



THE CENTER
OF THE WILDLY
SOPHISTICATED
NORTHWEST!

BELLEVUE
WASHINGTON

BELLEVUE

ADVENTURE GUIDE

discoverbellevuewashington.com





BELLEVUE IS
ONE OF THE TOP 60
SAFEST CITIES IN THE U.S.
— CITY CRIME RANKS



BELLEVUE, THE BEST MIX OF
BUSINESS ADVANTAGES AND
LIFESTYLE APPEAL.
— FORTUNE SMALL BUSINESS
MAGAZINE 2008

ESCAPE TO THE CLEAN, green, wildly sophisticated frontier of Bellevue and the Pacific Northwest. Nestled between two mountain ranges on the shores of glittering Lake Washington, Bellevue is just 9 miles east of Seattle and 17 miles from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. A cosmopolitan urban center where 30+ languages can be heard on our tree-lined pedestrian corridors, we're surrounded by innovative global corporations and three national parks. Bellevue boasts the most upscale shopping experience on the West Coast, north of San Francisco. Safe and easily accessible, downtown is a vibrant fusion of hotels, restaurants, nightclubs, culture, recreation and the convention center all in about six square city blocks.

SO COME EARLY AND stay longer. Take at least a few hours to explore our corner of the world that is uniquely, spectacularly and naturally cosmopolitan. Indulge and unwind. This guide is just the beginning of your Bellevue adventure.

Photos clockwise: Waterskiing began on the West Coast on Lake Washington in 1928. National and local talent infuses the live music scene. Bellevue's downtown shopping district is full of treasures. Soak in the sights and scents of a local farmer's market. Prepare to be pampered at one of 10+ spas in Bellevue. Coffee is an art form in the Pacific Northwest.

Daytime Adventures

AN EARLY MORNING STROLL along the glimmering waterfall through Downtown Park with latte in hand, admiring the international sculpture exhibition and enjoying the cool clean air, whatever the season. Then at the end of the bustling day you'll be torn between hiking or kayaking. But within minutes, you'll be in that kayak, stroking through the tranquil waters of a 320-acre wetland preserve, contemplating the evening's pursuits.

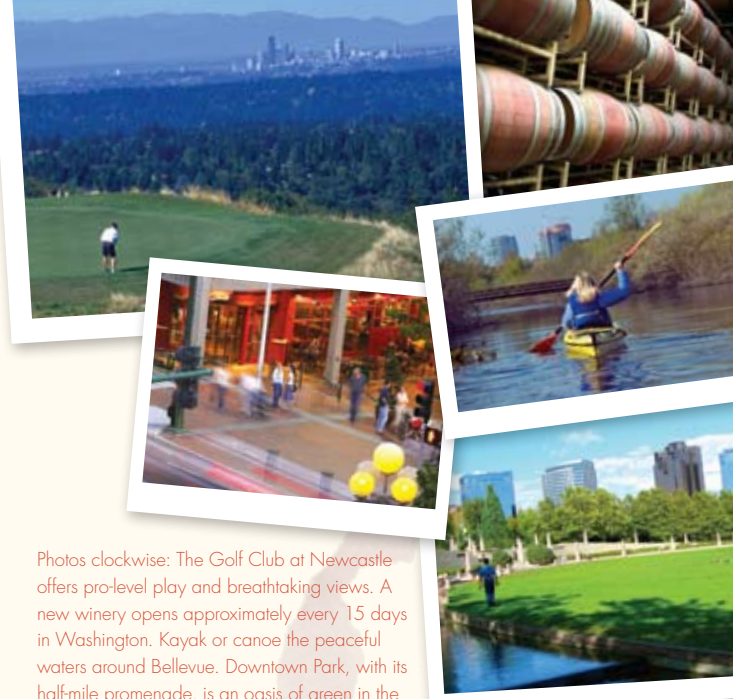
DOWNTOWN BELLEVUE

BELLEVUE IS THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST'S premier resort shopping and dining destination, with hundreds of well-known upscale stores and unique boutiques, dozens of sit-down restaurants and take-out treat shops. Your daylight adventures can include locally founded retail legends like Nordstrom and Eddie Bauer at **The Bellevue Collection**, and world-renowned Neiman-Marcus, Hermès, Jimmy Choo and other designers at **The Bravern**. Miles of **nature trails, public parks and swim beaches** are walking distance from downtown for a workout or unwinding. Numerous **spas and fitness centers** are also easily accessible. **Museums, libraries, performing arts groups and art galleries** reside in Bellevue. Emphasizing regional artists, the **Bellevue Arts Museum** is the Pacific Northwest's center for the exploration of art, craft and design. **Bellevue Botanical Gardens** received *Sunset Magazine's* "Best of the West" designation and presents a unique holiday light display.

