

# Seattle; Something For Everyone



From museums and music, to the culture, coffee and craft beer— Seattle offers something to appeal to almost every traveller.

Described by rocker Dave Grohl as a big city with a small town vibe,

#### **The Spheres Of Seattle**

South Lake Union is now home to three interconnected spheres, a must see icon, says Visit Seattle. The glass domes are an extension of local tech giant Amazon's campus, designed as a place for employees to brainstorm and connect with nature while in the city. The spheres feature over 300 species of rare plants as well as suspended workspaces and a 60ft living plant wall.

#### **Taste Washington**

Tickets are now on sale for the 21st annual Taste Washington Festival 22-25 Mar. The festival has represented hundreds of popular restaurants, prominent chefs, and dedicated wineries over the years with highlights such as grand tastings, and the Red & White party. See tastewashington.org Seattle is home to icons from the Space Needle to Pike Place market. It's where the first Starbucks store opened, where Amazon and Microsoft and headquartered, and of course it also has the Boeing plant.

Known as the Emerald City, Seattle sits on the Puget Sounds, and surrounded by mountains and forests for those who like to explore the outdoors.

Cuisine is taken seriously in the city, from the Pike Place Market (pictured) right through to the plethora of restaurants throughout Seattle. Seafood plays a key role (urge clients to try the chowder, chains such as Dukes Chowder House or Pike Place Chowder have outlets around the city) and locally sourced, sustainable food is de rigueur.

#### **Island Hopping**

For Seattle-bound clients, HA says a break in Hawaii is an increasingly popular option for Kiwis. "We cater to this demand by offering direct flights daily between Seattle and Maui's Kahului Airport.

#### A Must See Market

Pike Place Market is a tourist mecca, but a Seattle must-see, says HA New Zealand manager Russell Williss. Famous for its salmon slinging fishmongers and rows and rows of fresh flowers, there's now more than 500 vendors offering a mix of fresh produce, artisan stalls, bars and restaurants. The very first Starbucks store is located around the corner from the markets and there's also free wifi at the market for those ubiquitous social media posts.

#### Airport Transfer

There is an efficient train service that runs from Seattle Airport into the city. Trains on the light rail service run regularly (every 15 minutes from 0500) and take approx 40 mins to reach the city. See soundtransit.org



#### Apollo, The Exhibit

Space super fans will be in their element at the Museum of Flight in Seattle, with its Apollo, the Exhibit which tells the story of the US vs USSR Space Race of the 1960's. The exhibit features artefacts and the long lost rocket engines that launched Apollo to the Moon. The Exhibit also features moon rocks, a lunar roving moon buggy, space suits and the first Apollo command module. Admission is USD21 for adults and USD13 for youth. See museumofflight.org/exhibits/ Apollo

### **Getting There**

Effective from Mar, Hawaiian Airlines will move to five services a week between Auckland and Honolulu. Kiwi travellers will then be able to offer clients more regular options for connecting onward to Seattle.

For clients wishing to connect straight through to SEA once they have cleared the Visa processing requirements in HNL, the carrier says its HA22 service is the fastest way to continue on to Seattle. The flight arrives in SEA at 2200 local time, meaning clients can head straight to the hotel and to bed, and wake up the next morning without too much jet-lag.

Northbound, the brief stop-over in HNL (approx. 3.5hr) means passengers can clear US customs in Hawaii and then travel on to Seattle as domestic passengers. "We call that 'arriving like a local," says the carrier.

#### ... Through Check

AKL-bound passengers departing SEA will be given their HNL-AKL boarding pass; have their bags through-checked; and will complete security screening. On arrival in HNL, passengers will have around 2.5 hours in transit airside. "Just enough time to grab a coffee, stock up on magazines or access the HA Plumeria Lounge (complimentary for Business Class passengers),"says HA New Zealand manager Russell Williss.

#### Marvel At MoPOP

The world's most extensive exhibition celebrating Marvel's visual and cultural impact will be premiering at Seattle's Museum of Pop Culture on 21 Apr advises Visit Seattle.

*Marvel: Universe of Superheroes* will feature over 300 artefacts, including costumes and props which have never been seen by the public before.

## Aloha Seattle AKL to HNL to SEA From \$799\* one-way \* Book I class See your GE

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