

Tacoma Regional
Convention + Visitor Bureau

Tacoma + Pierce County, WA Activity Options
for
American Water Works Association | Pacific NW Section
2010 Section Conference
May 12 – 14 | Greater Tacoma Convention + Trade Center



Tacoma Regional Convention + Visitor Bureau

Downtown Dining Options

Wine and dine in elegant restaurants. Enjoy casual meals with waterfront views. Explore micro-breweries and late-night hangouts with live music and signature beverages. Within a few blocks of the Greater Tacoma Convention + Trade Center, you will find:

Alfred's Café + Bubble Room

[take the LINK Light Rail to Freighthouse Square/Tacoma Dome Station]

402 Puyallup Avenue East

[253] 627 – 5491

El Gaucho

2119 Pacific Avenue

[253] 272 – 1510

Galanga Thai

1129 Broadway Street

[253] 272 – 3393

Harmon Pub + Brewery

1938 Pacific Avenue

[253] 383 – 2739

Hello, Cupcake

1740 Pacific Avenue

[253] 383 – 7772

Indochine

1924 Pacific Avenue

[253] 272 – 8200

The Melting Pot

2121 Pacific Avenue

[253] 535 – 3939

Pacific Grill

1502 Pacific Avenue

[253] 627 – 3535

Paddy Coyne's Irish Pub

815 Pacific Avenue

[253] 272 – 6963

The Swiss Pub + Eatery

1904 Jefferson Avenue South

[253] 572 – 2821

TWOKOI Japanese

1552 Commerce Street, #100

[253] 274 – 8999

Varsity Grill

1114 Broadway

[253] 627 – 1229

For additional dining options in and around Tacoma, check out the 2010 Travel Tacoma + Pierce County Visitor Guide, pgs. 36 - 37.

where ART + NATURE meet

1119 Pacific Ave., Ste. 500

Tacoma, WA 98402

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traveltacoma.com



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>> Downtown Tacoma Walking Tour

Step back in time to explore art and culture in historical downtown Tacoma. Tacoma Visitor Information Center representative, Sue Jones, created a wonderful walking tour for our visitors. We invite you to join us, learn the history and unique aspects of Tacoma that make this city such a great place to live and visit. The walk is approximately two [2] miles and lasts two [2] hours at a casual pace, up and down gradual slopes.

Prior reservations necessary – please call our Visitor Information Center at [253] 284 – 3254 to schedule a tour. Suggested donation of \$10 per group. Meet at the Tacoma Visitor Information Center [Courtyard by Marriott, 1st Floor]. Dress comfortably and appropriately for the weather. Good walking shoes are recommended.

>> Downtown Attractions + Activities

Tacoma Farmers' Markets

Proctor District Farmers Market [March 27 – Nov 20]

Saturday s from 9 am – 2 pm

North 27th and Proctor Street

Broadway / Downtown Market [May 20 – Oct 14]

Thursday s from 8:30 am – 2 pm

Broadway Plaza, downtown Tacoma

Shopping

Shop the many local storefronts just steps away. Hop on the LINK Light Rail and take a ride to Freighthouse Square, a vibrant and quirky shopping experience with more than 35 unique specialty shops!

Glassblowing Experience

Release the inner artist in you by visiting the Tacoma Glassblowing Studio. Create your own glass masterpiece with assistance from a professional glass instructor. Pick and apply colors, twist and turn them, and then blow or shape them into a unique and beautiful piece of art. Cost: \$65 per person + tax.

Museum District

Admire the arts. Start in downtown Tacoma's Museum District. Take in the MUSEUM OF GLASS and watch artists in The Hot Shop. Then cross over the CHIHULY BRIDGE OF GLASS and explore the WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY MUSEUM and the TACOMA ART MUSEUM. With an afternoon latte in one hand and a walking tour brochure in the other, you're sure to enjoy the downtown Tacoma Museum District.

