



YOUR SPRING
+ SUMMER
EVENTS GUIDE
TO THE GREATER
EASTSIDE!



Curated by Sharon Glatz Scott

Welcome

Spring and summer are some of the best times to get out and enjoy everything happening around Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside. Local events and farmers markets to outdoor concerts, family-friendly activities, and seasonal favorites, this guide was created to help you make the most of the season.

Whether you're planning a weekend outing, looking for something fun to do with family or friends, or just want a reason to explore more of what Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside have to offer, I hope this guide makes it easy.

Save it, share it, and keep it handy all season long.

Inside, you'll find a mix of local events and seasonal highlights to help you plan your spring and summer around Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside, including:

- featured spring events
- summer happenings
- family-friendly activities
- free and low-cost options
- recurring weekly and monthly events
- a few local favorites worth saving

Event details can change, so it's always a good idea to double-check dates, times, and ticket information before heading out.

-Sharon Scott



Spring Events

Spring is one of the best seasons to enjoy local markets, festivals, outdoor gatherings, and community events. Here are a few worth adding to your calendar.

Opening Boat Day

Opening Day of Boating Season (Montlake Cut) Early May | Seattle

A classic Seattle tradition—boats line up, flags fly, and the Montlake Bridge opens to kick off lake season.



Music in the Park

Mercer Island Mostly Music in the Park (Spring Kickoff) May | Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside

A relaxed, local-favorite concert series that feels like a neighborhood gathering more than an event.

Skagit Valley Tulip Festival (Worth the Drive)

April | Mount Vernon

Rows of color as far as you can see—go early or sunset for a quieter experience.



Lake Washington Loop Bike Ride (Partial or Full)

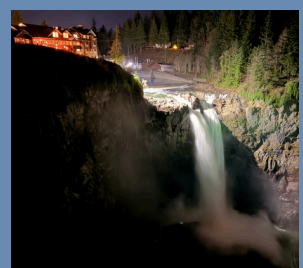
Spring weekends | Eastside/Seattle

A scenic ride with water views, parks, and plenty of stop-worthy moments along the way.

Snoqualmie Falls Spring Flow

March–May | Snoqualmie

At peak snowmelt, the falls are at their most powerful—worth seeing at least once each season.



More Spring Highlights

More to Explore This Spring

If spring is your favorite time to get out and explore, these local happenings are worth checking out too.

Woodinville Wine Walks (Spring Series)

April–May | Woodinville

Casual tasting events that feel social, not formal—great for an easy afternoon outing.



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND FESTIVALS

May 21 - May 25 | Northwest Folklife Festival | Seattle Center

One of Seattle's most iconic festivals—music, dance, food, and culture from around the world, all in one place (and mostly free) to go.

Sasquatch! Music Festival at The Gorge

May 21 - May 25 Memorial Day Weekend | The Gorge

A destination experience set above the Columbia River—live music, open skies, and one of the most iconic concert venues in the country.



Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF)

Various Theaters | Seattle

A citywide film experience featuring independent, international, and documentary films—perfect for a relaxed, indoor break.

The Golf Club at Newcastle + Patio Lunch (Even if You Don't Golf)

You don't have to play—grab lunch with one of the best views on the Eastside!



Summer Events

Summer on Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside usually means more ways to get outside, stay local, and enjoy everything from concerts and markets to movie nights, festivals, and community events.

Vashon Island Strawberry Festival

July 17–19, 2026 | Vashon Island

A charming festival with a parade, live music, and local vendors—Pair it with a ferry ride for a true getaway, and plan ahead by securing ferry tickets online before you go.



Remlinger Farms Summer Concert Series

Arrive early, grab a bite, and settle in before the show—this one is as much about the experience as it is about the music. Explore the full lineup and reserve your tickets here: <https://bit.ly/4ta2rRT>

Sequim Lavender Festival

July 17–19, 2026

Lavender fields in full bloom, farm tours, and artisan vendors create a sensory experience that's worth the scenic drive. It's relaxing, enjoyable, and calming. <https://bit.ly/4866feF>



GreenStage Shakespeare in the Park

July 10- August 15 | Various Parks throughout King County

Arrive a little early to find a good spot—this is one of those simple summer evenings that feels easy and memorable. <https://bit.ly/4eqpN17>

Washington State International Kite Festival

August 18–24 | Long Beach, WA

Colorful kites fill the sky above the Pacific coast, where the salty air and small-town pace feel like a true reset. It's Worth It! Be sure to stop at the local bakery before heading home. It's delish!



Family-Friendly Events

Looking for activities the whole family can enjoy? These local spring and summer events are great options for weekends, school breaks, and sunny afternoons around Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside.

