



WASHINGTON STATE'S

# SCENIC BYWAYS & ROAD TRIPS

INSIDE:

Road Maps &  
Scenic Drives

Planning Tips

Points of Interest





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## WASHINGTON STATE'S SCENIC BYWAYS & ROAD TRIPS

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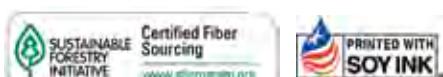
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## TOP ADVENTURES LEGEND

Look for these symbols in each byway's planning tips.

	Natural Beauty		Indian Country		Winter Sports
	Hiking, Trekking and Mountain Climbing		Wildlife, Whale and Bird Watching		Family Fun
	National and State Parks & Recreation Areas		Photography		Wine and Cuisine
	Mountain and Volcanoes		Bicycling		Arts, Culture and Heritage
	Island Experiences		Boating, Canoeing, Kayaking and Rafting		Festivals and Events
	Lakes, Rivers and Waterfalls		Camping		Museums and Galleries
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LAKE TIPSOO, CHINOOK PASS SUMMIT



## Chinook Pass

*The Chinook Pass Scenic Byway runs from the rolling fields of Enumclaw west of the Cascades to the Naches Valley east of the range.*

*Along the way, this two-lane pass wraps around the northeastern flank of iconic Mount Rainier.*

Diving this byway will give you a first-hand answer to that ubiquitous Washington State question, “Is the Mountain out?” But picture-perfect glimpses of the second tallest peak in the continental U.S. aren’t all this route has to offer. This is a “boots-on” byway that presents every opportunity to step out of the car into dense forests, alongside rollicking rivers and onto high desert plains. It seems there is a new microclimate every other mile, so bring along extra layers of clothes, a solid pair of shoes, and don’t forget your camera.

At the start of the byway, 14,410-foot-tall Mount Rainier steals the scene and challenges the sky. Pause in Rainier’s foothills to explore an old-growth forest or snowshoe a placid path. As you travel east, rushing water seems your constant companion, as this road follows routes carved by the White, Greenwater, American and Naches rivers long ago. Finally, the dense Douglas fir forests of the western

Cascades will give way to the sparser tamaracks and ponderosa pines of eastern Washington’s foothills. At the byway’s end there are many rewards; miles of horizon, abundant wildlife, farm stands filled with local produce and, usually, warm weather and blue eastern Washington skies.

Before you jump in your car and head out, remember a portion of this route is a seasonally restricted road—plan your trip between late May and late November.

### Enumclaw

The city of Enumclaw, set between plateau farmlands and the Cascade Mountains, is sometimes referred to as the “gateway to Mount Rainier National Park,” although the folks over in Elbe and Ashford may disagree.

Spend a little time in town, relax and get ready to explore this nature-rich byway. The downtown



# Experience Washington's Scenic Byways



The 28 scenic byways in this guide will lead you into Olympic National Park's lush coastal rain forests where even the rocks are green and mossy, and guide you into the sagebrush-peppered hills of coulee country, where geology is laid bare.

They'll take you aboard a Washington State ferry to sail to the San Juan Islands, and they'll reveal Indian petroglyphs etched on the basalt banks of the Columbia River Gorge.

One byway explores the urban wonders of the Seattle area: Pike Place Market, a designer coffee shop's birthplace, luxe wineries and a sculpture park.

Another penetrates the remote Pend Oreille; lonely fishing lakes, fields of wildflowers, tiny towns and sweet isolation.

One route takes you from the glaciers of towering Mount Rainier to the blue skies and fresh fruit markets of the Yakima Valley area. Pack a jacket, grab some sunglasses and hit the road.

Whatever type of road trip you're craving, you will find it along one or more of Washington's scenic byways.

## Nothing in moderation

This is a state that doesn't do anything halfway. Hike a landscape recently laid bare by the eruption of Mount St. Helens. Witness blossom time in the Wenatchee area orchards that grow the bulk of this nation's apples. Watch a storm roll in off the Pacific from the northwestern edge of the continental United States. Stand on the flanks of Mount Baker, where the world record for snowfall in a single season was broken in 1999 with a grand total of 95 feet. (Yes, there's a ski area nearby.) Washington is a place filled with superlatives. These byways will take you to all of them.

Water will be your constant travel companion. Many of these byways, following routes carved long ago by rivers, reveal deep gorges and cascading waterfalls along the way. Others wind along inland seas, offering clamming beaches and kayak launches. Lakes along the way invite camping, fishing or a cooling plunge off the end of a long dock. The Pacific Ocean is ever present to the west, beckoning with surfing spots, salmon catch limits and lingering sunsets.

## Mountains are more than just high places

Dramatic mountains play a major role along Washington's byways; many of these routes travel over mountain passes. The volcanic peaks of the Cascade Mountains serve as both destinations and stunning backdrops along these roads, visible from both western Washington's fir forests and eastern Washington's high desert plains.

The Olympics provide a rain barrier so significant that while 14 feet of rain per year falls on their western flanks, on their eastern slopes, rainfall is measured in mere inches. Washington travelers know that they stand a decent chance of getting out of the rain if they put a mountain range between themselves and the ocean. People traveling eastward beyond the Cascades often refer to it as "heading into the sun." Getting to know these byways may be the closest you'll ever come to controlling the weather!

## Small towns with big rewards

The towns along Washington's scenic byways are as varied as the landscape, and many of them are world-renowned. Forks, the rainy logging town, has a reputation for vampires and werewolves thanks to the "Twilight" series, and Leavenworth, the "Bavarian" village, features an Oktoberfest that rivals Munich's.

And many more discoveries await—Stehekin's splendid isolation at the northern tip of Lake Chelan; Goldendale, with its public-access telescope and world-class art museum; Coupeville, where history collides with locally grown food, producing delicious results.

The one thing the towns along Washington's byways all have in common is friendly, welcoming people. Spend enough time in any of these places, and you'll leave with a wealth of local knowledge and new friendships as souvenirs.



# **...and you'll discover the authentic Pacific Northwest and all of its spectacular diversity.**

## **Outdoor recreation and watchable wildlife**

The 28 byways in this guide will deliver a long list of things to do, whether your recreational tastes run to kite boarding, strolling through historic sites or something in between. Wildlife watchers can spot animals ranging from elk to gray whales along these byways.

Birders have opportunities to see shorebirds, wetland fowl, raptors and migrating flocks, as many byways are located along the Pacific Flyway. Thousands of miles of trails beckon, from short paved walkways leading to mountain vistas, to the Pacific Crest Trail itself.

And thanks to Washington's plentiful national and state parks and federal wildlife preserves, opportunities for camping abound.

## **Native cultures provide rich history**

History buffs and cultural explorers will learn plenty along Washington's byways. Follow in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark as they journeyed to the Pacific. See the state through the eyes of the people who have lived here for millennia. Take in a Yakama Pow Wow or a Tribal rodeo and encampment in the Okanogan; visit the museum of the Squaxin Island Tribe, or eat salmon that was spit roasted on the beach at Neah Bay.

Plentiful interpretive sites and museums along these byways will teach all travelers something new.

## **Volcanic soil and sunshine create rich agriculture**

Washington has always been a major agricultural producer, and some of these byways pass through the heart of the state's

biggest crop-growing regions. But many of these routes also pass through areas where smaller farms and food producers are at the forefront of a tasty trend—organic farming.

A burgeoning local-food culture that's spreading from the oyster farms of Willapa Bay to the emmer wheat fields of Mazama allows visitors the opportunity to get a literal taste of almost any region they explore. The long-standing winery tours around Yakima and Walla Walla are still going strong, and now travelers can add artisan-cheese tastings, handcrafted brewery tours and farm-to-field feasts to the menu.

Look for the Savor Washington link at the back of this guide for a list of food lovers' side trips along the byways.

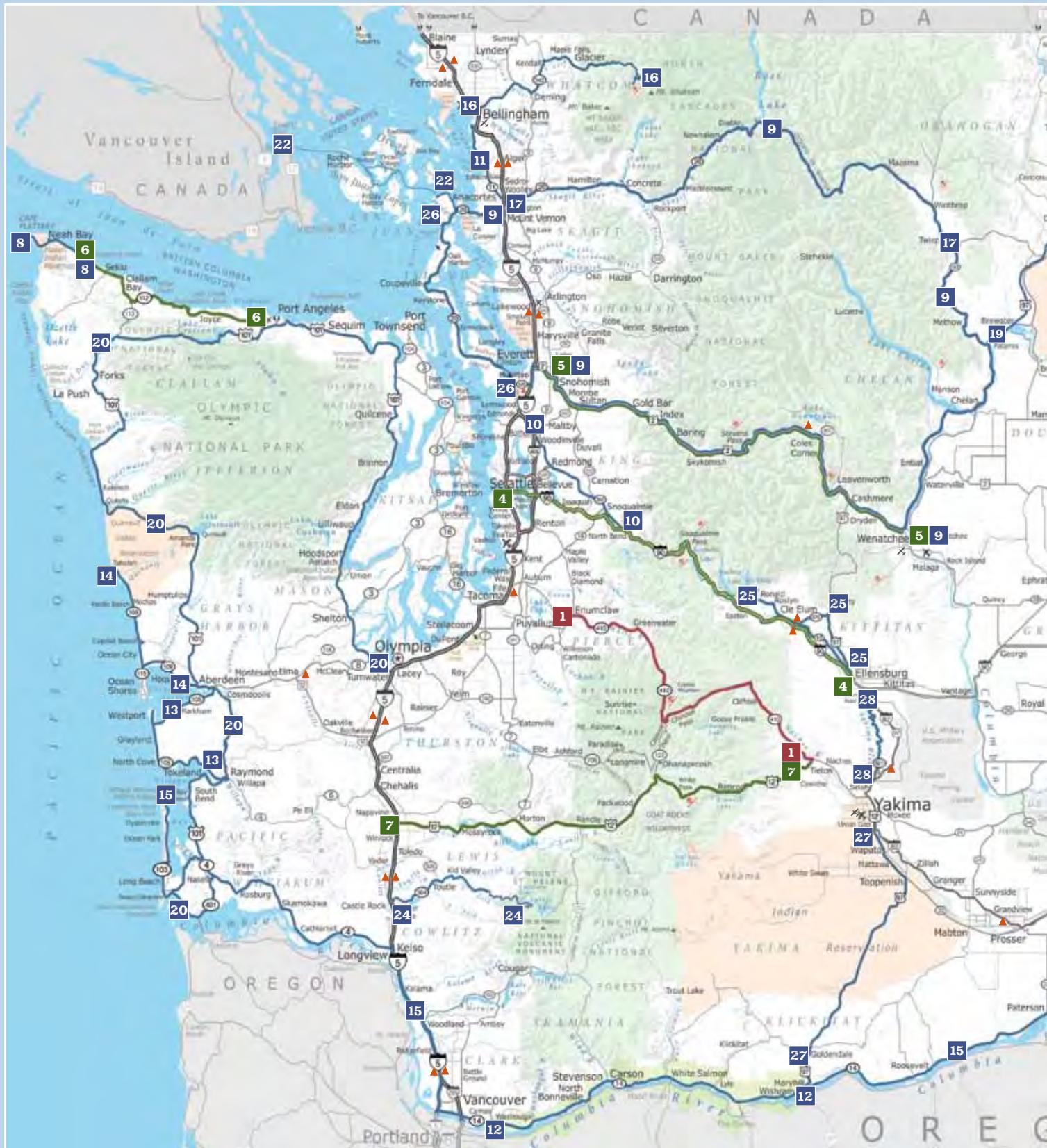
## **Coloring outside the lines is encouraged**

Finally, this is a comprehensive and detailed guide to these wonderful roads, but one that encourages detours and discoveries. It's the cardinal rule of the road trip; if something looks interesting, go check it out.

Talk to locals, grab a bite to eat at that funky diner, turn onto the dirt road with an odd name. Every one of these scenic byways has wonders that didn't make it into this guide—consider it your job to go out and find them! Be sure to take your time, and take it all in—the peacefully sublime and the ruggedly spectacular. You'll find both as you explore our scenic byways, and you'll quickly discover why in Washington State diversity is an understatement.



# WASHINGTON STATE All American Roads and



# Scenic Byways



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## ABOUT THIS TOUR GUIDE

The byways are broken down into three tiers: All American Roads, National Scenic Byways and State Scenic Byways. These designations are awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. To learn more, please refer to the resource section on page 88.



LAKE TIPSOO, CHINOOK PASS SUMMIT



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MT. RAINIER VIEW ALONG THE WAY



CHINOOK PASS

area has corner cafes where you can fill up on scratch cooking for your journey. Try timing your visit with one of Enumclaw's many seasonal events; the town hosts professional and amateur bike races, street festivals, an annual Fourth of July parade, the wild and wonderful Scottish Highland Games and much more. Also, if you noticed a lot of farms with gorgeous horses on the way into town, it's because Enumclaw is one of the biggest thoroughbred breeding and boarding areas in the United States.

### Mud Mountain Dam

A little farther up SR-410, Mud Mountain Dam Recreational Area is a popular day-use facility for the whole family. Centered on a dam built on the White River in the 1940s, the park has plenty of grassy areas, playgrounds, a wading pool with a fountain and a forested nature trail.

Eagles, owls and herons are common here, and you may even spot elk or beavers.

### Federation Forest State Park

About 18 miles east of Enumclaw is the stunning Federation Forest State

Park. This day-use park has more than 600 acres of old-growth evergreens and offers 12 miles of hiking trails, including three short interpretive loops that are great for kids.

The park's Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center (named for a pioneer educator) is open May through September and features a geological history of the nearby White River, plus plants on display from the park's nine different ecosystems.

### Greenwater

Farther along is the little town of Greenwater and the historic Naches Trail, on which the earliest settlers arrived here in wagons. Many years later, the first visitors to newly opened Mount Rainier National Park drove that same route.

Don't make the mistake of speeding past this forested town; posted speed limits are strictly enforced. Besides, Greenwater is the perfect spot to stop, stretch your legs and grab coffee. It's the last town before the pass, and the "hasn't changed for decades" ambience of this place is undeniable. Tranquil Greenwater caters to locals, road warriors and ski

bums with sporting-equipment rentals, coffee stands, a welcoming tavern and a general store with a wide front porch. There's even a business housed in a log cabin (of course) that's been selling custom-made knit caps since the 1970s.

If you visit in fall, be sure to watch from the bridge in the heart of town for spawning salmon swimming upstream. There are other excellent migration viewing spots nearby; just ask at the local "tavern"—a friendly place that's actually a bar and grill, where kids are welcome.

### Incomparable Rainier views

Twenty-three miles east of Enumclaw is your first dazzling glimpse of Mount Rainier. Fortunately, there's a highway pullout here, since this stunning sight can be distracting. Stay alert for passing motorists whose attention may be more on the view than on the road. Also, keep careful watch for elk crossings along this popular stretch of byway.

Another great view can be found at nearby Suntop Lookout, about 7 miles off SR-410 over two forest service roads best traveled by all-wheel-drive vehicles. A 1934 fire lookout, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places,



MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK

perched 3,000 feet above White River, Suntop has a 360-degree perspective on the Cascades, the distant Olympic Mountains and even Mount Baker, 150 miles away to the north.

### **Skookum Falls and the Palisades trailhead**

Back on SR-410, note Skookum Falls along the west side of the White River, cascading in a pair of narrow tiers and dropping 250 feet. Spring runoff season is the best time to catch the falls, and there is a parking area for viewing. Skookum Falls is near the trailhead to the Palisades rock formation, an array of dramatic columnar basalt cliffs and plateaus located in the northwest corner of White River Park. It can be seen from the Suntop Lookout road, which is accessed from the Huckleberry Creek Road (FS-73).

If you have time for an approximately 4-mile hike, there is foot access to closer views of the falls and the Palisades on the Skookum Flats Trail. Find Huckleberry Creek Road (FS-73), 25 miles past Enumclaw. Drive a half mile to the trailhead, on the east side of FS-73. A word of caution to hikers;

this is also a very popular mountain biking destination.

Before getting much closer to Crystal Mountain and Sunrise, stop in at the historic Silver Creek Guard Station, a visitor center open daily from May to October.

### **Crystal Mountain: Not just a winter playground**

During winter, Washington's largest ski resort, Crystal Mountain, has 2,600 acres of world-class terrain for skiers and snowboarders, along with many slope-side lodging and dining options. A new high-speed gondola allows skiers to make even more runs on those perfect powder days.

The addition of the Mount Rainier Gondola seals Crystal's reputation as a world-class ski resort, but it also means that Crystal Mountain is no longer just for snow enthusiasts. The gondola climbs almost 2,500 feet from the mountain's base to the top in under 10 minutes. Now visitors can access mountaintop dining and a stunning view of Mount Rainier year round, making Crystal Mountain a true four-season resort destination.

Just beyond the turnoff to Crystal

Mountain Boulevard is the point where the Chinook Scenic Byway closes for the winter. So, road conditions permitting, everything up to this point is accessible year round.

### **Mount Rainier National Park**

The byway traverses the northeast corner of Mount Rainier National Park, a true Washington wonderland. Just 15 miles off the byway, via the White River entrance (a \$15 fee per car is required), is the scenic drive to the park's Sunrise Visitor Center, the mountain's highest elevation (6,400 feet) accessible by car.

The view of Mount Rainier from Sunrise is powerful. The mountain is



CRYSTAL MT. RESORT GONDOLA



SILVER FALLS

no longer a distant icon; it's a hulking presence (and a technically active volcano). At Sunrise, you stand on the mountain's flanks. Learn more, and prepare to explore the subalpine terrain, at the Sunrise Visitor Center (open daily from early July to early October), which also offers guided walks.

#### Take a hike

One of the great pleasures of Sunrise is the availability of hiking trails of varying degrees of difficulty, all showcasing natural glories and leading to scenic overlooks.

The Silver Forest Trail is a short, family-friendly, 1-mile hike featuring interpretive exhibits. The Emmons Vista Trail is also terrific for kids; a 1-mile round-trip leads to great views of Mount Rainier and the Emmons Glacier, the largest glacier in the lower 48 states.

Fremont Lookout is a longer trail, a 5.5-mile round trip hike, through meadowland and over crags, that leads to a spot where hikers can actually see Seattle's Space Needle with binoculars. Grand Park, a 13-mile round trip, reveals a canyon that was filled in with lava many millennia ago. Look for a small herd of resident elk on this hike.

#### Tipsoo at the top

About 8 miles past the entrance to Sunrise, the byway winds upward along a series of switchbacks to another popular stop and photo-op—Tipsoo Lake. Chances are you have seen this lake, with Mount Rainier reflected in its still waters, even if you've never visited. It's one of the most photographed nature scenes in the United States.

Located just before the Chinook Pass summit, this tiny shimmering lake is surrounded by a dazzling field of wildflowers in spring and summer while Mount Rainier poses majestically in the background. There are hiking trails, including a short, paved, nature walk and the Naches Loop Trail, excellent for young kids. Try to spot the small herd of elk that grazes here.

This is also a popular birding area. SR-410 is the jumping-off point for a handful of Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trails, this birding region, on the eastern slopes of the Cascades, is the Great Washington State Birding Trail—Sun and Sage Loop.

Cross the pedestrian footbridge that spans the highway at the Chinook Summit, and find high-country birds like the sooty grouse and mountain chickadees along the 3.5-mile Naches Park Loop.

This is also a great stroll for experiencing the riot of wildflowers that peak here in late July.

#### Down the eastern slopes

Back on SR-410, you'll get a breathtaking view looking east over the American River Valley, from a viewpoint just past the 5,432-foot Chinook Pass summit. Sheep Lake Trailhead, accessing the epic north-south Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, is just across the street.

Hikers looking for a nice day crossing through a cool forest should be pleased with the 5-mile trail off Mesatchee Creek Road (itself off SR-410). From the trailhead, a steep 4-mile ascent to the Mesatchee waterfall is worth the effort.

Find even more fun at Bumping Lake Recreation Area, where the centerpiece is a midsize mountain lake that's a great place to fish for kokanee, salmon and rainbow trout. A marina with fishing-boat rentals, multiple campgrounds and an abundance of hiking trails makes this a popular family getaway.

#### Boulder Cave

Spelunkers should turn onto a road marked "Boulder Cave National Recreation Trail" (a popular birding trail). A bridge over the Naches River leads



to a mile-long walk to Boulder Cave, a 400-foot-deep cave where a dwindling population of Townsend's big-eared bats hibernates during the winter (the cave is closed to the public at that time).

Take one of the offered tours or be your own guide, but bring flashlights (with plenty of extra batteries) and something warm to wear. It's about 50 degrees in the cave, even on a hot summer day.

### Dining, Lodging and supplies in Cliffdell

Cliffdell, a quiet area in the woods of Wenatchee National Forest, is a good place for travelers to pick up supplies, grab a great meal or even book a room after the scenic drive over the pass.

Heading down the east side of this byway, visitors pass through a transition zone as the dense forests thin out, revealing the dramatic underpinnings of the land. The changing landscape reveals mesmerizing, almost dreamlike evidence of ancient volcanic activity. Watch for unique, drooping geologic landforms on the north side of the byway just east of Cliffdell. Wide shoulders on both sides of the road enable visitors to stop and look (bring binoculars) across the river at prehistoric lava outcroppings where eagles nest.

### Naches River

The Naches River is your constant companion along this part of the byway. It dodges between high basalt cliffs and eddies into deep-green pools. White-water enthusiasts enjoy this river's Class II and III rapids during the high-water months of May and June. Campers enjoy the many campgrounds along this river year round.

### Elk and bighorn sheep feeding stations

Wildlife lovers shouldn't miss this 2-mile detour. Just before the town of

Naches (pronounced nat-CHEEZE), turn onto US-12 and stop at the Oak Creek Wildlife Area feeding station for an encounter with one of the biggest herds of Rocky Mountain elk in the country. The feeding station operates in the winter when the Yakima herd of more than 1,000 elk comes down from snowy higher elevations.

Bring warm clothes, arrive at the visitor center prior to the 1:30 p.m. feeding time and take a truck tour out to the feeding grounds for a close-up view of these massive animals. Continue along SR-410 to see the Cleman Mountain year-round bighorn sheep feeding station.

Don't overlook the birds. Lewis's woodpeckers, golden eagles, turkey vultures and myriad other birds abound in these garry-oak woodlands, basalt cliffs and sage-covered hills. This area is also part of the Great Washington State Birding Trail—Sun and Sage Loop.

### Pull into Naches

The byway's end point, Naches, is a tiny community 13 miles northwest of Yakima near the banks of the Naches River. The town is a gateway between the wild forests of the Cascades and the fruit orchards of the Yakima Valley. The portion you see from the highway does not tell the full story of this community. The area was settled in the 1850s, when some of the members of the Longmire wagon train decided to opt for the region's warmer, drier climes instead of pushing on to the rainy Pacific coast. Pull into Naches' quaint little downtown for some antique shopping and local dining.

The Naches Valley is an agricultural area with a bounty of fruit orchards (primarily apple and pear) and vineyards. Be sure to load up on fresh-picked seasonal fruits and vegetables at the many roadside stands.

### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** The western starting point, Enumclaw, is approximately 40 miles (50 minutes) southeast of Seattle. The byway is 87 miles long, heading east from Enumclaw to Naches, following the Mather Memorial Highway (SR-410). Chinook Pass is closed from just beyond the Crystal Mountain Ski Area at milepost 57 to Morse Creek at milepost 74 on the east side between approximately the end of November and the end of May. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Accommodations ranging from cabins to hotels to condos to hostel-style bunks can be found in the larger towns along the byway, as well as at Crystal Mountain. Campgrounds are plentiful, as are RV parks. Fuel and other services are available, though there are long stretches of highway without them. Greenwater is your last fuel stop until you reach Cliffdell, 53 miles up and over the Chinook Pass summit.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
White Pass, Yakima River Canyon



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** Chinook Scenic Byway [chinookscenicbyway.com](http://chinookscenicbyway.com), White Pass Scenic Byway [www.whitepassbyway.com](http://www.whitepassbyway.com), Visit Rainier [www.visitrainier.com](http://www.visitrainier.com)

**DRIVING DISTANCE** 87 MILES

**DRIVE TIME** 2 HOURS

**PLAN TO SPEND** 1 DAY

**BEST SEASONS\*** SPRING, SUMMER, FALL

**TOP ADVENTURES** ☀️ 🚍 🚶 🏃

\* Much of the route is open year round, but Chinook Pass is closed during winter. (See "Getting There" for details.)



METALINE FALLS



## International Selkirk Loop

*This grand, 280-mile, pear-shaped route is perfect for drivers who love sweeping curves of roadway and prefer snow-dusted mountains and deep river gorges for company instead of traffic.*



PHOTO: BEN TOBIN

This loop provides a taste of international travel as it meanders from Washington into British Columbia, Canada, then back down into the United States via Idaho, encircling the Selkirk Mountains.

