

Seattle Seasonal Highlights

A Sampling of Interesting Events in and around the Emerald City

(Check individual websites or www.events12.com/seattle/ for specific dates, additional information and more 1,000 local events listed by month)

January

- [Northwest Asian American Film Festival](#) – This festival showcases the works of Asian American film and video artists.
- [Seattle Boat Show](#) – This 10-day event is the largest boat show on the West Coast and features over a thousand recreational watercraft.

February

- [Seattle Museum Month](#) – Celebrate the diversity of Seattle’s museums and cultural institutions throughout February by joining us during Seattle Museum Month. Warwick Seattle Hotel guests will have access to the region’s top museums for half off admission at more than 40 participating museums throughout Seattle and the region. Visitors can check the Seattle Museum Month web site for a full list of participating museums at www.seattlemuseummonth.com.
- [Northwest Flower and Garden Show](#) – This show offers 6 acres (2.4 hectares) of inspiring gardens, as well as seminars and shopping related to gardening and outdoor living.

March

- [Emerald City Comic Con](#): The destination comic and pop culture show for the Pacific Northwest. ECCC delivers the best that the comics and pop culture industry has to offer directly from the creators, bringing super fans exactly what they crave: interaction with quality content and guests and an inclusive space to celebrate their fandom.
- [Moisture Festival](#) – This comedy and variety festival showcases over 150 performers, including aerialists, jugglers, comedians, dancers and musical performers. Billed as the world’s largest comedy/variety festival, Moisture Festival has 50 shows at Hale’s Palladium, Broadway Performance Hall, and Teatro ZinZanni at 3 & 7:30 p.m. for all ages; burlesque & late-night 18+.
- [Saint Patrick’s Day Parade](#) - St. Patrick’s Day Parade goes north on 4th Avenue from Jefferson Street to the Seattle Center.
- [Irish Festival](#) - Irish music, singing, dancing, films, vendors, and children’s activities await you at the Irish Festival in Seattle Center Armory.
- [St. Patrick’s Day Run](#) - Wear a zany costume for the 5K St. Patrick’s Day Dash that goes from Seattle Center to downtown and back, and then head to the giant beer garden. Leprechaun Lap is a 1K dash for kids under 10.
- [Taste Washington](#) – Take a grand tour of Washington’s best vineyards for a wine-tasting event that also includes coffee and dessert bars, live jazz and contributions from the area’s best restaurants.
- [Dine Around Seattle](#) - Restaurant discounts at numerous Seattle & Eastside locations. Local restaurants offers special deals on three-course meals during Dine Around Seattle. Repeats in November.

April

- [Seattle Mariners Opening Day](#) – The date of the baseball team’s first game varies from year to year. Regular season professional baseball games take place from April – September at Safeco Field, located just south of downtown Seattle.
- [Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival](#) – This event commemorates Japan’s gift of a thousand blossoming cherry trees to the city of Seattle in 1976. Enjoy Japanese food, a traditional tea ceremony and Japanese artwork.

- [Skagit Valley Tulip Festival](#) – This festival showcases over 15 acres (6 hectares) of blooming tulip and daffodil fields. The free Tulip festival Street Fair takes place in nearby Mt. Vernon. Subject to seasonal weather (typically April 1 – 30 annually - 60 miles north of Seattle).
- [Hop Scotch Spring Beer & Scotch Festival](#) - The premier beer, Scotch, whiskey, and wine tasting experience benefiting the Fremont Chamber of Commerce’s community grant programs. Taking place indoors at Fremont Studios, Hop Scotch hosts the ultimate pop-up bar complete with tailor made tasting experiences certain to delight every guests’ palate.
- [International Children’s Friendship Festival](#) - Children from around the world dance, sing, play music, make origami, and get faces painted at the International Children’s Friendship Festival at Seattle Center in Fisher Pavilion. Free.
- [Restaurant Week](#) (various Seattle locations) - Get a special deal on a three-course meal at 165 restaurants during Seattle Restaurant Week, which excludes Friday and Saturday. Repeats in Oct.
- [World Rhythm Festival](#) - Immerse yourself in more than 100 drum and dance workshops and performances at the World Rhythm Festival at Seattle Center. Free.

