



SAT
AUG 10

SUN
AUG 11

MON
AUG 12

TUE
AUG 13

WED
AUG 14

THU
AUG 15

FRI
AUG 16

FULL
WEEK
SCHEDULE

Going Green in the Emerald City

Like 2

★★★★★ 0 RATINGS //

10 August 2013



Travellers in search of a sustainable vacation may want to check out Seattle. The Emerald City is showing why its nickname is also a way of life.



STORY BY:
JAN ROSS
FOLLOW: @janross53

TAGS

City Tours Green Travel

Seattle is known as the “Emerald City” due to its neighbouring lush forests and plentiful park space. But it could also be given that name for its efforts at sustainable tourism. Here are some ways the Emerald City is going green.

Green Sleeps

The woman at the front desk at the **Hyatt at Olive8** in Seattle started to hand us our keys, paused, and then asked if we knew how to use the keys to turn on the electricity in the room. Surprised, we nodded. We had not used a room key to conserve electricity since we had visited Europe, where inserting your key into a slot by the door to maintain the electricity is a common practice for conservation.

This was our first real introduction to the fact that the Hyatt at Olive8 strongly believes in the “green” philosophy so prevalent in Seattle. They were the first LEED-certified hotel in Seattle and the first for the Hyatt Hotels Corporation. (LEED is the nationally accepted standard for the design, construction and operation of environmentally friendly buildings.) In our room, we noticed toilets that were dual flush, which use less wastewater than traditional, single-flush toilets. The hotel also features a grass rooftop—one of the largest in Seattle.



COMPELLING STORIES FROM EXOTIC DESTINATIONS, DELIVERED TO YOU WEEKLY. YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE.

Email Address*

Country

* indicates a required field

Subscribe

T+E TOP 5





Shutterstock

Green Treats

At the [Ummelina Spa](#), guests can experience the “The Equator”—a virtual trip around the world featuring treatment sessions amid waterfalls, a rainforest and a desert environment, and using salts, warm oils and mud obtained from around the globe. All the experiences at the spa are shaped by the natural environment and the philosophy that, for centuries, indigenous people listened to the earth and used its riches as part of their lives to promote balance between the individual and the environment.

One of the more unusual aspects of the Ummelina is the Tea Spa, where a variety of tea rituals are available, events can be scheduled, and unique and organic herbal teas from around the world are specially blended and brewed. The spa uses over 250 organic herbs to create teas formulated for medicinal use, a practice that has been used around the world for hundreds of years.



Shutterstock

Green Eats

One of the most important ways Seattle has been going “green” for years is in that most ubiquitous tourist destination: the Pike Place Market. Not only is the market a tourist destination, but for years it has served as an example of the “farm-to-table” concept of cutting out the middle man in food consumption and buying directly from farmers. At the market, you can buy freshly caught fish, grass-fed beef, fruits and

ESCAPES	ARTICLES
1 Costa Rica	1 Top Tourist Scams
2 Morocco	2 Top Cottage Getaways
3 Spain	3 Top Road Trips
4 Mexico	4 Hot Travel News
5 New Zealand	5 Web Original Series



Travel and Escape

47,126 people like Travel and Escape.

Facebook social plugin

vegetables picked hours earlier and bakery products created from locally sourced ingredients.

If you don't feel like preparing a meal yourself, there are plenty of great restaurants in Seattle that use organic, locally sourced ingredients. I recommend [Andaluca](#), where you can sample some fabulous local cheeses. You can also take a [culinary tour](#) (I recommend [Savor Seattle](#)) to discover local restaurants.

You might also like...

- [48 Hours in Seattle: Where to Eat, Where to Stay and What to Do](#)
- [3 Active Ways to Tour Portland](#)
- [Foodie's Guide to Seattle](#)

JAN ROSS



After a lifetime of travel, Jan Ross can pack a bag and hit the road with very little notice, although she will always have a little black dress and some snazzy shoes in there. She loves to travel with her husband of more than 35 years as he is a great photographer and she is often way too busy having fun to think about taking pictures. Active travel or relaxing, she is up for it all!

FOLLOW: [@janross53](#)