Take the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway (pronounced “pond-o-RAY”) and add some of SR-20 as a southern tail—all the way down to the town of Newport, on Washington’s border with Idaho—and you’ve got Washington’s 73-mile leg of the International Selkirk Loop.

The byway runs parallel to the Pend Oreille River’s northbound waters and passes through Colville National Forest. Established by Theodore Roosevelt, the 1.1-million-acre forest is a favorite for wildlife watchers and visitors interested in the area’s natural and human history. There is solitude and magnificent scenery in the Selkirk Mountains, foothills to the Rockies, and an array of recreation for anyone who loves camping, hiking, boating and sightseeing in colorful communities.

Forage for wild huckleberries and camp along lakes, rivers and streams. Explore almost 500 miles of hiking, mountain biking and horse trails. Discover this region’s abundant wildlife, including grizzly and black bears, cougars, bald eagles and the last herd of caribou in the continental United States.

### Starting in Newport, Washington

The southern gateway to Washington’s slice of the International Selkirk Loop, Newport, located on the state’s border with Idaho, was once a significant commerce center that included a small armada of steamboats on the Pend Oreille River. Today Newport boasts a charming downtown that’s worth a stroll whether you’re seeking hand-dipped ice



HIKING IDAHO PEAK, BRITISH COLUMBIA

cream from an antique soda fountain or an adult thirst quencher at a watering hole that's been around since 1894.

Drop in at the Newport Visitor's Center and the Pend Oreille County Historical Museum (located on the same site) to learn more about the region's past and its economic ties to the river

and local forests. The museum also features a Burlington Northern caboose, various farm equipment, reconstructed log cabins and a relocated U.S. Forest Service (USFS) fire lookout station.

Next door, Centennial Plaza features an impressive artifact from the bygone days of the timber industry—the Big Wheel, part of an 83,000-pound, 16-foot steam-driven sawmill power plant. One block north of downtown is the Newport Ranger Station, which can provide information on hiking, biking and snowmobiling in Colville National Forest.

Begin your outdoor recreation on this byway at the northern edge of Newport. At the intersection of SR-20 and Warren Avenue, turn north and follow N. Warren 1 mile to the Lower Wolf trailhead, one of three trails in the Wolf Trail System managed by Colville National Forest. The Lower Wolf Trail is a scenic 1-mile loop through a mixed conifer forest with views of the Pend Oreille River. The two upper trails, west of SR-20 are suited for mountain biking and cross-country skiing.

Fans of beautiful and fragrant lavender fields can rejoice. The annual big draw to this town is the Pend Oreille Valley Lavender Festival in July, celebrating this locally grown herb when blossoms are at their purple peak. Events include tours, music, gourmet foods, fine arts, lavender plants and products, hands-on art demonstrations for kids and adults, workshops, lavender distilling demonstrations and more.

Lavender's not the only plant in town, however. Travelers visiting in May can check out a local commercial iris field in full bloom and dig bulbs to take home. Rodeo lovers can enjoy a PWRA sanctioned event in late June including a fun carnival.

**Pioneer Park.** Set in a forest and adjacent to the Pend Oreille River, Pioneer

Park, just east of Newport on LeClerc Road, has an archaeological interpretive trail with displays about the region's Kalispel Tribe of Native Americans. The engrossing exhibits include an elevated boardwalk overlooking a 4,000-year-old oven, where the Kalispels once baked camas root.

This starchy root was a food staple for both indigenous people and settlers in the Northwest. Visit during spring and you'll be treated to meadows of camas flowers in full bloom, painting the prairies with a blue haze. Park at the day-use area in the Pioneer Park Campground to access this trail.

The trail also provides beautiful views of the river and potential glimpses of many birds, including eagles, osprey, waterfowl, and warblers.

**Nearby birding hot spots.** Birders should take in Calispell Lake, north of Newport. Travel 12 miles on SR-20 and turn left on Westside Calispell Road; a 6-mile loop will take you back to the highway when you're ready.

This is a privately owned lake and wetland, but birders don't have to trespass to add to their life lists. This marsh area attracts migrating birds in the spring and fall, and there's plenty to see from the public road. Tundra and trumpeter swans, sandhill cranes, raptors from bald eagles to goshawks, various waterfowl, and hummingbirds are just a sampling of the avian life that thrives in this spot.

**Birding on the Pend Oreille.** Another side trip for birding is 11 miles north of Usk—just north of Newport—on the east side of the Pend Oreille River. There's parking near a hatchery building and year-round foot trails and vantage points from which to observe a host of species in diverse habitats.

Watch for great blue herons, warblers,

Virginia rails, sora, hawks, owls, grouse, swans, violet green swallows, thrushes, song sparrows, yellow chat, and marsh wrens. Wetland areas are closed to traffic during waterfowl nesting season.

For more birding sites and maps in the area go to [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org) and click on activities, then birding.

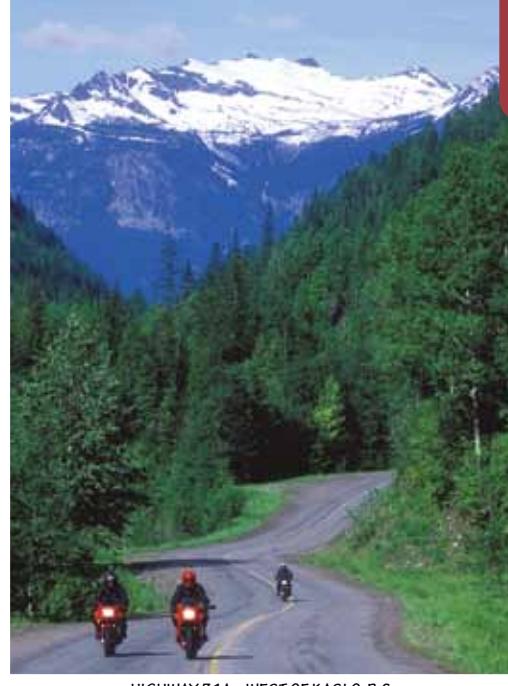
**Kalispel tribal culture.** Fifteen miles north of Newport, the small community of Usk (named by a Welsh immigrant after his hometown in Wales) is home to the Kalispel Tribe of Indians. The tribe operates a buffalo ranch situated on the LeClerc Road near the Camas Center. Take the bridge at Usk across the Pend Oreille River and turn north on LeClerc Road. There is an excellent viewpoint for visitors and a rare bass fish hatchery that may be visited by advance reservation.

The annual Pow Wow is held the last weekend of July and is an excellent way to witness Kalispel dancing, drumming and other ancient cultural traditions, [www.kalispeltribe.com](http://www.kalispeltribe.com).

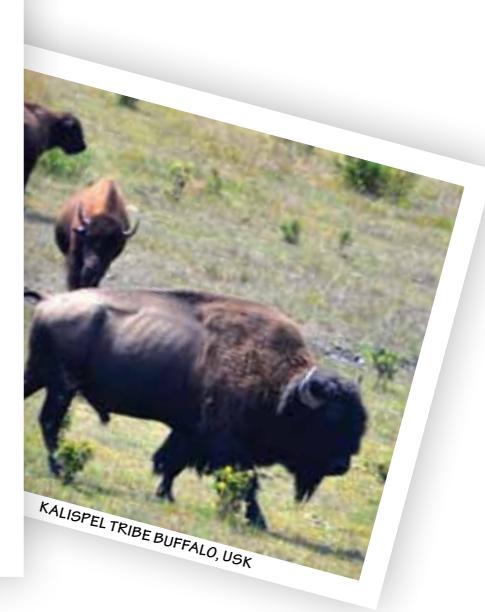
Usk and Cusick are merely blocks apart, and there is a paved walking/biking trail with benches along the shoreline connecting these two small communities.

**Trimble Creek.** Less than 4 miles past Cusick is a riparian woodland and meadow on the river floodplain. A primitive trail on the east side of the highway accessed from LeClerc Road is another perfect ramble for birders, who can see western tanagers, eagles, Virginia rails, red-winged and yellow-headed blackbirds, bobolinks, vireos, and Savannah sparrows.

**Cusick Wetland Education Site.** Along the shore of the Pend Oreille River in Cusick is a Wetland Education Site, an example of creative thinking in terms of both the environment and the community's well-



HIGHWAY 31A - WEST OF KASLO, B.C.



being. The 17-acre site, once a significant cultural resource for Kalispel Indians and the location of an old lumber mill, was targeted for dike development.

A 1997 flood led to a decision to rebuild a dike system farther inland, opening this site to park and wetland education development. Visitors can now enjoy a pond, picnic area and graveled trail system. Look for eagles perching in ponderosa pines, or osprey among old pilings in the river. Other commonly seen birds include geese, swans, ducks, cormorants, hummingbirds, and sparrows.

**Manresa Grotto.** Don't miss the Manresa Grotto on the Kalispel Reservation. A steep path among massive boulders leads to a high-roofed cave that looks out over the Pend Oreille River and the entire reservation. Once you've stepped inside this cool, still place, it's easy to understand why this is a holy site to the native people.

The Kalispel have held services here since the nineteenth century and still hold an annual Easter mass in the rock shelter. A missionary named the cave after one in Spain in which St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuits, prayed. Rows of flat stones provide seating before a simple stone altar in the auditorium-like grotto. Find this natural worship spot

north of the Camas Center on LeClerc Road on the east side of the Pend Oreille River from Usk and Cusick.

**The Tiger Store and Post Office.** The tiny hamlet of Tiger was established in the 1880s and named for George Tiger, who built a boat landing on the river here. Once a thriving town, all that remains of Tiger today is the historic Tiger Store and Post Office, built in 1912. In 1999, residents turned the site into a visitor center and museum, complete with a replica turn-of-the-century forge. Stop for a snack, read the informational kiosk and rest before continuing through the junction to SR-31.

**Nile and Frater lakes.** If a quick break at a small body of water before moving farther up the byway sounds appealing, proceed 4 miles west on SR-20 from Tiger to Tiger Meadows, a moist meadow, on the left. A half mile west from there, you'll find Nile Lake, a shallow lake with a primitive boat ramp. Another quarter mile to the east is Frater Lake, a developed recreation site with picnic facilities and restrooms. Frater Lake has single- and double-track trails for mountain bikers, and winter visitors will enjoy cross-country ski trails and a warming hut.



CRAWFORD BAY

**North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway.** This leg of the International Selkirk Loop, SR-31, continues north into British Columbia. It's such an interesting stretch of road that it has its own separate designation as the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway. Read more about this byway in the North Pend Oreille section of this guide; it includes a bootleggers' cave, cascading waterfalls and a movie set! From Tiger, you can also head west on SR-20 to Kettle Falls and connect with the Sherman Pass Scenic Byway.

**Outside Washington State.** The International Selkirk Loop crosses into Canada, then returns to the United States by way of Idaho before looping back into Washington State. Here are some of the highlights visitors can enjoy beyond Washington's borders.

### British Columbia, Canada

There are seven border crossings into Canada from eastern Washington. Along the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway, travelers follow SR-30 to the Metaline Falls/Nelway border crossing. Get information about the documentation that is required at the U.S.-Canada border at [www.dhs.gov/index.shtml](http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtml).

**Rosslan.** With a population of under 4,000, no traffic lights and not a mall in sight, Rossland is a small city that bills itself as "the real deal." Many people who visit fall under the spell of the mountains and stay, becoming lifelong skiers, mountain bikers and adventurers.

Highlights: Underground gold mine tour at the Rossland Historical Museum; Red Mountain Ski Resort.

**Castlegar.** Called the "Crossroads of the Kootenays" because of its location at the strategic Highway 3 and Highway 3A intersection, Castlegar's real distinction may lie in its proximity to the several great waterways of the area.

Highlights: The suspension bridge to Zukerberg Island Heritage Park; Doukhobor Discovery Centre.

**Nelson.** Located 6 miles north of Whitewater Ski & Winter Resort, Nelson is a city on the move with a population of 9,500—the largest town on the B.C. side of the Selkirk Loop. It is a creative center for artists and culture, where visitors will find an incredible selection of items produced by local artisans.

Highlights: Streetcar #23; Whitewater Ski & Winter Resort; Lakeside Park.

**Ainsworth Hot Springs.** For a relaxing soak, don't miss this horseshoe-shaped cave, where the darkness, mineral deposits and humidity combine for a unique hot springs experience. Besides the hot springs, pool and caves, the resort offers first-class accommodations, a lounge and superb dining; there is also an excellent gift shop on the premises.

**Kaslo.** Known as "Paradise on the Lake," Kaslo has been voted one of Canada's prettiest towns. This charming, noticeably art-oriented community has a fun shopping district, great restaurants and a museum and is also host to the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival every August.

Highlight: SS Moyie, North America's oldest restored sternwheeler.

**Kootenay Lake ferry.** Part of the B.C. highway system, this is North America's longest free ferry. The ferry takes 45 minutes to cross Kootenay Lake from the west to east shore and is part of Highway 3A.

**Crawford Bay artisan colony.** Watch artisans in action making brooms, throwing pots, weaving, enameling, and blacksmithing.

**Boswell.** Located on the spectacular east shore of Kootenay Lake, Boswell is a quiet community where time seems to slow down.

Highlight: The Glass House. This unusual roadside attraction is a home built from over half a million discarded embalming-fluid bottles.

**Creston.** Creston is an outdoor lover's delight with tree-covered hills, craggy, snow-covered mountain peaks, the Skimmerhorn Range, deep clear lakes, rippling mountain streams, and wide open spaces. Waving fields of grains

and roadside fruit stands attest to the long, lush growing season of the Creston Valley.

**Highlights:** Columbia Brewery with tours and tasting of Kokanee Beer; Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area for canoe tours through the wetlands.

**International border crossing.** You will enter the U.S. into Idaho at the Rykerts-Porthill border crossing. Get information about the documentation required at the U.S.-Canada border at [www.dhs.gov/index.shtml](http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtml).

### Entering Idaho

**Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway.** In Idaho, travelers will connect with the Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway, which starts on the northwestern shores of Lake Pend Oreille in the resort community of Sandpoint. Heading north along the eastern side of the Selkirk Mountains, the roadway follows the Kootenai Tribe's historic path to fishing grounds at Lake Pend Oreille.

**Bonners Ferry.** The town of Bonners Ferry originated as a river crossing point. It was first traversed by Indian bark canoes and then by Edwin Bonner's ferry, built in 1865 to transport the miners rushing to the new gold strike on Wild Horse Creek in British Columbia.

**Highlights:** Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge; Boundary County Museum.

**Sandpoint.** Less than an hour north of Coeur d'Alene, the approach from the south into Sandpoint on US-95 sets the stage for a dramatic entrance; a 2-mile-long bridge crossing over the beautiful Lake Pend Oreille. Sandpoint sits on the northwestern shore of the 43-mile lake, which comes alive in the summer months when



LAKE PEND OREILLE FROM SCHWEITZER

fishermen and water-sports enthusiasts of all types converge upon this vast aquatic playground.

**Highlights:** Schweitzer Mountain Ski Resort; Lake Pend Oreille—the 13th-largest freshwater lake in the world at over 1,000 feet deep; tours at Pend d'Oreille Winery, Idaho's winery of the year.

### Return to Washington

From Sandpoint, follow US-2 westbound to re-enter Washington and complete the loop at Newport following

the Panhandle Historic Rivers Passage Scenic Byway. On this route, you'll enjoy driving along miles of soothing river scenery that reflects the pastoral beauty of surrounding forests and farms.

Pull over and be entertained by both resident and migrating wildlife, birds of prey and waterfowl. Learn how the waterway played an important role in developing the region dating back to the Ice Age and the Great Missoula Floods. You can read more about this in the Coulee Corridor Scenic Byway section of this guide.

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 to Spokane, then head north on US-2 to Newport (325 miles / 6 hours). Take SR-20 at the town of Newport, and proceed north. A junction at Tiger connects with SR-31, leading north to the Canadian border. When returning to Seattle, consider taking SR-20 west at Tiger across the Sherman Pass Scenic Byway and all the way to US-97 to join the Okanogan Trails Scenic Byway and Cascade Loop.

DRIVING DISTANCE

280 MILES

DRIVE TIME

8 HOURS

PLAN TO SPEND

2-3 DAYS

BEST SEASONS\*

YEAR ROUND

TOP ADVENTURE: 2 STATES / 2 COUNTRIES

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

North Pend Oreille, Sherman Pass, Okanogan Trails, Cascade Loop, Panhandle Historic Rivers Passage (ID), Wild Horse Trail Scenic Byway (ID)



### LOCAL RESOURCES:

International Selkirk Loop [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org),  
Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance [www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp](http://www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp)



DRY FALLS



## Coulee Corridor

*This breathtaking landscape will leave you wondering if the rest of the world really exists.*

This might happen after you wind through a coulee and its shadow withdraws from your windshield. Or it might happen when the clean smell of sagebrush hits you like a tonic after a dusty hike to a desert plateau. It could happen when you jump off a boulder into a deep blue lake and are shocked by how warm it is.

Find fishing lakes, desert hikes, little shops, dusty museums, willow-shaded parks, and the fields that grow your food. Take a boat to a lakeshore campsite, or stay the night in a cowboy town. Once you experience the world of the Coulee Corridor, you will never forget it and always want to return.

### A rich wildlife and agricultural center

The Coulee Corridor is such an important birding area, that Audubon Washington has developed a Great Washington State Birding Trail—Coulee Corridor map. Order one at <http://wa.audubon.org>. It is also home to large concentrations of both wildlife and wildflowers.

Dozens of field crops thrive in this agricultural area. Grant County is the largest grower in the state of apples and potatoes, with major acreage also dedicated to hay, corn, green peas, onions and wheat. The town of Ephrata is the state's mint capital. Look for signs hung on fences along the byway that explain what's growing in the fields beyond.

In the towns around here it is not uncommon to attend a parade in which the "floats" are farm implements decked out in Christmas lights or boxes of produce. This is small-town America on full, proud display.

There are also museums, state parks, a national recreation area, festivals, and historic reminders of the region's indigenous culture, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville.

There is something for everyone to enjoy on this dynamic trip.

### Columbia National Wildlife Refuge

Located north of Othello on Morgan Lake Road (gravel much of the way), the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge (CNWR) is full of rich and varied habitats, from ponds and marshes to farm fields and shrub-steppe desert. This refuge protects more than 230 species of birds. Sandhill cranes, avocets, long-billed curlews, great horned owls, and prairie





BASALT WALLS AT DEEP LAKE

falcons are just some of the birds you may encounter. Coyotes, bobcats and badgers live here, and yellow-bellied marmot sightings are practically guaranteed. A 22-mile birding loop includes an interpretive overlook at Royal Lake.

Check at CNWR headquarters in Othello for maps and regulations on camping, boating, hunting and hiking. Most of the refuge is closed during fall and winter.

### Potholes Reservoir

From the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, continue to SR-262, then head east and take SR-17 north to get back to the byway. Along this route you'll find Potholes State Park, a 640-acre camping park with 6,000 feet of freshwater shoreline on Potholes Reservoir.

The park is in an area known as the "scablands"—rough-hewn terrain formed by a combination of lava flows, huge floods and strong winds. Massive sand dunes, coulees and lava fields characterize the landscape.

There are four boat ramps and 100 feet of dock for year-round water recreation. Boating, fishing (bass, bullhead, crappie, perch), use of personal watercraft, water skiing, kayaking, and swimming are all permitted.

### Moses Lake

Moses Lake, located at the SR-17/I-90 intersection, is a sparkling reservoir along Crab Creek. Originally a shallow natural lake, Moses Lake was dammed for irrigation. It remains a welcoming

body of water for year-round visitors who come to camp, boat, fish and enjoy water skiing and parasailing.

The city of Moses Lake is one of the largest along the Coulee Corridor and hosts a huge farmers market with over 150 vendors from May to October. Since this is some of the finest agricultural land in the world, the fresh, seasonal offerings here are simply unsurpassable. See [www.moseslakefarmersmarket.com](http://www.moseslakefarmersmarket.com).

### Ephrata and Soap Lake

A slight detour onto SR-282 will take you to Ephrata, where you can see some good examples of early twentieth-century architecture and check out the Grant County Historical Museum. Shops, restaurants and gas are available here. Head north on SR-28 to get back to the byway at Soap Lake.

Located at the southern end of a chain of lakes at the Lower Grand Coulee, Soap Lake is a tiny inland sea historically famous for its mineral-rich water and creamy black mud. For decades, Soap Lake was a spa destination for people seeking treatment for illness and injury. Stop at the in-town beach and soak in the "healing waters."

### Dry Falls State Park

Slightly west of Coulee City is Dry Falls State Park, the site of what was once the world's largest waterfall—four times the size of Niagara Falls. The falls were created near the end of the last Ice Age, when the Missoula floods diverted 500 cubic miles of water over this region in multiple thunderous and epic rampages.

Where once there was the drama of falling water, there are now 3.5 miles of bare ravine carved out by the repeated flooding, with a 400-foot drop to the

placid Dry Falls Lake. The Dry Falls Visitor Center traces the dynamic history of the cataclysmic floods that carved out Coulee Country.

### Banks Lake and Steamboat Rock State Park

From US-2, head north on SR-155, and you'll be hugging the eastern edge of Banks Lake as the road threads between staggering basalt monoliths. A reservoir created by the Grand Coulee Dam, Banks Lake has 91 miles of shoreline and is popular for fishing and water sports.

Access Banks Lake at Steamboat Rock State Park. This grand 3,522-acre park is named for the 800-foot basalt butte that towers above it. This state park has waterfront camping for tents and RVs, a day-use area with multiple swimming beaches, boat ramps, sweeping green lawns and sand dunes. Whether you travel with a fishing pole or a wakeboard, you'll find paradise here. Just be sure to reserve a site if you plan on spending the night during the summer; this is one of Washington's most popular campgrounds.

### Northrup Canyon

Once traversed by wagon trains, Northrup Canyon, part of the Steamboat Rock State Park Recreation Area, is a sanctuary for wildlife, with a forest (the only one in Grant County) and meadows full of wildflowers in spring. Visit this valley on horseback or on foot.

### Grand Coulee Dam

At the northern tip of Banks Lake on SR-155, you'll reach Grand Coulee Dam, the third-largest producer of electricity in the world and, at 550 feet, the largest concrete structure in the United States. It is larger than the great pyramids of Egypt and generates



STEAMBOAT ROCK



GRAND COULEE DAM

more power than a million locomotives. A visit should include a stop at the visitor center to learn the dam's history. Tours of the awe-inspiring structure are available. In addition, the dam's smooth concrete face serves as a projection screen for laser light shows that have been entertaining audiences since the 1980s.

### Colville Confederated Tribes Museum

Grand Coulee Dam is located on the Colville Indian Reservation, home to a dozen tribes (Moses, Columbia, Wenatchee, Okanogan, Entiat-Chelan, Methow, Nez Perce, Palus, Nespelem, Colville, San Poil, and Lake) and the resting place of the legendary Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce. Find the tall marble monument that marks his grave at the Colville tribal cemetery in Nespelem.

The history of these Native peoples is the subject of the Colville Confederated Tribes Museum, located in an A-frame in the town of Coulee Dam, on the reservation across from the Grand Coulee Dam.

The museum features murals depicting the Nez Perce trail and pre-dam Kettle Falls, a collection of vintage photographs of Tribal members and the land before development, plus displays of basketry, beadwork, clothing and tools.

As you travel the last leg of this byway from Grand Coulee Dam to Omak, don't miss the Sasquatch at the top of Disautel Pass between Nespelem and Omak. It's a sculpture, of course, but many have reported Sasquatch sightings in this area.

### Omak: End of the trail

From Grand Coulee Dam, continue west on SR-155 toward the town of Omak. Located in the heart of

Okanogan country, Omak is a year-round playground featuring recreational activities from camping and fishing to cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

The main street has a small-town feel, with great shops to browse and locally owned restaurants. Annual cultural events include the Omak Stampede, Indian Encampment & Pow Wow and, thanks to a rich Hispanic influence, one of the best Cinco de Mayo celebrations in the state.

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 east across the Columbia River at Vantage, then head south to SR-26 east to Othello (178 miles / 2.75 hours). The byway begins in Othello and winds its way north through lakes, farmland and basalt coulees, ending in Omak. Depending on the season, you may want to continue via the North Cascades Scenic Byway (SR-20), which is closed in the winter. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** There are motels, resorts and other accommodations, including camping and RV parks, as well as small, locally owned restaurants spread across this 100-mile byway. Gas is also readily available, except between Sun Lakes State Park and Grand Coulee.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
Okanogan Trails, North Cascades, Cascade Loop



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** **Coulee Corridor Scenic Byway** [www.couleecorridor.com](http://www.couleecorridor.com)  
**Grand Coulee Chamber of Commerce** [www.grandcouleedam.org](http://www.grandcouleedam.org)  
**Grant County Tourism**, [www.tourgrantcounty.com](http://www.tourgrantcounty.com)

### DRIVING DISTANCE

100 MILES

### DRIVE TIME

2.5 HOURS

### PLAN TO SPEND

1-2 DAYS

### BEST SEASONS\*

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL

### TOP ADVENTURES



\*The route is open year round, but spring, summer and fall are best. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



SNOQUALMIE FALLS



# Mountains to Sound Greenway

*...make your way from the skyscrapers of urban Puget Sound up over a mountain pass then down into the ranch land and sagebrush hills of eastern Washington.*

**T**here's never a dull roadside moment on the Mountains to Sound Greenway. In terms of diversity and time commitment, this byway delivers maximum bang for your travel buck.

