

Departing with ectu : San Juan Island Weekend Getaway



One of the many reasons I love living in Seattle is the ability to jump in your car — or a onto a ferry — to escape the city for a weekend getaway. Earlier this spring, Trevor and I made the trek with another couple to the nearby islands — **San Juan Island** to be specific. We spent two and a half days relaxing, exploring and enjoying all the charming aspects the magical place had to offer.

We had been to the island quite a few times before — cabins with friends, boating trips with family. So this time, I thought it'd be the perfect excuse to compile a list of my favorite things to do via a getaway guide.

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San Juan Island Getaway Guide

There are 172 named islands and reefs that make up [San Juan County](#) — making this area the perfect escape for sea explorers and island time seekers. Of the large cluster are four major islands that ferries serve for visitors — Orcas, Lopez, Shaw and San Juan Island (the one we've frequented the most).

[San Juan Island](#) is the second largest island of the group and is best known for its natural beauty across farms, fields, forests, hills and rocky shorelines. We love it because it houses [Friday Harbor](#) — a cute town nestled on the east side of the island along the ferry terminal — and [Roche Harbor](#) — a town on the northwestern point that is a boater's paradise.

Where to Stay

Snug Harbor Resort

Located on the west side of the island along Mitchell Bay, this waterfront resort is the cutest hidden gem. 17 cabins and 3 suites all with updated interiors and gorgeous views.

Friday Harbor House

Sophisticated hotel located on a bluff overlooking the harbor — this is the perfect romantic option to experience escape and luxury.

Roche Harbor Resort

Historic seaside resort located in Roche Harbor with picturesque views, gardens and contemporary updates.

Airbnb

We booked an Airbnb on this recent trip as it was fun to cozy up in a cabin for a true, island getaway vibe. It's nice to be able to have a kitchen for cooking, deck for sunset watching and access to beach and there are so many great options to sift through!

Where to Eat

Downriggers

A perfect spot for your brunch, lunch, happy hour or dinner needs. Offering views, a wide menu and some amazing desserts!

Friday's Crabhouse

An awesome laid-back indoor / outdoor space with multiple levels, a full bar and views. Great for a beer and fish & chips in the afternoon to break up your exploring.

The Restaurant at Friday Harbor House

For a nice dinner out — make a rez here for local cuisine and wine served up high on the hill with water views. Come early for a drink at the bar or take advantage of their outdoor patio for happy hour vibes under their red umbrellas.

Madrona Bar & Grill

My favorite restaurant on the island — for the good food, people and memories we've made while visiting Roche Harbor. Their seafood cocktail and noodle salad are the best — along with their tasty drinks. If you time it right you can get a spot outside for [the Colors Ceremony](#) — happening 20 minutes prior to sunset during peak season.