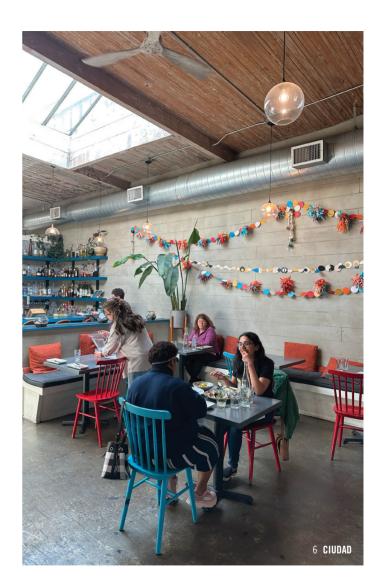
5 hip restaurants FOR A DATE

6 CIUDAD 6118 12th Avenue S Georgetown (9) +1 206 7172 984 ciudadseattle.com

Go here with foodie friends or dates who like to share and eat meat. The small plate menu is Mediterranean-influenced and allows for plenty of variety. All their meats are grilled to perfection over a charcoal grill you pass by as you enter the restaurant. Their industrial dining room is brightened up with colorful seating and an intriguing mural.

7 COMMUNION

2350 E Union St Central District ③ +1 206 391 8140 communionseattle.com Chef Kristi Brown's Communion took the Seattle food scene by storm when it opened in 2020, offering American soul food with PNW influences. The stylish interior matches their request that guests pop on their 'fancy threads' to visit. Enjoy the chicken special that changes daily, the BBQ shrimp and don't miss the mac and cheese.



The 5 best **OUTDOOR**

drinking spots

141 BALE BREAKER & YONDER CIDER TAPROOM 826 NW 49th St Ballard (\$) +1 773 998 1464 bbycballard.com

This property has changed hands between a few different purveyors of beer over the years, but the quality of the outdoor space remains the same. Bale Breaker, a Yakima-based brewery, took over recently and has even made some improvements to the massive outdoor seating area. Kids and dogs are everywhere while adults enjoy a wide array of beverages. A great array of different food trucks park nearby almost daily.

142 FREMONT BREWERY

1050 N 34th St Fremont ⑤ +1 206 420 2407 fremontbrewing.com Ten years ago Fremont Brewery was 1/10 its current size, which is hard to believe when you take in their glorious flowering patio and effortless in- and outdoor flow of their current space. Their success is due to a high-quality product (the beers really are great) and killer marketing (you'll want merch from here). Grab a flight to try a few classics (like the Interurban IPA) and enjoy all the people watching outside.

143 AMPERSAND CAFE ON ALKI

2536 Alki Avenue SW Alki ® +1 206 466 5254 ampersandalki.com

This small, charming cafe and bakery on Alki Avenue is a great place to get off your feet if you've been busy swimming or walking Alki Beach. They have plenty of tables set up out front across the road from the beach where you can enjoy one of their daily pastry specials and a seasonal drink, like a rosewater cardamom latte.



5 OUTDOOR GEAR and CLOTHING stores

171 ASCENT OUTDOORS

5209 Ballard Avenue NW Ballard ③ +1 206 545 8810 ascentoutdoors.com This smaller (but still full-service) outdoor retail store is a great place to go in Ballard when you want to get advice from experts on biking, skiing, climbing, hiking or mountaineering. Their store also includes a secondhand section and in 2019 they began offering guided outdoor adventures as well.