Farmers markets like Seattle's Pike Place Market and the one at Bellevue's Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm are obvious attractions, but there's more to sample along the way. The Mountains to Sound Greenway boasts over 20 small farmers markets.

The route's characteristic Northwest landscapes and quirky towns even caught the attention of Hollywood; the television shows "Twin Peaks" and "Northern Exposure" were filmed in North Bend and Roslyn.

The Mountains to Sound Greenway connects trails and natural areas with working farms, forests and wildlife habitats. It provides easy access to towering waterfalls and craggy peaks to conquer. It offers snow skiing, paragliding and lodging in resorts that face a waterfall or a fairway. Year round, this road trip offers something special for every interest.

## Start in Seattle

The most visited attraction in all of Seattle, bar none, is the Pike Place Market. From the famous salmon-tossing fishmongers, to the bounty of produce, fresh flowers and seafood, to the infamous gum wall, this is a day trip unto itself. Take a stroll through the nearby Olympic Sculpture Park and grab a cup of coffee at the world's first Starbucks, then jump in the car and head for the I-90 eastbound on-ramp.

## Crossing to the Eastside

Bellevue is the first stop after crossing Lake Washington on the I-90 floating bridge (yes, it actually floats). While Bellevue has become known for its high-tech skyline and high-end downtown shopping district, it is surrounded by equally compelling natural beauty. Nestled on the eastern shore of Lake Washington, the city offers plenty of waterfront hiking and biking trails with easy access.

Nearby at Redmond's Marymoor Park, you can stroll along a regional trail, picnic on the lawn or watch birds or a world-class outdoor concert near the





PIKE PLACE MARKET



RATTLESNAKE LEDGE

shores of Lake Sammamish. If you're lucky, you'll get to watch a national bicycle-racing championship. Marymoor Park is home to the state's only velodrome, a 400-meter banked track dedicated to the sport.

### Mercer Slough Nature Park and Environmental Education Center

Located on a biologically diverse 320-acre wetland in the heart of urban Bellevue, the Mercer Slough Nature Park and Environmental Education Center is operated jointly by the City of Bellevue and Pacific Science Center in Seattle. Family workshops, including night walks, snowshoe outings and "Scouts in the Wild" programs, are an excellent way to engage your kids in the natural world as long as you don't mention the word "educational." See [www.pacsci.org/slough](http://www.pacsci.org/slough) for more information.

While in the area, be sure to swing by the Bellevue Parks Department's Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm, which carries seasonal fresh produce, flowers and other farm products. Visitors can pick their own blueberries when they're in season, from mid-July to late August, [www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/blueberry\\_farm.htm](http://www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/blueberry_farm.htm).

### Into the foothills

Within a few minutes of Bellevue,

slow down to cruise through downtown Issaquah. It is a charming community, with a terrific theater troupe that performs Broadway musicals to packed houses, an upscale wine bar and one of the region's best Mexican restaurants.

A salmon hatchery at the end of town provides helpful information about the life cycle of salmon, and if you show up between mid-September and mid-October, you'll be treated to the fascinating sight of thousands of salmon returning "home" to spawn in Issaquah Creek after a lifetime out at sea. The community-wide Salmon Days Festival is held the first weekend of October. See [www.salmondays.org](http://www.salmondays.org).

Nearby Tiger Mountain provides some of the nicest woodland trails in the area and rewards hikers with spectacular views of downtown Seattle and across the Sound to the Olympic Mountain Range. This is also a popular hang gliding and paragliding launch site. Lessons and tandem flights with an experienced pilot are available.

### Snoqualmie Falls

Near the town of Snoqualmie, the mists of the magnificent 268-foot Snoqualmie Falls rise from the river. Enjoy the rush from the observation deck or at the restaurant over lunch or

dinner. This has been a sacred gathering place for indigenous people for centuries and continues to delight visitors from all over the world. For an extra-spectacular show, visit the falls in the spring when melting snow from the Cascades turns up the volume a few notches.

Historic downtown Snoqualmie is worth a cruise while you're in the neighborhood. It features unique shops, a vibrant restaurant scene, a large tribal casino, local arts and festivals, and a lot of outdoor recreation. It is also home to the Northwest Railway Museum, the largest railway museum in Washington State, which offers scenic excursions aboard antique train cars along a 5-mile stretch of historic railway.

### North Bend

North Bend is located 30 miles east of Seattle on I-90. Surrounded by stunning vistas of Mount Si, Rattlesnake Ridge and the Cascade Mountains, North Bend has a well-maintained historic downtown and offers an eclectic mix of dining and shopping. The area offers impressive hiking and bicycling trails and paths, including the most famous and popular hike in Washington State, the Mount Si Trail, a strenuous 8-mile roundtrip hike with an elevation gain of over 4,000 feet.



DAVIDSON BUILDING, ELLENSBURG

Just west of downtown North Bend, you will find the westernmost trailhead to the John Wayne Iron Horse State Park. This 100-mile trail was once part of the path of the Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul-Pacific Railroad and includes several trestles and tunnels. This hiking, biking and equestrian trail leads up and over Snoqualmie Pass through a tunnel and all the way to the Columbia River at Vantage.

### Snoqualmie Pass

The summit at Snoqualmie Pass is best known for its winter recreation opportunities—and with four ski areas, hundreds of cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails and miles of snowmobiling roads, these opportunities are nearly endless. But it is also a popular birding, hiking, biking, river-rafting, and canoeing destination in the spring, summer and fall. Gentle mountain streams meander through wildflower meadows that are nestled in the valleys beneath towering peaks. This is one of the most popular hiking areas in the state, due to its close proximity to Seattle.

### Roslyn and Cle Elum

A historic coal mining community, Roslyn was the home to the popular TV series "Northern Exposure," where it stood in for the fictional city of Cicely, Alaska. The authentic, original downtown buildings and historic local

bar and eatery are at once familiar and welcoming. The multicultural cemetery at the end of town is a fascinating glimpse of how the cultural and religious segregation that separated the citizens of the small community during life, now continues through eternity. Stop by the local museum to get the details on this as well as on the area's rich coal-mining history.

A new golf community nearby has generated much enthusiasm and will play a vital role in the ongoing economic development of the region. Along with the links, hiking and biking trails, boutique lodging and excellent dining overlooking the golf course combine to make this a worthwhile destination.

Cle Elum, located just a few miles east of Roslyn, features several locally owned restaurants and a popular Italian market that makes its own specialty sausage and also features a great selection of cheeses and olives. A coffee roaster and historic bakery should also be added to your

"to-see" list. The Telephone Museum, located downtown, provides a unique peek into the days of the "let me connect you" switchboard operator that few people today can remember.

### The "old road" to Thorp and Ellensburg

For a glimpse of the highway system before the interstates bypassed many of our country's small rural communities, follow SR-10 from the south end of Cle Elum past decaying wooden irrigation flumes to Thorp with its restored grist mill and popular fruit stand/antique store. From Thorp continue to Ellensburg, the home to Central Washington University, and check out its historic downtown district, burgeoning artist community and fabulous farmers market.

Get more information about the surrounding recreational opportunities and historic communities in the Swiftwater Corridor Scenic Byway section of this guide.

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 eastbound. This 101-mile journey will lead you out of Seattle, through the foothills of the Cascade Mountain Range, and up and over Snoqualmie Summit, and then will descend into the desert plains and winding rivers that link Cle Elum and Ellensburg.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Every community along the byway, from Bellevue, Issaquah and North Bend on the west side to historic Roslyn, Cle Elum and Ellensburg on the east side, features excellent lodging that ranges from top-notch Northwest-style resorts to rustic campgrounds. There are many good family-owned restaurants that feature locally sourced ingredients and friendly conversation. Just ask around to find out where the locals gather. Gas can be found in all the communities along the byway, but always gas up before you head into any of the wilderness areas.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Swiftwater Corridor, Yakima River Canyon, Stevens Pass Greenway **ALTERNATE LOOP:** For an extremely scenic loop trip back from Ellensburg through Leavenworth, take US-97 over Blewitt Pass and return to western Washington via US-2 and the Stevens Pass Scenic Byway.



**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
[Mountain to Sound Greenway Trust](http://www.mtsgreenway.org) [www.mtsgreenway.org](http://www.mtsgreenway.org)  
[National Scenic Byways](http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/2228) [www.byways.org/explore/byways/2228](http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/2228)

DRIVING DISTANCE

101 MILES

DRIVE TIME

1.5 HOURS

PLAN TO SPEND

1 DAY

BEST SEASONS\*

YEAR ROUND

TOP ADVENTURES



\*I-90 is open year round, but winter driving conditions can change quickly. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and closures.



JOLANDA LAKE, NEAR WENATCHEE RIVER



## Stevens Pass Greenway

*Follow the route of an old Great Northern Railway line while clinging to the winding paths of the Skykomish and Wenatchee rivers.*

**O**n this leisurely, scenic slice of the much longer Cascade Loop, travelers will wind through hamlets in the foothills, drive alongside tumbling rapids and discover what travel used to be like before all the good spots were bypassed.

The road widens out where it counts, at the top of 4,060-foot Stevens Pass, where skiers rip down the slopes and the Cascades reach for the sky. But once you're safely over the summit, it's back to two-lane scenic leisure again as the byway guides you through pine forests, past steep river gorges and into the rolling hills and fruit orchards of the sunny side of the Cascades. Outdoor adventurers and gift-shop explorers alike will find exactly what they're looking for along this byway.

### Things to do

Along the way you'll pass through small communities, each with a unique personality. Look for a tiny wayside chapel and a reptile zoo; a honey wine meadery and a handcrafted brewery; a caboose turned diner that serves up a great cheeseburger and a thick old-fashioned milkshake; and a town that hosts one of the world's largest annual gatherings of Vaux's

swifts. Stop to enjoy the enchanting Bavarian-style town of Leavenworth.

The Greenway actually begins near Monroe, but you should consider a stop at some of the local attractions you'll encounter along the way in Everett and Tulalip.

### In and around Everett

Everett has become an aviation center for both modern and historic flight. To see today's latest aviation miracles, you must visit the Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour, [www.futureofflight.org](http://www.futureofflight.org). To brush up on historical flight, see Paul Allen's Flying Heritage Collection, of vintage military aircraft, [www.flyingheritage.com](http://www.flyingheritage.com), and the brand new Historic Flight Education Center, [www.historicflight.org](http://www.historicflight.org), all located at Paine Field.

In summer, take a free ferry ride to Jetty Island—Everett's 2-mile-long scenic gem. Jetty Island's beaches are among Puget Sound's sandiest, and the waters are a kite boarder's paradise. Jetty naturalists offer group tours throughout the summer. Visit [www.ci.everett.wa.us](http://www.ci.everett.wa.us) and type "Jetty" into the search field for more information.





STEVENS PASS SKI RESORT



LEAVENWORTH AREA

In late 2011, the Tulalip Tribe opened the Hibulb Cultural Center and Natural History Preserve to honor the ancestors of local tribes and teach visitors the tribe's history and way of life. Check [www.tulaliptribes-nsn.gov](http://www.tulaliptribes-nsn.gov) for updated information.

### Monroe

Home to the Evergreen State Fair, Monroe is a small pastoral community located near the junction of the Snoqualmie and Skykomish rivers. Monroe provides outdoor recreational opportunities such as swimming, rafting, fishing and other water sports. The nearby river valley is a popular cycling spot. If you ride here, don't forget to bring a basket to carry the fresh produce you'll find at the many farm stands in this fertile floodplain.

### Vaux's swift migration: a local tradition

Visit Monroe in September or October and experience a rare treat. Tens of thousands of Vaux's swifts, migrating from the Northwest to Mexico, Central America and Venezuela, stop along the way to roost in a chimney at Frank Wagner Elementary School in Monroe. The sheer volume of the flock and the speed at which the birds zoom to and fro brings thousands of residents and visitors together with lawn chairs and picnic baskets to watch the nightly acrobatics



DREAMLINER AT THE BOEING EVERETT PLANT

and share the experience. Visit [www.vauxhappening.org](http://www.vauxhappening.org) for more information.

### Curiosities along the way

For another kind of wildlife, be sure to swing into the odd reptile zoo located on US-2 about a mile east of Monroe. You'll meet the "reptile man" who has fascinated schoolchildren in the area for years with his collection of snakes, lizards, two-headed turtles and other creatures.

You'll also pass a tiny wayside chapel. Holding no more than a dozen people, this little house of prayer and meditation was built by a local dairy farmer in 1962 and is open to the public. People often leave personal notes on the pulpit, ranging from the silly to the sublime.

### Waterfalls and wilderness day hikes at every turn

A few miles east of Monroe are several rewarding hiking sites. In Gold Bar, you'll find Wallace Falls State Park, which offers an easy ascent leading to views of gorgeous waterfalls. A 7-mile loop trail above the falls provides a panoramic view of the valley.

As you approach the town of Index, Mount Index is directly to the south of the Skykomish River; it's an imposing

### Electric Car Plug-in Project

As major companies like GM, Ford, Honda, Nissan and Toyota as well as a host of small independent manufacturers add new lines of electric vehicles to their fleets, 2011 will see the arrival of hundreds of electric cars to the Puget Sound region, all requiring convenient and plentiful plug-in stations.

To enhance rural tourism in Washington, a series of electric-car fast-charging stations is being installed along a stretch of US-2 from just north of Seattle in Everett, over the Cascade Mountains, to popular tourist destinations including the cities of Leavenworth, Wenatchee and Lake Chelan. Visit [www.plugincenter.com](http://www.plugincenter.com) or call 509-663-5159 for more information and station locations.

sight at nearly 6,000 feet. Lush forests envelop the gorgeous trail to Lake Serene under Mount Index's three spires, a 7-mile round-trip hike with an elevation gain of about 2,000 feet.

Another option at Mount Index is a short trail leading to stunning views of Bridal Veil Falls, cascading from Lake Serene. If you opt to drive on instead of hiking, don't miss Eagle Falls just beyond Index on the right side of US-2. Here the Skykomish River drops into a handful of deep blue pools. There are pullouts, and this is a popular swimming hole in late summer.

### Skykomish

Turn into the town of Skykomish and go back to a time when the railroads ruled. During boom times, miners, loggers and rail workers made this remote place a raucous hub. Today, the historic buildings—including a wonderful art deco school building—remain, but "Sky" is a bit sleepier. Stop for lunch alongside the rushing river and listen as trains rumble through town (20 a day); you'll be transported back to a time before this byway existed.

### Iron Goat Trail

If you want to experience more railroad history, hike the Iron Goat Trail, which follows a track the Great Northern Railway abandoned after it built an 8-mile tunnel in 1929. Old timbers and tunnels are a constant reminder that trains once roared through, and the trail has wheelchair-accessible and barrier-free sections.

Volunteers for Outdoor Washington offer guided hikes lasting three to six hours during the summer. No sign-up is necessary; just meet at the Skykomish Ranger Station at 9:30 a.m. Check [www.trailvolunteers.org](http://www.trailvolunteers.org) or call 206-517-3019 for schedule information.

### Stevens Pass

Stevens Pass, at just over 4,000 feet, is known primarily as a ski resort but also offers abundant hiking trails to enjoy during warmer months. In 2011 the resort added a world-class downhill mountain-bike trail system, which will make Stevens Pass an extremely popular year-round destination.

### Lake Wenatchee State Park

As US-2 descends on the eastern slope of the Cascades, get on SR-207 northbound for a brief drive to Lake Wenatchee State Park. Formed by a glacier and fed by the White River and Little Wenatchee River, the lake is perfect for swimming, boating and fishing.

Lake Wenatchee is also a popular winter play area, with miles of groomed cross-country ski trails, a tubing and sledding park and ice fishing on nearby Fish Lake. Rustic camping is available.

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-5 north to Everett, then head east on US-2 to Monroe (40 miles / 45 minutes). The 90-mile National Scenic Byway begins at Everett and heads east, ending at Peshastin Pinnacles State Park on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains, 10 miles east of Leavenworth.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Lodging, gas and restrooms are easy to find in the towns on this byway. Campgrounds are available but very limited, with few amenities. A **Savor Washington Itinerary: Leavenworth** is available at [www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx). Stop by any of the roadside produce stands to pick up a map of the area's farms and fruit stands where visitors are welcome to tour and taste.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Part of the Cascade Loop which includes: North Cascade Scenic Byway, Whidbey Scenic Isle Way, and connects to the Mountains to Sound Greenway and the Swiftwater Corridor via Blewett Pass.



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** **Stevens Pass Greenway** [www.stevenspassgreenway.org](http://www.stevenspassgreenway.org)  
**Sky Valley Visitor Information Center** [www.skyvalleyvic.net](http://www.skyvalleyvic.net)  
**Snohomish County Tourism** [www.snohomish.org](http://www.snohomish.org)  
**Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce** [www.leavenworth.org](http://www.leavenworth.org)  
**Cascade Loop Association** [www.cascadeloop.com](http://www.cascadeloop.com)

### Leavenworth

This Bavarian-themed village appears completely authentic and enchanting, nestled in the foothills and bustling with activity. During Maifest in spring, you can see Tyrolean dancers and check out (or enter) the "Looking Good in Lederhosen" contest. And of course no self-respecting "German" village would be complete without an Oktoberfest celebration, and Leavenworth's is one of the largest in the world outside Germany. Also make plans to visit the Washington State Autumn Leaf Festival on the last weekend of September.

### Peshastin Pinnacles State Park

This amazing 34-acre desert park is 6 miles east of Peshastin and features sandstone slabs and spires reaching 200 feet. The park offers rock climbing and trails that lead to territorial views of surrounding orchards, the Enchantments Basin and Lakes, and the Wenatchee River valley.

DRIVING DISTANCE	90 MILES
DRIVE TIME	2 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



BEACH ALONG HIGHWAY 112



# Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway 112

*When you travel along the remote Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway 112 you will encounter the magnificent shoreline of the narrow body of water that connects Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean.*

This is a get-away-from-it-all byway on which salt spray fills the air, trees grow so fast you can almost see it happening, and salmon fishermen congregate at boat launches before dawn.

Follow a trail of shells along the tide line, hike, kayak and fish for flounder off the beach. Look up to see bald eagles, changing skies and old-growth Sitka spruce. Look out on the water to see container ships bound for Asia, surfers plying waves and gray whales migrating. Everywhere you look, you'll see how the salt water shapes this place.

## Heading west from Port Angeles

Driving east to west takes the traveler through Port Angeles, part of the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway. This inner harbor city is the entrance point from Victoria, B.C. for those traveling by ferry. The William R. Fairchild International Airport is located in Port Angeles, where rental cars are also available.

## The Wilderness Information Center

A good first stop for tips about Olympic National Park, its trails and backcountry permits (required

for overnight hikes in the park) is the Wilderness Information Center in Port Angeles. The WIC is located within the Olympic National Park visitor center at 3002 Mount Angeles Road. Call 360-565-3100 for information or visit [www.nps.gov/olym](http://www.nps.gov/olym).

## Veteran Memorial Highway Designations

In a fitting tribute to our nation's veterans, two stretches of the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway have been designated as "Veteran Memorial Highways." Directly after exiting US-101 west of Port Angeles, SR-112 has been designated the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Highway. It meets the Korean Veterans' Blue Star Memorial Highway when it intersects with SR-113 just southeast of Clallam Bay. Markers and flags pay tribute to those men and women who served proudly when our nation needed them.

## Olympic Discovery Trail Adventure Route

The Olympic Discovery Trail runs from east of Sequim to Lake Crescent, west of Port Angeles. It will eventually run from Port Townsend to La Push and be one of the longest trails without motor-





FRESHWATER BAY



LYRE RIVER

vehicle access in the United States. Folks who want to work up a sweat should check out the Adventure Route segment of this trail.

Mountain bikers, horseback riders and hikers will get views across the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Olympics and the Elwha River Valley, if they're willing to pay the price in switchbacks. This 25-mile stretch of unpaved single-track and old logging roads zigzags from the west side of the Elwha River to the east side of Lake Crescent, where it connects with the Spruce Railroad Trail.

From Port Angeles, head west on US-101 for about 5 miles, then take a right onto SR-112. The entrance and parking for the Adventure Route segment of the Olympic Discovery Trail ([www.olympicdiscoverytrail.com](http://www.olympicdiscoverytrail.com)) are on the left soon after you cross the bridge over the Elwha River.

### Elwha Dam removal

While you're here, say goodbye to the Elwha Dam. The biggest dam removal in U.S. history will provide visitors with the chance to watch this effort to restore what was once one of the most productive salmon runs in the Northwest. Built without fish ladders, the Elwha Dam blocks the migration of spawning salmon up the Elwha River, yet each fall they return and circle at the base of the dam in search of a way home.

The removal of the Elwha Dam and of the Glines Canyon Dam upriver is an opportunity for visitors to witness conservation in dramatic fashion over the next several years. Visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and type "Elwha River" into the search field for more information.

### Freshwater Bay County Park

Located west of milepost 57 on the right, this park includes saltwater beach access, a boat launch and picnic areas

in a cedar forest or on the beach. The bull kelp beds to the west are a halibut fishing hot spot, and this 17-acre park is also the first of four Whale Trail observation spots along this byway, see [www.thewhaletrail.org](http://www.thewhaletrail.org). This trail consists of a series of marked locations around northwest waters where people may glimpse marine mammals. Harbor seals, sea lions, otters, and gray whales may be seen from the shores of this byway.

### Salt Creek County Park

Salt Creek Recreation Area County Park is a campground that's counted among the best in the state by some camping guides. This 196-acre park is a wonderland of forests, world-renowned rocky tide pools, beaches and panoramic views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Vancouver Island. Recreation includes scuba diving, surfing and kayaking. Some intrepid souls even snorkel here—in thick neoprene wet suits, of course.

Explore the remnants of Fort Hayden, built during World War II. The concrete bunkers that once defended the coast with cannons are now relics, commandeered by visitors who scramble to and fro throughout the fort's mazes.

The park is a popular place to observe marine life (look for the Whale Trail marker), and it is also an important birding site on Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Olympic Loop, <http://wa.audubon.org>. Thrushes, black-headed grosbeaks, warblers and oystercatchers are among the birds found here. In the last week of September, hundreds of migrating turkey vultures soar overhead.

### Historic Joyce Depot Museum

With its worn floorboards, tiny post office and vast selection of penny candy (yes, really a penny), tiny Joyce hasn't changed much in the last 100 years.



JOYCE GENERAL STORE

To experience this area's history and lay in supplies for the road ahead, make a stop (milepost 51) at the Joyce General Store and Depot Museum.

The museum displays include railroad memorabilia and historical photos and artifacts from the small communities in the region. The depot was built of Alaska yellow cedar around 1915 and is the last remaining log depot from the Milwaukee line. Joyce also has a reputation for wild blackberry pie, so be sure to try a slice at a nearby diner.

### Pillar Point County Park and Pysht

Still driving near the shoreline at milepost 30, stop at Pillar Point County Park for outstanding birding, with very good chances of seeing herons, black-bellied plovers, dunlins, sanderlings, and whimbrels. From here the road heads inland, through a stand of massive old-growth Sitka spruce in the Pysht River drainage.

Trees logged here were once shipped out along the Spruce Railroad, which is now a recreational trail along nearby Lake Crescent. Sitka spruce thrives in wet coastal environments, and these trees are centuries-old examples of how life on land and water is intertwined along this remarkable byway.

### Sekiu and Clallam Bay

Sekiu (pronounced SEA-que) and Clallam Bay are great spots along this route for fishing and bird watching. Charter services are available to take you out for deepwater fishing, and if you brought your own boat, Sekiu has a marina with several places to launch

and tie up. If your exploration doesn't involve a salmon rod, Clallam Bay Spit Community Beach County Park is an idyllic beachcombing, bird-watching and picnicking spot.

For birders, murrelets and murres are prized sightings, while shorebirds, ducks and gulls are plentiful. In the fall and spring, thousands of Canada geese, trumpeter swans and sandhill cranes migrate through this area. If you're more of a trail person, hike the Sekiu Trail, also known as the "1-mile beach trail." The third Whale Trail marker is at the pullout overlooking Sekiu at milepost 15. Visit [www.sekiu.com](http://www.sekiu.com) for more information.

