

101 THINGS TO DO

explore more

PUGET SOUND
PENINSULA
SPRING/SUMMER
2025
ISSUE 05

LEARN ABOUT ALL THE LOCAL
FAVORITE SPOTS

DISCOVER MORE OF
YOUR OWN BACKYARD



GIG HARBOR

Explore



Exhale



Play

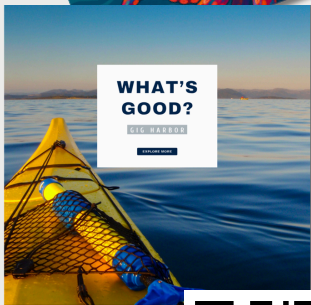


Want more of what Gig Harbor has to offer?

Whether you're seeking the thrill of kayaking in pristine waters or looking for memorable adventures, this charming town has it all!

Use the "101 Things to Do: Explore More" activity guide for an insider's look at local favorites.

For the latest events, join What's Good? Gig Harbor on Facebook and stay in the know about all things local! Brought to you by Sarah Husby with Infinity Real Estate, a trusted local expert in showcasing the BEST of Gig Harbor.



Scan to start
exploring more now

Infinity
REAL ESTATE
infinitypnw.com

Come for the experience Stay for the memories



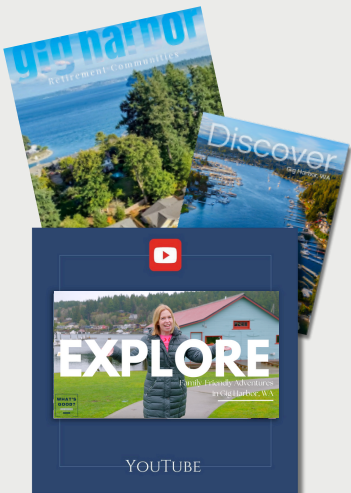
Relocate



Retire



Live



Love Gig Harbor? Picture it as your home!

Request your complimentary relocation guide, explore neighborhood tours, or dive into my YouTube series showcasing the lifestyle that makes this area so special.

With deep local knowledge, a track record of successful closings, and consistent 5-star reviews, clients choose me for the exceptional service and personalized support they deserve.

Let me guide you to finding your
perfect place in Gig Harbor—
where quality matters just as much as the view.

Sarah Husby 206-734-1532 sarah.husby@infinitypnw.com



Directory

1. ESSENTIAL

Page 2

1. Whale Watching
2. Beach
3. Mountains
4. Go Float
5. Underwater Kingdom
6. Lighthouses
7. Discover the Islands

2. WATER ADVENTURES

Page 3-4

8. Dive the Waters
9. Waterfalls
10. Land A Winner
11. Meet the Sunset
12. Wade in a Tide Pool
13. Splash Your Way Through Summer
14. Go Jump in a Lake
15. Ride the Gondola
16. Learn to Sail
17. Rent a Boat
18. Stroll the Docks
19. Bioluminescence
20. Wander Remote Islands
21. Unique Quarters

3. FOOD, FUN & HAPPINESS

Page 6-11

22. Live Music
23. Festivals
24. Rubber Meets the Road
25. Foot Ferry
26. Saddle-Up
27. Walk the Harbor

28. Local Art Scene
29. Outdoor Movies
30. Take A Farm Tour
31. Watch Soaring Eagles
32. Suspension Bridge
33. Journey through Gardens
34. Coffee Houses
35. Sip
36. Farmers Market
37. Best Ice Cream Debate
38. Salmon Bakes
39. Pickleball/Tennis
40. Explore Local Food Scene
41. Chutes & Ladders
42. Visit Outer Space
43. Shop PNW Style
44. Relax with a New Book
45. Pamper Yourself
46. Savory & Sweet
47. Must Visit Golf Courses
48. Animal Adventures
49. Minor League Baseball
50. Bullseye!
51. Paw-some Dog Parks
52. Old Time Movie Theater
53. Yoga in the Park
54. Gaming
55. Glass Blowing
56. Museums
57. Thornewood Castle
58. Historic Railway
59. Tinkering
60. Stroll Local Paths
61. Pool Time

4. A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

Page 13

62. Relive History
63. Scout Out a WWII Fort
64. Take a Road Trip to Bunkers/Forts-Fort Flagler
65. Absorb the Spirit of Native America
66. Olympic National Park
67. Time Travel to the Pioneer Days
68. Visit Vintage
69. Explore a Local Museum

5. UP IN THE AIR

Page 14

70. Fly Above It All
71. Hang by a Rope
72. Board A Chopper Ride made for Adventure
73. Go Skydiving
74. Spread your Wings & Fly
75. Fly Down the Slopes
76. Mountain Bike
77. Wing Walking
78. Hot Air Balloon

6. BEYOND THE CITY

Page 15

79. Belly Laughing
80. Just Dance
81. Entertainment Galore
82. Dine with Spectacular Views

83. And all that Jazz
84. Live Theater
85. Tours
86. Escape Rooms
87. Craft Your Own Spirits

7. DAY TRIPPIN

Page 16-17

88. Hot Springs
89. Volcanoes
90. Escape to Ape Caves
91. Drive the Hood Canal
92. Explore Historic Towns & Forts
93. Take a Hike
94. Dip your Toes in the Pacific Ocean
95. Navigate a Spit
96. Visit somewhere Quaint
97. Seabeck- Big Beef
98. Disappointment
99. Walk to the Edge
100. If you have more than just a day...
101. Visit Royalty

BONUS SECTION! - LOCAL GEMS

Page 18 & 19

- 15 Local Waterfalls with easy/moderate hikes
- 5 Local Lighthouse Overnight Stays!



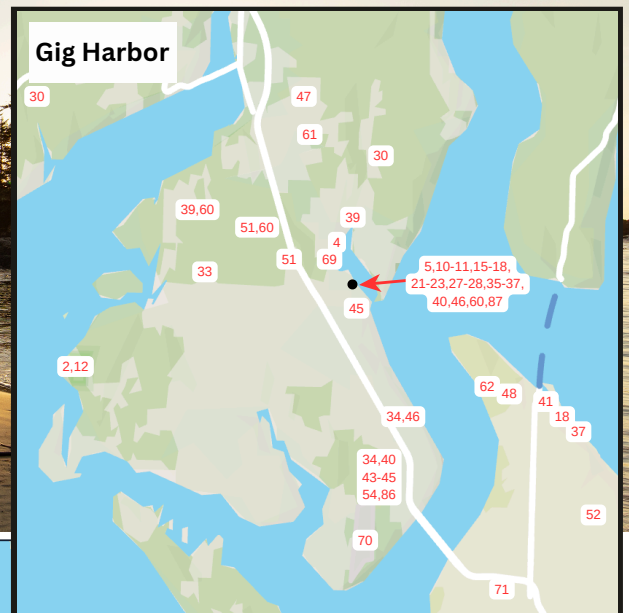
I created this guide with you in mind. All too often I hear, "What is there to do around here?" Growing up and raising a family in the Pacific Northwest has afforded me some wonderful adventures. Going off on far away vacations are great, but sometimes I have to remind myself to go explore more of my own backyard.

As a local Realtor, I help a lot of people move to the area who are eager to explore. Sometimes I hear from other parents that they are looking for a fun idea to do with the family. Whether you are new to the area and just starting out or native and need to make some great memories with your family, I hope this guide provides you with some new ways to enjoy your own backyard. Have fun making memories!