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Performing Arts

The Broadway Center presents year-round world-class artists at three Tacoma theaters: Pantages, Rialto and Theatre on the Square. The theaters are home to many Tacoma Resident Arts Groups – Northwest Sinfonietta, Puget Sound Revels, Tacoma City Ballet, Tacoma Concert Band, Tacoma Opera, Tacoma Philharmonic, Tacoma Symphony Orchestra and Tacoma Youth Symphony Association.

May 14: Agatha Christie's BBC Murders at 7:30 p.m.

May 15: Tacoma Symphony Orchestra: Choral Dances at 7:30 p.m.

Masked Marvels and Wondertales at 3:00 p.m.

Tacoma Young Artists Orchestra: Concert No. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Agatha Christie's BBC Murders at 7:30 p.m.

Maritime Discoveries

Destiny Harbor Tours offers harbor tours, sightseeing, charters and eco tours of Tacoma Narrows Bridge, Gig Harbor, Salmon Beach, Point Defiance, Thea Foss Waterway and the Port of Tacoma. Tours depart from Thea Foss Waterway in downtown Tacoma.

Downtown Tacoma Evening + Nightlife

Sample some of downtown Tacoma's iconic hot spots. If you are in the mood for some full-flavored fun, check out one of the many tap-houses in Tacoma. These local favorites offer everything from unique microbrews and ciders to imports and down-home domestics. Take time to discover the neighborhood breweries and traditional Irish pubs where you can raise a glass to toast your hop-inspired friends, memories and beverages. For barrels of fun, check out HARMON BREWERY, downtown Tacoma's own microbrewery. If you are looking for some traditional Irish fare, head to PADDY COYNE'S IRISH PUB. Or if you want to see one of Dale Chihuly's hometown favorites, head to THE SWISS PUB.

Want an evening out sans the alcohol? How about an evening out at THE GRAND CINEMA, Tacoma's non-profit art-house theatre featuring unique and unusual titles.

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>> Pre or Post Conference Activities [half to full day options]

Tacoma Rainiers Baseball at Cheney Stadium

America's pastime is a Tacoma tradition at Cheney Stadium where the Tacoma Rainiers, the Triple-A affiliate of the Seattle Mariners take the field for 72 home games a year.

Arriving to Tacoma before the AWWA conference kicks off? Check out a game at Cheney Stadium against Las Vegas:

May 9: 1:30 p.m. game

May 10: 11:30 a.m. game

Puyallup Excursion

Visit downtown Puyallup to check out one of the area's largest and most robust outdoor Farmers' Markets each Saturday. Make a stop at Watson's Greenhouse and view more than 32,000 square feet of gardening bliss while you're there!

Puyallup also features an amazing outdoor art gallery! The streets of downtown Puyallup feature more than 50 one-of-a-kind art installations, both permanent and rotating. Sculptures embrace a variety of media, including bronze, stone and wood.

Gig Harbor

After a delicious breakfast at the hotel, depart for the maritime village of GIG HARBOR. Picturesque. Scenic. Historic. Charming. Culture coupled with outdoor recreation makes Gig Harbor a great multiday destination, no matter what the weather. Shop waterfront boutiques and Gig Harbor's Saturday Farmers Market. Enjoy lunch along the waterfront at one of Gig Harbor's great yet affordable dining options. The best lunch spot for watching the boats come into harbor is the GREEN TURTLE Restaurant!

Enjoy Gig Harbor and Tacoma from the water via DESTINY HARBOR BOAT TOURS. The open water offers plenty of opportunities to view maritime wildlife, Salmon Beach, the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and more! Return to Gig Harbor by boat. Once on land, visit one of Gig Harbor's five waterfront parks: Skansie Brothers Park, Jerisich Dock, Eddon Boat Park, Austin Estuary or the Bogue View Park. And don't miss the Harbor History Museum while in town!