### Lake Ozette and the Sand Point/Cape Alava Loop Trail

Lake Ozette, part of Olympic National Park, is the third-largest natural lake in Washington State and can be

accessed from SR-112 just west of Sekiu by taking the Hoko-Ozette road. The 9-mile Sand Point/Cape Alava hiking trail leads to the Ozette Indian Village Archeological Site, ancient Native American petroglyphs and the Flattery Rocks National Wildlife Refuge.

Thousands of the artifacts from the Ozette dig are now on display at the Makah Cultural and Research Museum in Neah Bay. Traveling west from the Ozette area, stop at Shipwreck Point Natural Resources Conservation Area (milepost 6) to visit the last Whale Trail marker.

### Neah Bay/Cape Flattery

The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway ends at milepost 0, its western terminus. The road continuing to Neah Bay, the Makah Indian reservation and the most northwestern edge of the lower 48 states is the Cape Flattery Tribal Scenic Byway found in another section of this guide.

## PLANNING TIPS



### GETTING THERE:

From Seattle, follow US-101 west to Port Angeles. Allow three hours for this 85-mile leg, which includes a half-hour ferry crossing from either the Seattle-to-Bainbridge or the Edmonds-to-Kingston ferry terminal. The 61-mile Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway 112 trip officially begins a few miles west of Port Angeles on SR-112, along the north shore of the Olympic Peninsula, and runs west toward Neah Bay. (The scenic byway may also be accessed midway from US-101 by taking the SR-113 exit 11 miles north of Forks.) Extend your journey and continue exploring the northwest tip of the Olympic Peninsula via the 12-mile Cape Flattery Tribal Scenic Byway.



### GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:

Motels, cabins and other accommodations can be found in Joyce, Clallam Bay, Sekiu, and Neah Bay. Private campgrounds are located along the scenic byway in addition to campgrounds found in a few parks. Most parks have public restrooms. Locally owned restaurants and cafes are found in each town. Gas and supplies are available at mini-marts in the small communities that dot the route.



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Pacific Coast, Cape Flattery Tribal



### LOCAL RESOURCES:

**Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway 112** [www.highway112.org](http://www.highway112.org)

**Olympic Peninsula Tourism** [www.olympicpeninsula.org](http://www.olympicpeninsula.org)

**Sekiu-Clallam Bay Chamber** [www.sekiu.com](http://www.sekiu.com), **Whale Trail** [www.thewhaletrail.org](http://www.thewhaletrail.org)

**Makah Nation** [www.makah.com](http://www.makah.com), **Neah Bay Chamber** [www.neahbaychamber.com](http://www.neahbaychamber.com)

**Olympic Peninsula Waterfall Trail** [www.olympicpeninsulawaterfalltrail.com](http://www.olympicpeninsulawaterfalltrail.com)

### DRIVING DISTANCE

61 MILES

### DRIVE TIME

1.5 HOURS (EACH WAY)

### PLAN TO SPEND

1-2 DAYS

### BEST SEASONS

YEAR ROUND

### TOP ADVENTURES





VIEW OF MT. RAINIER



## White Pass

*If it's majesty you crave, this is your route.*

**S**itting sentry on your drive are three active volcanoes, Mount St. Helens, Mount Rainier, and the 12,000-foot-plus Mount Adams.

Bring along a swimsuit in the summertime; there are plenty of lakes to take a dip in. A tent will serve you well as camping is plentiful along the route.

Don't forget your camera; the meadows, lakes and hills of this landscape host animals from elk to bighorn sheep to black bear. Eagles, ospreys and red-tailed hawks are your constant companions as you head east.

Be sure to pick up a box of peaches or cherries in Naches. There's no souvenir like an edible one.

### Experience Washington's geographic diversity

Diversity sums up the experience best. The nationally designated White Pass Scenic Byway boasts magnificent driving tours from the lush evergreen forests of western Washington, up and over the Cascades, and into the sage-covered rolling hills that rise up from the Tieton River drainage on the state's east side.

Recreational possibilities—camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, skiing and boating—are easy to

find here. There are charming communities to enjoy, as well as side trips revealing both the majesty of Mount Rainier and the devastation from the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens.

Low-elevation lakes, river valleys, foothills, subalpine ridges, forests, lush meadows, and open steppes are all accessible through this gateway. Bald eagles, elk, mountain goats, black bears, marmots, and salmon occupy an array of wild habitats and public lands. July and August are generally sunny and mild, with heavy snowfall November through April.

### Lewis and Clark State Park

Located between Mary's Corner and Toledo, an excellent first stop on the road is Lewis and Clark State Park, 2.5 miles east of I-5 Exit 68 and south off Jackson Highway. The old north spur of the Oregon Trail passed directly through the present park site. When pioneers used this road, ramps had to be built over some of the downed logs (six to nine feet in diameter), since they had no saws capable of cutting the giants.

With one of the last large tracts of lowland old-growth forest, miles of hiking and horse trails and



PHOTO: JOHN MARSHALL



EARLY MORNING CATCH



ALPINE VIEW TOWARDS MOUNT ST. HELENS

a campground, the park is open April 1 to September 30 and features an 1845 pioneer house, streams, wetlands, and wet prairie. This is a 1930s-era Civilian Conservation Corps park, and many of the buildings constructed by the corps remain in use today. This park is also a good, easy birding spot—look for quail, pileated woodpeckers and great horned owls. This stretch of byway eastward to Packwood Lake is part of Audubon's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Southwest Loop.

Hungry? One of the best burgers in the state can be found about 4 miles east of Mary's Corner. Ask around; any local will point you in the right direction.

### Alpine lakes offer plenty of great recreation

For year-round family fun, Ike Kinswa State Park, 4 miles north of Mossyrock, hugs 46,000 feet of shoreline on the freshwater Mayfield Lake. Private, forested campsites have plenty of appeal, and the heated cabins near the lakeshore are a steal at \$60 bucks a night. Hiking, swimming, fishing (trout, bass, tiger muskie), water-skiing and boating (from two ramps) are among the many recreational options.

Nearby Riffe Lake, a massive man-

made reservoir, also offers camping, boating and fishing. Hang gliders launching from Dog Mountain can often be spotted overhead. You may spot bobcats, bears, deer, eagles, hawks, herons, and owls, so stay on the lookout.

### Mossyrock and the Cowlitz River

In Mossyrock, garden enthusiasts will want to check out acres of nearby tulip fields and pick up some bulbs. Also, be sure to grab some locally grown blueberries—especially if you visit during the annual Blueberry Festival held the first weekend in August.

The Cowlitz River, which runs through this area, provides several excellent opportunities to fish for salmon and steelhead. Ask at a local mini-mart or outfitter for the best fishing holes or where you can view spawning salmon in the fall.

### Head up to Mount Rainier

Driving on SR-7 north from Morton to Elbe (where you can take a steam-train ride aboard the Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad) leads to the 115-mile-long West Side Loop around the Nisqually area and Big Bottom Valley, featuring some of the Mount Rainier area's greatest spectacles. This loop route to Paradise is typically open from the

end of May through October; however, access to Paradise is available year round.

You can also access SR-706 and the Nisqually entrance to Mount Rainier National Park near Ashford from downtown Packwood by taking Skate Creek Road (FS-52), a little-known route that winds gracefully along the creek, featuring dozens of small waterfalls and lush forests, as well as providing some great fishing and roadside picnicking.

For a quick break in Packwood, swing into the local coffee roaster's and grab a snack, a cup of "joe" for the road and a pound of beans as a gift or robust reminder of the journey.

Towering waterfalls (Narada is a favorite stop) and interpretive nature trails (check out the Trail of Shadows at Longmire) never cease to bring a sense of wonder to the adventure and are easily accessible via short hikes from the main highway. During the winter this road terminates at the historic Paradise Inn, at the very base of the grand lady, Mount Rainier. In the summer months, the Paradise Valley Road connects to the Stevens Canyon Road.

On the way down, the side trip to the Grove of the Patriarchs trail on Stevens Canyon Road (closed in winter) between Paradise and SR-123 is highly recommended. Here an easy 1.5-mile



round-trip boardwalk trail leads you through a stand of massive 1,000-year-old Douglas firs, western red cedars and western hemlock up to 50 feet in circumference.

### Mount St. Helens detour

Between Morton and Packwood, near Randle, you can head south on SR-131 to NF-25 for excellent views of log-strewn Spirit Lake, Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams from Windy Ridge. An extraordinary view of the 1980 eruption's devastation of 200 square miles of green forest—which turned the area into a gray wasteland—simply must be seen to be believed. U.S. Forest Service interpretive presentations (early July through Labor Day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) are a great way to get a sense of the St. Helens story. Add four hours for this exceptional round-trip detour.

### Year-round activities

Sure, there's plenty to keep you busy in spring and summer, but winter recreational opportunities are abundant in these mountains as well. These include snow camping, snowboarding, Nordic skiing and general snow play at Paradise, an area that includes a ranger station, a visitor center and the Paradise Inn (which closes in early October).

The recently expanded White Pass Ski Resort goes into high gear during the winter with alpine and cross-country skiing. A day lodge rents skis and snowboards and has food, lockers and a bar. Visit [www.whitepassbyway.com](http://www.whitepassbyway.com) for a complete list of lodging options along the byway.

### Down the eastern slopes

A short distance beyond the summit of White Pass, you'll see a trailhead with access to the Pacific Crest Trail, which runs 2,650 miles along the Cascade Mountain Range from Canada to Mexico. A few miles further, you'll find beautiful Rimrock and Clear lakes. In the summer, enjoy hiking, camping, fishing, boating, and wildlife watching.

Come winter, opt for a trek by snowshoe or cross-country skis.

The route between Rimrock and Naches winds past valleys and canyons with several scenic viewpoints. There's plenty of riverfront camping here as well. The final leg of White Pass Scenic Byway, just before Naches, will be enriched by a stop at Oak Creek Wildlife Area, where unusually close-up views of hundreds of elk (during winter) and bighorn sheep (all year) at feeding stations are a thrill. There's non-mammal viewing, too; woodpeckers, raptors, and songbirds are plentiful.

### Try Chinook Pass on the way back

A great full-day loop drive will take you up and over two of our state's most rugged and beautiful byways, White Pass along US-12 and Chinook Pass on SR-410 for the return trip. Chinook Pass is closed from approximately Thanksgiving through Memorial Day, so check for travel updates before you head out. You can read more about the Chinook Pass Scenic Byway elsewhere in this guide.

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle go south on I-5 for approximately 100 miles and take Exit 68 east onto US-12. The White Pass Scenic Byway corridor crosses the Cascades, from just south of Chehalis to the intersection of US-12 and SR-410 on the "dry side" of Washington State near Naches.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Vacation rentals, cozy cabins, motels and bed-and-breakfast accommodations, in varying price ranges, are plentiful along the byway, as are numerous campgrounds. Five rest areas are spread over the 119-mile journey, as are park-your-car viewpoints. Gas is plentiful along the route, but whenever traveling into high mountain country, it's always a good idea to top off the tank whenever you get a chance. Make sure to ask around to find out where the locals gather; that's where the best food and conversation will be found.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Chinook Pass, Yakima River Canyon

#### DRIVING DISTANCE

119 MILES

#### DRIVE TIME

2.5 HOURS

#### PLAN TO SPEND

1/2 – 2 DAYS

#### BEST SEASONS\*

WINTER, SUMMER, FALL

#### TOP ADVENTURES



\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for winter and early spring road conditions.



#### LOCAL RESOURCES:

**White Pass Scenic Byway** [www.whitepassbyway.com](http://www.whitepassbyway.com)  
**Visit Rainier** [www.visitrainier.com](http://www.visitrainier.com)



CAPE FLATTERY

## Cape Flattery Tribal Scenic Byway

*...breathe deeply, and take the time to get to know  
this stunning piece of land shaped by the rhythms of the Pacific.*

A good wool sweater is almost always in order here. So are binoculars, a change of shoes and pants that can be rolled up to escape the crashing waves as you walk along the beach.

You'll see surfboards on top of cars and trucks pulling skiffs on trailers. The water here is packed with life; otter, seal and whale sightings are commonplace. The air here is so clean that scientists from the University of Washington collect air samples from Cape Flattery—

it's the purest air they've found anywhere. So breathe deeply, and take the time to get to know this stunning piece of land shaped by the rhythms of the Pacific.

On this route, the only tribal-designated byway in Washington State, visitors have an opportunity to stop and learn more about the Makah Nation. The tribe's history and culture are at one with the land and the water.

### Traditional homeland of the Makah Nation

The Makah Indian Reservation encompasses the northwest tip of the continental United States. Neah Bay is a notch in the point where the Pacific Ocean and the Strait of Juan de Fuca meet. Sea lions bask in the sun near tied-off commercial fishing boats. Gulls make a ruckus overhead, while the village of Neah Bay sits quietly, as it has for generations, observing the comings and goings at the entrance to Washington's inland waters.

The Makah Nation has sustained its people and culture with the bounty of the land and sea for millennia. Today, the local economy relies heavily on commercial and recreational fishing. Neah Bay is a place where 40-pound Chinook can still be pulled from the water, and when the salmon are in, there's a buzz in the air as the place gets busy.

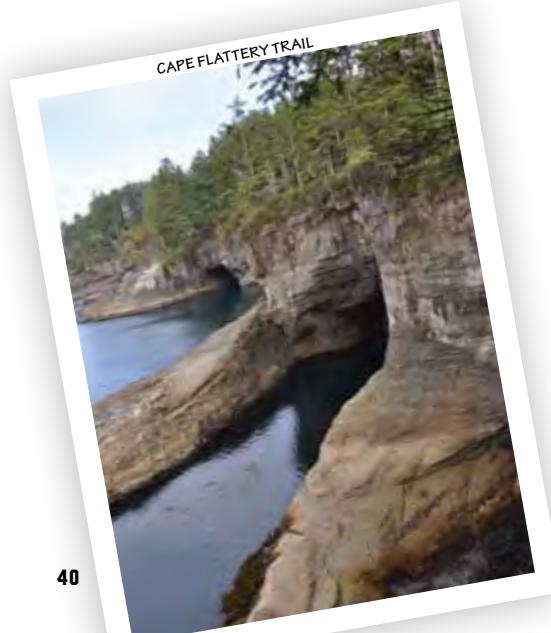
Neah Bay is also known for its great halibut season in spring, and there are plenty of other bottom fish like ling cod, kelp greenling and sea bass in local waters. Chartered services are available. If you enjoy smoked salmon, this is where you'll find shops selling some of the finest in the world.

### Sandy stops near Cape Flattery

Before driving to Cape Flattery, stop and explore some of the long sandy stretches of beach in the area, such as Hobuck Beach just west of the Cape Flattery Tribal Center in Neah Bay.

A prime spot for birding from the fall through spring, Hobuck boasts thousands

CAPE FLATTERY TRAIL



of gulls (California, glaucous-winged, mew, Thayer's) and is part of Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Olympic Loop. Here you can rent a cabin or find camping and RV sites that face the ocean. Hobuck also is popular with kayakers and is a good beginner surfing beach.

There's another beach here that many magazines and television travel channels have declared one of the most spectacular in the world. Shi Shi Beach (pronounced shy-shy), approximately 8 miles southwest of Neah Bay, is well worth a visit for its coastal drama, its timelessness and the feeling of sanctuary it imparts to visitors. Access begins with a 3.3-mile hike leading to an unspoiled 2-mile crescent of beach with arches, sea stacks and a limitless horizon.

### The hike to Cape Flattery

The Cape Flattery Trail is an easy three-quarter-mile hike along a cedar-planked path that leads you to the most western point in the lower United States. At trail's end are observation perches with exquisite views of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, Tatoosh Island and the historic Cape Flattery Lighthouse, first lit in 1857. Migrating birds and whales can often be seen here, as well as sunbathing otters, seals and sea lions.

### The Makah Cultural and Research Center

For an engrossing look at the history of the indigenous people who call this place home, don't miss the nation's first tribal museum, the Makah Cultural and Research Center. The 10,000-square-foot museum displays thousands of artifacts discovered in the archaeological dig of the 3,000-year-old Ozette Indian fishing village near Cape Alava.

Open daily (except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) from

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the center includes a replica long house, cedar dugout canoes, whaling and fishing gear, and the tools of everyday life in the preindustrial age. You'll come away with a deep respect for the way of life and traditions that the tribe still honors today. Art and baskets by Native weavers are available to purchase in the center's store.

A good time to travel the Cape Flattery Tribal Scenic Byway for the cultural experience is during the third

weekend of August, when the annual Makah Days Celebration takes place. (Check [www.makah.com](http://www.makah.com) for specific dates.) Traditional dancing, singing, canoe races and Slahal games are all part of the free event. Attend this celebration and learn why neighboring tribes dubbed these people "Makah," which means "generous with food." You'll find everything from fry bread to traditional cedar-staked salmon cooked around open fires. Nobody leaves Makah Days hungry.



### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** Neah Bay is approximately 150 miles from Seattle on the northwest tip of the Olympic Peninsula. Take a Washington State Ferry from downtown Seattle (Seattle-Bainbridge Island Ferry) or Edmonds (Edmonds-Kingston Ferry) to SR-104, cross the Hood Canal Bridge, then go on to US-101, past Blyn, Sequim and Port Angeles.

**DRIVING DISTANCE**

12 MILES

**DRIVE TIME**

30 MINUTES

**PLAN TO SPEND**

1–2 DAYS

**BEST SEASONS\***

YEAR ROUND

**TOP ADVENTURES**



Take SR-112 along the Strait of Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway, not just to the end of the road but to the end of the continent. Driving time one way from Seattle is approximately five hours. The byway begins where SR-112 meets the eastern boundary of the Makah Reservation (at that point, SR-112 also becomes known as Bayview Avenue) and ends at the rocky outcrops of Cape Flattery's coastline.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Beach resorts, motels, RV parks and campgrounds are the primary lodging on this route. There are small local restaurants along the way. Be sure to purchase a \$10 recreation permit covering all outdoor activities on the reservation at the Tribal Center, the Makah Marina, Washburn's General Store or Makah Mini-Mart, where gas is also available.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**

Strait of Juan de Fuca, Pacific Coast



**LOCAL RESOURCE:**

Makah Nation [www.makah.com](http://www.makah.com)



## Cascade Loop

*The Cascade Loop Byway is a 440-mile love letter to Washington praising her natural beauty and charisma.*

From the waterfront city of Everett, head east over Stevens Pass, where alpine villages welcome and snowy spires beckon.

Drop from pine forests into fertile orchards and take in the pink haze of apple blossoms in the spring. Pick up luscious seasonal fruit from a roadside stand then take a dip in Lake Chelan as the sun bakes high desert hills. Play cowboy in Winthrop.

Climb west over more mountains, and then descend into Skagit Valley with its acres of blooming tulips. At last, cross over dramatic Deception Pass to Whidbey Island, where gentle hills and seaside towns offer a soft place to land. If yours is a passing attraction to Washington State, watch out; this byway may turn it into true love forever.

### Start in Everett, head for the hills

Start the Cascade Loop Scenic Byway in the bustling port city of Everett, home of the largest public marina on the West Coast and the place where Boeing jets are born (tour the plant; it's the largest building in the world).

Head east on US-2, and plan to spend a little time in historic downtown Snohomish. This community features an array of turn-of-the-century architectural styles. Many of these buildings now house antique shops, bakeries and restaurants.

In Monroe, tractor and tool buffs might want to check out the Western Heritage Center, a museum that houses useful items from the past. Here kids can see what a potato digger looks like and grind wheat into flour. Continue to climb past tiny communities with names like Sultan, Startup and Goldbar. Waterfall lovers may be distracted by this stretch; Wallace, Sunset, Bridal Veil and Deception falls are all beautiful and easily accessible.

### Crossing Stevens Pass

Stevens Pass (elevation 4,056 feet) straddles the border of King and Chelan counties. The Stevens Pass Ski Area is one of the state's premier alpine-skiing destinations. An innovative terrain park draws snowboarders from all over the nation, and miles of groomed cross-

country trails double as mountain-biking and hiking trails in the summer. Here's a true Northwest touch; when you're done with lunch here, you can dump leftovers into a compost bin. This ski area is committed to sustainability as well as deep powder turns.

Continuing over the summit and down the eastern slopes, consider taking the cutoff on SR-207 at Coles Corner to Lake Wenatchee State Park—500 gorgeous acres on the glacier-fed Lake Wenatchee and Wenatchee River. There's an inviting little golf course here with tree-lined fairways and mountain ponds ready to drown a ball or two. During winter, the golfing gives way to Nordic skiing. (See also: Stevens Pass Greenway)

### Leavenworth

A quaint Bavarian-themed village located on US-2 in a Swiss Alps-like setting, Leavenworth has something fun going on in every season. Enjoy an outdoor theater, concerts and wine tasting in summer, a legendary Oktoberfest in the fall and sleigh rides,



tubing and cross-country skiing in winter. Shops and restaurants galore round out this necessary stop.

If you write it off as just another “theme” town, you’ll be making a huge mistake. Nestled between the Snoqualmie and Wenatchee national forests with access to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, this is rock-climbing, white-water rafting, kayaking and hiking paradise. So drink the beer, eat the bratwurst and buy the nutcracker, but don’t forget to look to the rugged mountains surrounding you for a true Washington “Alps” experience.

## Wenatchee

From Leavenworth, continue on US-2 to Wenatchee. Located on the Columbia River, Wenatchee is best known for its apples, but the nearby river and surrounding mountains provide endless opportunities for hiking, biking, skiing and wildlife watching.

## Following the Columbia River to Lake Chelan

Follow US-97 north to one of the state’s recreational magnets, Lake Chelan. Surrounded by thousands of acres of North Cascades National Park and Okanogan/Wenatchee National

Forest lands, Lake Chelan has everything a camper, angler, explorer or sunbather could want.

Play golf, tan, water ski, swim (yes, it’s cold), or take a cruise to Stehekin at the lake’s northern tip. Accessible only by boat or seaplane, this tiny village with a permanent population of 75 boasts a bakery, overnight accommodations and some of the best “get away from it all” remote beauty in the state.

## Loup Loup and Twisp

From Chelan, drive north to Pateros on SR-153 then west toward Twisp and Winthrop, or continue north along a stretch of the Okanogan Trails Scenic Byway to the town of Okanogan and then head west on SR-20 over Loup Loup Pass. In winter, a small ski area and a wildlife feeding station provide some good distractions along this scenic route.

Either road will lead to Twisp, a small community known for the nation’s first wildfire smokejumper base, charming downtown and local theatre troupe.

## Winthrop and the stunning Methow Valley

In Washington’s “Old West” town of Winthrop, you’ll find more than wooden sidewalks and swinging saloon doors.



PHOTOS: BOTTOM, MICHAEL SILVERMAN; RIGHT, MONTE DODGE



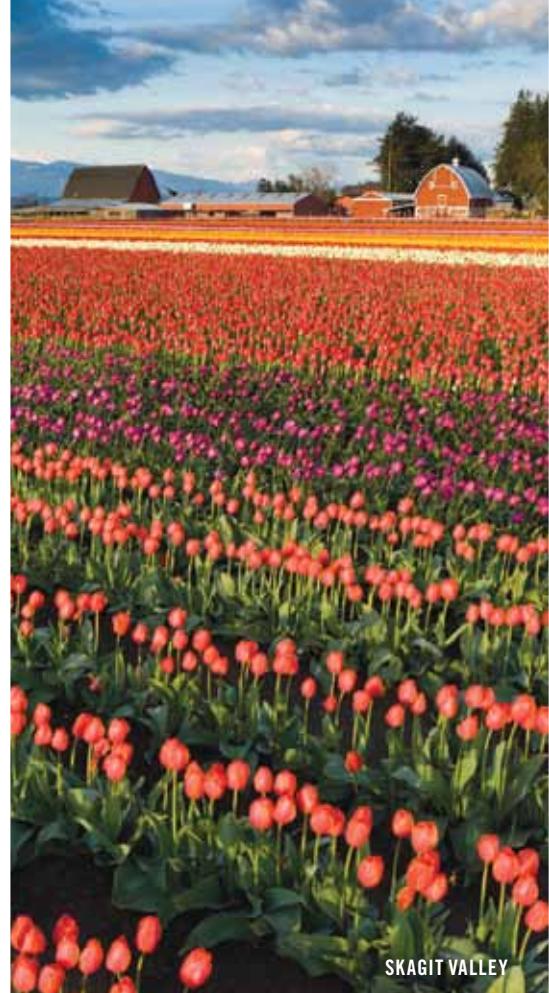
WENATCHEE AREA



METHOW RIVER



DIABLO LAKE



SKAGIT VALLEY

Look for restaurants serving locally grown fare, walk (or ski) the 124 miles of trails running through town that links the entire Methow Valley or head a few miles north to Pearlygin Lake State Park to camp, fish or water ski.

### Into the North Cascades

Old farmsteads and rolling fields will give way to pine forests as you drive northwest through the Methow Valley on SR-20, then head up

into the rugged North Cascades.

