

3-DAY ITINERARY

EXPLORE IN SEATTLE'S BACKYARD



TAKE IN THE VIEWS FROM MT. RAINIER NATIONAL PARK.

The fun never stops here. There are plenty of places to play—and stay—in Seattle's Backyard, Seattle Southside. With so much to see and do, it's the perfect home base to get the most out of your Seattle vacation.

SEATTLE
SOUTHSIDE 
SeaTac | Tukwila | Des Moines

Trek Around the Pacific Northwest!

There's so much to see and do that planning your trip might seem overwhelming. Fear not, for we have created the perfect itinerary to see the highlights all within a few days!



Day 1

It's your first day in Seattle Southside. Surely, you're going to want to see the sights in downtown Seattle. Fortunately, Seattle Southside has a few different tours to choose from that pick up guests from Seattle Southside hotels. **Customized Tours, Tours Northwest, and Totally Seattle Tours** all offer Seattle city tours, and they all cater to guests staying in Seattle Southside hotels. The tours take around three hours and you'll be able to see some of the most iconic landmarks in the Pacific Northwest.



After you've gained a basic knowledge about Seattle from your tour, be sure to visit the iconic **Space Needle**. Unveiled at the 1961 World's Fair, a trip to Seattle wouldn't be complete without an elevator ride to the observation deck! Offering 360° panoramic views of the city, plenty of picture taking opportunities, and an exquisite rotating restaurant, the Space Needle is a great way to start off your Seattle adventure.

By now you will be famished, so head down to one of the oldest public farmers markets in the United States and snack your way through the booths. There's so much to do at **Pike Place Market**, it would be hard to see it all. Take a selfie in front of the legendary (and unsanitary) **Gum Wall**, sample some of Seattle's finest cheese at **Beecher's Handmade Cheese**, grab a latte at the first **Starbucks**, and witness the iconic tossing of the fish at the **Pike Place Fish Market**.



Grab dinner at **Elliott's Oyster House** on the waterfront and enjoy the views of the Seattle Great Wheel and the ferry boats coming and going and then hop on the light rail back to your Seattle Southside hotel for a good night's rest. You'll need it for Day 2!



Day 2

You saw it when you flew (or drove) in, and yes, it's pretty much snow-covered all year-round; but visiting **Mount Rainier National Park** is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It's about a two-hour drive from Seattle Southside, but the aforementioned tours (or a rental car) can get you there, and it's most definitely worth it. The majestic views from Paradise and Sunrise will leave a lasting impression on any visitor and the trail offerings are suitable for all hikes, from beginners, to seasoned veterans. Pack a sack lunch or dine in at one of the visitor centers, but be sure to bring plenty of drinking water, it's a must for any Mount Rainier visitor.

When you get back in town, enjoy a relaxing evening of elegance and deliciousness at **Copperleaf Restaurant & Bar**. Nestled on 11 acres of restored wetlands and attached to the **Cedarbrook Lodge**, this eco-friendly, intimate dining venue is perfect for a romantic dinner. Boasting options that are both locally grown and sustainably sourced, one can feel at peace dining on brown butter roasted delicate squash and Neah Bay sablefish.



Day 3

You're already staying here so why not spend your final day locally and get the authentic Seattle Southside Experience? Start at **The Museum of Flight**, where you can explore the history of aviation and spaceflight. Step back in time at the Personal Courage Wing, where you'll see more than a dozen fighter planes from WWI and WWII. And check out the NASA full-fuselage trainer, the original Air Force One, Concorde, B-17F Bomber, and many more air and spacecraft.

Just across the street from Westfield Southcenter sits a thrill-seekers dream, **iFLY Seattle**. iFLY features a 10-story vertical wind tunnel, designed to create the perfect indoor skydiving experience. It may seem intimidating for someone who has never attempted anything quite so daring, but with an age range of 3 to 103, iFLY is fun for everyone!

After the museum, head down the street to **Westfield Southcenter**, the biggest shopping center in the Pacific Northwest. Have a delicious seafood lunch at **Duke's Chowder House**, TripAdvisor's #1 restaurant in the city of Tukwila. Start off with some of their award-winning clam chowder and feast on Dungeness crab-stuffed halibut. After your meal, head to the **Made in Washington** store to purchase some true Pacific Northwest souvenirs like smoked salmon, hand-blown glass, or artisan chocolates.

After a long day of fun, there's no better way to end your Seattle Southside adventure than at **Des Moines Beach Park**. Nestled along Puget Sound, this hidden gem offers stunning views and a relaxing, peaceful setting. Walk along the beach or one of the many trails, then catch one of the most breathtaking sunsets in the Pacific Northwest.

What to Pack for Your Trip

Let's just get this out of the way (because chances are you're already thinking it): it is NOT always raining in Seattle. That's just folklore.

Most of the measurable precipitation in Seattle comes in the form of drizzle and light rain with measurable amounts occurring 150 days a year. On average there are only 38 inches of rain a year while 40 miles south in Olympia, there are more than 50 inches of rain received in 165 days. So the rain definitely varies in this region.

To step back and put that into perspective: Houston gets 54" in 99 days, Atlanta gets 50" in 116, and New York City gets nearly 50" in 120, Chicago is real close with 38" on 125.

Seattle weather can often be unpredictable with fog and rain in the morning and sunshine and clear skies in the afternoon. You should be prepared for all weather in most situations.

So what do you pack for a trip to Seattle Southside?

Seattle is a pretty laid back city, so pack casual, comfortable clothes. Dress in layers since it may be rainy one moment and then sunny and warm the next. If you want to truly blend in while traveling in Seattle, try leaving the umbrella at home. Locals often wear rain jackets because it's easier to flip the hood on and off instead of carrying a wet umbrella everywhere.

Remember, you're coming to the Pacific Northwest, an area known for hiking, biking, running, kayaking, beach combing and sightseeing, so try to plan according to the activity you're wanting to try.



COMFORTABLE SHOES are perfect for trips to the beach, mountains, or a power shopping excursion.

WATER BOTTLE/CANTEEN for coffee/water to keep hydrated and caffeinated.

LAYERS because the weather can change quickly—scarves and light coats (depending on the time of year you visit us).



SUNGLASSES, although if you forget them, chances are you'll be able to find them here. And local lore touts that more sunglasses are sold (per capita) in Seattle than any other major U.S. city. Is it true? Probably.

CHANGE/CASH for transit and farmers markets.

CAMERA to capture the mountain views. Don't forget the charger/extra batteries.

UMBRELLA maybe, just in case?

