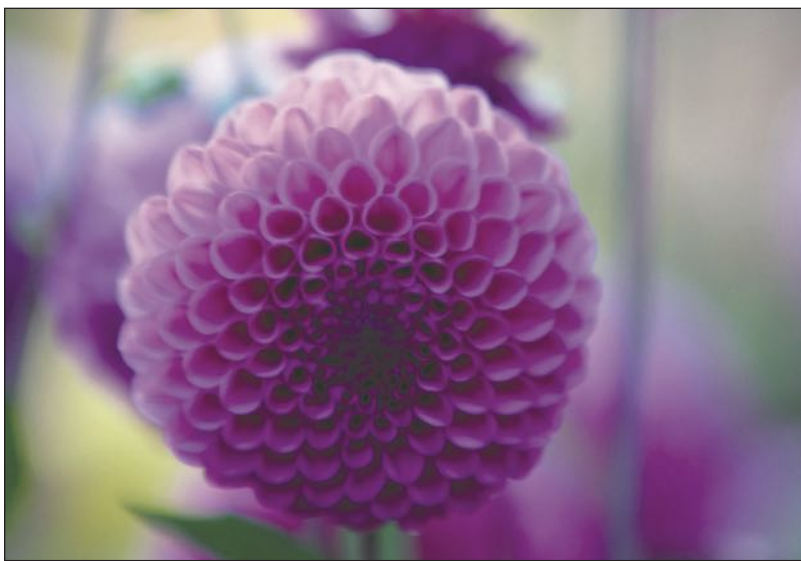




Photos by Elizabeth Nida Obert / enida@postbulletin.com

The Venetian Wall on the Chihuly Bridge of Glass in Tacoma displays 109 Dale Chihuly sculptures. Chihuly, a famous artist and glass sculptor, was born in Tacoma.



A variety of flowers and gardens — including Japanese, Rose and Dahlia — populate Point Defiance Park in Tacoma.



Recreational opportunities, including hiking and fishing, abound in Point Defiance park in Tacoma, the second largest urban park in the United States.

City of glass

Take in Tacoma

BY ELIZABETH NIDA OBERT
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Mount Rainier, an icon of the Washington landscape, shows its peak among the distant clouds as my husband and I make our acquaintance with Tacoma.

We would explore the neighboring national park — 58 miles to the southeast — in the days

to come. But first it was time to explore this mid-sized port city on Puget Sound.

Tacoma proudly boasts the birthplace of world-famous artist and glass sculptor Dale Chihuly. His footprint is evident as we admire the Venetian Wall — comprised of 109 of his colorful pieces — on the Chihuly Bridge of Glass.

We are dazzled by the grandeur and scale of his work, which leads to the containable but impressive Museum of Glass.

The 7,000-square-foot hot shop amphitheater provides opportunity to watch live glass blowing demonstrations and is worth a stop.

We had grown hungry and ordered our Antique Sandwich Co. deli sandwiches to go, so we could picnic in the neighboring Point Defiance Park. I was most dazzled by the abundant flowers in the flourishing gardens, where I spent considerable time taking photographs in the exquisite late afternoon light.

If you go

ABOUT THE WRITER: Elizabeth Nida Obert is a Post Bulletin senior staff photographer.

GETTING THERE: Flew Delta into Seattle-Tacoma International Airport and drove a rental vehicle from there.

WHERE YOU STAYED: There are

a variety of hotel options in the region.