Pull over at the Washington Pass overlook; a short paved path leads to spectacular views of Liberty Bell Mountain and the Early Winters Spires. You'll also

see the byway on which you just arrived, unfurling down the mountain.

Access to the Pacific Crest Trail is nearby as well as hundreds of its lesser-known cousins, leading to thousands of miles of wilderness exploration in both both Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest and North Cascades National Park.

The Diablo and Ross dams and their backwaters are worthwhile stops along this route, especially when minerals in the runoff turn these waters vivid green. Tickets for interpretive boat tours on Diablo Lake are available in Newhalem, just a couple miles west of Diablo Dam, [www.skagittours.com](http://www.skagittours.com). While there, stop at the North Cascades National Park visitor center for information on other sights in the area. The visitor center setting is ruggedly beautiful and some believe a destination unto itself (open May to October).

In the winter, bald eagles congregate to feed on fish along the Skagit River between Marblemount and Rockport

at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, making this area home to the largest population of bald eagles in the lower 48 states. There is an eagle interpretive center open December and January, and rafting guides can take you on float trips to view the eagles and other winter migratory fowl.

For more information on the communities and sights along the route, see the North Cascades Scenic Byway section.

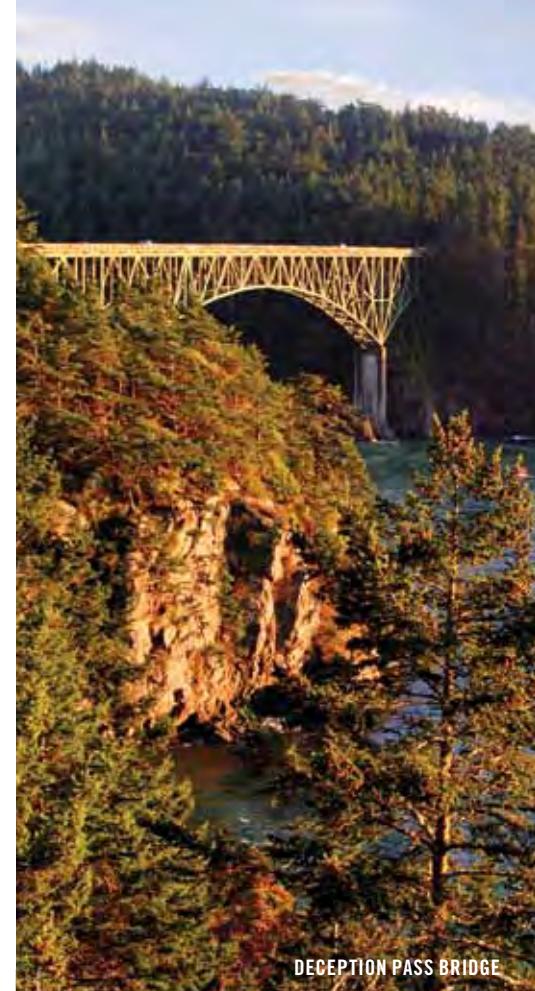
### Through the Skagit and toward Fidalgo and Whidbey islands

Leaving the North Cascades, you'll descend gently through the foothills into small communities, lush farmland and the tulip fields of the Skagit Valley. Look for colorful splashes of yellow (daffodils) or red (tulips) on the horizon if you come through in March or April—the only place that grows more flower bulbs than the Skagit Valley is Holland.

A short 5-mile (one-way) detour from



PASAYTEN AND LAKE VIEW RIDGE



DECEPTION PASS BRIDGE

PHOTOS: LEFT TO RIGHT, PATRICK BENNETT; NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK; MICHAEL STADLER; BOTTOM, ANDY PORTER

SR-20 into La Conner will reveal an enchanting waterfront community—part fishing village, part artist colony—on the banks of the Swinomish Channel. The little stores are intermixed with a world-class quilt museum and restaurants that feature local ingredients.

### Fidalgo and Whidbey Islands

The byway winds north to Anacortes or heads south across Deception Pass to Oak Harbor on Whidbey Island.

A few miles from I-5, Anacortes on Fidalgo Island is headquarters for whale watching excursions. Take a cruise to see a resident pod of orcas or visiting gray whales. Downtown Anacortes has 70 life-sized murals, restaurants, antiques and a waterfront park.

If you're heading to Oak Harbor, this route crosses the soaring Deception Pass Bridge onto the second-longest island in the United States, Whidbey Island. Quaint towns, delicious mussels

and beaches all around make Whidbey a destination unto itself. As the culmination of the Cascade Loop Scenic Byway, it gilds the lily—or, in this case, the tulip. (See also: Whidbey Island Scenic Isle Way.)

Depart Whidbey Island via the Clinton-Mukilteo ferry to return to the Puget Sound area, or continue west via the Coupeville-Port Townsend ferry. See [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries) for rate and schedule information.



DRIVING DISTANCE	440 MILES
DRIVE TIME	10–12 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	2–4 DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	SPRING, SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	

### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** The 440-mile route contains three of the state's designated scenic byways described in this guide. It begins 30 miles north of Seattle in Everett, then heads across the Stevens Pass Greenway to Wenatchee, continuing north past Lake Chelan toward the southern end of the Okanogan Scenic Byway. Continue westward through Winthrop and the stunning Methow Valley, taking the North Cascades Scenic Byway through Washington Pass before dropping back down to the west side past the turquoise-green backwaters of the Ross and Diablo dams. The route continues on SR-20 through the Skagit Valley before crossing Fidalgo Island to Anacortes then back to SR-20 and south over Deception Pass and heading south along the Whidbey Scenic Isle Way. A 20-minute trip across the sound on the Clinton-Mukilteo Ferry completes this loop.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Accommodations of every sort are spread over the byway's 440 miles, as are restaurants, gas stations and restrooms. **Savor Washington** itineraries for the area are available at [www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx)



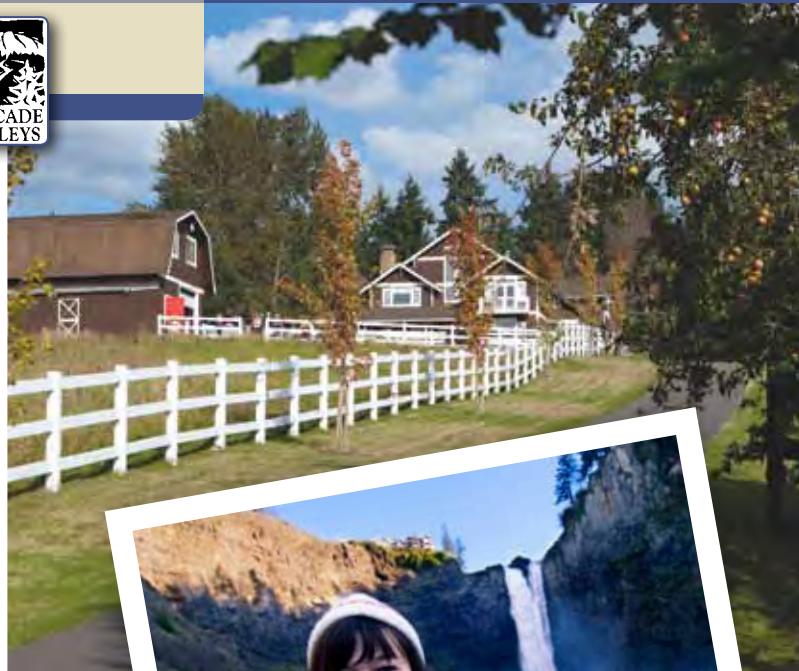
**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Stevens Pass Greenway, North Cascades Scenic Highway, Whidbey Scenic Isle Way, Chuckanut Drive, Okanogan Trail, Coulee Corridor



**LOCAL RESOURCE:**  
**Cascade Loop Association** [www.cascadeloop.com](http://www.cascadeloop.com)



MT. SI (LEFT); ADAMS BENCH WINERY (RIGHT)



SNOQUALMIE FALLS TRAIL TO THE BOTTOM

## Cascade Valleys

*This convenient ramble follows SR-202 from Woodinville along the fertile Snoqualmie River Valley.*

**N**ative Americans established this route, and the culmination of today's byway, North Bend, was a seasonal meeting place for local tribes and the end of the swim for salmon unable to continue upstream past Snoqualmie Falls.

There is no roughing it on this road trip. Taste local wine and handcrafted ale; dine in some of the Northwest's most exclusive restaurants; attend open-air concerts by world famous performers. Even adventures are leisurely; take a picnic to Marymoor Park and watch the dizzying bicycle races at the state's only velodrome or stand in the mist of the 270-foot Snoqualmie Falls, then stroll to the nearby resort for its legendary four-course breakfast.

### Woodinville

Located 17 miles northeast of Seattle in the Sammamish Valley, Woodinville combines small-town charm with some of the top-rated wineries in the state. With over 50 wineries and tasting rooms

(and counting), the Woodinville wine industry attracts over a half-million visitors annually.

Visitors will also find a variety of entertaining activities including outdoor concerts in an estate setting, hot-air-balloon rides and exploring on foot, horseback or wheels along the picturesque Sammamish River Trail.

Wined out? One of the nation's largest handcrafted brewing facilities is also located nearby.

### Redmond and Marymoor Park

Following SR-202 south for 6 miles, you will arrive in Redmond, a great blend of urban-rural experiences. Serene, meandering bike paths, outdoor concerts, family events and fabulous shopping all make it a good stop on the byway.

You can't miss Marymoor Park, Redmond's recreational hub. Located on the shores of Lake Sammamish, it offers something for everyone. Bring your own lawn chairs for outdoor movies in the summer, or cheer professional and



amateur bike racers at the only banked racing velodrome in the state.

Dog people will love the 40-acre off-leash play area, and this urban oasis is also home to plenty of wildlife—muskrats, coyotes, river otters and painted turtles can be seen most of the year. More than 150 bird species have been sighted at the park, including barn owls that occasionally take up residence in the windmill.

### The road to Fall City

This entire byway runs along a fertile corridor that's a gardener's delight—there are multiple nurseries and a bamboo farm. And at the intersection of SR-202 and SR-203 is Fall City. This is organic farm central. For generations, families have come to this area's u-pick farms for strawberries, blueberries, pumpkins or whatever is in season. This is where many of Puget Sound's most exclusive restaurants source their farm-fresh ingredients.

There is a nice little family-friendly golf course in the heart of town and another one across the river heading toward Snoqualmie. Both are affordable and are perfect, non-intimidating courses for people trying to learn or work on their game.

### Heading toward Snoqualmie Falls

From the heart of Fall City, drive across the bridge over the Snoqualmie River and follow SR-202 to the right (southeast). In a few miles, you'll encounter one of Washington's most popular attractions. Snoqualmie Falls is a 270-foot-high waterfall with vantage points above, below and beside the waterworks.

Most people view the falls from the easily accessible upper pavilion, but try the trail to the bottom. It's steep and a mile long, but worth every step. You will never forget the feeling of standing under a curtain of spray from the falls, especially during spring when runoff thunders over the drop.

### Snoqualmie's railway museum

An excellent stop for families passing through downtown Snoqualmie is the Northwest Railway Museum, with its 1890s depot and 70 machines including steam locomotives, freight cars and coaches. In spring, summer and fall, the museum operates a heritage railroad with 5.5-mile train rides aboard antique railroad coaches through the Upper Snoqualmie Valley, [www.trainmuseum.org](http://www.trainmuseum.org).

The Northwest Railway Museum also displays Indian and pioneer artifacts, as does North Bend's Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum. Both are dedicated to preserving the area's native and pioneer stories.

### North Bend and Mount Si

The cities of Snoqualmie and North Bend will look familiar to anyone who recalls David Lynch's somewhat macabre television series "Twin Peaks." Here, you'll find the restaurant referred to in Agent Cooper's famous line, "A good cherry pie and a 'damn fine cup of coffee."

Outdoor enthusiasts have long flocked to North Bend for its extensive trail system including the 29-mile hiking and biking Snoqualmie Valley Trail. But the best-known trail here is the one that takes visitors to the summit of Mount

Si, the mountain in North Bend's backyard. Said to be the most-climbed mountain in the United States, Mount Si offers glorious views from its summit, extending all the way to Puget Sound. With a 3,700-foot elevation change, the 8-mile round-trip hike is particularly popular on summer days, but it's also open during winter and spring.

The trail leads to the summit ridge at the base of the so-called "Haystack." From there, the short ascent to the actual summit is a scramble that can be dangerous in wet or snowy conditions.



### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** This scenic drive begins in Woodinville. You can reach Woodinville by following SR-522 eastward from either I-5 Exit 171 or I-405 Exit 23.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Accommodations in Woodinville, Redmond and North Bend are plentiful and range from high-end resorts to campgrounds and RV parks. You can enjoy gourmet dining in Woodinville or at Snoqualmie Falls, but the small local restaurants along the route are where you have the best chance to connect with the locals. In North Bend, don't forget to order a slice of that cherry pie. You'll find a gas station in every community along the way.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
Mountain to Sound Greenway, Swiftwater Corridor



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** **Woodinville Tourism** [www.ci.woodinville.wa.us/play/tourism.asp](http://www.ci.woodinville.wa.us/play/tourism.asp)  
**Redmond Tourism** [www.experiencedredmond.com](http://www.experiencedredmond.com)  
**Snoqualmie Valley Chamber of Commerce** [www.snovalley.org/vg\\_attractions.html](http://www.snovalley.org/vg_attractions.html)  
**Outside Seattle** [www.outsideseattle.org](http://www.outsideseattle.org)

**DRIVING DISTANCE**

28 MILES

**DRIVE TIME**

1 HOUR

**PLAN TO SPEND**

HALF DAY

**BEST SEASONS\***

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL

**TOP ADVENTURES**



\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



VIEW FROM CHUCKANUT DRIVE

## Chuckanut Drive

*A premier byway sometimes referred to as Washington's Big Sur (perhaps Little Sur would be more fitting), the route hugs the sheer sandstone cliffs of the Chuckanut Mountains.*

The only place where the Cascade Mountains meet the sea, Chuckanut Drive overlooks Samish Bay and offers gorgeous views of the San Juan Islands and Chuckanut Bay.

Stroll through tulip fields in spring or find a cozy restaurant and feast on fresh shellfish. Search for treasures in shops or for beach glass along the water. Take a hike up past the tree line or down along a white-sand beach. Chuckanut Drive is one of those byways that will leave you wanting to linger just a little longer.

### Bow-Edison

The roadside communities of Bow and Edison are noteworthy destinations for art lovers and foodies alike. Tiny Bow has three buildings; and they're all worth a visit. One is home to a renowned artisan cheese maker, one is a quirky junk store and the third is an unassuming remodeled house where you'll find what is widely regarded as one of the Northwest's finest restaurants.

Nearby downtown Edison has two great farm-to-market bakeries, a small

deli with gourmet fare and a couple of friendly taverns. Recently, many of the buildings that line the streets have been purchased by a group of artists who live, work and display their art in their own storefront galleries.

The Padilla Bay Shore Trail, a 2.5-mile bicycle and pedestrian pathway, and Bay View State Park are nearby and provide wonderful access to the mudflats, shorebirds and sea life. Padilla and Samish bays support one of the largest known wintering populations of peregrine falcons in North America and are part of the Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Cascade Loop.

### On to Chuckanut Drive

Just before you enter Chuckanut Drive proper, you'll pass the childhood home of Edward R. Murrow, the legendary radio and television broadcast pioneer. Once on the winding road, you'll pass a restaurant that is low in curb appeal but gets high marks from discerning diners, as you'll note from the line of cars

parked precariously along the narrow shoulder. A shellfish farm at the hairpin turn is a great opportunity to pick up some fresh oysters, mussels and clams.

### Outdoor recreation playground

Chuckanut Mountain is among the best mountain-biking areas in the state and is also a popular hang-gliding location.

Wildlife abounds from seashore to mountaintop. Starfish and sea lions are common on the beaches, and if you're lucky, you may see the splash of a passing orca pod. The hillside forests shelter foxes, coyotes, raccoons, deer, and elk. This unique mountain and seashore environment is a premier birding area. In fact, it's rated as a five-star raptor viewing spot by the Audubon Society.

### Blanchard Mountain

The "jewel of the Chuckanuts" is Blanchard Mountain. Hiking trails abound here, but the mountain is especially famous for the demanding 2,000-foot climb to its Oyster Dome summit, a sheer cliff reached by a trail



CHUCKANUT SHORE

maintained by volunteers.

Pass bat caves on the way up, gulp in the salty air and appreciate the only place in the state where you can hike a Cascade mountain peak whose feet are in the sea. Along this tough 6-mile round trip, watch for abrupt drop-offs and enjoy the spectacular views of the Olympic Mountains, the Skagit River flats and the San Juans.

### Larrabee State Park

Six miles south of Bellingham, Larrabee became Washington's first state park in 1915. With two freshwater lakes, dense woodlands, sandstone formations, 14 miles of multiple-use trails, wetlands, creeks and the beaches of Samish and Chuckanut bays to explore, this park can keep a family busy for days.

One of Larrabee's biggest attractions is the Interurban Trail, a route once traveled by an electric train. Now a favorite path for joggers, walkers and bikers, it runs a lovely 6 miles through mossy maples to Old Fairhaven Parkway.

### Teddy Bear Cove Beach and North Chuckanut Mountain Trailhead

A little north of Larrabee, accessible on foot via the Interurban Trail—trailhead parking is available on Chuckanut Drive—Teddy Bear Cove (once a popular nude beach, but now family friendly) is a stunning white-sand beach built over centuries with crushed clamshells. A switchback trail among madrona trees past the ruins of an old brick factory

leads to the shoreline, with its views of Chuckanut Bay and Clark's Point.

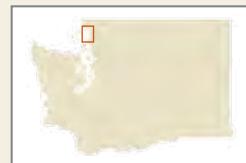
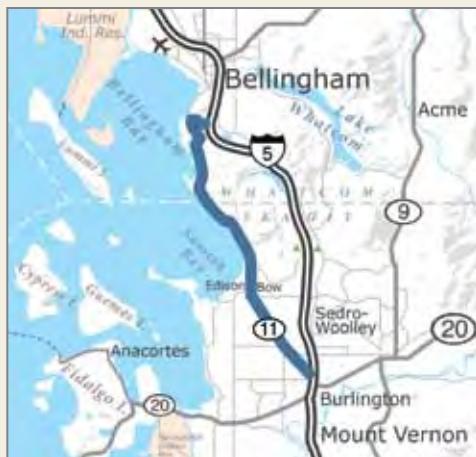
About 1.5 miles south of Fairhaven, the North Chuckanut Mountain Trailhead, located on Chuckanut Drive, opens onto a meandering 5-mile path with extraordinary sightseeing for hikers and equestrians. The final 3 miles comprise the Chuckanut Ridge Trail, where area wildlife includes red fox, deer, woodpecker and belted kingfisher.

### The Historic Fairhaven District

Built in the 1890s, the Fairhaven district provides a great opportunity to

stop and browse. Walk the cobblestone streets of the historic district, with restored nineteenth-century brick buildings now housing bookstores, boutiques and restaurants, and go back to a time when Fairhaven was predicted to become a major city.

A vibrant seasonal farmers' market and the Alaska Ferry terminal are among the other attractions of this popular destination. For a traveler looking for a full-day side trip, passenger-only cruises for the San Juan Islands depart from the Fairhaven Cruise Terminal.



### PLANNING TIPS

**GETTING THERE:** The southern entrance of Chuckanut Drive is about an hour north of downtown Seattle, just north of Burlington at I-5 Exit 231, or you can access it from the north by taking Exit 250 into Fairhaven. Chuckanut Drive is a narrow, two-lane cliff-hanger road with almost no shoulder and is shared by many bicyclists, so please drive slowly and use caution.

**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Hotels, motels, bed-and-breakfasts and gas stations are available at either end of the drive. Camping is available at Larrabee State Park. From Bow-Edison to Fairhaven, this is an area that takes great pride in its locally grown food; you'll find abundant boutique restaurants, farm stands and shellfish growers along this byway. Bring an empty cooler.

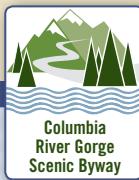
**A Savor Washington itinerary: Skagit Valley** is available at [www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx)

**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Cascade Loop, Mount Baker, North Cascades, Whidbey Scenic Isle Way

**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Chuckanut Drive Association**  
[www.chuckanutdrive.com](http://www.chuckanutdrive.com)  
**Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism**  
[www.bellingham.org](http://www.bellingham.org)

DRIVING DISTANCE	21 MILES
DRIVE TIME	40 MINUTES
PLAN TO SPEND	3-4 HOURS
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

\* The route is open year round but can be closed periodically for road maintenance. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



COLUMBIA RIVER

## Columbia River Gorge

*The Columbia River cut this dramatic gap between the Cascade Mountains on its way to the Pacific Ocean eons ago.*

Lewis and Clark explored this path centuries ago. Today, modern travelers are awestruck at the natural beauty of the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Byway.

Drive though a land where white water leaps over cliffs to join the Columbia River. Watch shadows play in the creases of 4,000-foot-high basalt walls. Hike to breathtaking vistas of Mount St. Helens, Mount Adams and Mount Hood. Join the rush of the water; kayak or windsurf between the river's wide banks. The mighty Columbia will leave its mark on you, just as it has on this land.

### Captain William Clark Park

Traveling west to east, the byway begins in Washougal, the "Gateway to the Gorge." The Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery established a camp on Cottonwood Beach in this area for six days in 1806, and today that site is Captain William Clark Park. Enjoy multi-use trails, fishing docks and historic interpretive features, and be sure to find the replicas of Lewis and Clark's dugout canoes.

### North Bonneville and Beacon Rock

The city of North Bonneville is a good headquarters for fishing, hiking and outdoor exploration. Greenleaf, Bass, Kidney and Tule lakes are all within city limits, and the Pacific Crest Trail skirts near the edge of the town at the Bridge of the Gods.

Three miles west of town, Beacon Rock State Park has a switchback path with handrails to the top of the impressive 848-foot Beacon Rock. Atop this core of an ancient volcano, you'll be rewarded with spectacular views of the gorge and Bonneville Dam. Mentioned in the Lewis and Clark journals, this is also the location where the corps first noticed tidal influences and knew they were getting close to the ocean.

The Bonneville Dam, built between 1933 and 1943, is also a must-see attraction, with tours and interpretive activities throughout the day.

### Bridge of the Gods

This was originally a land bridge formed by a landslide and undercut by the waters of the Columbia. Today, the cantilevered steel bridge crosses the river

linking Oregon and Washington and provides splendid views of the canyon, making it well worth the \$1 toll. The bridge is also the river crossing of the Pacific Crest Trail.

### Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum

The Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum, in the town of Stevenson, tells both the geological and the human history of this region.

In the museum's Creation Theatre, you can experience the cataclysmic formation of the gorge during a 12-minute movie complete with teeth rattling surround sound. This museum also houses the world's largest rosary collection. See [www.columbiagorge.org](http://www.columbiagorge.org) for more information.

### Downtown Stevenson

Stevenson boasts several locally owned eateries, plus a riverfront trail and park that's a popular launch for kite boarding. A few minutes east of Stevenson, in Carson, look for the last old-time hot-spring resort in Washington. Visitors soak in claw-foot tubs filled with hot mineral



water from Wind River. Driving north along nearby Wind River brings you to Windy Ridge, perhaps the most dynamic view of the Mount St. Helens crater available anywhere.

### White Salmon River

Flowing from Mount Adams all the way into the Columbia River, the White Salmon River is a favorite year-round spot for kayakers and white-water rafters. Several rafting companies in the area offer experienced guides and white-water thrills.

The White Salmon area also marks the western end of the Columbia Gorge wine-growing region—wine lovers will encounter more than 20 regional winemakers as they continue eastward. The towns of White Salmon and Bingen

(pronounced BIN-jin) both have small restaurants with plenty of local flair.

### Lyle and the Klickitat Trail

Continuing eastward, the byway enters drier climes and rolling hills. A historic railroad hotel dating to circa 1905 is located in the tiny town of Lyle and provides a great headquarters for exploring the eastern gorge.

From Lyle, access the Klickitat Trail, 31 miles of spectacular scenery including carved gorges, abundant wildflowers, rolling oak and ponderosa pine forests and great birding opportunities, including winter habitat for bald eagles. For more information, see [www.klickitat-trail.org](http://www.klickitat-trail.org).

