

Winter Safety Tips for Driving & Walking



Winter in Washington can be unpredictable; drizzling one moment, icy the next. Whether you're driving through neighborhood streets or walking around town, a little extra caution can make all the difference. These quick tips will help you stay safe, steady, and ready for whatever the season brings.

Driving in Rain & Snow

- Slow down, even when you're "just going with traffic." Wet roads + oil buildup = sneaky slick.
- Increase your following distance. Braking takes longer on wet or icy pavement.
- Turn headlights on in rain or low visibility. If others can't see you, that's the real danger.
- Avoid sudden braking or sharp turns. Smooth and steady wins the winter driving game.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car: flashlight, blanket, charger, and basic first aid.

Walking on Wet & Icy Surfaces

- Wear shoes with good traction. Fashion is cute, but grip is cuter.
- Take shorter steps and slow it down. Speed walking is canceled in winter.
- Watch for black ice on bridges, shaded sidewalks, and parking lots.
- Keep your hands free when possible so you can catch yourself if needed.
- Use handrails on stairs and ramps. They exist for a reason.

Stay alert, stay warm, and give yourself a little extra time out there. With a few smart habits, we can all get through this winter safely.

Seattle Art Walk A Winter Bright Spot

Winter evenings in Seattle can feel long, dark, and a little too quiet. That's where the Pioneer Square First Thursday Art Walk comes in.

Once a month, galleries and studios open their doors after hours, lights glowing, art on the walls, people wandering in from the rain. It's casual, welcoming, and very Seattle. No tickets, no pressure, just a chance to explore, support local artists, and turn an ordinary weeknight into something memorable.

You don't need to know anything about art to enjoy it. Pop into one gallery or make a full evening of it. Grab dinner nearby, meet a friend, or take a slow stroll and let the city do its thing. Art Walk nights are a reminder that even in the middle of winter, there's always something happening here. Sometimes all it takes is stepping inside, shaking off the rain, and letting yourself wander a bit.

Art Walk Schedules



Upcoming Events for January



Ballet of Lights
January 10th

January 10
Ballet of Lights: Sleeping Beauty
Carco Theatre, Renton, WA

January 11
Huskies vs. Ohio State
Hec Edmundson Pavilion
Seattle, WA

January 14 - 15
Banff Mt. Film Festival
Benaroya Hall
Seattle, WA

January 17
Architectural Tour
Volunteer Park
Seattle, WA

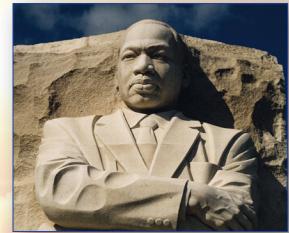
January 19
Kraken vs. Penguins
Climate Pledge Arena
Seattle, WA

January 19
MLK Day Celebration
Tacoma Convention Ctr.
Tacoma, WA

January 28
Peking Acrobats
Federal Way Arts Center
Federal Way, WA

January 30
Xtreme Int. Ice Racing
Angel of the Winds Arena
Everett, WA

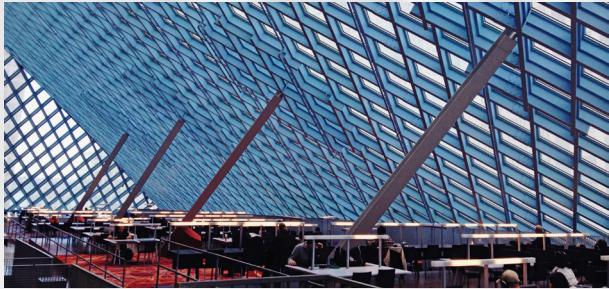
Note: Check Event locations for current information.



Honoring MLK Day
January 19th



Glass, Light, and Learning: Inside Seattle's Iconic Central Library



Located at 1000 Fourth Avenue in downtown Seattle, the Seattle Central Library is one of the city's most striking civic landmarks where books, community, art, and innovative architecture meet.

Designed by Rem Koolhaas with LMN Architects and opened in 2004, the 11-story, 363,000-square-foot library redefines what a modern public space can be. Its diamond-patterned glass-and-steel exterior floods the interior with daylight while connecting visitors to the surrounding cityscape. Inside, asymmetrical platforms, layered spaces, and open sightlines support a wide range of activities like reading, research, community gatherings and technology access.

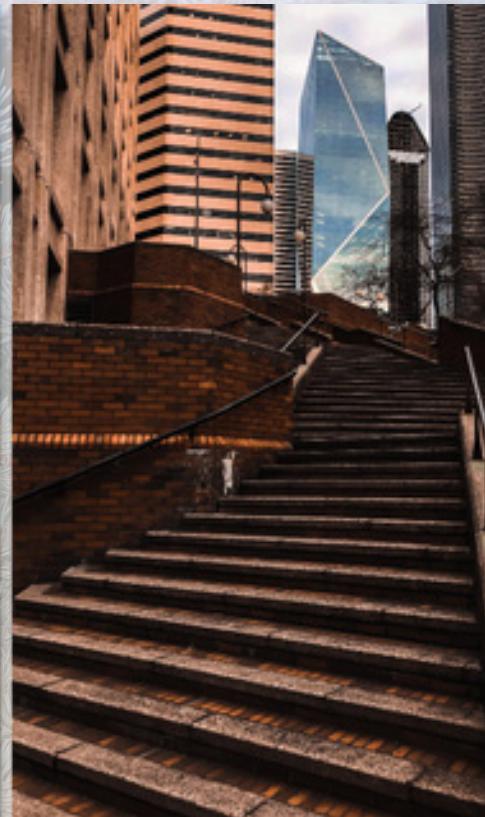
Beneath its bold form lies sophisticated engineering: massive steel columns support cantilevered floors and tilted planes that create the building's dynamic, floating feel while meeting

seismic and wind requirements. Modern, sustainable systems for lighting, water use, and ventilation contributed to its LEED Silver rating.

Signature features include the **Book Spiral**, a continuous ramp that houses the full nonfiction collection across Levels 6–9, and the **Living Room**, a 50-foot-tall welcoming space designed for reading, socializing, and tech use. The library also includes the **Mixing Chamber**, a flexible tech-focused workspace.

With dramatic views of Elliott Bay, the Olympic Mountains, and downtown, the Seattle Central Library stands as bold, transparent, and unmistakably modern.

More Seattle Architecture: Historic and Modern



West Edge Tower Apartments

Historic Pioneer Building

F5 Glass Tower