SHARE THIS PAGE

HOTEL DISTRICTS

Airport hotels

Downtown hotels

Jantzen Beach hotels

Lloyd District hotels

Northwest Portland

ALL HOTEL DISTRICTS »

ALL PORTLAND HOTELS »

hotels

MY TRIP

SELECT LANGUAGE

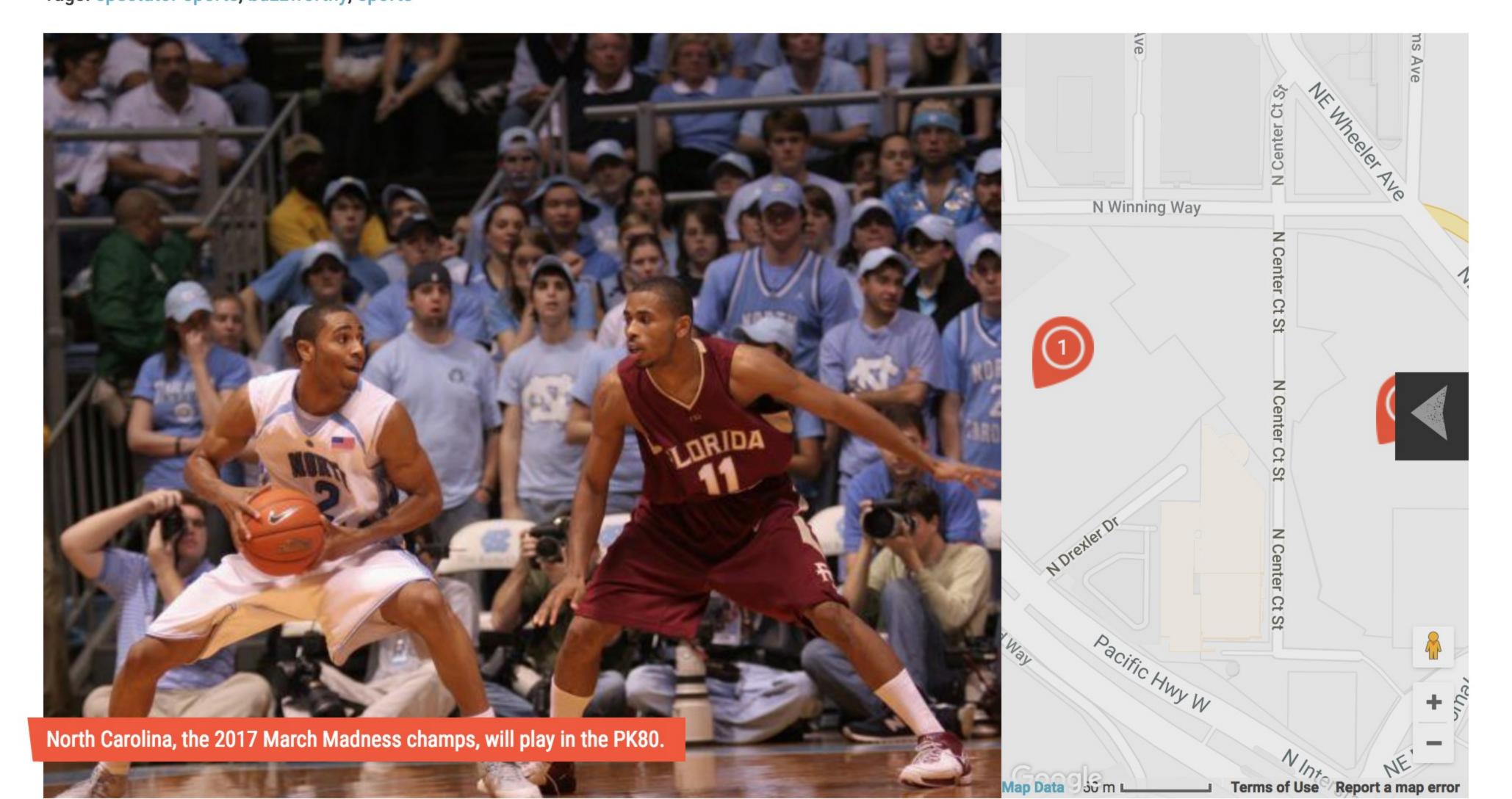
Things to Do in Portland / Portland Activities & Attractions Spectator sports PK80 Phil Knight Invitational college basketball tournament

PK80 Phil Knight Invitational college basketball tournament

Portland hosted the PK80, one of the biggest college basketball tournaments ever.

By Joseph Manuel | Oct. 25, 2017 (updated May 24, 2018)

Tags: spectator sports, buzzworthy, sports



kevin813 via Flickr

Thanksgiving is usually reserved for football — but not this year. From Nov. 23–26, 2017, Portland hosted one of the biggest college basketball tournaments ever put together: the PK80 Phil Knight Invitational. The mega-tourney is a celebration of Knight, the co-founder of shoe and sportswear giant Nike, who turns 80 in February.