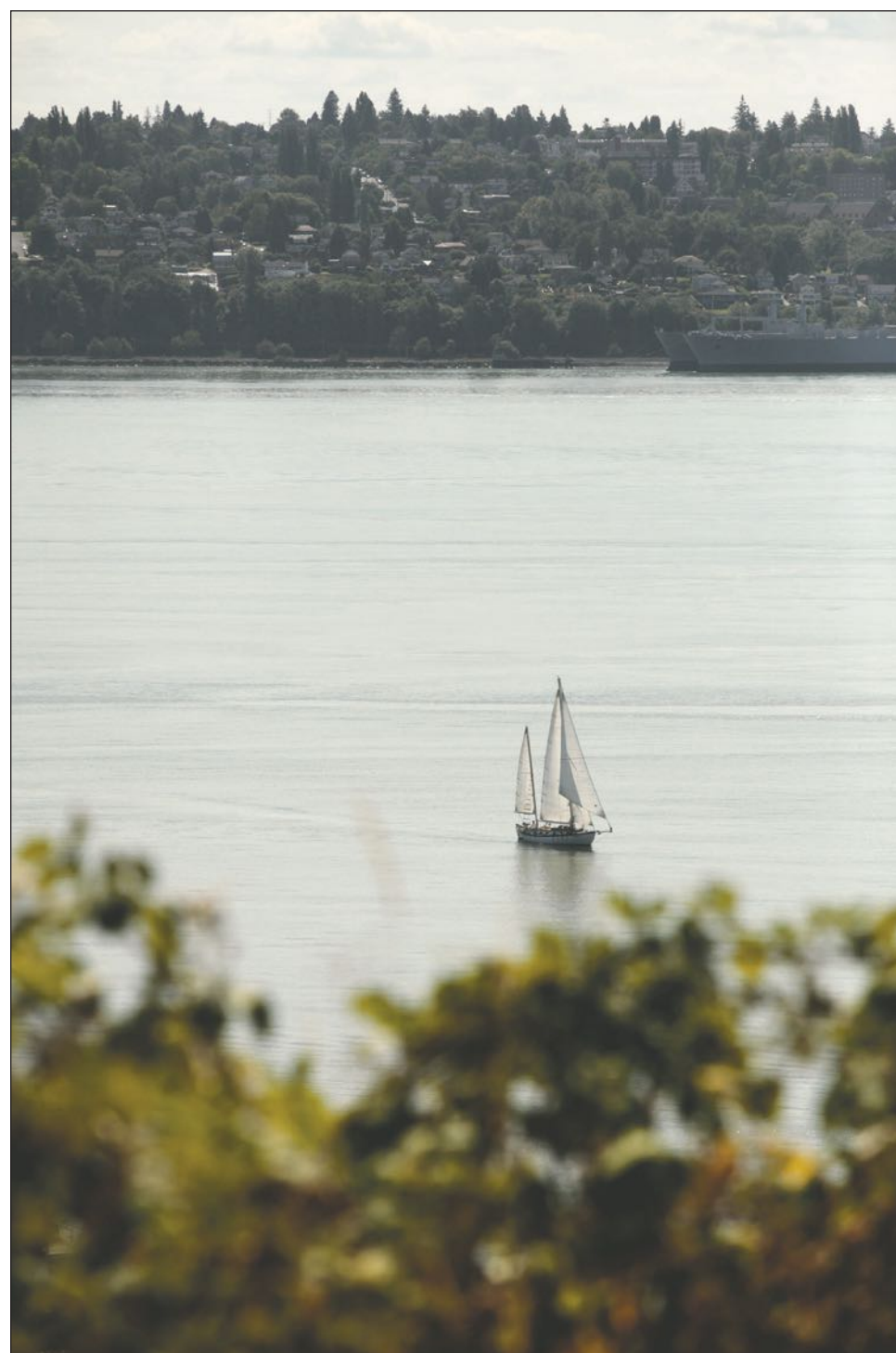
WHERE TO EAT: Grab sandwiches at Antique Sandwich Co. — a local gem — and picnic at neighboring Point Defiance Park.

SIDE TRIPS: Mount Rainier National Park; Seattle and Olympic

National Park.

YOUR TRAVEL TIP: Tacoma is the town of world-famous artist and glass sculptor Dale Chihuly. The Bridge of Glass and Museum of Glass are must-sees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: www.traveltacoma.com



Tacoma is a mid-sized urban port in Washington on Puget Sound, which is an inlet of the Pacific Ocean.