

# 👁️@L Awaits You!

### About Pike Place Market:

- ✦ The world's first Starbucks opened in the Market in 1971, and is still brewing up beans at the site. The rest, you might say, is history.
- ✦ The Market is a nine-acre National Historic District, and home to more than 100 farmers, 200 artists and craftpeople, 250 small businesses, 500 residents — and 50 street performers (who may perform anywhere there is a musical note painted on the sidewalk).

### About Seattle's Culinary Culture:

- ✦ Washington occupies the same latitude as most of France's great vineyards--perhaps that's why state and regional wines are continually called "award-winning" by The Wine Spectator and other gourmets.
- ✦ Geoduck--scary to look at, tongue-twister to pronounce (say goo-ey-duck), and great in chowder, sushi and other delectable presentations.

### About Seattle's Lifestyle:

- ✦ Seattle has more two-wheeled commuters than any other American city. Could be due to 30 miles of bike-pedestrian trails, 90 miles of signed bike routes, and 16 miles of bike lanes on city streets.

### About Seattle's Climate:

- ✦ Seattle does NOT lead U.S. cities in annual rainfall--that's just a rumor perpetuated by wily residents. At 37 inches per year, it's less than Miami (56 inches), New York (42), Atlanta (51) and Boston (41), to mention only a few.

### About Seattle's Nightlife:

- ✦ From world-renowned Seattle Opera to legendary rock 'n' roll — and all that jazz in between — the stage is always set for live concerts.
- ✦ Seattle's vibrant theatre scene launches Broadway productions and exciting alternative work on the fringe. If pirouettes are more your groove, our dancers know the moves. Audiences are adventurous, embracing classics and bold contemporary works.

### About Seattle's Waterways:

- ✦ Washington State Ferries enjoy the distinction of being the nation's largest ferry system and the state's number one tourist attraction. Tickets to ride: Pier 52, on the downtown waterfront.
- ✦ Opening Day of Yachting Season (first Saturday in May) marks the beginning of Seattle's most active outdoor season with University of Washington-hosted crew races and a witty parade that includes well-appointed yachts and leaky rowboats.

### About Seattle's History:

- ✦ Pioneer Square is Seattle's oldest neighborhood, and entirely preserved as a National Historic District. It's the home of the original "Skid Road," a term born when timber slid down Yesler Way to the waterfront. The Underground Tour gives a unique perspective on Seattle's architectural and cultural history.
- ✦ In 1914, the Smith Tower in Pioneer Square was the tallest building west of the Mississippi. Now it's merely the only building with elevators still operated by real people. An observation deck at the top offers commanding views of the downtown skyline and beyond.

### About Seattle's Sports:

- ✦ Alone among Northwest cities, Seattle fields major league teams in all three primary sports--baseball, basketball and football.
- ✦ For some of the best views of the Seattle skyline, Cascades, Olympics, Mt. Rainier and sunsets over the Sound, take your seat at Safeco Field or Seahawks Stadium.



## 2006 Visitor Information

(continued)

**Hotel Information and Reservations** Many hotels offering a range of quality, rates, and amenities have been reserved by the Society for the meeting in Seattle, Washington, USA. Convention Housing Management (CHM) has been appointed to coordinate all hotel reservations for delegates and exhibitors. In order to get the special convention rate, delegates and exhibitors must make their reservations through the official housing bureau, CHM. Do not contact the hotels directly in Seattle as reservations are to be made only through the official housing bureau, CHM. Official Society hotels will not honor direct requests for hotel rooms at the special convention rates. Again this year, you may book your reservations online! Visit the ISMRM web site at <http://www.ismrm.org> for more information.

**Customs/Visa** All visitors traveling from outside the United States must have a passport for entry into the United States that is valid for six months after international travel concludes. Note that citizens of countries participating in the Visa Waiver Program must present a machine-readable passport upon entry to the United States, otherwise a visa is required. Entry visas are required for travel from some countries. **The visa application process must be started as soon as travel to the United States is considered, and at least three to four months in advance of departure date.** Please verify the entry documents necessary by contacting your local U.S. Consulate office, or your local travel agent. Detailed visa information is available on the ISMRM web site at <http://ismrm.org/06/visainfo.htm>. Please review this information carefully to determine whether or not you need to apply for a visa.

**Currency** The money system in the United States is based on dollars (\$) and cents. International currency exchange services are located at banks throughout the city.

**Climate** During the month of May, the average high temperature in Seattle is 64 degrees Fahrenheit (17.8 degrees Celcius) and the average low temperature is 47 degrees Fahrenheit (8.3 degrees Celcius). The average precipitation level during the month of May is 1.77 inches.

**Voltage** The electrical voltage system in the United States is 110 volts. If you are traveling from a country outside of North America, you will need a proper voltage converter and adapter in order to operate your electrical appliances.

### **Transportation**

Seattle offers many options to get you moving from where you are to where you want to go. Explore the many services available to you. Note that bus transportation is provided for free within the main downtown corridor. For more information on Seattle transportation options please visit the Seattle Transit and Commuting web site at: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/html/citizen/transit.htm>

### **Golf**

With more than 300 courses in the state, golf continues to attract. Seattle hosted the PGA Golf Championships (1998) and the World Golf Championships-NEC Invitational (2002). You'll find a winning course out there, too. Check out these web sites for more information:

<http://www.seattlegolf.com/>  
<http://www.seattlegolfguide.com/>