AROUND BELLEVUE

VISIT NEARBY WOODINVILLE WINE COUNTRY, currently home to more than 40 wineries and microbreweries, as well as the area's premier organic restaurant, **The Herbfarm**. Rent a bike and pedal through wine tasting or the trails on **Tiger Mountain**. Tiger and Cougar Mountains are full of hiking trails from flat to challenging, with Mt. Si providing training ground for Mt. Rainier climbers. Don't miss **Salish Lodge and Snoqualmie Falls**, with its famous 270-foot waterfall, observation deck, hiking trail to the foot of the Falls and a full spa. **Downtown Kirkland** is home to dozens of art galleries, restaurants,

TO LOOK LIKE A BELLEVUE NATIVE, DON'T USE AN UMBRELLA. PUT UP THE HOOD ON YOUR GORETEX ANORAK OR JUST ENJOY THE NATURAL NORTHWEST MOISTURIZER.



Photos clockwise: The Golf Club at Newcastle offers pro-level play and breathtaking views. A new winery opens approximately every 15 days in Washington. Kayak or canoe the peaceful waters around Bellevue. Downtown Park, with its half-mile promenade, is an oasis of green in the heart of the city. Pedestrian-friendly Bellevue is a lively gathering place.

KAYAKER PHOTO CREDIT: David Johanson Vasquez, Big Picture Photo
PARK PHOTOGRAPHER: Tamela Wolff, Seattle Rain Photography

Lake Washington's sightseeing boats and a vibrant nightlife. **Golf** year-round on world-class 18-hole courses with stunning city and mountain views just a short drive from downtown Bellevue. Skiers and snowboarders can glide groomed runs or off piste at **The Summit at Snoqualmie** in under an hour's drive, with more slopes less than 2 hours away. For a different rush, visit the **Boeing** airplane production plant for a tour.

BELLEVUE AREA RESIDENTS BUY MORE SUNGLASSES PER CAPITA THAN ANY OTHER U.S. CITY.

SEATTLE

TAKE IN SOME OF THE REGION'S LANDMARKS, quirky characters and must-do activities in Seattle, beginning with a visit to historic **Pike Place Market**. For over 100 years purveyors of nature's bounty have delighted the senses from their booths and surprised even the most jaded sightseer. Over 36 **museums** reside in the Seattle area with collections as varied as rock & roll, science fiction, Asian art and aircraft. The Seattle art scene has been called "forgiving and inclusive, whimsical, with the attitude of giving it a shot but not taking itself too seriously." This is evident everywhere in the abundant public art and **Seattle Art Museum**, as well as architectural wonders like **The Space Needle, Experience Music Project, Seattle Library** and **Olympic Sculpture Park**. Walking, free downtown buses, street cars and monorail make getting there >

> DAYTIME ADVENTURES (CONT.)

a fun adventure. Explore Seattle's wild side at **Underground Seattle**, the **Seattle Aquarium**, **Woodland Park Zoo**, or a **Seattle Mariners** or **Seahawks** game.

Photos clockwise: Take a free tour of the Seattle Public Library's stunning architecture. Pro sports teams include baseball, football, soccer and women's basketball. The world-famous Space Needle features a sky-high revolving restaurant and observation deck. Eat, drink and play in Bellevue's upscale bowling lanes and lounges. Japanese gardens offer a tranquil respite.



Night Time Adventures

THIS EVENING YOU CAN'T decide if you want to dress down for a burger at the Irish pub and check out the new blues band at the brewery, or dress sharp and hit happy hour with a hot jazz band, moving on to a swanky lounge for mingling, then dinner and dancing. When you call it a night, a cab takes you back to your hotel where you will dream about the room service and massage you ordered for the morning.

DOWNTOWN BELLEVUE

NIGHTLIFE IN BELLEVUE IS SAFE AND WALKABLE, so party without a worry in **nightclubs**, **bars**, **lounges**, a 16-screen luxury cinema, upscale **billiards** parlors, comedy club, and **boutique bowling** at Lucky Strike. Over 300 delicious **dining** establishments offer choices to please every palate. Mix, mingle, see and be seen by a diverse crowd of professionals, artists and outdoor enthusiasts. No shortage of performing arts satisfies all the senses with a range of local performing arts groups from music to ballet to civic theatre at **The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center**.

AROUND BELLEVUE

Myriad night time pursuits await just a cab ride from downtown Bellevue, with unique dining experiences, international gatherings, poetry slams, **dueling pianos** and neighborhood pubs tucked away in surrounding neighborhoods and towns. Visit pedestrian-friendly **Kirkland** with its active night scene, art gallery walks, performing arts center and Lake Washington dinner cruise, as well as **Issaquah's** acclaimed live performance

WHAT TO EXPECT IN BELLEVUE

LINGO "The Eastside" is the Bellevue metropolitan area east of Lake Washington but west of the Cascade Mountains, including surrounding towns and excluding Seattle. Crossing "The Bridge" into Seattle just 20 minutes away means driving across either one of two floating bridges. A geoduck (pronounced gooey-duck) is not a duck at all but a large burrowing clam. Many names of places around Bellevue are Native American.



