

Friday Field Trips!

NPRHA 2023 Tacoma Convention

Northern Pacific Related Places to Visit – Friday September 15th

Venue	Category	Friday Hours	Description	Why Go?	Address for Google
WA State Historical Society	NP History, Layout	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM	NP related exhibit of 150 Year Anniversary of arrival in Tacoma. HO train layout depicting Tacoma in the 1950s.	The museum is great! PSMRE HO layout on Level 5 is amazing.	1911 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402
Tacoma Historical Society	Tacoma History	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM	NP photos and artifacts, along with working telegraph in NP office setting.	Exposure to NP materials. This is the hub for the 150 Year Anniversary in Tacoma.	406 Tacoma Ave. S. Tacoma, WA 98402
Pacific Northwest Railway Archive	NP Artifacts, Layout	9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Open house - stop by and get a tour. Bonus display - Jack Christensen paintings that had been in a private collection for over twenty years.	Massive archive of NP material, with special showing of Jack's artwork. BMRRC HO layout also open.	425 SW 153rd St. Burien, WA 98166
Foss Maritime Museum	NP History	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Historic NP building, a massive structure with huge timbers. Boats, working woodshop, modest NP display of Half Moon Yard. Free admission if you are a member of another North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM).	<u>The</u> true end-of-transcontinental-line location, a very important location for the NP.	705 Dock St. Tacoma, WA 98402
Abby Hill Paintings at U of Puget Sound	NP Artifacts	10:00 AM to 3:00 PM	See original Abby Williams Hill landscape paintings displayed in the Collins Library. Upstairs is the Abby Williams Hill collection.	Historically significant and very impressive NP artwork that is relatively unknown...	1500 N. Warner St. #1021 Tacoma, WA 98416
Tacoma Union Station	NP Architecture	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Landmark 1911 railway station with Romanesque architecture. Now a Federal courthouse with public rotunda. Exhibit of extraordinary glass sculpture by internationally acclaimed Tacoma native Dale Chihuly.	Public can walk into the lobby and visit a few exhibits downstairs; the rest of the building is closed to the public.	1717 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402

Other Interesting Places to Visit That Are Not Necessarily NP-Related

Also consider this site: <https://www.traveltacoma.com/things-to-do/>

Venue	Category	Hours	Description	Why Go?	Address for Google
Old Tacoma District	Tacoma History	Anytime	Tacoma began here. See a small collection of historic buildings with some good eateries.	Historic buildings, fun collection of shops and restaurants. Close to (former NP) BNSF mainline.	2350 N 30th St. Tacoma, WA 98403
Ruston District	Tacoma History	Anytime	Site of an old smelter, this area has seen an <u>amazing</u> transformation into a modern hub of activity.	Retail, walking paths, harbor, and close to Point Defiance Park – really something to see.	5361 Yacht Club Rd. Tacoma, WA 98407
Proctor District of Tacoma	Tacoma History	Anytime	Another of Tacoma's districts with old buildings, fun mix of retail and restaurants.	Close to Jim Fredrickson's old house.	2609 N Proctor St. Tacoma, WA 98407
LeMay - America's Car Museum	Vehicle History	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, last entry at 4:30 PM	LeMay – America's Car Museum is an international destination for families and auto enthusiasts to celebrate America's love affair with the automobile and learn how it shaped our society. Free admission if you are a member of another North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM).	One of the world's premier car museums (voted in top 10), 3-minute drive from convention hotel. No NP artifacts.	2702 East D St. Tacoma, WA 98421
LeMay Collections at Marymount	Vehicle History	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Museum of cars and large equipment. Includes diner from Easton, but very hard to see or photograph.	Can be hard to get to with traffic but is an amazing collection of cars and auto memorabilia. Lots of odd stuff, e. g., a wall of motorboat engines!	325 152nd St. E Tacoma, WA 98445
Foothills Historical Society	General History	Tue., Wed., Thu. – Noon to 4PM	Main museum building with numerous displays, large artifacts in lot across the street, mostly forestry-related.	A very good small-town historical museum, will not disappoint. Eat at Wally's Drive-in. A bit of a drive.	130 N River Ave. Buckley, WA 98321
Griot's Garage	Vehicle History	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily except Sunday.	Neat auto-care store with very nice museum in the building.	Nice display of high-end cars.	3333 S 38th St. Tacoma, WA 98409
Point Defiance Gardens	Great Places	7:00 AM to 7:30 PM	Japanese, rose, and herb gardens, along with other park attractions are well worth seeing.	Very well-maintained and inviting park.	5715 Roberts Garden Dr. Tacoma, WA 98407
Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium	Great Places	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM every day	Zoo & aquarium with nearly 300 species, including tigers, meerkats & a landmark red wolf habitat.	Good mid-sized zoo with a surprisingly great aquarium.	5400 N Pearl St. Tacoma, WA 98407
Tacoma Art Museum	Art	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Wed to Sun	The museum's collection of more than 5,400 works emphasizes the art and artists of the Northwest and broader western region. Free admission if you are a member of another North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM).	Fantastic collection of Western Art.	1701 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402
Antique Row, Downtown Tacoma	History	Varies, generally 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Roughly 7 antique stores, very close to McMenamins restaurant. Safe area to visit.	Could there be NP treasures at discount prices, just waiting for you?	700 block of Broadway in downtown Tacoma
Amtrak Trip Over American Lake Line	NP History	See Amtrack schedule online	Ride Amtrack over the old NP trackage, covering whatever mileage your time will afford.	Great way to see revitalized NP trackage.	Amtrack station of your choice