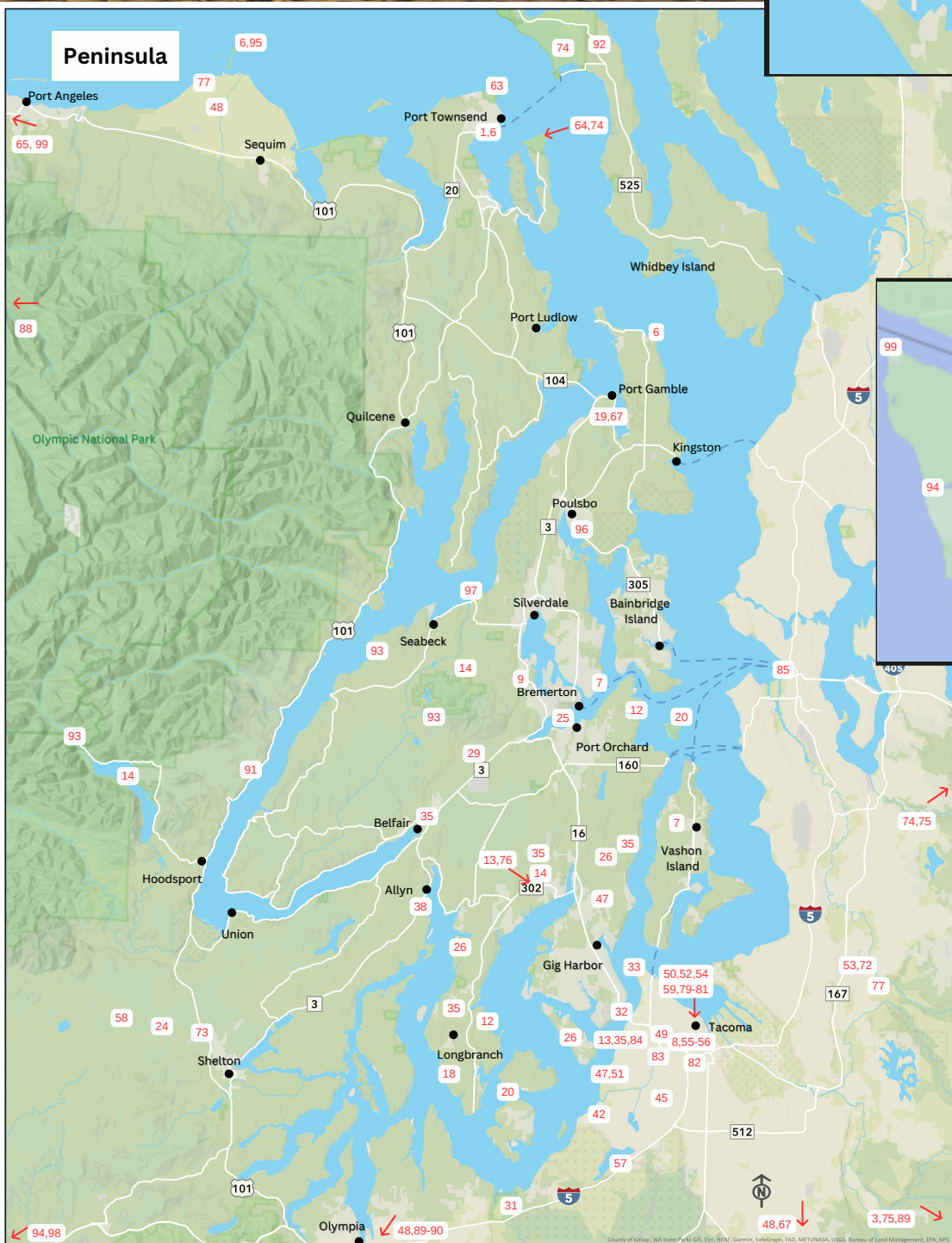
Sarah Husby



Welcome to the Peninsula



SEE LAST PAGE FOR ENLARGED MAP OF GIG HARBOR



THIS GUIDE IS
BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Sarah Husby
Infinity
REAL ESTATE

FIRST THINGS FIRST, MAKE SURE TO PUT THESE ON YOUR PRIORITY LIST

Essential Puget Sound Peninsula

1. WHALE WATCHING

Orcas, humpbacks, gray or minke are some of the whales you might see on a whale watching tour.

Puget Sound Express

has three departure locations and options of half-day, full day or multi-day tours.

Local whale sighting network **Orca Network** is a great resource too!



PUGET SOUND EXPRESS



ORCA NETWORK

2. BEACH

You haven't truly explored the Pacific Northwest (PNW) until you set foot on the beaches. Most are rocky, but there are sandy areas. Hit them at low tide and you will find live sand dollars, shellfish, sea stars, crabs and possibly see some jellyfish, harbor seals and orcas as they float on by. There are several spots to choose from. The DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve located on the west end of Fox Island is a great place to start roaming & dogs are allowed!

53 Bella Bella Dr, Fox Island



BELLA BELLA

3. MOUNTAINS

Take a drive up to **Mount Rainier** or **Mount Saint Helens**. There are several places to hike, explore and learn about these gigantic volcanoes. Ride the gondola or the adventure course at Crystal Mountain. If winter sports are more your thing you have several mountain passes to choose from to go skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing or inner tubing.

4. GO FLOAT

You can't truly experience the PNW until you get out on the water. Whether it is on a kayak, Stand Up Paddle Boards (SUP) or boat, there are several choices.

Deadman's Island Kayak & SUP

provides tours throughout the area or rentals, including delivery. Circumnavigate multiple islands and explore the bridges!



DEADMAN'S

Lee's Waterfront SUP & Kayak

Rental is located at the north end of the harbor you can rent kayaks, SUP or even a pedal boat. Snag one and go visit the lighthouse, at the mouth of the harbor which is only accessible by water. 8829 N Harborview Dr (May - end of Summer)



LEE'S SUP

5. UNDERWATER KINGDOM

Learn more about the underwater kingdom from the people who work with these creatures every day. From octopus to touch tanks, there is so much to learn about marine life. **Harbor Wildwatch** in Gig Harbor hosts several marine life education programs. At their interpretive center, they have touch tanks, marine mammal skulls & a live underwater video stream



HARBOR WILDWATCH

Also check out **SEA Discovery Center** (Poulsbo), **Point Defiance Aquarium** (Tacoma).

6. LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses have a fascinating history. There are several to tour throughout the Washington coastline, some are conveniently located, while others require a hike, and all have spectacular views.

-Point No Point Light House

9009 NE Point No Point Rd, Hansville, Wa 98340

-New Dungeness Lighthouse

Dungeness Spit, Sequim, Wa 98382

-Point Wilson Lighthouse

200 Battery Way E Port Townsend Wa 98368
(See pg 19 for overnight stays!)

7. DISCOVER THE ISLANDS

Some islands you can access by bridge, while others are boat only (private or ferry). Two larger islands that provide many activities are Bainbridge & Vashon Island.

You can take the ferry to **Vashon Island**.

You can visit

Point Robinson

Lighthouse, a winery

(**Nashi Orchards**), hike **Frog Holler Forest**, visit a brewery or a sandy beach (**KVI beach**).



VASHON

Bainbridge Island is accessible by ferry or bridge. You can expect great views and beaches, a charming downtown with a variety of shops & restaurants with a very rich art culture.



BAINBRIDGE

Water Adventures

8. DIVE THE WATERS

If you're ready for underwater adventures, try scuba diving. If you're new or experienced, **Tacoma Scuba** provides everything you need.



TACOMA
SCUBA

If you already have skills and gear, check out **Sunrise Beach** on the east side of Gig Harbor or under the **Tacoma Narrows Bridge** (accessible from **Narrows Beach**). Wolf eels, giant octopus and mosshead warbonnets frequent this location.

If you're up for a little drive, check out **Octopus Gardens Diving** in Port Townsend. A little over an hour drive from Gig Harbor.



OCTOPUS
GARDENS

9. WATERFALLS:

Dickerson Creek Waterfall, just a 25 minute drive north of Gig Harbor, in Bremerton on the **Ueland Tree Farm**. From the parking lot, there is an easy hike (1.6 miles roundtrip) to a rewarding waterfall that allows you to swim. There are many trails available to explore and dogs are allowed. The public access allows you to hike, mountain bike, horseback ride and pick berries or mushrooms. If you haven't been, put this on your bucket list!



DICKERSON
CREEK

Check out the "15 local & easy Waterfall Hikes" at the end of this guide for even more great spots!

10. LAND A WINNER

Fishing for a new activity? Sure, the PNW has several places to fish; off the **Fox Island Pier** or at the **Purdy Spit**, but if you want to level up your experience, check out **Gig Harbor Fly Shop** for equipment, education and experiences.



GIG HARBOR
FLY SHOP

11. MEET THE SUNSET

What better way to catch the sunset from a sailboat or yacht. There are multiple options and locations to choose from.

In Gig Harbor, charter a sailboat or yacht from **Cruise Hobbes**.



HOBBS

Interested in Elliott Bay & the Seattle waterfront. Help raise the sails or steer the ship and check out **Seattle's Tall Ship**, you will be sure to have a great trip.



TALL SHIP

Enchantress Cruises are elegant, romantic, and something you will remember forever. Cruises start on Lake Union and head over to Lake Washington.



ENCHANTRESS

Schedule a 1 hour **Argosy** cruise through a narrated tour of Seattle's waters.



ARGOSY

Whichever you choose... enjoy the ride!

12. WADE IN A TIDE POOL

As tides roll back around the Puget Sound, they reveal a treasure trove of marine life. From Anemones to sea stars, limpets to chitons, there are many delightful creatures in tidepools.