Relax after a full day of events at one of Gig Harbor's beautiful and cozy hotels. Enjoy fresh seafood and Northwest cuisine at THE HERITAGE RESTAURANT. Take in some evening shopping or a movie in Uptown, Gig Harbor's beautiful and new development.

Mount Rainier National Park

Up for the great outdoors? Head to Mount Rainier National Park – *the* mountain offers everything an outdoor enthusiast could ever want, from hiking, bird watching to observing local flora and fauna. Springtime on the mountain means magnificent meadows filled with blooming wildflowers – in fact, there are over 700 species of flowering plants in the park, making for stunning views and photographs. The 'Grove of the Patriarchs' features several species of hemlock, cedar, fir and pine trees – some of which are over 1,000 old!

Like the outdoors but prefer a less-direct approach? Take a ride on MOUNT RAINIER SCENIC RAILROAD to see the picturesque foothills on a steam locomotive. NORTHWEST TREK WILDLIFE PARK offers a tram tour through a free-roaming area for native moose, elk, bison and other indigenous wildlife and is a perfect recreational activity for families.

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>> Additional Info

Farmers Markets

Gig Harbor Saturday Farmers Market: 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Kimball Drive 'Park 'n' Ride' off of SR-16 [approx 15 – 20 minutes from downtown Tacoma]. What you will find at the Gig Harbor Farmers Market: Great food for breakfast! | Fresh oysters and clams | Natural hand crafted cheese | Salsa | Pasta toppings | Marinating sauces | Perennials, trees & shrubs | Kettle corn & cotton candy | Yard & garden art | Fresh flower bouquets | Many choices of herbs | Raspberry, blueberry & strawberry plants | One-of-a-kind arts & crafts | Fresh free-range farm eggs | Fresh baked goods | Pottery | Vegetable starts | Local honey | Fresh Alaska salmon | Hanging strawberry bowls, lettuce bowls | Fresh gourmet salad mix | Handmade candles | Hand-blown glass art | Coffee

Proctor Saturday Farmers Market: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. North 27th + Proctor Street. Curbside parking available in surrounding residential areas. What you will find at the Proctor Farmers Market: Fresh, local produce | Fresh flowers bouquets | Fresh baked goods | Local honey | Fresh seafood and fish | Crafts and arts made by local artisans | Natural hand crafted cheese | and much more!

Puyallup Saturday Farmers Market: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Pioneer Park and Pioneer Park Pavilion, downtown Puyallup. One of Pierce County's largest farmers markets! Large arrays of fresh produce, floral bouquets, local artisan products and crafts, handmade jewelry and more!

Activities

Destiny Harbor Tours: [253] 279 – 9029 | DestinyMarine.com

Mount Rainier National Park: [360] 569 – 2211 | NPS.Gov/MORA

NWTrek: [360] 832 – 6117 | NWTrek.org

Point Defiance Zoo + Aquarium: [253] 591 – 5337 | PDZA.org

Grand Cinema: [253] 593 – 4474 | GrandCinema.com

Lakewold Gardens: [253] 584 – 4106 | LakewoldGardens.org

Lakewood Playhouse: [253] 588 – 0042 | LakewoodPlayhouse.org

Tacoma Musical Playhouse: [253] 565 – 6867 | TMP.org

Broadway Center for the Performing Arts: [253] 591 – 5890 | BroadwayCenter.org

South Hill Mall [cinema]: [253] 840 – 2828 | SouthHillMall.com

Puyallup Arts Downtown Outdoor Gallery: ArtsDowntown.org

Stina's Cellars: [253] 227 – 9748 | StinasCellars.com

Museum of Glass: [866] 468 – 7386 | MuseumOfGlass.org

Tacoma Art Museum: [253] 272 – 4258 | TacomaArtMuseum.org

Washington State History Museum: [888] 238 – 4373 | WSHM.org

Children's Museum of Tacoma: [253] 627 – 6031 | ChildrensMuseumOfTacoma.org

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