Local Food Recommendations

Venue	Category	Hours	Why Go?	Address for Google
Fish Peddler, Downtown	Seafood	11:00 AM to 9:00 PM Daily	Excellent seafood, <u>the</u> best. Close to BNSF mainline.	1199 Dock St. Tacoma, WA 98402
McMenamins Elks Temple, Downtown	American Variety	7:00 AM to 11:00 PM	Large, fun atmosphere, in a very cool building with multiple bars/restaurants. Very historic feeling, all period furniture and such.	565 Broadway Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402
The Spar at Old Town	Burgers, Classics, and Seafood	11:00 AM to 9:00 PM	If you are lucky you can get a table with a view of BNSF tracks—a favorite spot of Jim Frerickson. Good food.	2121 N 30th St. Tacoma, WA 98403
Harbor Lights at Ruston	Seafood	11:30 AM to 8:00 PM	Excellent seafood, great view of the bay. Close to BNSF mainline.	2761 Ruston Way Tacoma, WA 98402
Frisko Freeze, Downtown	Drive-In	10:00 AM to 11:00 PM	Old school drive-in, good food. Service can be slow.	1201 Division Ave. Tacoma, WA 98403
Beach Tavern at Titlow	American Comfort Food	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Good food, right next to BNSF tracks at Titlow. Feel the trains rumble.	8612 6th Ave. Tacoma, WA 98465
Dukes Seafood at Ruston	Seafood	11:00 AM to 10:00 PM	Great seafood, very popular NW chain. Great view, near mainline tracks.	3327 Ruston Way Tacoma, WA 98402
Thai Pepper, Downtown	Thai	11:00 AM to 9:00 PM	Best Thai food downtown.	701 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402

Best Places to Watch or Photograph Trains – Safe and on Public Land

- End of 6th Ave. in Titlow – plug “Beach Tavern in Titlow” into Google Maps
- Old Tacoma – plug “McCarver and Ruston Way” into Google Maps. Sidewalk crosses tracks.
- Waterview St. above Ruston Way – parking is limited, please be respectful.
 - 4104 N. Waterview St. Excellent for Southbound in the afternoon, especially when Mt. Rainier is visible.
 - 4218 N. Waterview St. Good for Southbound, a little tight for Northbound.
 - 4654 N. Waterview St. Good for Northbound.