Penrose State Park is a great place to visit at low tide. **Harbor Wild Watch** will conduct low tide walks at local beaches. Their biologists are available to provide a hands-on exploration of the intertidal zone. A few other great spots? **Bella Bella Beach** on the northwest corner of Fox Island or **Manchester State Park** just 25 minutes north in Port Orchard.

13. SPLASH YOUR WAY THROUGH SUMMER

As the days grow warmer, everyone hunts for a way to cool off. Splash parks are a convenient way to keep the kiddos active and cool at the same time. On the Key Peninsula, **Gateway Park** has a splash pad open Memorial Day - Labor Day.

Just across the bridge in Tacoma is **Titlow Park** (8425 6th Ave) equipped with a large splash pad, playground & beach access. **Kandle Park** (2323 N Shirley St) has a spray ground & wave pool which is a summer win for all!

14. GO JUMP IN A LAKE!

Looking for some freshwater options to cool off? Just outside of Gig Harbor is **Horseshoe Lake**. Bring your floaties! This park is popular in the summer as it has a playground, picnic tables w/BBQ stations, restrooms, and a dock to jump off. Nearby **Wildcat Lake** in Bremerton has similar facilities.

Looking for adventure on bigger lakes that support motorboats? Venture out a bit further to **Mason Lake** and **Lake Cushman**. If you go to Lake Cushman, you can go to the west end to jump off cliffs (a popular attraction), hike **Staircase Rapids Trail** (*no dogs*) or camp at Skokomish Park. You are bound to have an epic time in the summer at a lake!

15. RIDE THE GONDOLA

Enjoy a classic **Italian gondola** ride in traditional venetian gondolas, the only one in the Pacific Northwest.

Hear about some history of Gig Harbor and delight in the vocal stylings, as your gondolier takes you around the harbor. Afterwards, enjoy some fish & chips from **The Trolley** at The Boatyard. (3119 Harborview Dr.)



GH GONDOLA

16. LEARN TO SAIL

Get out on the water and feel the wind in your hair with **Puget Sound Sailing Institute**. The American Sailing Association classes are held at different locations. Check out their website for details.



PUGET SOUND
SAILING
INSTITUTE

GHYC Junior Sail offers summer camps and sail programs to youth ages 6-18. They teach the basics to beginning sailors and build on prior experience as you advance through the program.



GHYC
JUNIOR
SALE

17. RENT A BOAT

There is no better way to experience the Puget Sound than on the water. In Gig Harbor, you can rent a classic boat from **Gig Harbor Boat Shop** or an electric boat from **Gig Harbor Electric Boat Rentals**. Check out the Chamber of Commerce website to get more details & options.



VISIT GH

In Tacoma, you can rent from the **Point Defiance Marina**. There are options to rent kayaks & fishing equipment as well. (5912 N Waterfront Dr.)



METRO
PARKS

18. STROLL THE DOCKS

Eating some ice cream while strolling the docks is great way to enjoy an afternoon and there are several to choose from:

Gig Harbor - **Jerisich Dock** 3215 Harborview Dr
Key Peninsula - **Penrose & Joemma State Park** (*Discover Pass required*)
Poulsbo- **Liberty Bay Waterfront Park**
Tacoma- **Ruston Way Waterfront**
Port Orchard, Bremerton, Silverdale, Manchester and more have waterfront strolls that are wonderful too!

19. BIOLUMINESCENCE

Book a **Bioluminescence** tour and paddle around in beautiful **Port Gamble Bay**. Bioluminescence is an amazing natural phenomenon in which an organism produces and emits light due to a chemical reaction where the chemical energy is converted into light energy. When disturbed the organisms give off light such as when you paddle a kayak. There are limited nights when this is conducted, so book your tour early.



BIO TOUR

20. WANDER REMOTE ISLANDS

Intrigued by the small islands around us? **Cutts Island State Park** is .5 miles NW of Kopachuck State Park and can only be accessed by boat. Locals call this Deadman's Island, and it is a popular spot on a hot sunny day. You can raft up and explore the 2 acres, but there is no camping available.

Blake Island State Park lies east of Port Orchard and is only accessible by boat. On the northeast end of the island is a marina. Many will launch at Manchester and boat over. There are hiking trails, pack in/out campgrounds (w/bathrooms) and a fantastic sandy beach with views of Seattle. The east side has incredible views of Mt. Rainer.

Eagle Island State Park is a 10-acre marine park in south Puget Sound only accessible by boat (*launch out of Longbranch*). The island is in Balch Passage between McNeil and Anderson Island. There are a few mooring bouys or you can beach it. This tranquil location has a great beach, some trails and a stunning view of Mt. Rainer.



WA STATE
PARKS

21. UNIQUE QUARTERS

Book a stay on a cozy classic yacht in downtown Gig Harbor. Several boats available. They are all located at a historic net shed and dock on the south end of the harbor. Enjoy the use of their kayaks and explore the harbor. Level up: Throw a murder mystery dinner party into one. Now that sounds fun!!! Look for host Michelle on airbnb.com

Food, Fun & Happiness

22. LIVE MUSIC

Summer Sounds, a free public concert at **Skansie Brothers Park** in downtown Gig Harbor is a wonderful way to enjoy the harbor. From July 8-Aug 26th, a concert is scheduled every Tuesday 6-8pm. Bring your lawn chair or boat on up and enjoy the sounds from the Sound. Scan the QR code to get the details.



SUMMER SOUNDS

Many restaurants and cafes have local musical artists perform live. The Float, Kimball Coffee House, O'Looney's & The Hub are a few to keep an eye on for events.

23. FESTIVALS

Come see why we love Gig Harbor! The **Maritime Gig Festival** (6/7 & 8) is an annual celebration with a packed weekend of fun activities. There is a parade on Saturday morning, several vendor booths, live music and many activities throughout the weekend including Blessing of the Fleet & a classic Car Show. Held at Skansie Park on the waterfront. (First Saturday and Sunday of June each year)



MARITIME FESTIVAL

Gig Harbor Film Festival is one of the hottest destinations on the independent film festival circuit - it hosts more than 80 visiting filmmakers & screens over 100 films. (Last weekend in September)



GIG HARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

24. RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

Love that rush of adrenaline and looking for a fun adventure? **Ridgeway Motorsports Park**, an outdoor karting facility in Shelton Washington, is an exciting option. You can reach speeds of up to 45+mph while experiencing the 16 turns and elevation changes.
-Open April-October
-Must be 15+ years old
-50 min from Gig Harbor



RIDGEWAY MOTORSPORTS PARK

25. FOOT FERRY

Got an afternoon free? Here's a great way to spend it...take the foot ferry from downtown **Port Orchard** to Bremerton. With views of the Olympic Mountains & battle ships, you can't go wrong with a ferry ride across **Sinclair Inlet**.

If you're lucky, they might be running the refurbished Carlisle II, built in 1917 as part of the Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet.

Bremerton has a great spray ground park to hang out in or stroll through downtown Port Orchard and enjoy their shops & restaurants.

Tip: Great times to go are Saturdays from April-October during **Port Orchards Farmers Market!**

26. SADDLE-UP

If you're interested in learning how to ride or strengthen your skills, we are lucky to have so many wonderful stables in our area to choose from.

Pets Galore Horse Rides is located just north of Gig Harbor in Olalla. They have a 25 acre private horse park with 3 miles of trails weaving throughout and an outside arena for horse games, jumping, drill team and lessons.



PETS GALORE

Fox Island Equestrian is a facility offering boarding, horse training, riding lessons, Summer pony camp, music with the ponies, yoga, birthday parties, and kids night-out.



FOX ISL EQ

27. WALK THE HARBOR

New walking tours this year! *Pints, Myths & Maritime Spirits* is a new tour that takes attendees on a journey through Gig Harbor's maritime history and lore, starting and ending with local craft beverages. *Wonders of the Waterfront* and *Skiffs to Spirits* are two other tours to check out June - August.



WALKING TOUR

28. LOCAL ART SCENE

Summer Art Festival hosts 150 PNW artists and crafters showcasing their work at Sehmel Homestead Park. July 19-20th, festivities include food, music and more.



PEN ART
LEAGUE

"**Chalk the Harbor**" occurs at Sat. August 16th and all ages can decorate Gig Harbor's downtown waterfront with chalk!

Gig Harbor's Open Studio Tour is September 19-21st. Artists open up their studio and invite the public to demonstrate their craft. This self-guided tour features professional artists from various mediums.



