

# Vacations for Families in Seattle

by Karyn Johnson, Demand Media



Seattle's Space Needle and Puget Sound.

Despite its reputation as perpetually gray and rainy, Seattle is at its most stunning from mid-summer to early autumn, when skies are typically clear and the snow-capped peak of Mount Rainier is visible. Excellent public transportation options, including a free ride area downtown, make it easy to get around. Seattle offers a memorable vacation for families, whether they are interested in visiting museums on a rainy day or beachcombing in the sun.

Sponsored Link

## [Statue of Liberty Tickets](#)

How to see NY City & Save money?, Free Tickets - Statue of Liberty  
[newyorkpass.com/statue-of-liberty](http://newyorkpass.com/statue-of-liberty)

## Family-Friendly Museums

The area around the Space Needle is home to several museums. The Pacific Science Center offers IMAX, laser shows, a planetarium and exhibits such as the Tropical Butterfly House, Insect Village, Kids Works and Body Works. At the combined Experience Music Project and Science Fiction Museum, kids can pretend they're performing on a concert stage, play instruments in a sound studio or learn about the world of science fiction. Younger kids can play in the art studio, step inside a storybook or travel around the world at The Children's Museum. Located south of downtown Seattle, The Museum of Flight houses many historically significant aircraft and spacecraft, such as a retired Air Force One and a Concorde. Pacific Science Center 200 2nd Ave. N Seattle, WA 98109 206-443-2001 [pacsci.org/](http://pacsci.org/) EMP/SFM 325 5th Ave. N Seattle, WA 98109 206-770-2700 [empsfm.org/](http://empsfm.org/) The Children's Museum 305 Harrison St. Seattle, WA 98109 206-441-1768 [thechildrensmuseum.org](http://thechildrensmuseum.org) The Museum of Flight 9404 E. Marginal Way S Seattle, WA 98108 206-764-5720 [museumofflight.org](http://museumofflight.org)

## Family Activities

Seattle's waterfront offers a variety of activities in addition to views of the Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. The Seattle Aquarium focuses mainly on aquatic life in Puget Sound and the Pacific Ocean. Play games with the kids at the Seattle Waterfront Arcade at Pier 57, or view the oddities at Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe on Pier 54. Pike Place Market offers the famous fish throwing, food samples and a variety of souvenir shops and restaurants. In warm weather, head to Alki Beach in West Seattle. Go beachcombing during low tide -- the water is too chilly for swimming -- and bring the camera for Seattle skyline photo ops. Walk the 2.5-mile paved trail along Elliott Bay and tour Alki Point Lighthouse, which is open summer afternoons on weekends. Seattle Aquarium 1483 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA 98101 206-386-4320 [seattleaquarium.org](http://seattleaquarium.org) Pike Place Market 85 Pike St. Seattle, WA 98101 206-622-6198 [pikeplacemarket.org](http://pikeplacemarket.org)

## Whale Watching

From April through September, orcas are often spotted in the waters around the San Juan Islands. Clipper Vacations offers day-long whale watching tours that include a stop in the seaside town of Friday Harbor on the San Juan Islands, where visitors can browse shops and galleries, as well as explore the Whale Museum. Clipper Vacations Pier 69 2710 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA 98121 800-888-2535 [clippervacations.com](http://clippervacations.com)

## Family-Friendly Hotels

Near the Space Needle, the Comfort Suites Downtown Seattle Center has spacious rooms with separate living spaces. The MarQueen Hotel -- also near the Space Needle -- features suites with kitchenettes. The Westin Seattle offers panoramic views of the city and a swimming pool. Comfort Suites Downtown Seattle Center 601 Roy St. Seattle, WA 98109 206-282-2600 [comfortsuites-seattle.com](http://comfortsuites-seattle.com) MarQueen Hotel 600 Queen Anne Ave. N Seattle, WA 98109 206-282-7407 [marqueen.com](http://marqueen.com) The Westin Seattle 1900 5th Ave. Seattle, WA 98101 206-728-1000 [starwoodhotels.com](http://starwoodhotels.com)

Sponsored Links

## [Texas Family Vacations](#) [www.TravelTex.com](http://www.TravelTex.com)

Spend Time With Family In Texas. Get More Info With An Online Guide!

## [Tech Jobs on Dice.com](#) [www.Dice.com](http://www.Dice.com)

The Tech Jobs You Want Are Here. Browse Tech Jobs & Apply Online.

## [Myrtle Beach Vacations](#) [FestivaAdventures.com/MyrtleBeach](http://FestivaAdventures.com/MyrtleBeach)

4 Days / 3 Nights Myrtle Beach Vacation Package +\$50 Dining - \$179

## [The Best Travel Deal](#) [www.EFCollegeBreak.com](http://www.EFCollegeBreak.com)

Europe trips even students can afford. Low Price Guarantee!

## References

- [Experience Music Project/Science Fiction Museum](http://www.empsfm.org/)(<http://www.empsfm.org/>)
- [The Children's Museum](http://thechildrensmuseum.org/)(<http://thechildrensmuseum.org/>)

## Related Articles

[Family Vacations in Seattle](#)

[Vacations for Families in Washington State](#)

[Seattle Train Vacations](#)

[Interesting Places for Families in Seattle](#)

[Resorts for Families Near Seattle](#)

- [The Museum of Flight](http://www.museumofflight.org/)(<http://www.museumofflight.org/>)
- [Seattle Aquarium](http://www.seattleaquarium.org/)(<http://www.seattleaquarium.org/>)
- [Pacific Science Center](http://www.pacsci.org/)(<http://www.pacsci.org/>)

## Resources

- [Seattle's Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

## About the Author

Currently based in the Seattle area, Karyn Johnson has been a freelance writer and editor for five years. Her articles have appeared in "Stars and Stripes" and "Geotimes." She has a Bachelor of Arts in English from Ohio State University and is currently finishing a technical writing certificate at Bellevue College.

## Photo Credits

- Seattle image by mat hayward from fotolia.com