172 **REI FLAGSHIP STORE**

222 Yale Avenue N South Lake Union ① +1 206 223 1944 rei.com/stores/seattle

173 WONDERLAND GEAR EXCHANGE

122 NW 36th St Fremont (5) +1 206 582 1987 wonderlandgearexchange.com

174 OUTDOOR RESEARCH

2203 1st Avenue S SoDo ③ +1 206 268 7325 outdoorresearch.com

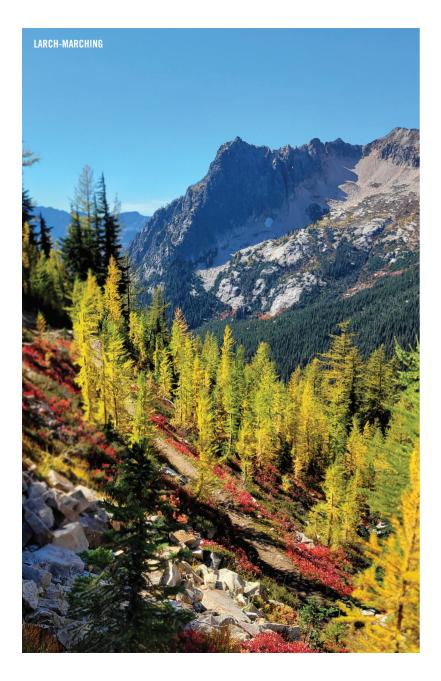
175 FEATHERED FRIENDS

263 Yale Avenue N South Lake Union ① +1 206 292 2210 featheredfriends.com Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) was founded in 1938 by a group of climbing friends and is still a member-owned co-op today. The Flagship store in Seattle is well worth a visit for a bike tune up, gear rental or purchase, or for an event or climbing session on their 65-feet-tall Pinnacle climbing wall.

First time adventurers and experienced outdoorists alike will appreciate the chance to buy and sell used gear here. They focus on consigning seasonally relevant gear that's 5-7 years old or less and their new(ish) location in Fremont has allowed them to expand their inventory.

Outdoor research became an adventurer's household name in the 8os and 9os for their focus on quality and functional USA-manufactured outdoor gear. Their Flagship store in the SoDo neighborhood is well worth a visit, as can be their outlet store just south of Seattle in Des Moines.

Feathered friends has been handcrafting high-quality down products for outdoor activities (and now beyond) in Seattle since 1972. 100% of the down they use is certified for the Responsible Down Standard (RDS). Their geoduck camping pillow is a great low-cost entry point to begin to understand the coziness of their products.



35 PLACES TO DISCOVER SEATTLE

The 5 best BEACHES	158
5 great VIEWPOINTS in Seattle	160
5 scenic WALKS	163
5 GARDENS for springtime blooms	165
5 spots for FALL FUN	168
5 places to discover SEATTLE'S HISTORY ——	170
5 places to find DARK SEASON JOY	172

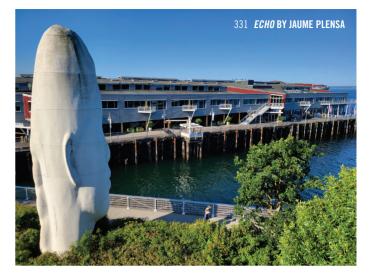
5 pieces of cool PUBLIC ART

331 ECHO BY JAUME PLENSA 2801 Alaskan Way Belltown ① +1 206 654 3100 seattleartmuseum.org/ visit/olympicsculpture-park

As you approach the Seattle Sculpture Garden from Alaskan Way, you'll catch glimpses of a uniquely shaped head staring out at the water and mountains ahead of you. *ECHO* by Jaume Plensa is a 46-feet-tall sculpture that welcomes passers-by to the sculpture garden. It's impossible for this structure not to invite contemplation, as it looks different from every angle.

332 THE TROLL BY STEVE BADANES & TEAM N 36th St Fremont (5) +1 206 632 1500

Tens of thousands of commuters and travelers pass over the Aurora bridge on a daily basis, rarely giving thought to the spooky troll that lurks right beneath the northern end of the bridge. Cemented in pop culture thanks to the film *10 Things I Hate About You*, the troll was constructed in 1990. It is 18 feet tall and clutching a Volkswagen Beetle.





5 great **HIKES**

close to the city

366 DIRTY HARRY'S BALCONY

53150 Grouse Ridge Road North Bend +1 360 825 1631 dnr.wa.gov/about/dnrregions-and-districts Looking to get out of the city for a half a day or less to a hike with some scenic views? Interested in a hike that's short but will still leave you a little winded and sore from a great workout? Check out Dirty Harry's Balcony, just under 40 miles from downtown Seattle. This hike makes a great pairing with other activities in the North Bend or Snoqualmie areas.



367 WALLACE FALLS STATE PARK

14503 Wallace Lake Road Gold Bar +1 360 793 0420 parks.state.wa.us/289/ wallace-falls

368 LAKE SERENE & BRIDAL VEIL FALLS

Mount Index River Road Gold Bar +1 206 625 1367 wta.org/go-hiking/ hikes/lake-serene

369 DOCKTON FOREST

9500 SW Dock Maury Island +1 206 477 4527 vashonparks.org/ dockton-park

370 GOLD CREEK TRAIL AT GREEN MOUNTAIN

1398 Gold Creek Road W Bremerton wta.org/go-hiking/ hikes/green-mountain-1 Wallace Falls State Park is a great destination in the springtime in the Northwest, when rain and snowmelt fuels the waterfall. The trail is enjoyable even during springtime rains, as there's a lot of forest cover that takes most of the brunt of the precipitation. This hike starts about an hour from Seattle.