OPEN STUDIO
TOUR

29. OUTDOOR MOVIES

About 400 drive-ins remain in the US and we have one just 25 minutes away from Gig Harbor, **Rodeo Drive-In**. They have 3 screens and are the largest outdoor theatre complex, north of California, and by far the largest and oldest family-owned drive-in in the northwest. (Near Bremerton Airport)



RODEO

30. TAKE A FARM TOUR

Farm tours provide an opportunity for the public to visit multiple farms across in a one-day, self-guided tour. Farms taking part are listed below. The tour is a group of dedicated farmers working together to promote agritourism.

Key Peninsula Farm Tour
Sept 27-28th
Kitsap County Farm Tour
August 10th



KP FARM
TOUR



KITSAP
FARM TOUR

Take a tour of a lavender farm. **Crescent Valley Lavender Farm** is a local family-owned farm that grows premium lavender. Open to the public, during peak season (*mid-June to end of July*), they offer you-cut harvesting along with locally made botanical product line infused with the farm's lavender.



LAVENDER FARM

31. WATCH SOARING EAGLES

Here's another PNW treat, **Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge**. One of the most unique wildlife refuges in our backyard! A beautiful place to explore as it offers a long and well-maintained wooden path through the forest and over the wetlands. They suggest visiting 2 hours before high tide as the wildlife is most active. (*No pets allowed, \$3 fee for parking/ trail access, 35 minutes from Gig Harbor*)



NISQUALLY
WILDLIFE REFUGE

32. SUSPENSION BRIDGE

Stroll or bike the **Tacoma Narrows Bridge** and enjoy spectacular views of the Puget Sound including Steilacoom Ferry Dock, Ketron & Fox Island. Bring a jacket because it can get windy!

33. JOURNEY THROUGH GARDENS

Need to slow down and exhale a bit? **Bloedel Reserve**, located on Bainbridge Island, is the perfect setting. It is 150 acres of preserved sanctuary. Explore the moss gardens, meadows, marshes or woodland trails. Afterwards, go downtown Bainbridge and enjoy the shops. (50 min from Gig Harbor)



BLOEDEL

Lakewold Gardens is another treasured spot. It's full of hidden spaces to experience while you explore various gardening styles. They often have events for the public. (30 min from Gig Harbor)



LAKEWOLD

May is the best time to view our state flower rhododendrons. Take an afternoon stroll through the **Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden** in Federal Way. (30 min from Gig Harbor)

Visit the **Rhododendron Garden at Point Defiance Park**, just over the bridge. Over 500 Rhododendron plants are here in this beautiful park. When they are in bloom, it's like a fireworks display!

If you want to stay more local, visit **Rosedale Gardens**. This nursery has a beautiful landscape of trees, plants, and decor. Sculptures are positioned throughout, with paths going everywhere...they have set this place up in such a fun way, it's a hit with kids.



ROSEDALE

Also, check out the annual **Gig Harbor Garden Tour**. Tickets go on sale Memorial Day Weekend. A self-guided tour through Gig Harbor's most luxurious private gardens.



GARDEN
TOUR



34. COFFEE HOUSES

A great way to discover new neighborhoods is by visiting the local coffee shops. The ambiance of some of these cafes makes you want to sit, sip and stay a while. Get a true taste of the local coffee scene at these great locations:

Gig Harbor

-Kimball Coffee 6659 Kimball Dr
-Cutter's Point 5500 Olympic Dr
-Davenport 5275 Olympic Dr

Tacoma

-Valhalla Coffee Co. 3918 6th Ave

Port Orchard

-Coffee Oasis 807 Bay St

35. SIP

If touring craft wine, ciders or ales are more your style, there are several to choose from...

Wine:

Olalla Winery 13176 Olalla Valley Rd SE Olalla, WA 98359
olallawines.com

Cuvee 3019 Judson St Gig Harbor
maisoncuvee.com

Two Fox Winery 17812 18th St NW, Lakebay, WA 98349
twofoxwinery.com

Gig Harbor Wine Co. 6745 Kimball Dr Gig Harbor
gigharborwineco.com

Hidden Harbor Wine Library 8805 N Harborview Dr #204
hiddenharbor.wine

Brew:

7 Seas

2905 Harborview Dr, Gig Harbor
7seasbrewing.com/gig-harbor

Evergreen State Brewing

3155 Harborview Dr, Gig Harbor
es-brewing.com

Yoked Farm House Brewery

525 SW Pine Rd SW, Port Orchard
yokedfarmhousebrewery.com

Cider:

Locust Cider

3207 57th St Ct, Gig Harbor
locustcider.com

36. FARMERS MARKET

Spring has sprung when the farmers markets begin. This is one of the best ways to get locally grown farm products and specialty foods. Support local businesses and get your hands on fresh bounty at any of these wonderful spots:



GH FARMERS MARKET

-Gig Harbor Waterfront

Farmers Market every Thursday, 1pm -6pm, May 22-Aug 28th.

-Port Orchard Farmers Market

Saturdays 9am-2pm April 12-Oct 18

Tacoma, Puyallup & Olympia all have wonderful Farmers Markets too to try.

37. BEST ICE CREAM DEBATE

When it comes to the great ice cream debate, many have their favorites. On a hot day in the PNW, you can't go wrong with these lovingly crafted, all natural, local ice cream spots. And great news! They are always rotating their flavors, so you have an excuse to visit often!

I-screamery Located with Hole in the Wall Burger is a Gig Harbor favorite!

Stop in and grab one of their unique flavors as you stroll along the downtown waterfront. (7806 Pioneer Way, Gig Harbor)



I-SCREAMERY

Ice Cream Social in Tacoma. Social started out at the Tacoma Farmers Market and has expanded to Proctor and Ruston Way. Expect to wait in line because this place is awesome!



SOCIAL

38. SALMON BAKES

If a salmon bake, low tide mud run, oyster shucking competition, beer garden, live music and dancing have you shouting "Yes, Please!" then head over to Allyn, Washington mid-July for **Allyn Days**. Situated on Case Inlet, this **Salmon Bake & Geoduck Festival** gathers adventurers and seafood fans from far and wide. (Allyn Waterfront Park)



ALLYN DAYS



39. BEST PLACES TO PLAY PICKLEBALL/TENNIS

Looking for some good places to play pickleball or tennis? Here are two spots the locals like to go...

Crescent Creek Park located near downtown Gig Harbor has 1 tennis court lined for 4 pickleball courts. (3303 Vernhardson Street)

Sehmel Homestead Park has many amenities including 2 outdoor tennis courts lined for 8 pickleball courts AND 1 basketball court line for 4 pickleball courts. Bring your own nets and equipment for pickleball. (10123 78th Ave NW)

Note: YMCA & PenMet Rec Center will be available soon.

40. EXPLORE THE LOCAL FOOD SCENE

These Gig Harbor restaurants have built a serious name for themselves **Devoted Kiss Cafe** has been voted best breakfast numerous times and might just have the best view in town too! (8809 N. Harborview Drive #203) Situated over the water, **Net Shed No.9** is a phenomenal option for breakfast or lunch. (3313 Harborview Dr.) Pull your boat up to the infamous **Tides Tavern** and order a burger. Need real authentic Texas BBQ? You won't believe how great **BBQ2U** brisket is. Don't forget to order their mac-n-cheese! (4814 Point Fosdick Dr)

41. CHUTES & LADDERS

The **Dune Peninsula** is tucked in between Ruston Way & Point Defiance. This location has a lot to offer and a great way to spend a sunny day with the family, not to mention it has amazing views of Commencement Bay, Mount Rainier, Vashon Island, and more.

Park at **Point Defiance Natural Preserve Park** to enjoy the ducks and turtles, then take the Wilson Way Bridge east towards Ruston Way.

Chutes & Ladders Anyone? Once you cross the bridge near the ferry & marina, is a great set of stairs and slides the kids can play and burn off their energy.

Follow the trail around towards the waterfront and ascend all three of the sail mounds, climb the tall rock structures with stairs to the peak for phenomenal views. You'll enjoy art pieces throughout the park. Outdoor concerts are held in the summer here too.

Once you've explored this area, head over to Pt Ruston where there is a park and spray ground along the waterfront. Get yourself some grub for a picnic and don't miss the ice cream from **Social Ice Cream**. A local favorite!

42. VISIT OUTER SPACE

Head to outer space at the **Pierce College Science Dome**. Visit the 58-seat planetarium with a 38-foot dome arching over the entire theater. You will immerse yourself amongst the stars and learn about anything from space junk to the Northern Lights to ancient Egypt. (9401 Farwest Dr SW, Lakewood, Wa)



SCIENCE
DOME

43. SHOP PNW STYLE

Local swag can be found at numerous places around the harbor. Along the Gig Harbor waterfront, try **Direction Apparel** for all things Gig Harbor. If you are looking for something truly unique made by local artists go shop at **Ebb Tide Gallery**. They have a diverse range of unique local artists pieces.



