

TOP DOG TOWNS OF THE WEST

# Sunset

## FALL ESCAPES

GLAMPING  
REBORN  
*in*  
ZION

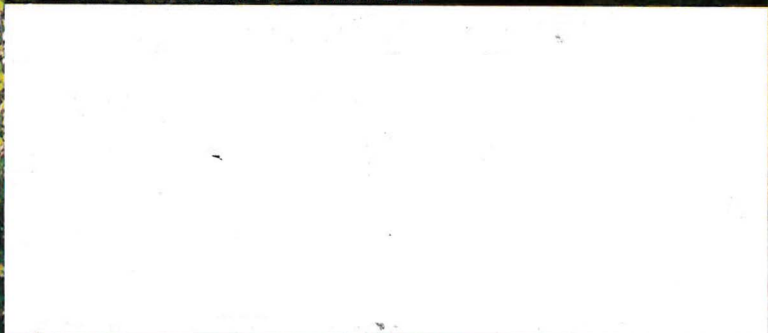
FARM-STYLE  
THANKSGIVING  
MENU  
*with*  
BEER  
PAIRINGS

DESIGN  
INSPIRATION  
*from a*  
SEASONAL  
GARDEN

+

HOME  
MAKEOVER  
ON A  
(CRAIGSLIST)  
BUDGET

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THE VIEW

# WATERFRONT REVIVAL

A major city project is sparking an explosion of activity where downtown Seattle meets the Salish Sea.

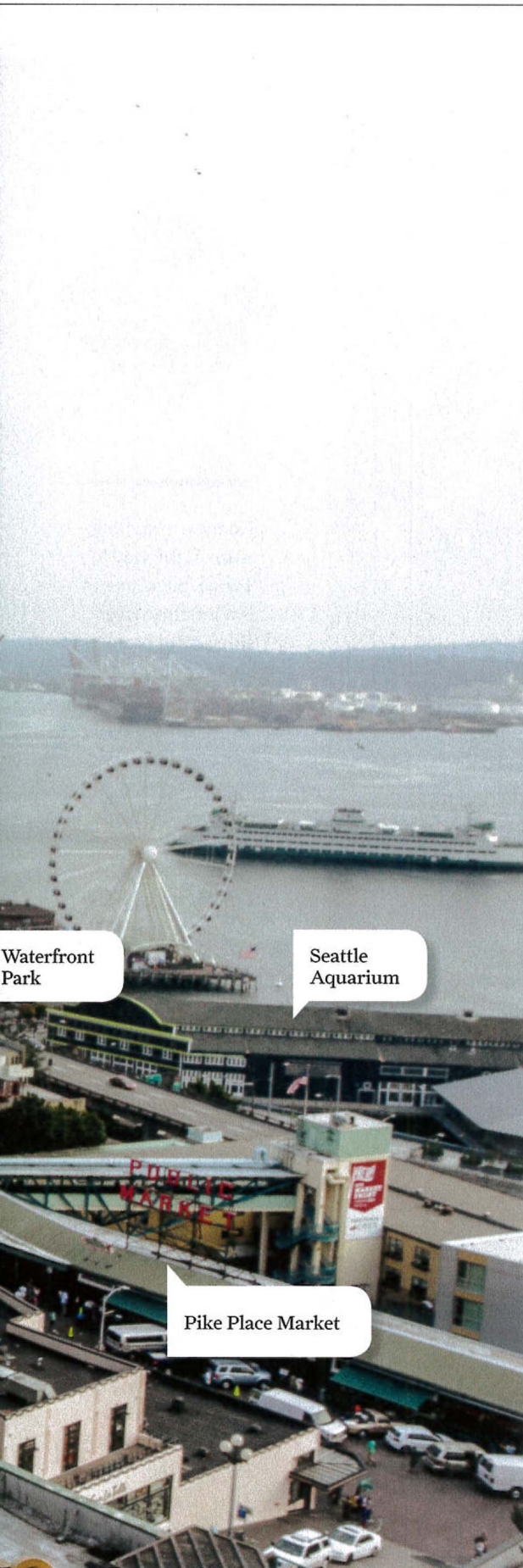
*By Stephanie Granada*

Café Hitchcock

Seattle Art Museum

Alaskan Way Viaduct

The Nest at the Thompson Seattle



# S

**INCE 1953**, the Alaskan Way Viaduct has separated downtown Seattle from its lifeblood, the Puget Sound. But that double-decker highway will be moving underground, making way for a walkable green space designed by the same architect behind Manhattan's High Line. A billion dollars is being pumped into the waterfront revamp, which should be completed by late 2022. But why wait until then to check out the action? The Pike Place MarketFront already opened this summer, bringing new shops and better water views to one of the Emerald City's most beloved institutions. And that's just the beginning.

## WHAT'S MAKING WAVES

### SHOP

The Municipal Market building behind Pike Place Market was demolished after a fire in the 1970s, and plans to build on that site stalled for decades. This summer, **Pike Place Market's** MarketFront finally opened in its footprint. The gleaming pavilion looks out over the Sound, and the new hall accommodates a dynamic batch of vendors, from Southern-inspired Honest Biscuits to Old Stove Brewing Co. Come January, look out for the highly anticipated Little Fish, Zoi Antonitsas and Bryan Jarr's ode to salted, cured, canned, and smoked seafood. [pikeplacemarket.org](http://pikeplacemarket.org).

### EXPLORE

The **Seattle Art Museum** took its own stab at spiffing up the waterfront when it debuted the nine-acre Olympic Sculpture Park 10 years ago. At the institution's main campus two blocks off the water, check out the Andrew Wyeth retrospective—the first one devoted to the American realist painter since his passing in 2009. *Through Jan 15*; [seattleartmuseum.org](http://seattleartmuseum.org).

### STAY

The year-and-a-half-old **Thompson Seattle** hotel embodies this forward-thinking city with its sharp, uncluttered design (and the occasional plaid accent thrown in). Don't miss the rooftop bar, **The Nest**, where you can take in one of the most spectacular vistas of downtown. *From \$279*; [thompsonhotels.com](http://thompsonhotels.com).

### EAT

Chef Brendan McGill has earned raves for the locavore menu served at Hitchcock on Bainbridge Island. Now, at **Café Hitchcock** in the Exchange Building, you can experience highlights from his three restaurants in a deli-style atmosphere that's accessible to all. Be sure to try the bacon, from pigs raised on McGill's own farm. [cafehitchcock.com](http://cafehitchcock.com).

### KNOW

If you're worried about the environmental impacts of all this development, rest assured that conservation is front and center. The Elliott Bay Seawall, for example, will both protect **Waterfront Park** and provide nooks and crannies expressly designed to support aquatic wildlife. [waterfrontseattle.org](http://waterfrontseattle.org).

### LEARN

Opened in 1977, the **Seattle Aquarium** is still the best place to meet the area's marine residents. Inside, you'll find exhibits focused on tidepools, shore birds, and mammals, plus a 20,000-gallon aquarium filled with hundreds of creatures native to the Northwest. This institution, too, has big plans in the works: A stunning new Ocean Pavilion, slated to arrive by 2023, will include a massive tank housing tropical species like sharks and sea turtles, plus installations that focus on how visitors can help protect ocean ecosystems. [seattleaquarium.org](http://seattleaquarium.org).