INTERNATIONAL BALLET THEATRE PHOTO CREDIT: Rex Trantlor
BILLIARDS PHOTO CREDIT: Ron Wurzer

Bellevue is rich in lifestyle entertainment.

Village Theatre. Redmond's **Marymoor Park** boasts national level bicycle racing, outdoor movies and headliner concerts under the stars. **Woodinville's** wineries offer concerts, wine maker dinners and special events. **Snoqualmie** contributes night skiing and inner tubing, as well as a casino with a pulsing disco and top name entertainers. >

SEATTLE

FROM THE UBER CHIC MARTINI LOUNGES OF **BELLTOWN** to the indie music scene and live band karaoke in **Pioneer Square**, Seattleites know how to let down their hair. Performance art and exhibitions in vintage lofts, pub crawls and popular street performers dot the city with nighttime personality. Tighten your topknot to attend the **Seattle Opera**, **Pacific Northwest Ballet**, **Seattle Symphony** or a Broadway show at one of the city's top theatres. View films of every genre round-the-clock during the Seattle International Film Festival or live theatre from fringe to classic in one of over a dozen theatrical venues.

THE FIRST
STARBUCKS OPENED
IN SEATTLE IN 1971.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN BELLEVUE

WHAT TO WEAR With wintertime temps in the 40's-50's and summertime reaching 70's-80's, dress in layers so you're prepared for weather changes throughout the day. Partly cloudy is also partly sunny, so you see hardy Bellevue residents in shorts even in the winter. Jeans and crossover footwear are welcome everywhere in Bellevue during the day. As the sun sets, dress sharp to frequent fine dining establishments and nightclubs.

Farther Afield

C LIMB **MT. RAINIER** OVER centuries-old glaciers or gawk at its glory from the elegantly rustic Paradise Lodge. A driving tour through **Rainier National Park**, **Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument** or **Olympic National Park** with its temperate rainforest will leave you awestruck at nature's fury and spectacle. Stop in the Bavarian-themed town of **Leavenworth** along the scenic **North Cascades Loop** for souvenir shopping, a cold brew and the best hot pretzels. Hop a ferry on foot, bicycle or car from the **Seattle waterfront** or points north to experience Northwest island living. In just 30 minutes you can be rocking with the sea swells and cries of the

Soar between Canadian mountaintops on the Whistler/Blackcomb **PEAK 2 PEAK** Gondola. Blazing fall color, holiday lights and four-season recreation in the mountain highway of Leavenworth.

gulls as you ride a ferry to **Bainbridge Island**, or airborne in a seaplane, winging your way to the **San Juan Islands** over ocean waters teeming with breaching whales.

HEAD FOR THE BORDER

WITH A DAY OR WEEKEND TO SPARE, you can be in **Canada** or **Oregon** within 2-4 hours. Plan a **pre** or **post-convention** trip to further explore the Northwest and points beyond. Run the rapids in a guided raft on a wild river or cast a fly in a glacier-fed stream. Visit the sites of the **2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, BC** and **Whistler, BC**, getting in world-class shopping, snow skiing and dining at a favorable currency exchange rate. Catch a **crui**se to **Alaska** from the Seattle waterfront.

OVER 60 RIVERS
IN THE NORTHWEST ARE
PROTECTED BY THE NATIONAL
WILD & SCENIC RIVERS ACT.



Get Out There!

WHATEVER YOUR PASSION, or to discover a new one that is uniquely Northwest, get out there! It's all easily accessible from Bellevue on foot, by bicycle, car, metro bus, taxi or tour company.

Driving distances to area attractions (in miles)

Sea-Tac Intl Airport	17
Seattle/sports arenas	9
Woodinville wineries	11
Hiking—various trails	4–17
Museum of Flight	18
Mt. Rainier	90
Mt. St. Helens	125
West Coast Pacific Ocean	137
Vancouver, BC	140*
Victoria, BC	115**
Whistler, BC	220*

* Driving times depend on border traffic

** Requires car ferry or 2:45 hrs on Victoria Clipper



PHOTO CREDIT: George White Location Photography



Uniquely Northwest

DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT TRYING:

Wild salmon and fresh seafood

Local wine, microbrew and coffee

A ferry or seaplane ride

Admiring glass art

Whale watching

World-class shopping in Bellevue

Walking in "liquid sunshine"

Sightseeing from the water

Artisan chocolates



Photos clockwise: The largest U.S. fleet of ferries plies local waters. Dale Chihuly's *End of the Day* chandelier at Lincoln Square. Soar in a seaplane. The catch of the day is fresh from our waters. Shop 'til you drop at The Bellevue Collection.



DID WE
WHET YOUR
APPETITE?
PIQUE YOUR
INTEREST?

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND SPECIFICS:**

www.discoverbellevuewashington.com

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