DIRECTION

A few other favorites are:

Havn NW Trade & Co for men's apparel, **Dolly Mama** for women's & home, **Curated** a blend of luxury with local gifts and **Local Whimsy** for locally designed products & hands-on experiences.



EBB TIDE

44. RELAX WITH A NEW BOOK

Have a love for indie book stores? Yeah, me too! These local Gig Harbor stores have some of the best staff to help you find that next page turner.



INVITATION

Invitation Bookshop - 3119 Judson St
No Dearth of Books - 7803 Pioneer Way
Gig Harbor Book Company - 3226 Harborview Dr

45. PAMPER YOURSELF

Sometimes you must slow down and do a little something for yourself. In Gig Harbor, **Blue Moon Massage** is amazingly relaxing. You can expect wonderful massages and phenomenal facials. 7700 Pioneer Way #101



BLUE MOON

For a fully immersive experience you can enjoy with a group, **Olympus Spa** in Tacoma is a must try. Hydrotherapy baths, whirlpools, saunas, body scrubs, massages, and much more. (8615 South Tacoma Way Lakewood, Wa 98499)



OLYMPUS

46. SAVORY & SWEET

For The Love of Spice is THE go to place for all your cooking desires! Curated spices, delicious teas and a variety of oils & vinegars along with a wine bar! You won't want to miss this shop at 3122 Harborview Dr.



LOVE OF
SPICE

Susanne's Bakery has been satisfying our sweet cravings since 1997. Located at 3122 Harborview Dr., Suzanne's Bakery creates delicious cakes, pastries, breads, sandwiches, and more...you can even special order.

47. MUST VISIT GOLF COURSES

Golfing is a favorite past time for many in the PNW. Two favored spots are:

-**Canterwood** 12606 54th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, Wa 98332 (253) 851-1845

-**Chambers Bay Golf Course** One of the only WA courses to host the Men's US Open. 6320 Grandview Dr W, University Place, Wa 98467 (253) 460-4653



48. ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is the only combined zoo & aquarium in the Pacific NW with 9,000 specimens representing 367 animal species across the bridge in Tacoma. (5400 Pearl St.)



POINT
DEFIANCE

Northwest Trek Wildlife Park -

This 723-acre park is home to black and grizzly bears, grey wolves, bald eagles, a cougar, wolverines, bobcats and more.



NW TREK

Olympic Game Farm - Drive your vehicle through wildlife and they may just stick their heads in your window. A moose standoff is not uncommon, just wait for him to move. All food must be purchased onsite. (Sequim, Wa)



OLYMPIC
GAME FARM

Cougar Mountain Zoo is an 11-acre zoological park. They focus on endangered species and promoting conservation through education. (Issaquah, Wa)



COUGAR
MTN.

Wolf Haven rescues and provides sanctuary for displaced, captive-born wolves. They offer educational programs & promote wolf restoration. (Tenino, Wa)



WOLF
HAVEN

49. MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

You can't have Spring without baseball! Take in a minor league baseball game, the Tacoma Rainiers are a Minor League Baseball team of the Pacific Coast League and the Triple-A affiliate of the Seattle Mariners. Located in Tacoma at Cheney Stadium. (2502 S Tyler St)



RAINIERS



50. BULLSEYE!

Want to hit the bullseye on some fun? Experience the thrill of throwing an axe at **Pen Axe** in Port Orchard or **Axe Academy** in Tacoma. Perfect for date night or a party and it's family friendly.

-penaxe.com

-axeacademy.net



AXE
ACADEMY

Archery more your style? **KBH Archers**, located in Belfair, has two outdoor ranges that are available to the public. The KBH Membership grants access to an 18-lane indoor range, a 28-target walk-through range, a flat range with targets out to 100 yards, and more. They welcome all skill levels and ages! You do have to bring your own bow. (3680 Old Belfair Hwy, Belfair, Wa 98528)



KBH
ARCHERS

51. PAW-SOME DOG PARKS

There are several off leash dog parks that provide different options.

Gateway Park on the Key Peninsula & **Tubby's** near the Tacoma Narrows provide a open play area while **McCormick** in Gig Harbor & **Bandix** in Olalla has more wooded trails for them to roam. **Wilkinson** in Port Orchard provides a nice mix and if you want a beach, check out **Chambers Bay** in Tacoma.

52. OLD TIME MOVIE THEATER

Enjoy the cinema the old-fashioned way. Built in 1923 **Blue Mouse** movie theater, in Tacoma's Proctor District, is one of the oldest continuously operating movie theaters in the country. Check out their website to see what's playing on their screen - both historical and modern movies are rotating. You can even rent out the entire theater if you want!



BLUE
MOUSE

The **Grand Cinema** is another independent movie theater. They feature independent, international, and local films. Host of the Tacoma Film Festival, Tacoma Film Camp and other film programs/events. Check them out for your next night out. (606 Fawcett Avenue, Tacoma, Wa 98402)



GRAND

53. YOGA IN THE PARK

Get outside and move Sat 9-10am between Memorial Day and Labor Day on the Gig Harbor Civic Center Green. (3510 Grandview St, Gig Harbor, WA 98335)



MAITRI
MOVEMENT

54. GAMING

Slf tabletop gaming is more your speed, check out **Lost Star** in Downtown Gig Harbor. It's more than a local game shop, they host multiple opportunities to play and learn new game. Great place to hang out! Staff is wonderful!



Step back in time and enjoy **Dorky's** '80s-style arcade with video games, pinball, pizza & beer. You are sure to spend a great time here. Bring the family, it's only 21-&-up after 9 PM. (754 Pacific Ave, Tacoma, Wa 98402)



Looking for a more modern arcade? Visit **Ocean5** in Gig Harbor. They have over 50+ games, bowling, and laser tag. (5268 NW Point Fosdick Dr. Gig Harbor)



55. GLASS BLOWING

Experience the magic of glassblowing at **Tacoma Glass Blowing Studio**. This hands-on session allows you to pick and apply colors, twist, turn, blow and shape your item into a unique and beautiful piece of art glass. Great event for individuals or groups. (ages 8+, 114 S 23rd St, Tacoma, Wa 98402)



56. MUSEUMS

These Tacoma Museums have an established reputation for hosting phenomenal exhibitions.

Lemay Car Museum - a 350-car gallery showing cars notable for their speed, technology and design, as well as their importance to car culture.



Tacoma Art Museum serves the diverse communities of the Northwest through its collection, exhibitions, and learning programs



The **Museum of Glass** offers contemporary exhibitions and live glassblowing demonstrations.



57. THORNEWOOD CASTLE

Book a stay at **Thornewood Castle**, a 500-year-old Tudor Gothic historic site. Built from the brick of a dismantled 15th-century house imported from England.



Fun Fact: The Castle was used as a set for the Stephen King film *Rose Red*. (8601 N Thorne Ln SW Lakewood, Wa 98498)

58. HISTORIC RAILWAY

Pedal a historic logging railway on the Olympic Peninsula. A 2-hour, 13 mile round trip winding through forests & by creeks. **VC Railriders** is for all ages. (1 hour from Gig Harbor, 421 W. Hanks Lake Rd, Shelton, Wa 98584)



59. TINKERING

Need something to do and the forecast shows heavy rain all day, but you have to get out of the house? Maybe you need to do a little tinkering.

Tinkertopia is in Downtown Tacoma, and they are a "Destination for teachers, students, artists, crafters, inventors, makers, hackers, and tinkerers in search of unusual materials for fun crafts to do with SCHOOL-AGE kids!" (1914 Pacific Ave, Tacoma)



Another place that is perfect to kill a few hours and let your creativity take over is the **Urban Squirrel** in historic downtown Tacoma. (747 Broadway)



60. STROLL LOCAL PATHS

Sometimes you just need to take a stroll. Here are a few local paths that are popular in our area:

- Cushman Trail
- Gig Harbor Waterfront
- McCormick Forest Park
- Adam Tallman Park
- Sehmel Park
- Gateway Park (360 Trails)

61. POOL TIME

Gig Harbor pools include YMCA, high schools & Beard Swim Co. For a fun public pool try the aquatic center in **Fircrest**. (545 Contra Costa Ave, Fircrest)



A little bit of History

62. RELIVE HISTORY

Fort Nisqually - A living history museum, experience what life was like in the 1850's. It features historically furnished buildings, historical landmarks and more.

Scan the QR code to view upcoming events.

