

Spending a couple extra days in the area and wondering what to do?

## **DOWNTOWN**

**PIKE PLACE MARKET** – If you've never been, it is quintessential Seattle. See the flying fish, visit the original Starbucks and grab some chowder, people watch and pick up some cheap flowers.

**NORDSTROM & PACIFIC PLACE** – The place to go for those looking to shop. Many well-known brands (Pottery Barn, Sephora, J.Crew, etc.) and also the flagship Nordstrom store.

**PIONEER SQUARE** – Here you'll find the old Seattle and a wonderful bookstore to lose yourself in for a couple hours: Elliott Bay Books (101 South Main Street). If you're feeling up for a tour, head to the Seattle Underground Tour (608 First Ave.) and see what's under those purple glass squares on the sidewalks of Pioneer Square.

**CHINATOWN INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT** – One of the city's oldest neighborhoods, this is also the area to get your Pho on. Head to Uwajimaya, an Asian food and gift market.

**REI** – The company's flagship store is pretty darn cool with a plethora of goods, a 65-foot climbing wall and more.

## **SOUTH OF DOWNTOWN**

**MUSEUM OF FLIGHT** – You don't have to be a plane enthusiast to enjoy this very cool museum – visit the 95-year-old original Boeing factory barn, check out the new Personal Courage Wing and climb aboard the first Air Force One.  
9404 E. Marginal Way South

## **NEIGHBORHOOD – BALLARD**

We're a bit partial to Ballard. It's cute, it's historic and it's where we met.

**BALLARD AVE. & MARKET STREET** – Although the area was originally Seattle's Scandinavian epicenter, it's become the hip place for shopping, dining and drinks. Walk down Ballard Ave. and check out the many boutique shops. Eat at our favorite restaurant, La Carta de Oaxaca. The food is wonderful, authentic (try the molé) and the wait is well worth it.

**THE SLOOP TAVERN** – Not the place where you'd think you would meet your soulmate but it worked for us. Try a Sloop, 32 ounces of beer at a great price.

**THE BALLARD LOCKS** – Technically called the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, watch boats travel back and forth from Lake Washington to the Sound. Walk across the Locks and check out the fish ladder where you'll see returning adult salmon.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD – FREMONT**

Self-proclaimed "Center of the Universe," Fremont is a funky area with boutique shopping and public art. Venture under the Aurora Bridge (the big one) and you'll find the Fremont Troll. Check out the Fremont Sunday Market with 150+ vendors.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD – QUEEN ANNE**

**SEATTLE CENTER & THE SPACE NEEDLE** – If you get a clear day and you feel like paying \$14 a pop for a ride to the top, head up to the Space Needle and see the city from above. The Seattle Center is also home to Paul Allen's Experience Music Project. The Pacific Science Center is also located near the Space Needle and is a big hit with the kids. Check out the Dead Sea Scrolls which will be at The Pacific Science Center starting on September 23.

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## NEIGHBORHOOD – QUEEN ANNE (cont.)

KERRY PARK – Wondering where to find Seattle’s best viewpoint? This is the place. On a clear day, you can see Mt. Rainier in the distance, downtown and, of course, the Space Needle. To get there, turn right off Denny onto First Ave. N.; turn left on Roy St. and then right on Queen Anne Ave.; head up hill and turn left on W. Highland Drive. Kerry Park is two blocks down on the left.

## NEIGHBORHOOD – CAPITOL HILL

For those looking to see the city’s edgier side, head to Capitol Hill. This is the place to go if you’re looking to get a tattoo to commemorate our wedding. Grab a burger and shake at Dick’s on Broadway while listening Sir Mix-A-Lot’s “Posse on Broadway”.

## TRIPS OUTSIDE SEATTLE

Here’s just a few of the region’s amazing places to explore:

- Tacoma – Visit historic T-Town’s attractions, including the Museum of Glass
- Mount Rainier National Park – See it before it blows.
- Olympic Peninsula – Rainforests, ocean beaches and tall mountains.
- Vancouver, B.C. – A cool city, great exchange rate, shopping, nightlife and it’s another country. Also check out Victoria.
- San Juans – Fly in on a seaplane or take a ferry. Go island hopping and watch Orcas.
- Portland – Our friendly neighbors to the south offer a variety of attractions including one of the best bookstores in the nation, Powells Books.
- Leavenworth – Styled after a Bavarian city, Leavenworth is a bit odd but enjoyable, nonetheless.

## WHERE TO EAT

BREAKFAST – There’s plenty of great places for breakfast all around the city. We’ve always been partial to those in our Ballard area including Vera’s (5417 22nd Ave NW), and Chinook’s at Salmon Bay (1900 W. Nickerson St.) where the scones are excellent and you can watch fishermen heading out for the day.

BURGERS – Mmmm. Beef. Dick’s is famous in these parts and there’s several locations around town. Another favorite is Red Mill Burgers, located in Magnolia and north of Fremont. We’re a bit partial to The Sloop’s burgers.

STEAK – Mmmm. More beef. When it comes to steak, The Metropolitan Grill (The Met) is the place to go. Located downtown at 820 Second Ave., it’s pricey but highly recommended and while their specialty is steak, they do a darn good job with seafood as well. Also try El Gaucho at 2505 First Ave.

MEXICAN – Have we mentioned La Carta de Oaxaca on Ballard Ave.? Well, we really like it. Authentic, very tasty food. Yes, you often have to wait for a seat but we swear it’s worth it. Share three portions (they’re cheap but small) and a couple Pacificos for a memorable evening. Also, less than a half-block away is The Matador which also has good food and an even better atmosphere.

SEAFOOD – Just down the road from our reception site, you’ll find Ray’s Boathouse and Anthony’s HomePort, two ideal places for those looking to throw down some salmon, oysters or crab. There’s no shortage of great seafood in Seattle so try downtown as well.

THAI & SUSHI – It’s tough to narrow this down as Seattle is filled with excellent restaurants featuring a variety of Asian cuisines. For upscale Thai, head to Typhoon! (1400 Western Ave. in downtown) but for ma-and-pa Thai, I head to Thai Siam (8305 15TH Ave NW Seattle). For raw fish there’s I Love Sushi (1001 Fairview Ave. N) or Chiso Sushi in Fremont (3520 Fremont Ave. N.)

## WHAT ELSE?

Wondering where to find the city’s best shoe store or the perfect dive bar?

Check out this site and you’ll know everything that’s hot in Seattle:

<http://seattle.citysearch.com/bestof/categories>