

COURTESY: ARGOSY CRUISES



front, and also a 2.5-hour sunset sail. Contact: 206-624-3931 or 800-831-3274 or visit [www.sailingseattle.com](http://www.sailingseattle.com).

The *Victoria Clipper* provides a narrated Orca Whale Watching Cruise with a stop at Friday Harbor, home to the Whale Museum. Contact: 800-888-2535; [www.whalewatching.com](http://www.whalewatching.com).

"A Whale of a Time" eco-package at The Fairmont Olympic includes a floatplane excursion to the San Juan Islands, a visit to the Whale Museum with a chance to "adopt" a whale, and an interpretive whale-watching tour with San Juan Safaris. Contact: 206-621-

## Seattle by Sea

When sunny days come to Seattle, out come the boats. From rentals to mini-cruises, there are many boating opportunities on the area's bodies of water.

Argosy Cruises offers one- to three-hour cruises ranging from a Lakes Cruise that shows the Seattle skyline to a Locks Cruise that maneuvers through the Hiram Chittenden Locks, which connect the fresh water of Lake Union to the salt water of Puget Sound. Argosy also offers brunch/lunch/dinner cruises on Puget Sound, while the Kirkland Lake Cruise shows off some of the University of Washington's landmarks, and motors by impressive waterfront homes. Contact: 206-623-1445 or go to [www.argosycruises.com](http://www.argosycruises.com).

Kirkland's Woodmark Hotel offers guests complimentary cruises of Lake Washington and Lake Union in a 1950s Chris-Craft. Contact: 425-822-3700; [www.thewoodmark.com](http://www.thewoodmark.com).

Let's Go Sailing provides a 90-minute harbor sail around Seattle's central water-

1700; [www.fairmont.com](http://www.fairmont.com).

The Center for Wooden Boats, known for its handcrafted boats, offers classic-boat rides every Sunday afternoon, and provides rentals on weekends and holidays. Contact: 206-382-2628; [www.cwb.org](http://www.cwb.org).

Green Lake Park, in a neighborhood north of Seattle, offers rowboat, canoe, paddleboat and sailboard rentals. Contact: 206-527-0171; [www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/greenlak.htm](http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/greenlak.htm).

The University of Washington's Waterfront Activities Center also offers canoe and rowboat rentals that paddlers can use to explore Lake Washington and Lake Union. Contact: 206-543-9433; [http://depts.washington.edu/ima/IMA\\_wac.php](http://depts.washington.edu/ima/IMA_wac.php).

On scenic Hood Canal, a spectacular getaway destination west of Seattle, Kayak Hood Canal offers guided canal and Skokomish River paddle trips that feature bald eagles and seals, possibly including pups. Contact: 360-898-5925; [www.kayakhoodcanal.com](http://www.kayakhoodcanal.com). —Amanda Schemkes

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