HOW THE PK80 WORKS

The tournament showcased some of the most successful schools in the history of men's college basketball. Defending 2017 NCAA Champions the University of North Carolina headlined the stacked lineup. Duke University, University of Oregon, Michigan State and Gonzaga University also played.

Portland. The tourney lasted for four days, at two neighboring facilities: Moda Center and Veterans Memorial Coliseum. With national coverage on ESPN and the sheer amount of talent involved, the PK80 was one of the

There was a total of 16 men's teams, including locals Portland State University and University of

grandest collections of college basketball royalty ever assembled.

"I don't know that you'll ever see anything like this again," said Chris Oxley, senior vice president of venue operations for the Portland Trail Blazers. "These are pretty significant commitments that these teams are making to honor Mr. Knight. It's a major commitment by some of the best collegiate basketball teams in the country."

Colleges were divided into two eight-team brackets, each with a catchy, Nike-inspired name: "Victory" and "Motion." The first bracket takes its name directly from Nike, which is named after the Greek goddess of victory. (According to Knight's autobiography, his initial idea was to name his future billiondollar empire "Dimension Six." Obviously, the Nike moniker won out.) The "Motion" bracket is inspired by the Swoosh logo, designed by Portland State University student Carolyn Davidson in 1971. The iconic symbol represents the wings of the goddess Nike.

University of Oregon in Eugene, 110 miles (177 km) south of Portland. The Oregon women's basketball team faced Oklahoma, while the University of Connecticut matched up against Michigan State.

A one-day women's basketball doubleheader also took place at the Matthew Knight Arena at the



PORTLAND PRIDE For hometown hero and University of Portland Pilots men's coach Terry Porter, the PK80 presented a

chance to highlight local hoops on a national scale.

with energy and compete from start to finish, I will be happy."

in my career," said Porter. "It is truly my home."

"Being a part of this remarkable tournament field has been impactful in recruiting already," said Porter. "With so many new players on our roster this season, fans are going to get to see a new version of the

Portland Pilots." Porter, who played for the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers from 1985-1995, started coaching at University of Portland in 2016. The Pilots were matched up against North Carolina for their first game. "With such a young team, we just have to come out and play with no pressure," Porter said. "We have nothing to lose and if we play

Blazers in 2008, was ecstatic to be back in the Rose City after more than a decade spent coaching NBA teams across the country. "The city embraced me as a person, and the Trail Blazers as a franchise, unlike any other place I've been

It's a challenge that Porter and the Pilots were looking forward to. Porter, whose jersey was retired by the



When all was said and done, the Duke Blue Devils made a glorious comeback to beat the Florida Gators 87-84 within the Motion Bracket, while the Michigan State Spartans beat the North Carolina Tar Heels

This 12,000-seat event venue is part of the Rose Quarter, which also includes the

Moda Center (formerly the Rose Garden Arena), Exhibit Hall and the outdoor Rose



63-45 in the Victory Bracket.

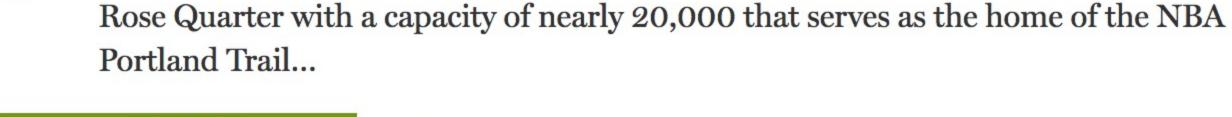


+ MY TRIP 503.235.8771

Tags: spectator sports, buzzworthy, sports

PARTNER The Moda Center (formerly the Rose Garden Arena) is a multi-purpose arena in the