(5519 Five Mile Dr
Tacoma, Wa 98407)



METRO PARKS

63. SCOUT OUT A WWII FORT

Fort Worden - Walk the beach, visit the lighthouse, explore the bunkers, and visit the Marine Science Center. If that's not enough, go explore downtown Port Townsend's boutique shops.

(200 Battery Way E,
Port Townsend, Wa 98368
Discovery Pass required,
pet friendly)



FORT WORDEN

64. TAKE A ROAD TRIP TO BUNKERS/FORTS - FORT FLAGLER

Fort Flagler was built in the 1890's and was used during WWI, II, and the Korean War. There is loads of history to absorb here.

Plan your camping trip or reserve a vacation house while you explore the beaches, military museum, gift shops, and water activities.

(10541 Flagler Road,
Nordland, Wa 98358)



FORT FLAGLER

65. ABSORB THE SPIRIT OF NATIVE AMERICA

Makah Cultural & Research Center Museum - The museum houses and interprets 300 to 500-year-old artifacts recovered from the Ozette Archaeological Site as well as other Makah Tribe historic pieces. While you are absorbing the rich history of **Neah Bay**, be sure to get in the rugged beauty of the cliffs, beaches, and forests.

IN THE SPIRIT Arts Market & NW Native Festival hosted by Tacoma Art Museum in August celebrates the diverse Native cultures of our region and features artist vendors, music, dance, exhibitions and more.



TAM

66. OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

Plan a trip to Olympic National Park and take your time exploring this gem...Here are 10 stops you'll want to take:

1. Quinault Lake/Rainforest
2. Tree of Life
3. Hoh Rain Forest
4. Ruby Beach
5. Second Beach/Rialto Beach:
6. Shi Shi Beach/Point of the Arches
7. Cape Flattery
8. Sol Duc Falls Nature Trail
9. Lake Crescent
10. Hurricane Ridge



OLYMPIC
NATIONAL
PARK

67. TIME TRAVEL TO THE PIONEER DAYS

Experience Washington from the 1800's in Ohop Indian Village and Pioneer Farm. Scan QR code to view activities and events.

(7716 Ohop Valley Rd E,
Eatonville, Wa 98328)



PIONEER

68. VISIT VINTAGE

Port Gamble is a small town, sitting on the shores of the Hood Canal, on the north side of the Kitsap Peninsula. It is a picturesque town with 120-acres to explore. It is a National Historic Landmark as the buildings are preserved and maintained in their original turn-of-the-century New England style. There are terrific shops, a historic church, breathtaking views, and expansive grounds, complete with maple and elm tree-lines streets. Pop into **Butchers and Bakers Provisions** for a tasty treat or head over to the **Painted Lady** for vintage treasures. One hour north of Gig Harbor, off HWY 104 E.

69. EXPLORE A LOCAL MUSEUM

The **Harbor History Museum** is a regional maritime and history museum in Gig Harbor. It has exhibits on regional culture and history, and a Midway Schoolhouse built in 1893.



HARBOR
HISTORY

Up in the Air

70. FLY ABOVE IT ALL

Viewing the PNW from the air is such a memorable experience as you fly over the Puget Sound. After you enjoy sightseeing, grab a pizza and a pint at **The Hub** while you watch the planes come and go. Located at Tacoma Narrows Airport. You can book your flight through **PAVCO**, or you can try "Fly Above It All" with a sightseeing tour on a float plane with **Perry Cook**.



PAVCO



PERRY
COOK

71. HANG BY A ROPE

Try your hand at climbing. **Edgeworks Climbing** in Tacoma has rock climbing courses for all levels. (6102 N. 9th St. Ste100 Tacoma, Wa)



EDGWORKS

72. BOARD A CHOPPER RIDE MADE FOR ADVENTURE

Helicopter tours offer a thrilling way to see Mt. Rainier, Seattle, Lake Washington, and Snoqualmie Falls from a stunning aerial view. **Seattle Helitours** provides a perfect opportunity for unforgettable memories and breathtaking views.



HELITOURS

73. GO SKYDIVING

Would you consider jumping out of a perfectly good plane? Experience freefalling from 13,000 feet over beautiful PNW. **Skydive Kapowsin**, located in Shelton Washington, offers a few skydiving options; tandem, lessons and more. (one hour from Gig Harbor)



KAPOWSIN

74. SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND FLY

Time to try a new experience? What about hang gliding at **Tiger Mountain** in Issaquah, just an hour from Gig Harbor. Let the professionals at **Seattle Paragliding** elevate your adventure and guide you through the air.



SEATTLE
PARAGLIDING

Experienced paragliders and hang gliders who have their own gear can take off from **Fort Flagler** or **Fort Ebey State Parks**.

75. FLY DOWN THE SLOPES

Craving mountain fresh air? If skiing, snowboarding, or tubing is more your thing look at the following locations for some great adventure options.



SNOQUALMIE

The Summit at Snoqualmie
(1 hr drive)

Crystal Mountain Resort
(2 hr drive)



CRYSTAL

76. MOUNTAIN BIKE

Some come from miles around to fly around on their mountain bikes at these two parks. **360 Trails** at Gateway Park & **Heritage Park**. Both places provide space where hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers can all explore Washington woodlands throughout multiple interlinking trails. The jump lines and pump tracks are a huge draw.

- 360 Trails, 10405 State Route

302 Gig Harbor, Wa 98329

- Heritage, Port Gamble WA 98364

77. WING WALKING

Watch the earth spin around you as a biplane you're strapped to gently rolls pausing inverted for a moment of zero-g. If a thrilling ride is on your bucket list, check out **Mason Wing Walking**. The only wing walking school in the world!

Located in Sequim a 80-minute drive north from Gig Harbor.

(61 Greywolf Air Ct. Sequim, Wa 98382)



MASON

78. HOT AIR BALLOON

Enjoy spectacular views of the Puget Sound from a Hot Air Balloon from **Seattle Ballooning**.



SEATTLE
BALLOONING

Livin it up in the City

79. BELLY LAUGHING

Live, professional stand-up comedy is always a ton of laughs at the **Tacoma Comedy Club** on 933 Market St. Check the calendar and see what you'd like to laugh at.



TACOMA
COMEDY
CLUB

Keys on Main is another great option. This all-request dueling piano show provides a mix of live music & laughter. Watch out! They might just pull you up on stage! (1003 Pacific Ave., Tacoma)



KEYS ON
MAIN

Want to rent these places out for a private event? You can!

80. JUST DANCE

Get your boots scootin' with country line dancing at **Steel Creek** in downtown Tacoma. At 8pm on Thursdays, they offer free line dance lessons, then you dance the night away afterwards. Steel Creek is a full-service Restaurant and Country Bar. (1114 Broadway, Tacoma)



STEEL CREEK

If you are wanting to learn Latin, Swing, Ballroom, Line Dance etc., check out **Studio 6 Ballroom** in Tacoma's Stadium District. They have group classes, social dance lessons, private coaching, competition/performance coaching, event lessons & more. No partner necessary!



STUDIO 6

81. ENTERTAINMENT GALORE

McMenamins Elk Temple has a myriad of fun options to choose from. There are multiple breweries, restaurants, and hangouts OR you can take in a concert at the **Spanish Ballroom**. Whether you plan to spend the evening or stay overnight in the hotel, your night will be filled with fun tales to tell later.



MCMENAMINS

82. DINE WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS

One of the most spectacular views of the city is at **Stanley & Seafort's**...a steak and fish house overlooking Tacoma and Commencement Bay Harbor. Date night anyone? (115 E 34th St. Tacoma)



S&S

83. AND ALL THAT JAZZ

Where can you go to listen & dance to music and imbibe on diverse cuisine? Located on 6th Ave in Tacoma, **Jazzbones** is both a restaurant & nightclub with comedy, jazz and other shows featuring local, regional, and national talent.



JAZZBONES

84. LIVE THEATER

Tacoma Musical Playhouse is the largest community theater in the PNW. 7116 6th Ave, Tacoma



TMP

85. TOURS

If unusual off-the-wall experiences and education is your more your style, you will find it at **Pretty Gritty Tours** in Tacoma. From educational to haunted tours, you are sure to have a memorable experience! prettygrittytours.com



PRETTY GRITTY
TOURS

86. ESCAPE ROOMS

Do you have what it takes to escape? Immerse yourself in a 70 minute challenge, testing your wit & skill, at **Escape Hour Gig Harbor**. Winner of multiple awards, there are several experiences to choose from. (3212 50th St Ct Ste 104, Gig Harbor)



ESCAPE
HOUR

87. CRAFT YOUR OWN SPIRITS

Have you ever wanted to craft your own spirits? Join the Cask Club at **Heritage Distilling Co.**, located in downtown Gig Harbor. Create your own customized spirits and taste it along its aging process. Why not offer this experience as a gift to someone?