### Doug's Beach State Park

A bit east of Lyle, Doug's Beach State Park, a 400-acre day-use park on the Columbia River, is one of the premier windsurfing sites in the gorge. For non-windsurfers, there's freshwater fishing (bass, catfish, sturgeon, walleye),

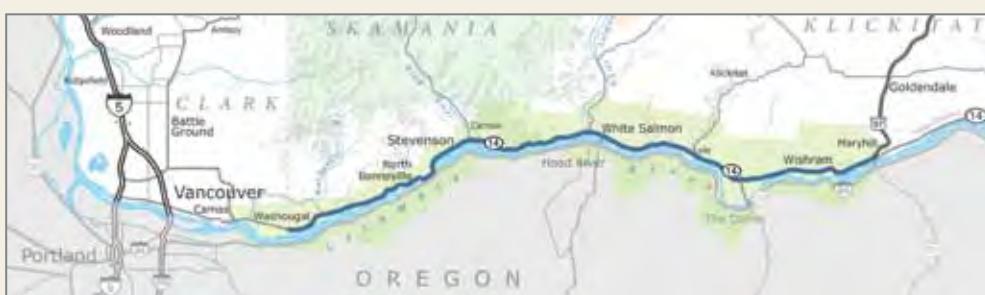
swimming, wildlife viewing (primarily deer and elk) and birding opportunities (eagles, hawks, ospreys and wrens).

### Columbia Hills State Park

More than 100 Native American pictographs are tucked in these rocks, including the famed "She Who Watches," the logo of the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center. While many of these pieces are on view near the parking lot, some of the sacred art (including "She Who Watches") is only available to view on guided tours on Fridays and Saturdays; visitors must call 509-767-1159 to make a reservation.

### Maryhill Museum and the Stonehenge replica

The byway ends at the Maryhill Museum of Art, a chateau perched on a bank above the Columbia. There's a replica of Stonehenge near the museum. See the Yakama Scenic Byway for more information.



## PLANNING TIPS

DRIVING DISTANCE	80 MILES
DRIVE TIME	2 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1-2 DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	☀️🌊👤🚶

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions.



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-5 south for 165 miles (3 hours) to Vancouver, and then follow the signs to SR-14 eastbound to Camas/Washougal. The 100-mile byway is a slice of SR-14, taken eastward, following the Washington side of the Columbia River.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** There is a wide range of accommodations and restaurants along this byway. Campers should be prepared for occasional high winds. Gas is plentiful.



#### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Lewis and Clark Trail, Yakama Scenic Byway



#### LOCAL RESOURCES:

National Scenic Byways [www.byways.org/explore/byways/2235](http://www.byways.org/explore/byways/2235)

Mount Adams Chamber of Commerce [www.mtadamschamber.com](http://www.mtadamschamber.com)

Skamania County Chamber of Commerce [www.skamania.org](http://www.skamania.org)

Vancouver USA Tourism [www.visitvancouverusa.com](http://www.visitvancouverusa.com)



CRANBERRY COAST

## Cranberry Coast

*Fly a kite, dig a clam, hook a salmon or catch a wave.  
It's a route that epitomizes life by the ocean.*

This byway is named in honor of the tiny red berry, which once grew wild in the region and was farmed by Finnish immigrants over 100 years ago. You'll discover a year-round calendar of celebration along the Cranberry Coast byway.

Pick a favorite at the World Class Crab Races and Feed in April at Westport; travel a 30-mile garage sale in September; celebrate all things cranberry at the Cranberry Harvest Festival in October. Or just take a walk on the beach. If you find something interesting on your walk, you can enter it into the Annual Driftwood Show & Glass Float Roundup in March.

### Downtown Aberdeen

Founded in 1884 and with much of the original architecture intact, Aberdeen has survived the rise and fall of both the timber and the fishing industries to become the area's economic hub.

The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport in Aberdeen is home to Washington's flagship, the Lady Washington, a reproduction of the vessel sailed by Captain Robert Gray (the first American to circumnavigate the world) on his first Northwest voyage.

A replica of the Hawaiian Chieftain is docked here too. Get an up-close view of these wonderful tall ships, and, if you time it right, you just might be able to stow away for a true "argh, matey" experience. Scheduled sailings are available. For more information, visit [www.historicalseaport.org](http://www.historicalseaport.org).

### The road to Westport

Following SR-105 toward Westport, you will encounter a local winery and tasting room, which is a popular stop for travelers; the outdoor gardens are filled with sculptures and art inspired by the winery's colorful labels.

Bottle Beach is a great haven for birders interested in viewing the tens of thousands of shorebirds passing through here in late April and late October when they return. Audubon Washington has published a map called the Great Washington State Birding Trail—Southwest Loop. Order one at <http://wa.audubon.org>.

### Westport

A fishing village on Grays Harbor, Westport has seaside shopping, a lively marina and the Westport Maritime Museum, set in a 1939 building that once

served as the Coast Guard lifeboat station.

In spring, whale-watching tours depart from the Westport Marina for close encounters with gray whales as they migrate north to their Alaskan feeding grounds.

Westport has been a destination for salmon charter fishing for nearly a century. Dungeness crabbing is also popular here. The best crabbing season is from December through April, and you can buy or rent crab pots and bait in town.

Surfers have discovered the great waves here, and several shops supplying gear, lessons and advice have popped up as a result.

### Grayland

Grayland is considered the heart of the Cranberry Coast. Many of the original cranberry bogs started more than a century ago by Finnish farmers are still in operation.

This is a popular place for annual festivals and unique events. The Historic Grayland Community Hall, built in the 1930s, hosts the Cranberry Harvest Festival in October (including bog tours, a cook-off and a parade), March's Driftwood Show (exhibits of driftwood or anything



CRANBERRY COAST

else of interest that floats in from the ocean) and July's Windriders Kite Festival.

The story of the juicy little indigenous fruit is told at Grayland's Furford Cranberry Museum (named for a harvesting machine built by Julius Furford), which displays a unique collection of antique equipment and materials related to the cranberry industry.

Nearby Grayland Beach State Park is a 412-acre park with campsites located along spectacular ocean frontage close to a mile and a half long. Popular with kite flyers and beachcombers, the park is also good for clamming and crabbing, saltwater fishing and birding.

### Tokeland, Raymond and South Bend

As the road winds along the coastline, you may want to consider the 4-mile detour to Tokeland. The quiet fishing village and marina are picturesque. A historic hotel here provides comfortable lodging and is noted for its delectable home-cooked meals.

Continue south on SR-105 to Raymond, a rural community at the mouth of the Willapa River. Here you'll find more than 200 life-size steel sculptures of people and wildlife along US-101 and throughout the century-old downtown district.

South Bend, a pioneer logging

community and quiet bayside town, is the county seat and home to the Pacific County Historical Society and Museum. The Pacific County Courthouse, with its magnificent art-glass dome and murals, was erected in 1910 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Willapa Bay

The second-largest estuary on the Pacific Coast, Willapa Bay is a shallow body of water formed by the 28-mile Long Beach Peninsula, the sand spit that juts out north from the Columbia River.

This pristine estuary is known for growing some of the finest oysters in the world. As you wind through this area,

you'll see evidence of the harvest in the form of massive piles of oyster shells. Pick up ultra-fresh Willapa Bay oysters at the many seafood markets in the surrounding communities.

The Willapa Bay National Wildlife Refuge is popular with outdoor enthusiasts looking to relax by bird watching, kayaking, hiking and more. The bay surrounds Long Island, an uninhabited part of the refuge accessible by private boat that has only primitive camping sites. Here you'll find an ancient stand of western red cedar, black bear, elk, bobcat, and other protected wildlife, as well as a spring migration of over 100,000 shorebirds.



DRIVING DISTANCE	48 MILES
DRIVE TIME	2 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.

### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, go south on I-5 to US-101 near Olympia, then west on SR-8/US-12 to Aberdeen (110 miles / 2 hours). Follow SR-105 from Aberdeen around the coast from Westport to South Bend on Willapa Bay.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Hotels, motels, historic inns, bed-and-breakfasts, RV parks and campgrounds are available along this byway. Be sure to stop by the local visitor center to get a restaurant recommendation; there are several excellent seafood restaurants and historic diners throughout the region.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
Pacific Coast, Hidden Coast

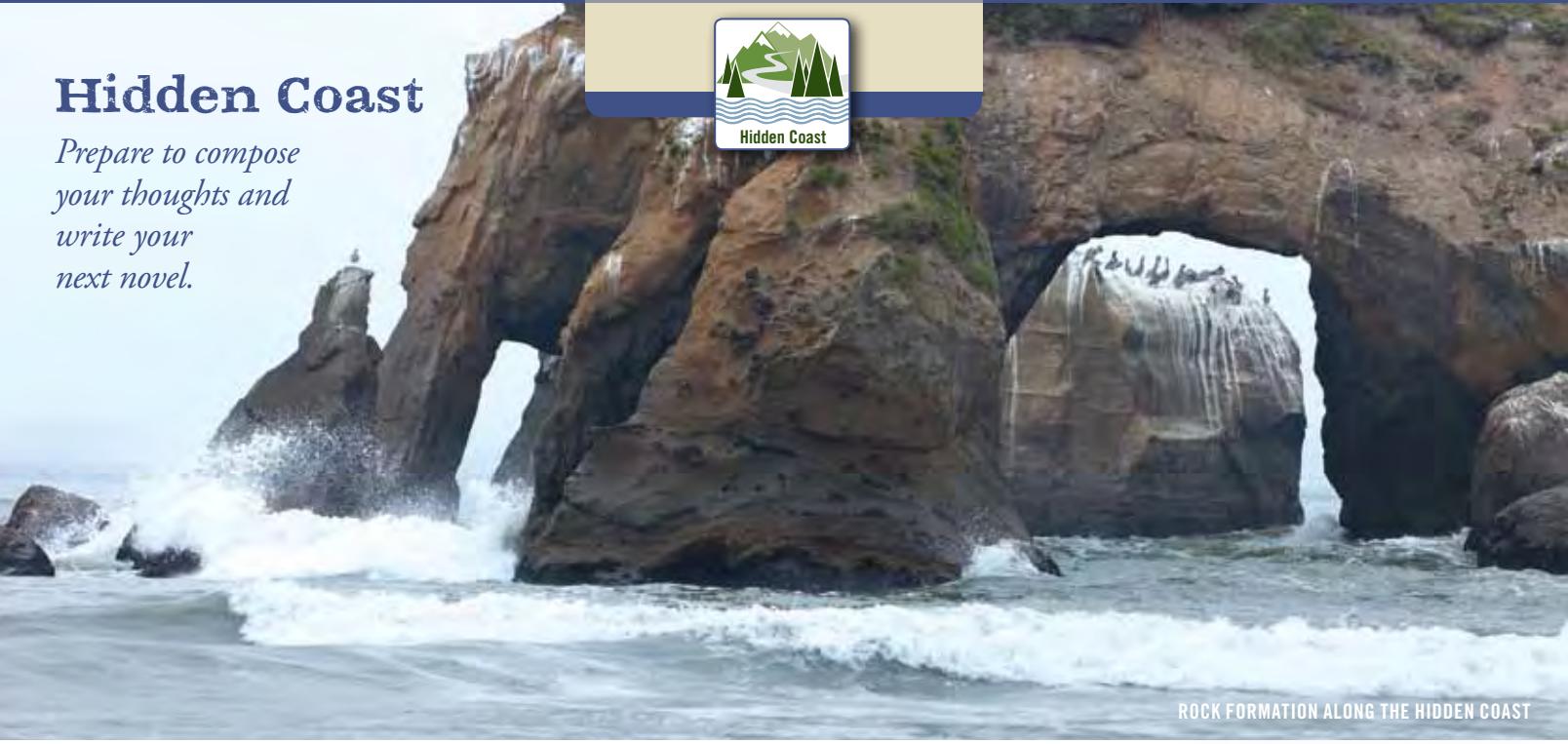


**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Cranberry Coast Tourism**  
[www.cranberrycoast.net](http://www.cranberrycoast.net)  
**Cranberry Coast Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.cranberrycoastcoc.com](http://www.cranberrycoastcoc.com)  
**Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau** [www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com)



# Hidden Coast

*Prepare to compose  
your thoughts and  
write your  
next novel.*



ROCK FORMATION ALONG THE HIDDEN COAST

The shadows are deeper in this part of the world, and the power and beauty of the ocean invite introspection. Roll up the cuffs of your pants and walk along the beach or light a fire in the fireplace and relax. This is a place of tales, long naps and sunsets that last forever.

It's where history started before words could be written, and where the lore of the Quinault outlines the topography better than any map. Listen to the birds, the waves and the forest and you'll learn the language of the Northwest.



PACIFIC COAST

## Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge

This refuge, located near Hoquiam, protects muddy tide flats on the Grays Harbor Estuary, where thousands of shorebirds feed during their round-trip migration periods in spring and summer. Walk a mile from the parking lot to the Sandpiper Trail, a boardwalk that leads through a forest to the seashore.

A view of the beach and nearby forested cliffs is tremendous, and the sight of thousands of shorebirds will thrill bird watchers. Up to 16 different species are commonly found here. In late April or early May, a shorebird festival brings experienced birders and newcomers together for a delightful education. Audubon Washington has a colorful birding trail map for this entire region, the Great Washington State Birding Trail—Olympic Loop.

## Ocean City State Park

This 170-acre camping park is a coastal wetland perfect for beachcombing and investigating sand dunes and the pine thickets that surround the freshwater and saltwater marshes. Ocean City State Park is part

of the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds and is a good place to spot migrating gray whales as well.

Fishing (red snapper, salmon, tuna and more) is a popular activity here. Swimming, diving, surfing and use of personal watercraft are permitted. As with all coastal beaches on this byway, heed warning signs about rip currents and dangerous logs.

## Copalis Beach

This coastal community, where the Copalis River greets the sea, offers razor-clam digging, fishing and a beach you can drive on (stay on the packed upper sand). Start with a visit to the Griffiths-Friday State Park, a 364-acre marine park with loads of saltwater shoreline on the ocean and freshwater shoreline on the Copalis River. The Copalis Spit Natural Area, a designated wildlife refuge, is part of the park.

One of the most fascinating attractions in the area is the Copalis Ghost Forest. Located on the banks of the Copalis River, the forest of red cedars and spruce trees was killed by a massive earthquake in 1700. The land

beneath the trees subsided, and the forest was flooded over. You can reach the submerged forest by canoe or kayak from an informal launch site in the middle of the town.

## Seabrook

A vacation beach town founded in 2004, Seabrook is worth a visit for its artfully designed village greens, walking paths of crushed oyster shells and houses that resemble New England cottages. Seabrook has dozens of orange and yellow bicycles for use in cruising the neighborhood, but there are also plenty of off-road trails and old logging roads for serious riders to enjoy.

When in season (October through May), razor-clam digging is one of the area's most popular activities. Come prepared with rain gear and rubber boots, then buy a license, rent a shovel and gather some free clamping advice at the local mercantile.

## Pacific Beach State Park

Located at the edge of the town of Pacific Beach, this 10-acre park has a busy campground and unbroken views of the ocean. A fine, sandy beach is ideal for strolling and flying kites. Otters can be seen here, as well as shorebirds, eagles and hawks. Also, be sure to take in the "Kelpers Day Celebration" in Pacific Beach over Labor Day weekend. Celebrate all things kelp here; it's the only place you officially can.

## Moclips

Moclips was once a thriving Quinault village situated along the Moclips River. European settlers homesteaded the area in 1862, though it wasn't until 1905 that the town became official and the western terminus of the Northern Pacific Railway was completed here. Moclips became a popular destination for vacationers

coming to the beach on the Northern Pacific. Pay a visit to the Museum of the North Beach for more information about the area's history, [www.moclips.org](http://www.moclips.org).

Today, a visitor can enjoy the beach at Moclips and hike along the Moclips River, which forms the boundary between the town and the Quinault Indian Nation.

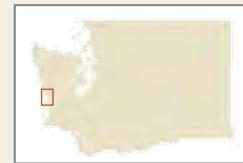
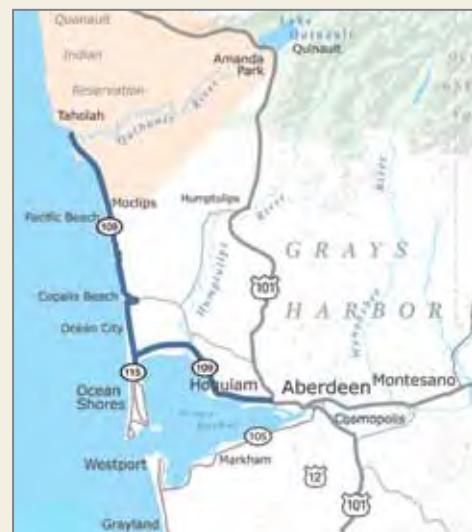
## Quinault Indian Nation in Taholah

The Hidden Coast Scenic Byway concludes at the literal end of the road, where SR-109 meets the Quinault River. In the village of Taholah, on Quinault Indian Nation land, the Quinault River enters the ocean. This area is a popular tribal fishery during fall salmon migration. Visitors will enjoy watching both the salmon run and these master fishermen at work. Tribal fish-and-wildlife

guides will help you appreciate the area's rich plant and animal habitat through stories dating back untold centuries.

The Quinault Museum, in Taholah, is dedicated to acquiring, organizing and protecting the material cultural heritage of the nation's people, and to preserving traditional ceremonial and subsistence activities.

Extensive photo collections can be viewed, and a library is evolving. The museum is open Monday through Friday. Visit [www.quinaultindiannation.com](http://www.quinaultindiannation.com) for more information about the tribe, guide services and the museum.



## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-5 south to westbound US-101 near Olympia and head toward Hoquiam (112 miles / two hours). Follow signs to Ocean Shores and SR-109 and go north up the coast, ending at Taholah.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Food, lodging and gas are available along the byway in each of the tiny communities. Some camping is available.



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Pacific Coast, Cranberry Coast

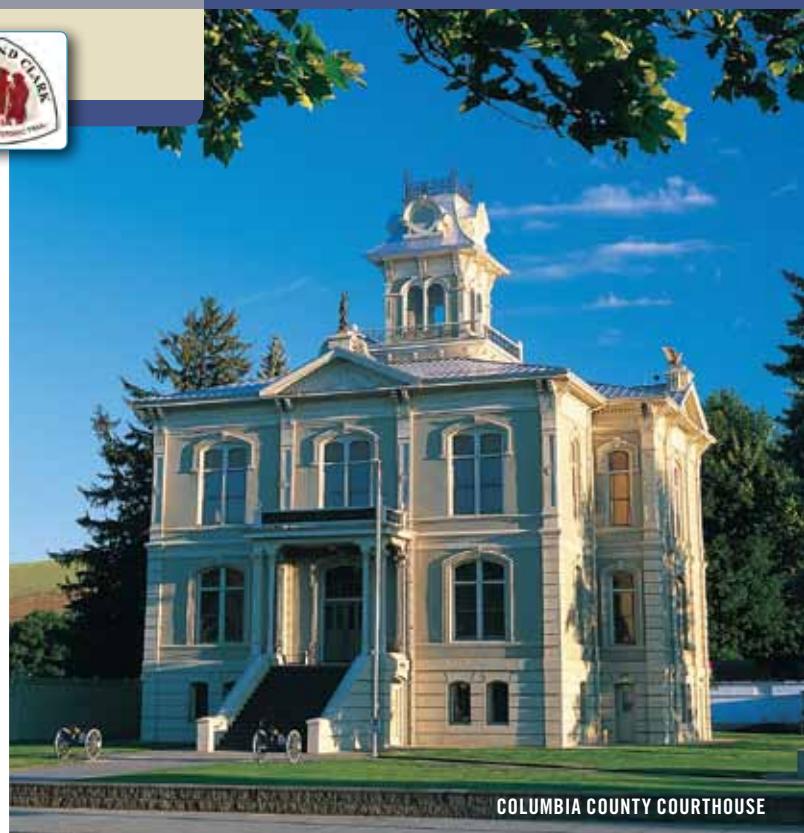


### LOCAL RESOURCE:

Washington Coast Chamber of Commerce  
[www.washingtoncoastchamber.org](http://www.washingtoncoastchamber.org)



SNAKE RIVER



COLUMBIA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

## Lewis and Clark Trail

*Recreate the steps of Lewis and Clark, their renowned assistant and translator Sacajawea and the rest of the Corps of Discovery on their Washington adventures.*

Follow the Snake and Columbia rivers, as Lewis and Clark did, all the way to the Pacific Ocean near present-day Ilwaco.

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson to lead an expedition from 1804 to 1806. Paraphrasing Jefferson, their mission was to “explore the Missouri River and such principal streams, finding those waters which offer the most practicable water-communication across the continent to the Pacific Ocean.” Their landmark journey through the American West can be traced today via the Lewis and Clark Trail, a combination of historical pilgrimage and recreational fun.

As you travel this route, imagine these explorers paddling downriver in canoes, hunting for their meals and braving the

elements. Witness the kind of wildlife and natural scenery they might have seen, and enjoy communities born in their wake.

### Hells Canyon and the Nez Perce connection

A logical beginning for the Lewis and Clark Trail is near the Hells Canyon Resort and Marina in Clarkston. There, a 300-foot-long sidewalk timeline follows the journey of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, from the commission by Thomas Jefferson to the explorers’ arrival at the Pacific Ocean.

Chief Timothy Park, on an island in the Snake River near Clarkston, offers camping and boating and is located on the site of an important chapter in the Lewis and Clark story. This is where the Corps of Discovery

twice found shelter and support with the Alpowai encampment of the Nez Perce Indian Tribe.

The Alpowai Interpretive Center, in Clarkston, features exhibits about Lewis and Clark’s time with the Nez Perce.

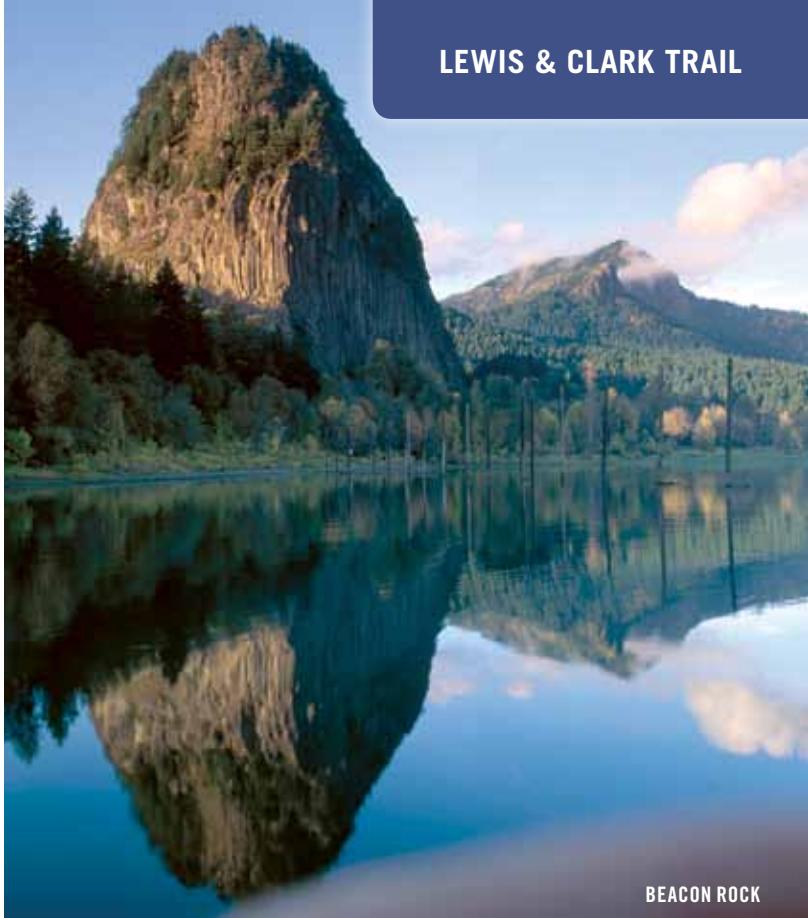
### The “Forgotten Trail”

Lewis and Clark entered Walla Walla territory in October 1805, traveling in canoes on dangerous river waters just north of what is now the town of Dayton. On their return trip east, they took an overland shortcut through what is now Walla Walla County.

West on US-12, the town of Dayton is a landmark on what is often referred to as the “Forgotten Trail,” a part of the Corps of Discovery adventure that historians often overlook. On April 29, 1806, the expedition set up camp on



TRI-CITIES AREA



BEACON ROCK

the banks of the Patit Creek, near the present site of the Columbia County Courthouse. This event is represented in a full-scale, historically authentic model on those banks and includes an interpretive kiosk.

Dayton's Columbia County Courthouse is the oldest operational county seat in the state, and most downtown buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places. Excellent restaurants and recreation ranging from skiing to winery tours make Dayton a place that shouldn't be overlooked, even if it's on the "Forgotten Trail."

### Lewis and Clark Trail State Park

Lewis and Clark Trail State Park, 5 miles west of Dayton, is on the shores of the Touchet (TOO-shee) River. The expedition passed through this area on its return route, and Lewis and Clark made note in their journals of the ponderosa pines growing here. The 37-acre camping park has 1,300 feet of river shoreline (where you can fish for

steelhead and sturgeon), and those old-growth pines that caught the expedition's attention still stand. Don't miss the restrooms—they were built in the 1930s with stones from the nearby river.

