



Something to do or see at every Seattle Link Light Rail stop

From University of Washington to Othello

By Sarah Anne Lloyd | @sarahannelloyd | Updated Jul 8, 2019, 10:28am PDT

TRAVEL

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Seattle has had the Sound Transit Link light rail line for about nine years now, and sometimes it still feels brand-new—partially because of the 2016 extension to the University of Washington and Capitol Hill, and partially because so many other cities got their rail systems in before us. But it has become one of Seattle’s most

popular transit lines, growing more than 6 percent in ridership last year. That number could go up even higher come 2021, when the line stretches to the U District, Roosevelt, and Northgate.

In addition to being one of Seattle's most pleasant public transit experiences, it's also a great way to explore the city. On the way to Sea-Tac International Airport, the train stops in not just the newer, northern stations, but downtown, Pioneer Square, Sodo, Mount Baker, Beacon Hill, and in the Rainier Valley.

Also, this should go without saying: Not all of these neighborhoods are traditional tourist destinations, so it's important to be respectful of the existing communities along the stops while getting to know Seattle a little better.

While we didn't include the Tukwila and Seatac stops in this guide, as an extra tip: Those riding all the way to the end can enjoy [fishing, swimming, and nature walks at Angle Lake](#).

5. Pioneer Square station: Smith Tower Observatory Bar

35, 506 2nd Ave
Seattle, WA 98104

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This may seem like an obvious choice—it's one of Seattle's bigger tourist destinations. But a recent, swanky remodel restored the observatory floor, including the gorgeous ceiling details, adding a Prohibition-themed bar. You still even get to ride the old-timey elevator up and get a little history lesson from the operator, although it's [no longer actually operated by the operator](#).

Honorable mention: If you prefer to view your Seattle history from down low instead of up high, you can access Seattle's underground through two tour companies: relatively newer outfit [Beneath the Streets](#) and the original [Bill Speidel's Underground Tour](#), although the latter [has been known to make some embellishments](#) in its history lectures.



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