HERITAGE

Home to Gig Harbor, Heritage is a gem. If you'd rather enjoy their already award-winning crafted spirits, visit their tasting room where they will guide you through the selection and suggest delectable cocktails to create for any occasion.



Fort Casey

Day Trippin

88. HOT SPRINGS

Olympic National Park has two distinct hot springs that visitors can choose from. The Sol Duc Hot Springs is a developed hot spring at the Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort. The Olympic Hot Springs is a natural group of hot spring pools near Boulder Creek.



NPS.GOV

89. VOLCANOES

The most famous and active volcano, Mt. St. Helens provides many hiking trails and observation points. Mount Rainier is also a frequented volcano as it has Crystal Mountain and Paradise, two popular destinations. Expect to find an abundance of breathtaking scenery.



NPS.GOV

90. ESCAPE TO APE CAVES

If you are feeling adventurous, head to Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, on the south side of Mount St. Helens in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and explore the **Ape Caves** and lava tubes. Grab your headlamps and head underground to explore the 2-mile long lava tube- the longest one in the continental US! (Reservations required, No Dogs, 3-hour drive from Gig Harbor)



APE CAVES

91. DRIVE THE HOOD CANAL

Hood Canal, a majestic salt-water fjord, provides spectacular scenery and several activities. Hwy 101 is the gateway to hikes providing thrilling mountain and waterfall views. Enjoy local fare; oysters, microbrews, wine and more. Scan the QR code to find all the activities.



HOOD CANAL

92. EXPLORE HISTORIC TOWNS & FORTS

Explore **Coupeville** and **Whidbey Island**. A 2.5-hour drive from Gig Harbor. Coupeville is one of the oldest towns in Washington State. Walk the historic wooden pier and waterfront. Stroll Front Street - it has bookstores, wine tasting rooms, restaurants, and boutique shops.



COUPEVILLE

-Hike to **Ebey's Landing**, one of the most beautiful viewpoints on Whidbey Island.
-Explore **Fort Casey & Fort Ebey State Parks** (Discovery Pass Required). Fort Casey is an ocean front park with a historic lighthouse, trails, bunkers, campsites and more.
-Head up to **Deception Pass Bridge** and take in the dramatic seascape.

You have a few options to get there. Ferry or driving. If you're taking the ferry from Port Townsend, make sure to make reservations.



WA. STATE PARKS

93. TAKE A HIKE

Staircase Rapids Trail in the Olympic Mountains. A 2.1 mile loop trail rated easy/moderate will take you through forest, creeks, and a rapid river. (National Park Pass required, no dogs)



STAIRCASE

Guillemot Cove Nature Preserve has so much to offer! Just south of Seabeck, Wa., it is a secluded cove on Hood Canal with views of the Olympics. You will first hike through deep forest trails until you get to an estuary. The highlight is finding the old Stump House made from a hollowed out cedar. (2.5 miles round trip, 360' elevation, No Dogs Allowed, 50 min from Gig Harbor)



GUILLEMOT

Green Mountain: Gold Creek Trail provides some spectacular views, if you're up for the climb. From one viewpoint, you get to look west towards the Olympic Mountains and up the Hood Canal. The other major viewpoint, you can see Seattle & the Cascades.

Bonus! You will also encounter a waterfall about 1/4 mile into the hike. (Pet friendly, Discover Pass required)



GREEN MOUNTAIN

Road Closures: Always check access status before you head out to explore.

94. DIP YOUR TOES IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN

The Olympic Peninsula is home to a scenic stretch of the **Pacific Coast Scenic Byway**, or WA-101. Visitors flock to this beloved route to experience diverse terrain, including glacial mountains, rugged coastlines, ancient forests, and a saltwater fjord. Wildlife abounds, and charming seaside towns offer rest and exploration. You can drive the entire route or explore it in parts, with plenty of attractions and opportunities for a multi-day road trip.

If you're looking for a relaxing weekend at the beach stop in at **Ocean Shores**. It is known for its long sandy beaches and nearby water canals that are fun to explore.

Some other places to stop along the Pacific Coast are **Seabrook, Quinault & Long Beach**.

95. NAVIGATE A SPIT

Dungeness Spit is the longest natural sandspit in the US. Hike along this beautiful 5-mile sandy stretch to reach the historic lighthouse. It's part of the **Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge**, where you can spot seals, sea lions, seabirds, ducks, and maybe even whales. Remember to check the tides to avoid getting stranded at high tide.



DUNGENESS
SPIT

96. VISIT SOMEWHERE QUIANT

Poulsbo is sure to steal your heart. Also known as "Little Norway," this quaint town has a slower pace and is the perfect place to go to exhale. **Sluy's Poulsbo Bakery** is a popular spot to stop at, then grab a Cup-of-Joe at one of the coffee shops and take a stroll along the waterfront & marina. The downtown corridor is lined with boutique shops and art galleries. You can also rent kayaks and go watch the sea lions. (45-minute drive from Gig Harbor)

97. SEABECK - BIG BEEF

Experience a relaxed atmosphere with scenic drives and notable stops as you head out to **Seabeck, Wa**. A 40-minute drive from Gig Harbor, you will find a public pier, and a spacious beach with a kayak launch. Don't miss **Scenic Beach State Park**, offering campsites and breathtaking views of the **Olympic Mountains** along the Hood Canal.

In June, make a detour to **Big Beef Harbor Estuary** during low tide, to witness bald eagles and herons feeding on exposed fish, but be aware of the crowded bird-watching scene and avoid the oyster beds.

98. DISAPPOINTMENT

Head to the lower southwest corner of the state to enjoy **Cape Disappointment State Park**. From the lighthouses to the beaches, it does NOT disappoint. (3-hour drive)

99. WALK TO THE EDGE

Venture out to the northwesternmost point of the contiguous United States at **Cape Flattery** where the **Strait of Juan de Fuca** joins the **Pacific Ocean**. The trail takes you through the forest and out to rugged sea stacks jutting out of the ocean. You could get a glimpse of seals or even orcas.

On your way to or from **Cape Flattery**, make some time to stop in at **Salt Creek Recreation Area**. This place is a picture-perfect blend of lush forest, rocky bluffs, sandy beaches, and some of the most amazing tide pools to explore. Previously a former defense military base during World War II (**Camp Hayden**), it is now a scenic camp site.

100. IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN JUST A DAY

Go visit the San Juan Islands. They offer rustic PNW landscapes and abundant wildlife.

Orcas Island showcases **Moran State Park's** ancient forest and **Mt. Constitution**, while



SAN JUANS

San Juan Island features the lively town of **Friday Harbor** and **Lime Kiln Point State Park**, a prime orca-whale lookout.

101. VISIT ROYALTY

Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, rests on Vancouver Island's southern tip. Outdoor activities thrive amidst its ample parkland. The city's Victorian architecture, like the impressive **Craigdarroch Castle**, reflects its British colonial heritage.



VICTORIA BC

Among its many formal gardens, **Butchart Gardens** dazzles with 55 acres of vibrant flowers, statues, water features, and a carousel.



Dungeness Spit Light House

Local Gems

Did you know Washington State is the state with the most waterfalls...over 3,000 in fact!

With its lush forests, cascading rivers, and majestic mountains, the Evergreen State is home to an abundance of stunning waterfalls, each offering a unique and memorable experience for hikers of all ages. While there are countless waterfalls scattered throughout Washington, here are just a few recommendations to add to your bucket list. So lace up your hiking boots, pack your camera, and get ready to explore the natural wonders of Washington's spectacular waterfalls.

1. TUMWATER FALLS LOOP

Offers a picturesque stroll through Olympia's Tumwater Falls Park. This easy 1-mile hike is ideal for families and furry friends alike, with no pass required for entry.

Follow the gentle trail as it meanders along the Deschutes River, leading you to the breathtaking sight of tumbling waterfalls.



2. STAIRCASE RAPIDS LOOP

Venture further into the wilderness with a trip to Lake Cushman in Olympic National Park to explore the Staircase Rapids Loop. This 2-mile hike is perfect for those seeking a bit more adventure, with stunning views of the rushing rapids and towering trees. While pets are not allowed on this trail, it's an excellent option for families with children, offering a moderate challenge with a rewarding payoff.