### Wildlife refuges near the Tri-Cities

Further along on US-12, McNary National Wildlife Refuge, southeast of Pasco in the Columbia River Basin, has a reputation for supporting waterfowl populations in enormous numbers. The refuge includes over 15,000 acres of diverse habitat with huge concentrations of Canada geese, mallards and widgeons.

Less remote is an urban wildlife area, Bateman Island, in the Richland-Kennewick-Pasco region. The corps once watched Native Americans there catching and drying fish from the Columbia River.

### Sacajawea State Park

As the modern-day expedition continues toward Pasco, look for

Sacajawea State Park off US-12. This day-use park at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia rivers commemorates the Shoshone Indian woman who traveled with Lewis and Clark. The corps camped on this spot in 1805. Today, an interpretive center highlights Sacajawea's role in the expedition. Grassy lawns, a play area and swimming beach, and a recreated Indian village make this a stop with something for everyone.

### The expedition joins the Columbia

Here the byway heads south on I-97, then west on SR-14 through the Umatilla National Wildlife Refuge, a Mecca for birders.

At Maryhill, with its well-known art museum and Stonehenge replica, this byway joins the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Byway for 100 miles, until it reaches the town of Washougal.

On this leg of the journey you'll see windsurfers plying the waters between basalt cliffs and pass through small towns

the worst place in  
the gut, which  
feels of passing  
anger...



LEWIS & CLARK INTERPRETIVE CENTER



CAPE DISAPPOINTMENT LIGHTHOUSE AT THE PACIFIC OCEAN

with plenty of personality. For more details about this grand stretch, see the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Byway section of this guide.

### Beacon Rock

It's hard to miss Beacon Rock, jutting skyward just west of North Bonneville. Indeed, the Corps of Discovery noticed it too. Mentioned in the Lewis and Clark journals, this is where the corps first noticed tidal influences and knew it was getting close to the ocean. Today, visitors can climb the steep path (with a handrail) to the top of this 848-foot-high basalt volcano core for a spectacular view of the gorge.



### Vancouver and the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

In Vancouver, history comes to life at the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, the location of an early Hudson's Bay Company fur-trading outpost. Daily interpretive presentations by staff in period clothing bring the life and times of these rugged trappers and traders into sharp focus.

The Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, northwest of Vancouver, has 5,218 acres of marshes, grasslands and woodlands for waterfowl and other wetland wildlife, which makes it easy to understand why this was another Corps of Discovery campsite. The refuge features Cathlapotle Plankhouse, a full-scale replica of a Chinook-style cedar house that would have been common during the corps' journey west.

### Dismal Nitch

Clark's Dismal Nitch, between Naselle and Chinook on the lower Columbia River, was the scene in 1805 of a terrible time for the Corps of Discovery.

Paddling past Grays Point, the team retreated from miserable weather to a cove (which Clark later referred to as 'this dismal nitch'), where they were pinned for six stormy days by fierce winds and waves.

A picnic area and restrooms are available, as well as an information booth in the summer.

### Station Camp's historic vote

A few miles west of Dismal Nitch is Station Camp, located at Middle Village, a seasonal Chinook Indian Village. The Corps spent ten days here and each member had an equal voice in deciding where the expedition would make winter camp. This historic vote included Clark's devoted childhood companion (and slave) York, and the Native American woman, Sacajawea. Some historians call Station Camp "the Independence Hall of the American West." It would be more than fifty years before African Americans could vote, and more than 100 years before the right was extended to women.



LONG BEACH SAND CASTLE COMPETITION

## Reaching the Pacific Ocean

'Ocean in view! O! the joy.' The forceful presence of Pacific Ocean wind, waves, and salt water 20 miles up the Columbia River elicited the celebrated response. It would be over a week later before Lewis and Clark reached Pacific surf on the Long Beach Peninsula. Located where Lewis and Clark ended their westward journey, this 28-mile spit juts northward from Ilwaco to Leadbetter Point—a portion of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge.

## Long Beach Peninsula

A popular year-round destination, the Long Beach Peninsula is sought out for its expansive beach, historic lighthouses, renowned restaurants, cranberry bogs, and oyster farms.

A family favorite for generations, the lively town of Long Beach offers colorful shops, kite flying and a great boardwalk above tall grasses.

## The trail's western terminus

Three miles south of Long Beach, Ilwaco wraps around a busy port with shops, galleries, canneries, restaurants, fishing charters, and a summer Saturday market. The paved, 8.5-mile Discovery Trail runs from Ilwaco to Long Beach. The trail is remarkable for its interpretive

sculptures, which terminate at "Clark's Tree."

Nearby is Cape Disappointment State Park, a big seaside camping park with miles of ocean beach and two historic lighthouses. Cape Disappointment Lighthouse is the oldest on the West Coast, and North Head Lighthouse offers tours and overnight stays at the nearby lighthouse keepers' residences. For more information, see [www.parks.wa.gov/vacationhouses](http://www.parks.wa.gov/vacationhouses).

The park's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center is a fitting end to exploration along this byway. Perched high on a cliff over a cove, its murals, displays and films recount this legendary journey to the Pacific Ocean. Take it in, and be grateful that your journey home doesn't involve paddling and hiking the thousands of miles back to Missouri!



## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** The 572-mile scenic byway begins on the Snake River in Clarkston (named for William Clark) on the Washington-Idaho border and runs west to the Pacific Ocean along the Columbia River at Washington's southern border. From Seattle, Clarkston is a 315-mile, five-hour drive, so plan a full day to get to the eastern entrance of this byway.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** There are plenty of places to stay on this byway, from campgrounds to comfortable hotels. Public restrooms are available at all of the parks you'll find along the route. Two **Savor Washington Itineraries: Long Beach Peninsula** and **Long Beach Culinary Loop** are available at [www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx)



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Columbia River Gorge, Pacific Coast, Palouse, Yakama



### LOCAL RESOURCES:

Lewis & Clark Trail [www.lewisandclarktrail.com/section4/washington.htm](http://www.lewisandclarktrail.com/section4/washington.htm)  
Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau [www.hellscanyonvisitor.com](http://www.hellscanyonvisitor.com)  
Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau [www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com)

DRIVING DISTANCE	572 MILES
DRIVE TIME	12 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	3 DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	SPRING, SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions in winter.

**Mount Adams Chamber of Commerce** [www.mtadamschamber.com](http://www.mtadamschamber.com)

**Skamania County Chamber of Commerce** [www.skamania.org](http://www.skamania.org)

**Vancouver USA Tourism** [www.visitvancouverusa.com](http://www.visitvancouverusa.com)



## Mt. Baker

*Peek-a-boo Mount Baker views tease you as you climb toward recreation, sightseeing and a break from the ordinary.*



MT. BAKER

With a winter average of 50 to 60 feet of snow, Mt. Baker is a favorite of skiers and snowboarders.

In the summertime, this glaciated volcano draws hikers and rafters. Travelers along the two-lane byway meet with crisp air, no-stoplight towns and dense Pacific coastal forests. During winter, snow lovers flock to play in an area that gets more snow than anywhere else in the lower 48 states.

### Deming Homestead Eagle Park

An outstanding opportunity to view eagles is located on the North Fork of the Nooksack River. This is the spot where bald eagles congregate during winter months for a feast of salmon. Unique salmon

habitat structures are installed along the riverbank. A 0.3-mile path with interesting interpretive signs winds along this stretch of river. You'll find the trailhead near milepost 14 by turning onto Truck Road.

### Kendall Creek Salmon Hatchery

The Kendall Creek Salmon Hatchery in Deming welcomes anyone who wants to see its ponds full of Chinook salmon, steelhead and four other trout species. This hatchery releases hundreds of thousands of salmon along the Nooksack River every year. Ponds are full from January through May, and spawning time is in the fall. Visitors are welcome year round and may even get an informal tour if their timing is right.

### Silver Lake County Park

Turn onto Silver Lake Road near Maple Falls if you're seeking a place to camp, picnic or swim. Silver Lake County Park is considered one of the premier camping parks in the Pacific Northwest. The big draw here is the lake itself, tucked into a mountain valley and open to all manner of water recreation, trolling and fly fishing.

There are plenty of opportunities for

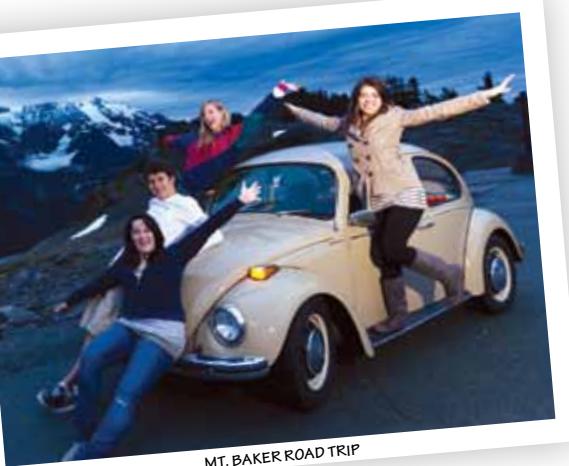
hiking, horseback riding, swimming, boating, and even hang gliding. Rent a rowboat, canoe or pedal boat at the park. A few 1940s-era rustic cabins are available for overnight rental, and camping areas for tents, trailers, horses and RVs are plentiful.

### Black Mountain Forestry Center

On the way to Silver Lake Park on the west side of the road is a small split-log house. This is the historic Gerdrum house, built in the late 1800s from a single cedar tree. Today it's home to the Black Mountain Forestry Center's museum. During summer, explore the home and grounds while learning about this region's logging and forest-products industry.

### Maple Falls and Glacier

A great place to stop for supplies and information, Maple Falls is home to several grocery stores and cafés and is the last stop for fuel and Wi-Fi. In Glacier, the last town on the byway, you will find a pub popular with locals, some of the best Italian food available anywhere in an unassuming small deli, a ski shop, a small grocery store, a bakery, and an artists' co-op.



MT. BAKER ROAD TRIP

## Glacier Public Service Center

Just past Glacier, stop by the U.S. Forest Service Glacier Public Service Center (closed mid-March to late April) to enjoy the cultural and natural-history exhibits. The staff rangers can provide excellent hiking-trail information, issue backcountry wilderness camping permits and give you maps, travel guides and tips that will enhance your visit.

## Horseshoe Bend Trail

For real outdoor adventure, get on the Horseshoe Bend Trail in Douglas Fir Campground (alongside the North Fork of the Nooksack River) for cross-country skiing in the winter and hiking in spring and summer. It's the best kind of contrast; an easygoing trek right next to a raging white-water section of the Nooksack.

## Nooksack Falls

About 4 miles past Horseshoe Bend, take the short detour to view cascading Nooksack Falls, especially rewarding during the late spring or early summer runoff. The road to the 80-foot falls is a short drive off the byway to a parking area with an easy walk to the viewpoint.

## Silver Fir Campground

Just 12 miles east of the community of Glacier, Silver Fir Campground, open mid-May to early September, is set alongside the North Fork of the Nooksack River. This is a very pleasant place to camp while exploring the area's scenic wonders. Wildlife sightings include mountain goats, deer and elk; watch out for black bears in the woods.

## Mount Baker Ski Area

Known far and wide as the birthplace of snowboarding, the area hosts the annual Legendary Banked Slalom. Started in 1985 and held each

February, this race through the natural half-pipe has evolved into an international event, attracting the sport's top pros from around the world. Spectators seem to have as much fun as the competitors. Save the date, and visit [www.lbs.mtbaker.us](http://www.lbs.mtbaker.us) for more information.

The White Salmon Day Lodge prides itself on serving locally grown food (try a Man Pie), and there's a shop and gear rental here also. Cross-country skiers will find trails, and in the summer there's ample hiking in the area.

## Picture Lake, Heather Meadows and Artist Point

At the byway's end, Heather Meadows (closed winters) is one photo op after another; capture Mount Shuksan from Picture Lake and Mount Baker from Artist Point. Many people mistakenly take photos of Shuksan thinking it is Baker. Just remember that volcanoes are cone shaped and head to Artist Point for the Baker shot!

A 1-mile interpretive loop trail introduces visitors to the geology, flora and fauna of the area and is the perfect leg stretch after this gorgeous drive.



## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, go north on I-5 for 90 miles to Bellingham. The byway runs along SR-542 for all of its 58 miles as it climbs from Bellingham to Artist Point on the flanks of Mount Baker.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Lodges, bed and breakfasts, vacation rentals and camping can be found along the byway. Small locally owned restaurants, a brewery serving handcrafted beer and an excellent vineyard and winery are all waiting to be discovered as well. Fuel is available in Nugents Corner, Deming, Kendall and Maple Falls. Maple Falls is the last stop for gas while traveling east on the byway.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
Chuckanut Drive, Cascade Loop, Whidbey Scenic Isle Way



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** **Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism** [www.bellingham.org](http://www.bellingham.org)  
**Mount Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce** [www.mtbakerchamber.org](http://www.mtbakerchamber.org)  
**Glacier Chamber of Commerce** [www.glacierchamber.org](http://www.glacierchamber.org)

**DRIVING DISTANCE**

58 MILES ONE WAY\*

**DRIVE TIME**

1.5 HOURS

**PLAN TO SPEND**

1 DAYS

**BEST SEASONS**

YEAR ROUND\*\*

**TOP ADVENTURES**



\* Distance from I-5 in Bellingham to Artist Point just beyond the Mount Baker ski resort.

\*\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



## North Cascades Scenic Highway

*As the North Cascades Scenic Byway loops between massive peaks and along lakes colored turquoise by glacial silt, you'll see why these mountains are called "the American Alps."*

RAINY PASS

**S**cenic defines it. Of all the passes that traverse the Cascades, this is the most mountainous, with high hairpin turns and eye-popping vistas. It's so rugged, it closes during winter months. And it's so stunning that travelers line up before sunrise on the day it reopens in the spring in order to be among the first across.

Here you'll find 1920s-era company towns, organic farms selling their produce and, near journey's end, the recreational Mecca of Washington—the Methow Valley. Load up your mountain bike, grab your hiking boots, bring your camera and appetite, then just enjoy.

### Sedro-Woolley to Concrete

The byway begins in Sedro-Woolley. You'll see this town's logging heritage in the chainsaw sculptures that decorate the historic downtown.

Three miles before you reach Concrete, Elk herd sightings are commonplace in the woods and meadows of Hurn Field. From here, continue east toward Concrete, a town named for what it once produced. A row of hulking cement silos are still the community's dominant feature.

A closer look will reveal quaint churches, antique stores and a town

immortalized by the memoir (and later movie, which was shot here) "This Boy's Life," written by regional native son Tobias Wolff.

### Eagles, elk and organic berries

Continuing east on SR-20 from Concrete, you'll find yourself in prime territory for watching bald eagles soaring above. In the winter, this area has the largest concentration of bald eagles in the lower 48 states.

Eagle-watching float trips are popular activities here, especially during the Skagit Eagle Festival in January, see [www.concrete-wa.com](http://www.concrete-wa.com) for more information.

For more wildlife sightings and interpretive ancient forest walks, visit Rockport State Park, a day-use park along the lower Skagit River. During fall, spawning salmon pack the river.

About 5 miles up the road, between Rockport and Marblemount, look for the small roadside Cascadian Farm Stand. Be sure to pull over for a fresh organic blueberry milkshake or a jar of strawberry jam.

### North Cascades National Park

Farther up the road is Newhalem, a community built by Seattle City Light

to house dam workers. An old-fashioned general store and 1920s homes will take you back in time. Skagit Tour's Diablo Lake boat and walking tour tickets are available here. The tours feature gourmet lunches provided by the North Cascades Environmental Learning Center using locally grown ingredients. Nearby is the North Cascades Visitor Center, which offers travelers more information about North Cascades National Park.

Pressed for time but looking for a hike? Try the Sterling Munro Trail, a 300-foot boardwalk right outside the visitor center that leads to a view of the Picket Range, the park's signature mountains.

There are miles of outstanding trails here and further up the road, as SR-20 weaves among Gorge, Diablo and Ross lakes. Views of these reservoirs and dams are easily accessible from roadside pull-outs or short hikes. The unusual pale turquoise-green color of the water is the result of suspended particles washed down from the glaciers above.

This is a protected area for wildlife including elk, mule deer, gray wolf, and mountain goats. You'll also see a variety of birds a prey and migratory sub-tropical species.

## Over-the-top views

Rainy Pass (4,875 feet) and, 4 miles east, Washington Pass (5,477 feet) bring travelers face to face with terrific views of Liberty Bell Mountain as well as a panoramic view of the Methow Valley far below. The Pacific Crest Trail crosses the highway near Rainy Pass.

An unnerving but fun footnote to realize is that both of these passes were once at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean!

## Descending into the Methow Valley

A popular hiking, biking and cross-country skiing destination, the Methow Valley includes the communities of Mazama and Winthrop. The 125-mile Methow Community Trail system connects these towns to the entire valley. Near Winthrop, this trail system crosses the 275-foot Tawlks-Foster Suspension Bridge over the Methow River—look for harlequin ducks here in the winter. This pathway is a part of Audubon's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Cascade Loop, <http://wa.audubon.org>.

Like to ski but find the trails too tame? A heli-ski operation near Mazama takes adventurers into terrain typically reserved for Warren Miller films.

## The Old West town of Winthrop

You may feel as though you've entered a movie set when you encounter the wooden sidewalks and false-fronted buildings of Winthrop. This town gave itself a Western makeover in the early '70s to attract travelers coming over the pass. It worked. But this town isn't all kitsch: some of the buildings really are historical, the rhythm-and-blues festival that takes place here in July is one of the best in the state, and this area has a burgeoning and authentic local-food scene. Ask around and you'll find fare made with organic wheat from nearby

fields, cheese that comes from happy local goats, even regionally roasted coffee and handcrafted ale and ciders!

A sunset drive to catch the nearly 360-degree valley views from Sun Mountain Lodge is a perfect way to end the day.

## Twisp and the Smokejumpers Base

On a back road that connects Winthrop and Twisp, visitors are welcome May through October to watch the action at the North Cascades Smokejumper Base, the birthplace of

the dangerous art of parachuting into timbered mountains to fight forest fires.

This teaching site was established in 1939 and remains a valuable school for smoke jumpers all over the western United States.

The byway ends in Twisp, a tiny town that's transforming itself into an arts community complete with a local acting troupe and galleries.

Look for its local brew pub, bakery using Bluebird Grain Farms whole-grain flour and farmers market.



DRIVING DISTANCE	140 MILES
DRIVE TIME	3 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1–2 DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, head north on I-5 for 60 miles and take Exit 230 onto SR-20 to get to Sedro-Woolley. Follow SR-20 east to the byway's end at Twisp.

\*Portions of SR-20 close seasonally (typically from mid-November through early May). Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Indoor and outdoor lodging—from bed-and-breakfasts to luxury resorts to campgrounds—is plentiful along this byway. Dining ranges from resort extravagance to small places featuring regionally grown fare. There are gas stations in most towns along the route, but Marblemount is your last gas stop before crossing Washington Pass and dropping into the Methow Valley and Winthrop. See the Cascade Loop Scenic Byway section of this guide for more information about the North Cascades Highway.



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Cascade Loop, Stevens Pass Greenway, Okanogan Trails



### LOCAL RESOURCES:

**Cascade Loop Association** [www.cascadeloop.com](http://www.cascadeloop.com)

**North Cascades National Park** [www.nps.gov/noca](http://www.nps.gov/noca)

**Skagit County Tourism** [www.visitskagitcounty.com](http://www.visitskagitcounty.com)

**Winthrop Chamber** [www.winthropwashington.com](http://www.winthropwashington.com)



## North Pend Oreille

*North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway (pronounced POND-er-AY) explores the remote northeast corner of Washington State, an area that's definitely worth discovering.*

NORTH PEND OREILLE

This rewarding drive through Colville National Forest is a favorite of outdoor adventurers, wildlife enthusiasts and visitors curious about the area's natural and human history. Discover massive dams, the largest big-game population in the lower 48 states, a town that was a movie set and even a bootlegger's cave. For entertainment, people here drive snowmobiles across a flowing river or ride a slow train through stunning box canyons.

This route, which parallels a stretch

of the Pend Oreille River's emerald northbound waters, is part of the 280-mile International Selkirk Loop, also featured in this guide.

### Start in Tiger

The byway begins at the historic Tiger Store and Post Office. Built in 1912, it is now a visitor center and the last building remaining in this once-thriving burg.

About 3 miles up the road, the town of Ione (eye-OWN), founded in 1910, is cradled between the verdant slopes of the Selkirk Range and the Pend Oreille River. The town, full of frontier charm, offers easy access to recreation on the river as well as an extensive walking tour of fascinating historical touchstones.

### Quirky fun

Ione hosts a couple of unusual just-for-fun family events. Every July at the Down River Days Festival, snowmobiles race across the Pend Oreille River with no other purpose than simply making it to the other side.

There is a train ride to view the fall colors every weekend in October provided by the North Pend Oreille Valley Lions Club, which has lovingly

restored many of the rail cars. Two other special train trips are on Father's Day weekend and Labor Day weekend. The 20-mile round-trip excursion is priced economically for families and offers fantastic views along the scenic Pend Oreille River Valley.

### Sweet Creek Falls

Sweet Creek Falls, 5.5 miles north of Ione, has a short trail passing through a dense forest to three lovely waterfalls. Find unique rock cliffs and the remains of a frontier wooden water system along the pristine creek. Portions of the Sweet Creek trail are ADA-accessible.

### Box Canyon Dam

Opened in 1956, Box Canyon Dam is the first publicly owned dam in Washington and has provided Pend Oreille County residents with hydroelectric power for over half a century. Box Canyon Dam's visitor center is open Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., year round.

The historic North Pend Oreille Valley Lions Club train is a great way to view the dam from a trestle that passes overhead. See [www.lionstrainrides.com](http://www.lionstrainrides.com) for schedule and fare information.



SWEET CREEK FALLS



## Getting on the Pend Oreille River

In general, boat launches are easy to find on the Pend Oreille. Rainbow trout, bass and northern pike are plentiful in the northern section of the river. Wildlife viewing up and down the shoreline is thrilling, with sightings of bald eagles, herons, swans, ospreys, and Canada geese, along with deer, elk, moose and bears in forested surroundings.

## Metaline Falls

A few miles from the Canadian border is Metaline Falls, a regional center for culture and art, which was cited in John Villani's book "The 100 Best Small Art Towns in America." Metaline Falls features a couple of historic buildings including the Washington Hotel (where Wyatt Earp is rumored to have stayed), which boasts an atmospheric Old West decor.

Elsewhere in town, the Kirtland Cutter Theatre was originally a school but now houses a performing arts center and library. The building is listed on the State as well as the National Register of Historic Places.

## Sullivan Lake

Sullivan Lake, southeast of Metaline Falls, makes a great side trip and is home to loons, blue herons, red-necked grebes, white-tailed deer, black bears, grizzly bears, and gray wolves. Patient anglers are known to catch trout and bass.

Recreational offerings are plentiful here. On the road to the lake, the Mill Pond interpretive site has an easy half-

mile loop explaining the significance of the flume that once splashed logs into the pond. The Elk Creek Trail is a 2-mile loop that features a wildflower meadow where elk sometimes graze and a cascading waterfall. Campsites, boat launches and summer temperatures in the 80s make this lake a popular weekend getaway for locals.

## Boundary Dam

Remember the dam where Kevin Costner meets Tom Petty in the action movie "The Postman"? That scene was filmed at Boundary Dam. Even though they are separated by the entire

width of the state, this hydroelectric dam provides between 40-45% of the electricity for the city of Seattle.

Try to arrange a water tour of the backwaters behind the dam to get views of waterfalls and old abandoned mine shafts that you can't see from any other vantage point. The violent collision of tectonic plates that created the Cascades and Rocky mountain ranges was so radical and twisting that the rock formations swirl and trees actually grow upside down along some of the lake's walls. Boundary Vista House, high above Boundary Dam, offers visitors a vantage point directly over the rapids and the hydroelectric plant. Head north on SR-31 to Crescent Lake, then take East Side Road to the end.



## PLANNING TIPS

**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 or US-2 to Spokane, then head north to Newport, then take SR-20 north to Tiger near the Washington-Idaho border (375 miles / seven hours). The 27-mile byway officially begins at the junction of SR-20 and SR-31 at the town of Tiger, and ends at the Canadian border.

**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** There is a small selection of hotels, motels, RV parks and campgrounds on the byway, providing year-round accommodations for visitors. Small restaurants provide plenty of good food and local flavor. Gas is available in Ione and Metaline.

