



# Bainbridge Island and The Kitsap Peninsula

HEART OF THE PUGET SOUND



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND AND THE KITSAP PENINSULA • HEART OF THE PUGET SOUND

Snug within Puget Sound and cradled by the Olympic and Cascade ranges, the Kitsap Peninsula is surrounded by over 300 miles of saltwater shoreline. Waterfront communities like Suquamish, Port Gamble, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Bremerton and Gig Harbor provide jaw-dropping views of mountains and water at every turn, plus some of the best boating destinations in the region. Named after an 18th- and 19th-century chief, Kitsap is rich in Native American culture as well as Scandinavian, military, pioneer and natural attractions, injecting it with a richness of history and diversity. Add to that its close proximity to Seattle and it's no wonder so many people call it their favorite destination.

- Day 1:** Seattle - Bainbridge Island - Kitsap Peninsula (42 miles + 35-min. ferry ride)
- Day 2:** Silverdale - Bremerton - Port Orchard - Gig Harbor (45 miles)
- Day 3:** Gig Harbor - Seattle (45 miles) with an optional stop in Tacoma (54 miles)



## DAY ONE:

### Seattle - Bainbridge Island - Kitsap Peninsula

**Washington State Ferry:** Seattle to Winslow on Bainbridge Island (35 min.). Ferries define the Puget Sound experience. While waiting, explore Seattle's piers.

**Bainbridge Island Vineyards & Winery:** Established for 30 years. Largest commercial grower of grapes in the Seattle area. *Tours available for groups of 15 or more. \$5 fee per person.*

**Optional: Bloedel Reserve** has 150 acres of gardens, ponds, meadows and forest. Was the home of the Bloedel family. *(Reservations required.)*

**Suquamish Museum historical tour:** (45 min.) Documents the history of the Suquamish, inhabitants of the Puget Sound for over 15,000 years. Art gallery and gift shop. *Admission fee. Guided tours available.*

**Point No Point Lighthouse:** Oldest lighthouse on the Puget Sound; has been in operation since Jan. 1, 1880.

**Port Gamble:** This longest continually operating mill town in North America is a 120-acre National Historic Landmark with New England-style homes, maple and elm lined streets, shops and more.

**Port Gamble Historic Museum:** Furnished rooms, heirlooms, artifacts and photographs tell the dynamic history of this company owned town. Group tours available.

**Lunch: General Store & Café,** upstairs is the shell-filled **Of Sea and Shore Museum.**

**Poulsbo:** This community exposes its Norwegian roots in a setting that could easily be mistaken for Norway. The waterfront downtown is filled with Scandinavian-style shops, bakeries, art, crafts and antique stores. May's annual **Viking Fest** celebrates Poulsbo's Norwegian heritage with traditional food, fireworks, folk dancing, and a parade. **Poulsbo Marine Science Center** – A treat for the whole family, features living displays, fascinating touch tanks, and daily programs and activities. *(Open year-round, small admission, guided group tours with prior arrangement.)*

**Optional: Kayak on Liberty Bay** amongst eagles, seals, and other wildlife. *(Tours available, no experience necessary.)*

**Overnight: Silverdale**

## DAY TWO:

### Silverdale - Bremerton - Port Orchard - Gig Harbor

**Naval Undersea Museum:** New facility with 20,000 square feet of exhibits. Significant artifacts on display include major US torpedoes, a Confederate mine from the Civil War; torpedo tubes from the fleet ballistic missile submarine **USS Tecumseh**, and a simulation of the control room from the fast attack submarine **USS Greenling**.

The museum also features a unique exhibit on the oceans where submariners live and work. Using hands-on activities, visitors learn about the physical properties of the ocean such as buoyancy, pressure, density, heat transfer, light, sound, salinity, and oxygen

**Bremerton Naval Museum:** Offering a stunning collection of US Navy-related artifacts from World Wars I & II, including many photographs, paintings, and historical documents. Conveniently located downtown with easy access.

**USS Turner Joy:** This **Naval Memorial Ship** museum is a restored Vietnam era destroyer visitors can tour from the boiler room to the bridge. See the All Veterans POW memorial & the narrated WWII sea battles exhibit. This is the last of the Forrest Sherman class destroyers, built in Seattle & commissioned in 1959, decommissioned in 1982.

**Optional: Elandan Gardens,** a famed collection of bonsai

**Purdy Spit:** Stretch your legs in the wild and windy stretch of beach. Watch fisherman. Look for **harbor seals**, stray **gray whales**, **blue heron** and more.

**Gig Harbor:** Picturesque maritime city with 2 miles of walkable waterfront including parks, docks, shops, galleries, restaurants, and more.

**Lunch:** In **Gig Harbor** consider a local waterfront favorite, check for live entertainment, dockside seating.

**Finholm District view climb:** Climb 90 wooden stairs to a platform affording the signature view of Gig Harbor bay with **Mount Rainier** in the background.

**Rosedale Gardens:** A must-see for garden enthusiasts, the beautifully landscaped grounds feature nature trails as well as easy walking paths. See impressive sculptures, a bamboo forest, and stop for a moment's peace in one of many private sitting areas. Open year round, seven days a week, just minutes away from the waterfront of downtown **Gig Harbor**

**Optional:** Get out on the harbor with a boat rental from Gig Harbor Rent a Boat.

**Dinner and overnight: Gig Harbor**

**Optional evening:** Catch a performance at one of two community theaters.

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## DAY THREE:

### Gig Harbor - Tacoma - Seattle

**Tacoma Art Museum:** Find traveling exhibitions, Northwest Art and Dale Chihuly glass always on view in this museum. The Tacoma Art Museum is dedicated to connecting people through art, and showcasing and collecting Northwest art. The museum features framed views of Mt. Rainier and a series of elegant galleries that wrap around an open-air interior stone garden.

**Museum of Glass and Chihuly Bridge of Glass:** The Museum of Glass is Tacoma's architectural showpiece. In addition to thoughtfully planned exhibits, there is the Hot Shop Amphitheater with live, ongoing demonstrations of glasswork in progress. Don't miss the **Chihuly Bridge of Glass**, the 500-foot pedestrian walkway showcasing native-son Dale Chihuly's stunning creations. See 2,364 exotic objects on the ceiling alone.

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#### City of Gig Harbor

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### Additional Resources:

[www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org)

[www.rosedalegardens.com](http://www.rosedalegardens.com)

[www.tacomaartmuseum.org](http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org)

[www.bainbridgevinyards.com](http://www.bainbridgevinyards.com)

[www.portgamble.com](http://www.portgamble.com)

[www.bloedelreserve.org](http://www.bloedelreserve.org)

[www.experienceWA.com](http://www.experienceWA.com)

Gig Harbor