3. HAMMA HAMMA FALLS

For a waterfall adventure accessible by road, head to Lilliwaup in Olympic National Forest to discover the beauty of Hamma Hamma Falls. This two-tiered waterfall spans 80 feet and can be enjoyed by hikers of all skill levels. Bring a picnic lunch and spend the day exploring the surrounding forest.



4. MURHUT FALLS

Immerse yourself in the tranquility of the Duckabush River Valley with a hike to Murhut Falls in Olympic National Forest. This 1.6-mile round-trip trail leads you through old-growth forests to a stunning 130-foot waterfall, where you can bask in the beauty of nature's grandeur. With no pass required for entry and a gentle, well-built trail, Murhut Falls is the perfect destination for a family-friendly outing.



5. ROCKY BROOK FALLS

Escape to Brinnon for a visit to Rocky Brook Falls, where a short, quarter-mile hike leads you to a breathtaking horsetail waterfall plunging 200 feet into a tranquil pool below. This private destination is open to the public and welcomes visitors of all ages, making it an ideal spot for a refreshing swim on a hot summer day.



6. DICKERSON CREEK FALLS

Located at Ueland Tree Farm in Bremerton, Dickerson Creek Waterfall offers a convenient escape into nature with its serene beauty and easy accessibility. This popular trail offers multiple paths, there are some steep inclines and muddy areas.



7. LITTLE MASHSEL FALLS IN EATONVILLE

Little Mashel Falls in Eatonville (5 miles round trip, Moderate) offers three waterfalls with multiple viewing areas after a moderate 5 mile round trip hike. The best part is you can walk behind/underneath one of them! The tallest waterfall plunges over 90 feet!



8. TWIN FALLS, SNOQUALMIE PASS

Twin Falls in Snoqualmie Pass is a moderate 2.4 miles round trip hike with another trio of waterfalls just off I-90. The first one is a short trail from the parking lot which makes this really family friendly.



9. WALLACE FALLS, NORTH CASCADES

Wallace Falls, North Cascades hike has breathtaking views of the Wallace River and the surrounding falls on this popular trail. Relatively low difficulty, it is 5.6 miles round trip hike showcasing the diversity and beauty that the Central Cascades have to offer.



10. BOULDER RIVER, NORTH CASCADES

Boulder River, North Cascades is a nice year round hike. This is a relatively easy, popular hike (8.6 miles round trip) off the Mountain Loop Highway is a great picnic spot!



11. MARYMERE FALLS, OLYMPIC PENINSULA

Near the shores of Lake Crescent you will take an easy/moderate hike 1.8 round trip through old-growth, moss-laden forest and have 2 viewpoint options which are both fantastic at Marymere Falls in the Olympic Peninsula.



12. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS, NORTH CASCADES

Bridal Veil Falls is a 4 mile round trip moderate hike in the North Cascades. The waterfall flows out of Lake Serene. There are steps paralleling the falls to help you enjoy this nature show!



13. CARTER FALLS, MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

Carter Falls in Mount Rainier National Park is a 2.8 miles round trip easy/moderate hike. Cougar Rock to Carter Falls is family-friendly and has amazing mountain, forest and river views including the 53-foot drop waterfall.



14. MYRTLE FALLS, MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

Myrtle Falls in Mount Rainier National Park is a popular 60-foot waterfall that is an easy .8 miles round trip. The waterfall view is a braided cascade with Mount Rainier towering in the background.

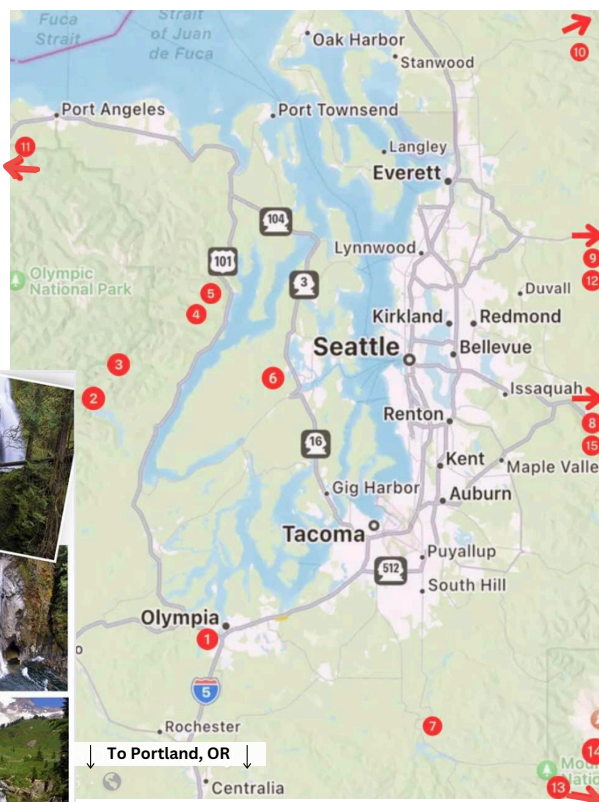


15. FRANKLIN FALLS, SNOQUALMIE PASS

Franklin Falls is a great easy hike in Snoqualmie Pass. Just 2 miles round trip and waterfall reward at the end! Kids will like this one!



Note: Before you head out on any of these hikes, check the website links for current trail conditions, if dogs are allowed, pass requirements and for road closures/good driving directions.



5 Local Lighthouse Overnight Stays

You may have visited these local lighthouses, but did you know you can stay overnight in them? Whether you are seeking a fun night's stay or a unique family learning adventure, you might want to consider checking in to one of these unique stays. Some offer full-service vacation properties and others provide immersive experiences, allowing guests to participate in lightkeeper duties.

-Point No Point, Hansville, Washington: Puget Sound's oldest lighthouse offering cozy accommodations with panoramic views of islands, mountains, and the Seattle skyline.



-Point Wilson, Port Townsend, Washington: Stay in the Chief's House within Fort Worden Historical State Park, offering modern amenities and contributing to restoration efforts.



-New Dungeness Lighthouse, Sequim, Washington: Join the Keeper Program on the Olympic Peninsula for an immersive experience, engaging in maintenance tasks, leading tours, and enjoying modern comforts amidst breathtaking natural beauty.



-Point Robinson, Vashon Island, Washington: Restored keepers' quarters overlooking Puget Sound, with private porches and miles of shoreline to explore.



-Browns Point Lighthouse Park,
Tacoma, Washington: Meticulously
restored waterfront residence
boasting stunning views
of the Puget Sound and
Olympic Mountains, with
opportunities to partake
in lightkeeper duties.





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need more information?



The Pacific Northwest has been my home all my life. I have lived on the Olympic Peninsula, went to college at Western Washington University in Bellingham and built a home and lived in Seattle. I love everything about this area and the residents who make it so special. It would be an honor to introduce you to the place I love so dearly!

If you have any questions, from neighborhoods to restaurants – I'm here for you! Don't hesitate to reach out anytime.

-Sarah

Call/Text: 206-734-1532

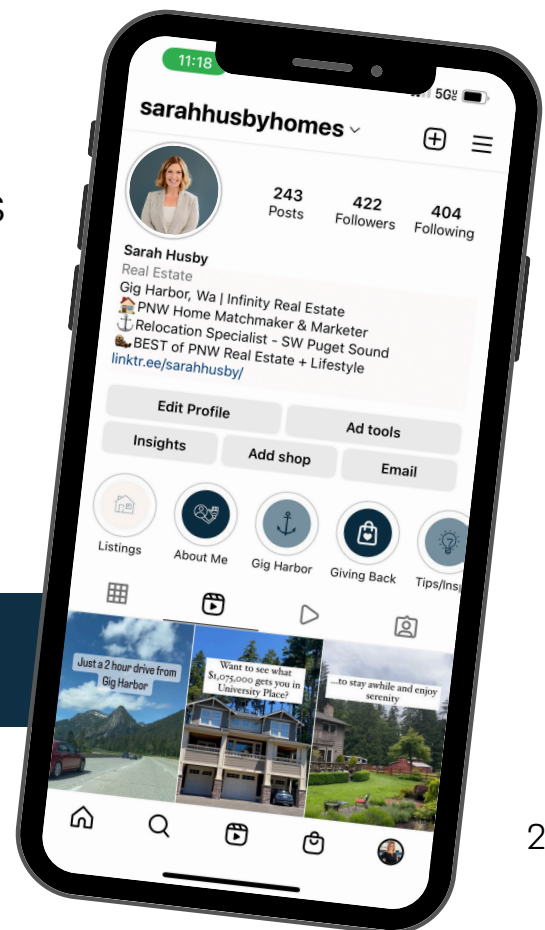
Email: sarah.husby@infinityrpnw.com

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