Outdoor Movies – Bellevue Downtown Park

Tuesdays | Mid-July – Mid-August

- Pre-movie activities: 7:00 PM
- Movie starts: at dusk (around 8:45–9:30 PM)

A relaxed, family-friendly evening with live music, activities, and plenty of space to spread out.



Mercer Island Celebration

July 11 | Mercerdale Park

A classic small-town celebration with a full day of activities—live music, a bustling market, kids' rides, and it is the most anticipated fireworks shows on the Island.

Fourth of July | Bellevue Family 4th

July 4 | Bellevue Downtown Park

A full day of family-friendly activities ending with one of the Eastside's best fireworks shows.



Kirkland Summerfest

July 17-19 | Downtown Kirkland

Three fabulous days of music, food vendors, and waterfront energy, people watching, all in downtown Kirkland. Note: Bring comfortable shoes.

SEAFAIR!

July 31 - August 2 | Various Times and Places

Seattle's signature summer tradition—The Seattle parade, hydroplane races, the Blue Angels Air Show, and high-energy events on and around the water.



Want to SKIP Seafair?

When the city gets busy, sometimes the best plan is to head somewhere quieter. Here are a few easy getaways where you can feel like a visitor in your own backyard.

Suncadia Resort - Mountain Escape

Trade crowds for fresh air—walking trails, golf, spa time, and wide-open space just over an hour away.



Walla Walla Wine Country – Wine Weekend

A beautiful and scenic drive, a slower-paced getaway with tasting rooms, great dining, and a relaxed, small-town feel and how bout that fresh air!

San Juan Islands – Coastal Reset

A possible ferry ride included—quiet mornings, street strolls along the quiet towns, waterfront views, and a completely different pace of life.



Leavenworth

Explore the Bavarian-inspired village, float the river, and take in a summer setting that feels like a European escape close to home.

Hood River AKA “The Gorge”

A scenic drive leads to wineries and waterfront dining. From kiteboarders catching the wind to trails that lead to panoramic overlooks, this is a summer escape full of energy and incredible scenery.



A Few Local Favorites

If you're not sure where to start, these are a few picks I would keep on the list.

FAVORITE MARKET

Met Market, Mercer Island

A go-to for high-quality ingredients and beautifully prepared meals—perfect for a quick lunch, an easy dinner solution, or picking up something just a little more special.

FAVORITE FAMILY PICK

Carmine's, Seattle or Bellevue

A neighborhood favorite for classic Italian cuisine, Carmine's offers a comfortable, welcoming setting that works just as well for a family outing as it does for a quiet dinner.

WEEKEND PLAN

A simple dilemma every weekend during the summer: start at the farmers market to gather a few bites, then settle in for music in the park—simple, local, and effortlessly enjoyable. See you there!

SUMMER TRADITION

A front-row view from a family home on Mercer Island as the Blue Angels roar overhead—fast, loud. The Blue Angels never disappoint, nor does the show ever get old. Love the Blues!

EVENING OUTING

Bakes Place Bellevue
A true favorite—patio-side seating, a lil nibble and sip, acoustic music in the evening, and that perfect golden hour as the sun dips behind the buildings.
<https://bakesplacebellevue.com/>

Bonus Local Spots

Local Spots to Pair With Your Plans

Headed to an event? Here are a few local stops you may want to add before or after.

Coffee Before You Go

Bellevue/Bellden Cafe

A local favorite with a purpose-driven feel—bright, inviting, and known for its thoughtful menu and easy, linger-a-while atmosphere.



Easy Lunch Stop

Too Many to Mention | Bellevue | Mosoon

A longtime Bellevue favorite serving contemporary Vietnamese cuisine that blends traditional flavors with Pacific Northwest influence. My go to: Papaya Salad

Anything Sports, Entertainment or Beachy

Mercer Island, Bellevue & the Greater Eastside | May 2026 Events12 Seattle is a well-organized guide to local events, making it simple to browse what's happening by date, category, or location. From seasonal festivals to outdoor activities, it offers a broad snapshot of activities throughout our region.



Anything Entertainment, Beachy or Sporty

A surprisingly helpful resource—there's often more happening locally than you might expect. No matter your interests, you'll likely find something that fits what you love to do.

Anything Beachy, Sport or Entertaining

[There's no shortage of ways to enjoy Spring/Summer around Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside. Sometimes all it takes is a simple plan—and a reason to get out and go! Happy Exploring!



Stay Connected for More Local Favorites

I love putting together local resources like this to help people stay connected to what's happening around Mercer Island, Bellevue, and the Greater Eastside.

If you would like more local recommendations, seasonal guides, or helpful market updates, I would be happy to share them.

Follow along for more local favorites, seasonal updates, and community highlights.



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