This hike will give visitors the perfect taste of how great hiking can be in the PNW, though it is not by any means an easy hike. Over the 8-miles round trip, you'll get to see a spectacular 100-foot waterfall (at its best in the springtime when rain and snowmelt aid its flow) and a beautiful alpine lake. Try to hike here on a weekday.

Take a short ferry ride from Fauntleroy (West Seattle) to Vashon Island for this scenic hike. Construct your own loop of varying mileage, heading counter-clockwise from the Dockton Park Boat Ramp.

The Gold Creek Trail at Green Mountain is one of the few trails that actually offers a view of the Seattle skyline. Enjoy your journey to the trailhead, which can include a ferry ride if you choose, and take a moment to observe some of the logging efforts you'll see along your hike. The timber industry has played a huge role in the development of the PNW.

5 kid-friendly **MUSEUMS**

406 SEATTLE AQUARIUM

1483 Alaskan Way Pier 59 Downtown 2 +1 206 386 4300 seattleaquarium.org The Seattle Aquarium's prime waterfront location, just blocks downhill from Pike Place, makes it a great alternative to outdoor exploration if the weather on your visit isn't cooperating. They recently opened the 'Caring Cove,' an open play space where kids can play-act a variety of animal care activities. Time your visit to line up with one of the daily exhibit talks or mammal feeding times, all listed on their website.

407 SEATTLE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

305 Harrison St Seattle Center ① +1 206 441 1768 seattlechildrens museum.org Conveniently located in the heart of Seattle Center, the Seattle Children's Museum offers a wide array of exploratory play exhibits primarily for kids ten and under. Their *Tribal Tales* exhibit was developed in collaboration with local tribes, and can offer kids (and their parents!) a hand in understanding the long history of Native peoples in Seattle.

408 **KIDIMU**

301 Ravine Lane NE Bainbridge Island +1 206 855 4650 kidimu.org

409 WOODLAND PARK ZOO

5500 Phinney Avenue N Phinney Ridge (\$) +1 206 548 2500 zoo.org

410 KIDS FLIGHT ZONE @ MUSEUM OF FLIGHT

9404 E Marginal Way S South Seattle (9) +1 206 764 5700 museumofflight.org/ exhibits-and-events/ exhibits/kids-flight-zone KiDiMu, aka the Kids Discovery Museum, is a short, scenic ferry ride from downtown Seattle on Bainbridge Island. The activities and exhibits here are designed for children from six months to ten years of age. They also offer an *Explore Bainbridge* activities book to help kids and families explore other sites on the island through science, technology, engineering, and math activities.

Once you're inside the Woodland Park Zoo, you'll feel farther away from downtown than you actually are. While the more exotic animals might draw the attention of kids and adults alike, first time visitors to the PNW should be sure to visit the Living Northwest Trail, designed to help visitors appreciate the wildlife all around our region.

Budding pilots and engineers will be enamored with the opportunity to sit inside the cockpits of various aircraft in the Kids Flight Zone. With a number of aircraft on display both inside the museum and out on the tarmac (the museum is adjacent to the King County Airport), there is tons to look at for kids and adults of all ages.



5 worth-renting-a-car MULTI-DAY HIKES

466 MOOSE LAKE

47.9183, -123.3822 Olympic Peninsula wta.org/go-hiking/ hikes/moose-lake This pristine lake in the heart of Olympic National Park will have you driving to one of the most scenic trailheads in Washington state at Obstruction Point. You'll then descend into the lake basin, passing by a few other campsites along your way. Plan ahead to get permits through the National Park system, and then spend your days exploring nearby peaks and enjoy watching the light fade over the lake in the evenings.

467 SPRAY PARK LOOP

46.9330, -121.8643 Mount Rainier National Park wta.org/go-hiking/ hikes/spray-park-ipsutpass-loop One of the most photographed viewpoints of Mount Rainier comes from Spray Park, but it takes some work to get there and to get permits to camp, so plan ahead. The Eagle's Roost campsite offers a great jumping-off point for a weekend of exploring. Bring your fully charged camera to capture *the* mountain in all her glory and keep your eyes open for brown bears feasting on ripening berries.