May

- [Northwest Folklife Festival](#) – Held every year on Memorial Day weekend, this festival celebrates the ethnic, folk and traditional art activities of the Northwest through music, food and dance. Celebrate traditional arts by choosing from hundreds of dance and musical performances, workshops, and panels from around the world during Northwest Folklife Festival at Seattle Center. Donation.
- [Seattle International Film Festival](#) – With over 550 screenings of 270 features and 140 shorts films, this 25-day film festival is widely considered one of the most popular audience festivals in the world. Seattle International Film Festival ([SIFF](#)) is billed as the largest film festival in the U.S. Join top directors, actors, and critics who attend festival premieres and screenings by getting a single ticket or a pass.
- [Boating Season Opening Day](#) – Watch boats parade through the Montlake Cut near University of Washington at noon on opening day of boating season, preceded by races. Free. Opening day of the boating season is the first Saturday in May each year.
- [University District Street Fair](#) – With over 400 craft and food booths, this exciting fair is a celebration of arts, crafts, community, music and food.

June

- [Upstream Music Fest + Summit](#) - Upstream Music Fest + Summit is a three day music fest where attendees can discover acclaimed national artists performing alongside 200+ rising stars from the Northwest and beyond. Located in the heart of Seattle’s historic Pioneer Square arts and entertainment district. [The Upstream Summit](#) is a one-day music industry conference focused on navigating the music industry for artists and music industry professionals.
- [Summer Season](#) – Take advantage of the outdoor adventures the Pacific Northwest has to offer, including hiking, kayaking and sightseeing. Pike Place Market offers fresh, regionally grown produce, from cherries and raspberries to peaches and apples.
- [Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon & Fitness Expo](#) - June annually - Thursday & Friday - The free Health and Fitness Expo and runner registration at CenturyLink Field. Saturday - The popular Rock ‘n’ Roll Seattle Marathon & Half Marathon at Seattle Center.
- [Wooden Yacht Parade & Tour](#) – Mid June (if dry) - Watch a parade of classic boats on the Seattle waterfront Friday 2 to 4 p.m. Wear soft-soled shoes to tour the boats Saturday and Sunday at Bell Street Pier Classic Rendezvous at Pier 66. Free.
- [Fremont Fair / Solstice Parade](#) – Celebrate the summer solstice with exhibits featuring local food, great live music and the eclectic art scene. Then, there is the Solstice parade...
The Fremont Solstice Parade takes place on the Fair’s Saturday in downtown Fremont with fantastic floats, marching bands, and other free-spirited street performances. The parade has been made famous (infamous!) by

the inclusion of the Solstice Cyclists, a celebration of 1500+ naked-but-painted bike riders, who are released onto the parade route before the start of the Solstice Parade. The parade ends at Gas Works Park where the Fremont Arts Council hosts the Fremont Solstice Celebration featuring HONK Fest West, a music festival of local and national community street bands. Revel in food trucks, a beer garden, art installations, and four stages of band performances.

The fair also includes the Seattle Art Car Blowout, Yoga for the Solstice, Fremont Abby Kid's Activities, Buskers and the Sunday Dog Parade.

- [Olympic Music Festival](#) – This classical music festival is held at a turn-of-the-century dairy farm nestled on 55 acres (22 hectares) of tranquil farmland on the Olympic Peninsula. Hear world-class chamber music on the lawn or in the barn at the Olympic Music Festival in Quilcene.