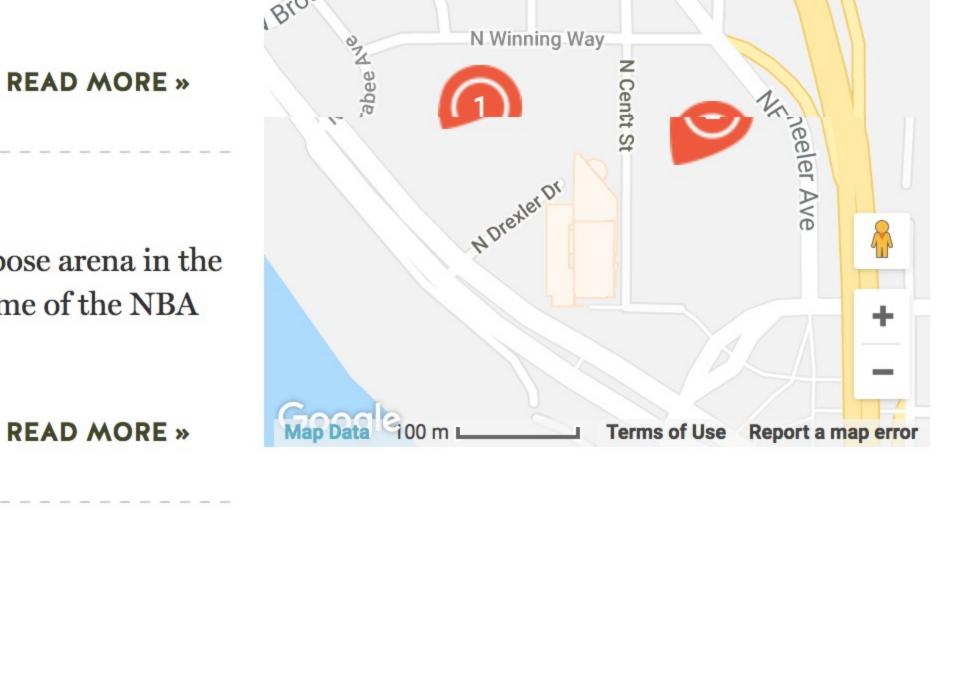
WEBSITE



Moda Center

+ MY TRIP 503.235.8771

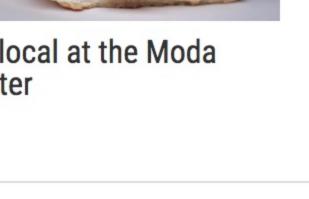
WEBSITE

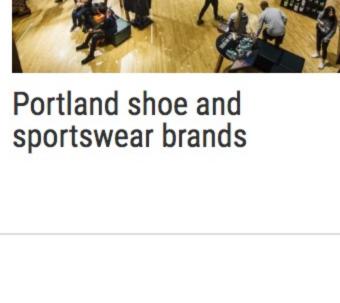




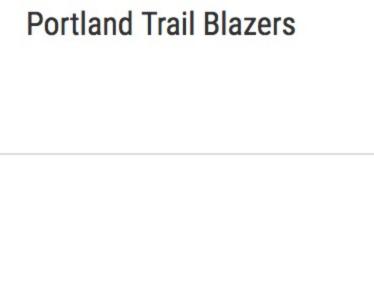
WAS THIS PAGE HELPFUL?

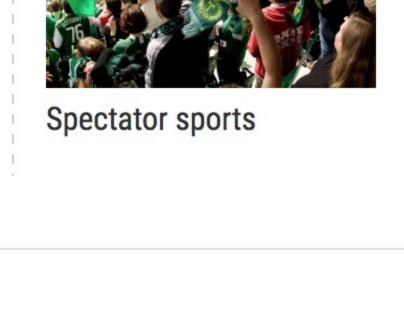












VISITOR INFORMATION

1.877.678.5263

503.275.8355

Visitor Information Center 701 S.W. Sixth Ave. **Pioneer Courthouse Square** Portland, Oregon

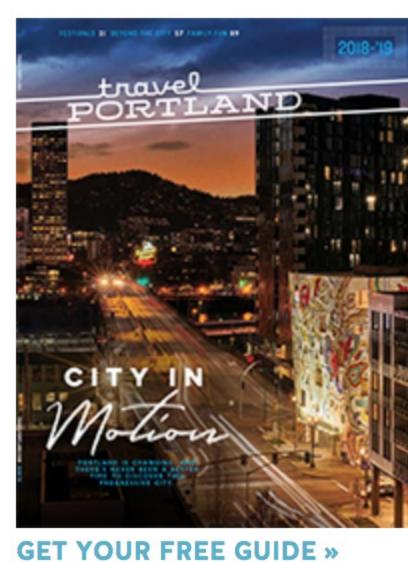
Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Sundays (May-Oct. only) 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

visitorinfo@travelportland.com

Tweet to us @travelportland



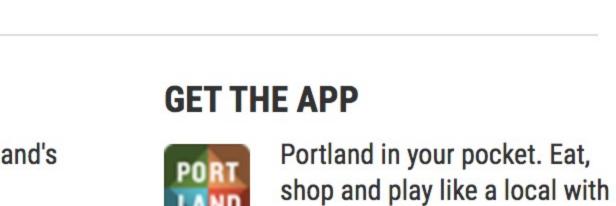
VISITORS GUIDE



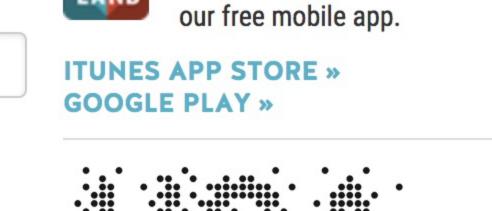
events, attractions and news.

your email address

SUBSCRIBE



Portland in your pocket. Eat,



VisitTheUSA.com