Seattle Center: The world-premiere exhibit of “The Jim Henson Exhibition: Imagination Unlimited” will be on view May 20–Jan. 3. “David Bowie: Starman” will be exhibited July 1–Jan. 15; mopop.org.

- **KeyArena at Seattle Center**: “Stars on Ice,” including Olympic medalists, skates in on May 20. “The Total Package Tour,” featuring New Kids on the Block, with special guests Boyz II Men and Paula Abdul, arrives June 7; Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of the arena; keyarena.com.

- **Kirkland Performance Center**, Kirkland: Tony award-winning Broadway actress Laura Benanti will give a solo singing performance May 20, and the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra will perform with Christian McBride, June 18; kpcenter.org.

- **Northwest Folklife Festival**, Seattle Center: The festival cele-



Chateau Ste. Michelle Concert Series.

SEAFAIR: DANIEL MCMORROW; LUZIA: LAURENCE LABAT / COSTUMES: GIOVANNA BUZZI / 2016 CIRQUE DU SOLEIL: "TERRACOTTA WARRIORS" GENERAL COURTESY OF THE SHAAKXI CULTURAL HERITAGE PROMOTION CENTER; JIM HENSON WITH PUPPETS FROM FRAGGLE ROCK; © THE JIM HENSON COMPANY; CONCERT SERIES: KEVIN GRUFF

brates various cultures, with 5,000-plus performances, May 26–29; nwfolklife.org/festival.

• **Chateau Ste. Michelle 2017**

Summer Concert Series, Woodinville:

This year's series, June 1–Sept. 15, is part of the renowned winery's 50th-anniversary celebration, with performers ranging from John Legend and The Moody Blues to Diana Krall and Goo Goo Dolls, plus a jazz festival day and a blues festival day; ste-michelle.com.

• **Meydenbauer Center**, Bellevue:

The Bellevue Jazz and Blues Festival will include events at the center, June 2–3, with featured artists such as Catherine Russell; bellevuedowntown.com/events/bellevue-jazz-blues-festival.

• **The Fremont Tour**: Combines improv theater with the Fremont neighborhood's fun public art, including the **Fremont Troll** sculpture; tours take place Saturdays and Sundays, June 18–Sept. 3; thefremonttour.com.

• **Bite of Seattle**, Seattle Center:

Features food samples from more than 60 restaurants, along with craft-beer and cider tasting, live music, a cooking-demonstration stage and a family-fun stage; July 21–23; biteofseattle.com.

• **Pacific Northwest Scottish**

Highland Games and Clan Gathering, Enumclaw: Learn about Scotland, sample ales, watch traditional sporting events, and listen to harps, bagpipes and drums, July 28–30; sshga.org.

• **Bumbershoot**, Seattle Center:

Enjoy music, comedy, theater, film, dance and more at one of the Puget Sound area's biggest cultural events, Sept. 1–3; bumbershoot.com.

• **Washington State Fair**, Puyallup:

One of the largest fairs in the world, it offers food, rides, music, animals and rodeos; Sept. 1–24; thefair.com.

• **Seattle Children's Theatre**,

Seattle Center: *Fire Station 7* is presented through May 21. Upcoming plays include *Go, Dog. Go!*, Sept. 28–Nov. 26;





Mr. Popper's Penguins, Nov. 9–Dec. 31; and *The Little Prince*, Jan. 18–March 4; sct.org.

• **General Theater:**

ACT, *Chitrangada*, through May 20, and *Murder for Two*, through June 11 (acttheatre.org).

Book-It Repertory Theatre, *Welcome to Braggsville*, June 7–July 2 (book-it.org).

The 5th Avenue Theatre,

world premiere of *Romy and Michele's High School Reunion: The Musical*, June 8–July 2; *Fun Home*, July 11–30; *Something Rotten!*, Sept. 12–Oct. 1; and more, including the world premiere of *Intermission! The Musical!*, Feb. 2–25; Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of The 5th Avenue Theatre (5thavenue.org).

Paramount Theatre, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, July 25–30, and others, including *Hamilton*, Feb. 13–March 18; stgpresents.org.

Seattle Gilbert & Sullivan Society, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, July 14–30 (pattersong.org).

Seattle Repertory Theatre, *Here Lies Love*, through May 28 (seattlerep.org).

Seattle Shakespeare Company, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, May 3–21 (seattleshakespeare.org).

Taproot Theatre Company, *Busman's Honeymoon*, May 17–June 24, and *Persuasion*, July 12–

Aug. 19 (taproottheatre.org).

Village Theatre, *Dreamgirls*, Issaquah, May 11–July 2, and Everett, July 7–30 (villagetheatre.org).

• **Additional Performing**

Arts: Pacific Northwest Ballet, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, June 2–11 (pnb.org). **Seattle Opera**, *The Magic Flute*, May 6–21 (seattleopera.org). **Seattle Symphony**, "Broadway Rocks with the Seattle Men's Chorus," May 19–21 (seattlesymphony.org).

• For more information about Puget Sound-area events, see websites such as visitseattle.org, visitbellevuewashington.com, explorekirkland.com, seattlesouthside.com, traveltacoma.com and experiencewa.com.

—M. Dill and Kara Spencer



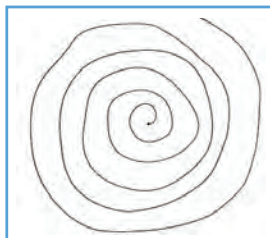
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