July

- [Wooden Boat Festival](#) – Early July - Find races, boat rides, demonstrations, live music, and food vendors at the Lake Union Wooden Boat Festival at the Center for Wooden Boats. Free.
- [Family 4th at Lake Union](#) – Celebrate Independence Day at Lake Union, and take in the fireworks display Time Magazine rated one of the top five in the country. This event also features food and a beer garden overlooking the lake. Fourth of July - The Seafair Summer Fourth opens at noon in both Gas Works Park and South Lake Union Park with family activities, entertainment, a beer garden, and food vendors. Fireworks start at 10:10 p.m. Bring no alcohol, fireworks, glass bottles, or pets. Free.
- [Dragon Festival](#) - Chinatown International District Dragon Fest is a street fair of Japanese drumming, Chinese martial arts, Filipino and Indian dancing, American jazz, and \$2 Asian cuisine in the International District. Free.
- [Capitol Hill Block Party](#) - Capitol Hill Block Party (CHBP) is a 3-day music and arts festival, celebrating Seattle's iconic arts and music center, Capitol Hill. CHBP takes over six city blocks for 3 days in the heart of this Seattle neighborhood, and showcases over 100 local and national artists. In a unique urban setting, the clubs, bars and restaurants within the gates participate and add another diverse element to the festival. The grounds house four indoor venues, dozens of restaurants and bars, in addition to two outdoor stages built for the event. The average demographic attending CHBP falls between the ages of 18-30, bringing together 30,000 of the most creative young professionals of Seattle, surrounding areas, and nationally.
- [Bite of Seattle](#) - The [Groupon Bite of Seattle](#)[®] is celebrated annually over mid-July dates. "The Bite" is a summer tradition of food, entertainment and family fun at nearby Seattle Center. The Bite features 50+ restaurants and vendors, local wine and craft beer and cider tasting areas, 5 outdoor entertainment stages, a free movie night, Beer Gardens featuring both local craft beer and all new local spirits signature cocktails provided by Heritage Distilling Co., Seattle celebrity chefs performing live demonstrations and mystery ingredient cook-offs on stage, a Family Fun Zone, a first of its kind social media scavenger hunt that sends event goers around the festival to win prizes, and much more!
- [Seafair](#) – This summer festival has been an annual event since 1950 and encompasses various neighborhood events leading up to several major city-wide celebrations. In addition to many small block parties and local parades, the festival includes the Torchlight Parade and Run, hydroplane races, fireworks show and Blue Angels Air Show. Seafair takes place at the end of July and the beginning of August.
- [Torchlight Parade](#) -July 28, 2018 (7:30 p.m.) - Colorful floats, drill teams, and pirates fill Seattle's streets during the Seafair Torchlight Parade. Attend the pre-parade FanFest at Seattle Center to see exhibits, view floats, and meet participants. Free.
- [Seafair Fleet Week](#) - Welcome ships & sailors during Seafair Fleet Week beginning Wednesday with a Parade of Ships in Elliott Bay and parade of aircraft in the sky, followed by ship tours Thursday to Sunday for ages 8 and older on the Seattle waterfront. Free.

August

- [Seafair Air Show & Hydroplane Races](#) - Watch hydroplanes race on Lake Washington in the Albert Lee Cup. The free Boeing Air Show overhead includes the Blue Angels and the Patriots Jet Team. Plan for closures of the Interstate 90 Bridge.
- [Best of the Northwest](#) – This annual arts festival represents over 500 emerging and established artisans working in all mediums.
- [Tattoo Exposition](#) - Admire art on skin at the Seattle Tattoo Expo, with competitions, seminars, exhibitions, and vendors at the Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center.
- [Hemp Festival](#) - Seattle Hempfest celebrates the potential benefits of the cannabis plant with music, speakers, and vendors at Myrtle Edwards Park on the water. Free.
- [Video Game Convention / PAX Prime](#) - Play video games or see gamers in costume at PAX Prime Seattle in the Seattle convention center.

September

- [The Seattle Seahawks](#) - As members of the National Football League the Seahawks chief rivals are the 49er's, Cardinals and Rams, all in the West division of the National Football Conference. Since 2002, the Seahawks have played their home games at CenturyLink Field located south of downtown Seattle. Their season starts in early September and runs through late December.
- [Bumbershoot](#) – This international music and arts festival, the largest in North America, takes place every Labor Day Weekend. The festival attracts over 150,000 people annually.
- [Puyallup Fair](#) – The Washington State Fair is one of the ten largest fairs in North America and features concerts, rides, food, livestock, flowers and exhibits.
- [Oktoberfest in Fremont](#) - Fremont Oktoberfest offers 100 kinds of beer with bands for adults. Sunday adds a scavenger hunt, 5K run, family events, and free entry for kids and dogs.
- [Italian Festival](#) - Festa Italiana celebrates Italian food, music, dance, art, and kids' activities at the Seattle Center and is free. Taste of Italy is a wine tasting Saturday night.

October

- [Earshot Jazz Festival](#) – This world-class festival features over a hundred musicians and attracts artists from all over the world. The Seattle Earshot Jazz Festival features more than 50 concerts by local and worldwide jazz greats.
- [Giant Halloween Party](#) - Join 2000 young partiers in costume dancing to live music at Pulse in the Experience Music Project.
- [Halloween on Capitol Hill](#) - The Halloween Bash is a costume party with DJ beats and horrors at three Capitol Hill bars (Neumos, Barboza, and Moe Bar). Free.
- [Kids' Costume Carnival](#) - Kids 10 and younger will enjoy a haunted mountain, scavenger hunt, games, and trick or treat at the free Costume Carnival at Seattle Children's Museum.
- [Haunt at MoPOP](#) – The Ultimate Halloween Bash! Seattle's largest, hottest and most anticipated Halloween Bash has arrived at the fabulous MoPOP (formerly EMP).
- [Halloween Orchestra](#) - Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra plays spooky and lively selections for Danses Macabres: An American Halloween at Benaroya Hall.
- [Northwest Chocolate Festival](#) - Sample fine artisan chocolates and desserts, visit the beer and wine room, or attend workshops on chocolate making and cooking at The Northwest Chocolate Festival at Bell Harbor International Conference Center.
- [Seattle Restaurant Week](#) - Get a special deal on a three-course meal at 170 restaurants during Seattle Restaurant Week, which repeats in April.

November

- [Seattle Marathon](#) – Usually the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend - Join 15,000 people burning off Thanksgiving calories at the morning Seattle Marathon and Half Marathon that begin and end near Seattle Center. This race is also a Boston Marathon qualifier.
- [Dine Around Seattle](#) - Local Restaurants offer special deals on three-course meals during Dine Around Seattle. Repeats in March.
- [Macy's Holiday Parade & Star Lighting](#) - Macy's Holiday Parade of marching bands, costumed characters, floats, and Santa Claus begins at 9 a.m. at 7th Avenue & Pine Street. Seattle Star Lighting on the side of Macy's is at 5 p.m., followed by fireworks if weather permits. Usually the Friday after Thanksgiving.
- [Christmas in Seattle](#) - Get an early start on the holidays at the annual Christmas in Seattle Gift & Gourmet Food Show. Gifts, specialty foods, artists, and Santa are at the Seattle convention center.

December

- [Winter Season](#) – The winter weather brings remarkable skiing conditions at many area resorts, some within 45 minutes' drive from the Hotel, and others a bit longer. Consider The Summit at Snoqualmie, consisting of four base areas: Alpental, Summit West, Summit Central, and Summit East. Stevens Pass Ski area and Crystal Mountain.
- [Nutcracker Ballet](#) – Thanksgiving through Christmas week - The Nutcracker is a holiday tradition for families and ballet lovers, with a live orchestra, magnificent sets and costumes, and a huge cast in McCaw Hall at Seattle Center. The Festive Season just wouldn't be the same without the extraordinary tale of Marie and her Nutcracker Prince.
- [Seattle Zoo Lights](#) - WildLights has 500,000 lights in animal shapes, real reindeer, night creatures, a carousel, indoor play, and carolers at Woodland Park Zoo. Closed December 24 & 25.
- [Argosy Christmas Ship Festival](#) – Since 1949 holiday traditions in the Northwest have started on the water. The Argosy Cruises Christmas Ship visits over 45 different communities in the area over several days, while a choir gives a 20-minute performance from aboard the ship. On shore, thousands of people gather around roaring bonfires anticipating the arrival of the Christmas Ship. A parade of local ships, boats and yachts decorated for the holiday season follows closely behind.
- [Deck the Hall Ball](#) - Deck the Hall Ball is an annual marathon rock concert that features popular bands at Key Arena, run by Seattle radio station KNDD 107.7 FM or “The End.”
- [New Year's Eve Symphony](#) - New Year's Eve Concert, Countdown & Celebration features classical music performed by the Seattle Symphony, a countdown with a live band, dancing, and a toast, at Benaroya Hall.
- [New Year's Eve at the Needle](#) - Put on a winter coat and head to Seattle Center for the West Coast's best New Year's Eve fireworks at midnight. The Space Needle is the tallest structure on earth that launches fireworks. Parties upstairs sell out early, but the view from the ground is free.
- [New Year's Eve at Chihuly](#) - New Year's Eve pARTy includes appetizers & dessert, live music and dancing, a tour of the exhibits, and a champagne toast with a view of the Space Needle's fireworks through the Glasshouse ceiling at Chihuly Garden and Glass at Seattle Center. Free parking.
- [New Year's Eve at MoPOP](#) - Indulgence is billed as Seattle's biggest New Year's Eve bash, with 3,000 guests, 3 performance stages, comedy, and dancing to live music at MoPOP (formerly Experience Music Project), with museum access. Sells out.
- [New Year's Eve SPECTRA 2017](#) - New Year's Eve Under the Arches has aerial acts, fire sculptures, laser shows, dancing, appetizers, champagne, and a view of the Space Needle fireworks at Pacific Science Center, age 21+.
- [Resolution New Year's Eve Party](#) - Resolution is a massive celebration with 6,000 balloons, 500 pounds of confetti, aerial acrobatics, spectacular lighting effects, music, dancing, bars, at WaMu Theater. White and gold attire recommended.
- [New Year's Eve Comedy](#) - Blue Year's Eve features bawdy adult comedy, a champagne toast at midnight, music, and dancing at the Atlas Theatre, Seattle. Caution - this is a hilarious ADULTS-ONLY improv experience.