**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
International Selkirk Loop, Sherman Pass

**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance**  
[www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp](http://www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp)  
**International Selkirk Loop** [www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org)

DRIVING DISTANCE	27 MILES
DRIVE TIME	40 MINUTES
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	SPRING, SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	☀️ 🌊 🏔️ 🚻

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



OKANOGAN VISTA

## Okanogan Trails

*Running alongside the Okanogan River, in the middle of north central Washington, the road is populated with vast views, small towns and vineyards.*

The 83-mile Okanogan Trails Scenic Byway was once a well-traveled trade route between Washington and Canada, frequented by Native Americans, cattlemen and gold prospectors. Today you're more likely to find families in cars crammed full of camping gear, heading toward a few sunny days on a pine-forested lakeshore.

Historical touchstones, such as gold mining camps, sawmills and cattle ranches from long ago, dot the route. The old times are palpable along this byway; buy worms and rent a skiff at a resort where fishermen have been gathering for decades, or pick up sun-warmed peaches from a fourth-generation

farmer. This journey takes travelers to a quieter time.

In the 1960s and '70s the area was discovered by a hippie counterculture seeking to return to such a time. As a result, alternative energy, organic farming and self-sustenance is part of this area's lifestyle, along with snowmobiling, hunting and small-town values. The Okanogan is big enough for all of it.

### Lake Pateros

At the confluence of the Columbia and Methow rivers, Lake Pateros is a perfect playground for fishing and water play of all descriptions. With two boat launches, eight docks and a waterfront park, with public restroom and showers, this site is an open invitation to hang out for a few hours or a few days.

Hikers will find hundreds of miles of trails, including several thousand acres of managed public lands within one hour of the town of Pateros. Those areas allow hiking through pristine shrub steppe and riparian habitats. In winter, snowmobiles are welcome on many trails and can also

be ridden on the streets of the town.

### A birder's dream

Part of the great Pacific Flyway, this route is a birder's delight. Hundreds of species of neotropical migrant birds can be seen in spring and fall, as well as large numbers of hawk breeds, ospreys, eagles and kestrels. In the winter, birders can find Lapland longspurs, gyrfalcons and bald eagles.

### Chiliwist Wildlife Area

North from Pateros and Brewster is the 5,000-acre Chiliwist Wildlife Area. Various habitat types and natural and man-made irrigation provide a home for mule deer, bighorn sheep, moose, black bears, cougars, waterfowl, wild turkeys, and grouse. This is a popular area for deer and game-bird hunting.

### Caribou Trail

This byway follows a stretch of the Caribou Trail, the name given to a legendary 800-mile route winding its way north from Oregon to Canada. The trail was used for

centuries by native Tribes and later by fur brigades, gold miners and cattle drives.

The Okanogan County Historical Society has a sign in the town of Okanogan marking a section of the traditional trail that is now part of the scenic byway.

### Sinlahekin Wildlife Area

Located 7 miles west of tiny Riverside, 19,500-acre Sinlahekin is the oldest wildlife area in Washington, with the first parcels having been purchased in 1939 using federal funds to preserve mule-deer winter range.

Birders come here to view birds of prey, shorebirds, songbirds and waterfowl. Mammal sightings include black bears, bighorn sheep and moose in addition to elk and deer herds.

### Omak Stampede and Indian Encampment

One of the most colorful Tribal cultural events of the year is the Omak Stampede and Indian Encampment held each August in Omak. Visit [www.omakstampede.org](http://www.omakstampede.org) for more information.

### Conconully Lake

Big, blue Conconully Lake is the centerpiece of this busy recreation area and the heart of a remote and charming little town of the same name. Pleasant hiking along the Muckamuck Trail leads to wildflower-laden meadows and views of the Okanogan Highlands. Fishing and birding are popular activities here.

### Osoyoos Lake Veteran's Memorial Park

Located at the byway's end, this park is a 47-acre camping park on a 14-mile-long lake stretching into British Columbia. Camping and water sports are the ticket here in summer, while ice

fishing and snow play take over in colder months. Anglers can test their mettle against smallmouth bass, rainbow trout and kokanee.

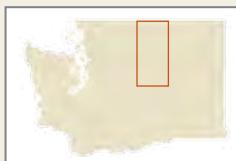
### Oroville's Similkameen Trail

Hike or bike the historic Similkameen Trail from Oroville to Enloe Dam and explore the rich history of the Okanogan. A part of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail, this stretch was recently opened and features breathtaking views, especially from the old railroad trestle improved

for public use. Historic Enloe Dam, mounted on a natural waterfall of the largely unexplored Similkameen River, is visible from the trail.

### Growing winery region

The Okanogan region is near the northern tip of the massive Columbia Valley wine-growing appellation, and consequently a growing number of wineries and tasting rooms have popped up. Check [www.washingtonwine.org/explore](http://www.washingtonwine.org/explore) or [www.cascadevalleywinecountry.com](http://www.cascadevalleywinecountry.com).



DRIVING DISTANCE	83 MILES
DRIVE TIME	2 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1-2 DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	SPRING, SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.

### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take US-2 over Stevens Pass to Wenatchee, then head north on US-97 to Pateros (200 miles / 3.5 hours). Pateros, at the confluence of the Methow and Columbia rivers, is the starting point of this byway, which runs on US-97 between Pateros and Oroville on the Canadian border. An alternate route follows the North Cascades Highway on SR-20 through the Methow Valley.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Motels, inns, RV parks, campgrounds and gas stations are all plentiful along the byway. You can also find some unique guest ranches that reflect the pioneer spirit by offering cabins and cottages alongside features like horse hotels. There are several locally owned restaurants from which to choose. Pateros, Omak and Tonasket each feature bakeries and delis that source from local farmers and have received wide acclaim. A restaurant housed in a former soda-bottling plant in downtown Omak now serves as one of the area's best sources of entrees made from locally grown ingredients. In Okanogan, there are three artisan-cheese makers (two offer lessons) and an organic grocery store.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Cascade Loop, Coulee Corridor, North Cascades



**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Okanogan Trails Scenic Byway**  
[www.okanogantrails.com](http://www.okanogantrails.com)  
**Okanogan County Tourism Council**  
[www.okanogancountry.com](http://www.okanogancountry.com)



# Pacific Coast

*Trace a meandering path almost all the way around the Olympic Mountains,  
and let it brush against oyster-packed inlets, isolated lakes, rain forests and Pacific beaches.*

Follow it to Northwest towns so iconic, they show up in films and popular literature. The Pacific Coast Scenic Byway begins in Olympia and follows scenic US-101, first north along Hood Canal, then westward across the top edge of the Olympic Peninsula, then south along the Pacific coast down to the Columbia River.

On this byway, hike in temperate rain forests, soak in hot springs or cold, clear lakes and scratch your name in the sand at the edge of the Pacific. Eat in a lakeside lodge where Franklin D. Roosevelt dined, or shuck oysters on a beach. The byway contains or connects directly to five other scenic byways and is a confluence of the best that western Washington has to offer.

## Hood Canal and its people

As you travel north along the east side of the Olympic Peninsula, US-101 hugs the captivating shoreline of splendid Hood Canal for a long stretch. Before you begin your journey along the canal, a good first stop is the Squaxin Island Tribe Museum, Library and Research Center. This striking building on Shelton's Totten Inlet houses displays, photographs and artwork showing the history and culture of the Squaxin.

Hood Canal has a number of state parks (Potlatch and Dosewallips are a couple with campsites) with easily accessible beaches. When in season (check <http://wdfw.wa.gov>), clamming is omnipresent here, so come prepared with a shellfish license, rubber boots

and a shovel. Or buy clams at one of the many seafood markets along the canal.

## Victorian seaport of Port Townsend

If you have time, consider a three-hour side trip to Port Townsend. This artist-friendly community has appeared in movies ("An Officer and a Gentleman," "Enough") but is perhaps best known for Centrum's music festivals, artist workshops and residencies and its Wooden Boat Festival in September. The entire town is on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Sunny Sequim

Located in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, Sequim (pronounced SQUIM), known as the



SECOND BEACH NEAR LA PUSH

“Banana Belt,” the driest area in western Washington, is home to the state’s biggest lavender festival. Detour through the fertile Dungeness Valley and discover organic produce stands, pick-your-own flower fields and a perfect panorama of the Olympics spreading along the southern horizon.

Sequim is a good place to access the Olympic Discovery Trail, a hiking, biking and equestrian trail which connects with Port Angeles, and the Jamestown Tribal campus in Blyn.

### Dungeness Spit

Curving more than 5 miles out into the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Dungeness Spit is the longest natural sand spit in the United States. Beach hikers can go inside the New Dungeness Lighthouse at the end of the spit and see views of the strait, the Olympics and their long walk back. The spit is part of the Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, an area populated by ducks and seabirds, harbor

seals, sea lions and the occasional whale.

### Port Angeles

This small town’s charm and boutique shops along with a variety of dining and lodging options will entice you to stay several days. There are also four wineries just a few minutes from town and a very active event calendar. Port Angeles is also an international port. The Coho, a car ferry that travels to Victoria, British Columbia, sails from here several times a day. See the Strait of Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway for more information.

### Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park

Olympic National Park’s famed Hurricane Ridge is 18 miles south and 5,200 feet up from Port Angeles. Day hikers can find marmots, deer and meadows full of lupine and glacier lilies, plus jaw-dropping views all the way to Canada. In winter, the area becomes a popular skiing and snowshoeing

destination, with free ranger-led tours every weekend at 2 p.m. (snowshoes provided).

### Lake Crescent, a President and waterfalls

Continuing west on US-101, the byway is sandwiched between the steep foothills of the Olympics and the crystal-clear waters of Lake Crescent. Historic Lake Crescent Lodge (built in 1916) has accommodations and fine dining; Franklin D. Roosevelt stayed here in the late 1930s and decided to sign Olympic National Park into existence.

Near the lodge, the Storm King Ranger Station is the starting point for a handful of easy rambles. Splendid Marymere Falls is a great way to spend an hour or two. Waterfall buffs may also want to turn onto Sol Duc Hot Springs Road, about 3 miles beyond Lake Crescent. There are roadside cascades (look for leaping salmon in October), and hikers will enjoy the 1-mile hike to Sol Duc Falls, especially if

PHOTOS: TWO LEFT, MARCUS YEAROUT; FAR RIGHT, PATRICK BENNETT

NORTH HEAD LIGHTHOUSE, ILWACO

SEQUIM LAVENDER FARM





LAKE CRESCENT



QUINAULT RAINFOREST WATERFALL

they follow it with a soak in nearby 106-degree mineral pools.

### Entering “Twilight” Country

Southwest on US-101 is the town of Forks, a pilgrimage site for fans of Stephenie Meyer’s “Twilight” novels. But long before vampires and werewolves hit town, Forks was—as it

still is—a popular place for hikers and sport anglers fishing for salmon and rainbow trout in the Hoh, Sol Duc, Bogachiel and Calawah rivers. Located on the western edge of Olympic National Forest, Forks provides easy access to trails and wildlife viewing.

### La Push

A few miles west of Forks, SR-110 leads to La Push, home of the Quileute Nation. The shoreline at La Push, and nearby First, Second and Rialto beaches are wonderful. Heaps of silvered driftwood, sea stacks and beautiful hikes are all part of the magic.

Quileute Days, a popular Tribal celebration of cultural heritage, takes place in July. The Quileute Nation maintains a comfortable resort on the water's edge and a restaurant at the marina.



NATIVE AMERICAN CANOE JOURNEY

### Northwest Tribal Tourism

Northwest Tribal Tourism (NWTT) is a 10-tribe consortium, located on the Kitsap and Olympic Peninsulas. Cultural traditions and life-ways relied upon navigating and maintaining trade routes stretching over diverse terrain. NWTT works to sustain and enhance the geographical character of the environment and culture. In 2008, NWTT became manager of the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway (US 101), the only Native American organization to manage a non-native United States Scenic Byway.

### Hoh Rain Forest

Less than an hour south of Forks on US-101, take the cutoff to the astonishing Hoh Rain Forest, one of the last old-growth temperate rain forests in the western hemisphere. This place measures annual rainfall in feet (14 a year is the average), and the wildlife viewing and birding opportunities are abundant. Several hikes of varying difficulty and length will lead you through the moss-draped canopy; try

the 0.8-mile Hall of Mosses trail if time is short. There's also a visitor center and camping, and an outfitter along the way that offers guide services and raingear.

### Kalaloch and Ruby Beach

US-101 veers toward the coast now, then southward along a chain of beaches within Olympic National Park, some of the last protected wilderness beaches in the contiguous United States.

Ruby Beach has a meandering creek, garnet-colored sand and shallow pools to play in during low tide. Kalaloch (pronounced CLAY-lock) is a wide, flat beach with campsites and the popular Kalaloch Lodge perched on the bank above. Bluff-side cabins and a restaurant with spectacular views of the Pacific draw visitors from all over the world to this superlative beach.

### Quinault Rain Forest

At the southwestern edge of Olympic National Park, you'll encounter Lake Quinault and the Quinault Rain Forest. The pristine lake is surrounded by massive old-growth cedar and spruce trees and is anchored by another historic lodge where Franklin Roosevelt once stayed.

Keep on the lookout for large herds of Roosevelt elk (no relation). The protection of their habitat was a primary reason for the creation of Olympic National Park.

## Three byways converge

When this byway approaches Hoquiam, choices abound as it intersects with two other scenic byways. The Hidden Coast Scenic Byway follows SR-109 north, covering the pristine stretch of Pacific coastline that leads from Hoquiam to Taholah, home of the Quinault Indian Nation.

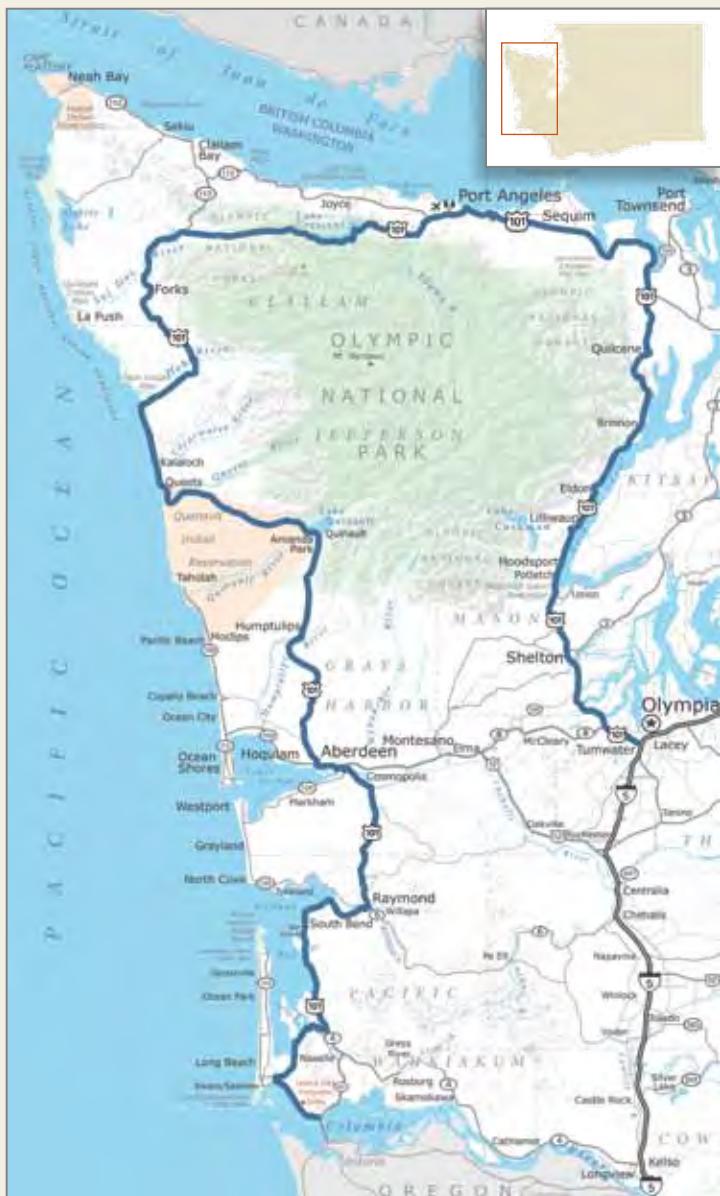
The Cranberry Coast Scenic Byway hugs the coastal route south from Aberdeen to Raymond along SR-105.

After Aberdeen, the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway takes travelers inland on US-101 through forested hills and then joins the Cranberry Coast byway as it travels through Raymond, South Bend and Willapa Bay. Refer to the Cranberry Coast Scenic Byway section in this guide for details about these towns.

## On to the Columbia

At the southernmost reach of Washington's coast, a short detour off

this byway will take you to the Long Beach Peninsula and every kind of beach lodging and recreation imaginable. After that, the village of Chinook is a gateway to time travel at Fort Columbia State Park, where barracks, buildings and batteries were active from 1896 to 1947. The byway ends at the Washington-Oregon state boundary, where the lofty Astoria-Megler Bridge passes over the Columbia River, leaving Washington's beauty in the rearview mirror.



## PLANNING TIPS

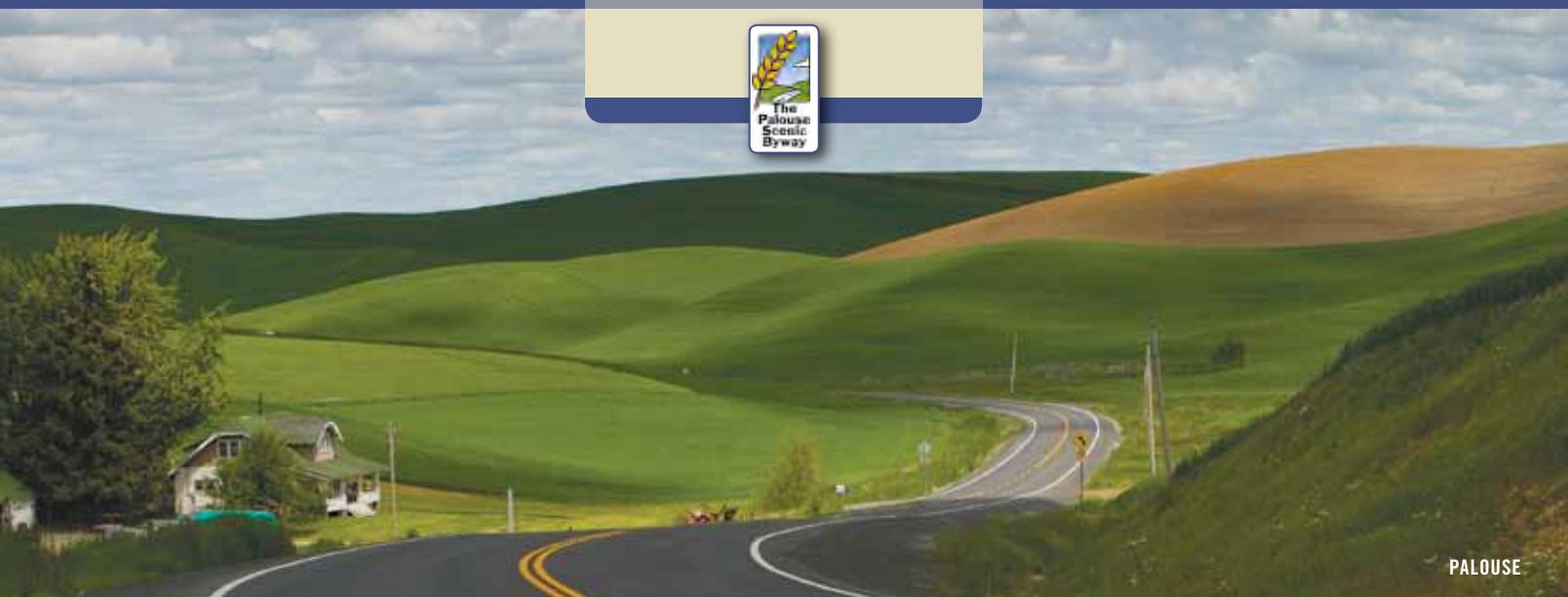
DRIVING DISTANCE	350 MILES
DRIVE TIME	10 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	2 OR MORE DAYS
BEST SEASONS	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, go south on I-5 for 60 miles to Olympia and begin the 350-mile route just south of Olympia on US-101, heading north toward Shelton. Follow the route all the way around the Olympic Peninsula and down to the Astoria-Megler Bridge south of Chinook.

**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Many restaurants, plentiful fuel and accommodations ranging from posh resorts to yurts are available along this byway. Five **Savor Washington Itineraries: Sequim & Port Angeles, Chimacum Valley & Port Townsend, Olympia, Long Beach Culinary Loop, Long Beach Peninsula**, are available at <http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx>.

**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Strait of Juan de Fuca, Cape Flattery Tribal, Hidden Coast, Cranberry Coast, Lewis and Clark Trail

**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Northwest Tribal Tourism** [www.explorepacificnwtribes.com](http://www.explorepacificnwtribes.com)  
**Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater** [www.visitolympia.com](http://www.visitolympia.com)  
**North Olympic Peninsula Visitor Bureau** [www.olympicpeninsula.org](http://www.olympicpeninsula.org)  
**Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce** [www.portangeles.org](http://www.portangeles.org)  
**Grays Harbor Tourism** [www.visitgraysharbor.com](http://www.visitgraysharbor.com)  
**Willapa Harbor Chamber of Commerce** [www.willapaharbor.org](http://www.willapaharbor.org)  
**Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau** [www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com)



PALOUSE

## Palouse Scenic Byway

*This byway is a 208-mile patchwork of colorful rolling hills, farmland and history; some of the first wagon-train settlements in the state were in this southeastern region of Washington.*

Silvered barns stand long abandoned as rough-legged hawks lazily circle above. Thousands of acres of wheat blanket the rolling hills, and their color—from spring green to autumn gold—tells of the passing of the seasons. A viable agricultural region, the area holds the largest concentration of wheat per acre in the world. Barley, onions and 30 percent of the world's lentils are grown here. The land hosts waterfalls and sudden valleys. Magnificent buttes give way to panoramic views, and the horizon seems to go on forever.

### Pampa Pond

The first leg of the byway, east on SR-26, begins at the western edge of La Crosse (and after the cutoff to Hooper) and includes some appealing quick stops. Stretch your legs or have a picnic at the lovely Pampa Pond, slightly south of SR-26. The “pond” (actually a three-acre lake) is a great fishing spot for rainbow trout.

A little ahead and just north of SR-26 is a small cluster of historical basalt houses and cabins built in the

Depression era by a local businessman as housing for farmhands.

### Colfax and the Codger Pole

At the intersection of SR-26 and US-195, you'll drive south onto US-195 and pass through Colfax. A good example of the region's nineteenth-century architecture, downtown Colfax has some folksy restaurants, coffee shops and other reasons to pull over for a spell.

Be sure to pause at the Codger Pole. The tallest chain-saw carving in the world, it was built to commemorate a grudge-match football game played by two local teams 50 years after their original game. The pole sports the likeness of each of the 51 “codgers” who played in the rematch!

### The city of Palouse

Palouse is one of the oldest communities in the county and has many historic sites. Among the must-sees: the Bank Left Gallery, the beautiful Palouse Hayton Green City Park and the Roy Chatters Newspaper and Printing Museum. Visitors to the museum can

set type, see the unique collection of equipment used in early newspaper publishing and peruse archival copies of eastern Washington newspapers. The museum is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment by calling 509-878-1742.

### Kamiak Butte County Park

From Palouse, head south for 3 miles on SR-27 to find Kamiak Butte County Park. A climb to the butte's summit via Pine Ridge Trail offers satisfying views of undulating hills and the Wallowa Mountains to the south. A birding extravaganza, the trail offers sightings of a variety of birds including warblers, nuthatches, pygmies and great horned owls. White-tailed deer can also be found here.

### McCroskey House and Historic Barron Flour Mill

North on SR-27, the town of Garfield features the McCroskey House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and built in 1898 by a state senator. Spacious and elegant, the mansion has

carved oak mantelpieces and a hand-carved marble fireplace.

Farther north on SR-27, in Oakesdale, the wonderfully weathered Barron Flour Mill, constructed in 1890, is a grand wooden structure worn over the years by decades of sun and rain. The mill has its own peculiar dignity and is a year-round photo op.

### Steptoe Battlefield and Railroad Bridge

Driving slightly northeast on SR-271, head to Rosalia and stop at nearby Steptoe Battlefield and Monument, a commemoration of an 1858 Indian battle with the U.S. Army.

From here, you can see the Rosalia Railroad Bridge. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the concrete arch bridge was built by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad in 1915. Follow SR-271 from Rosalia for the best photo op.

The town's visitor center is a historic Texaco gas station that will make you nostalgic for an older, small-town America.

### Steptoe Butte State Park

Going south on SR-195, look for this park at the town of Steptoe. Shaped like a thimble, the 150-acre, 3,612-foot-tall, quartzite butte looms over the surrounding flatlands. Drive the circular route to the summit and be amazed at the fertile valleys below. The year-round park is open for day use only.

### Boyer Park and Lower Granite Dam

Continuing south on SR-195, nearly 20 miles south of Colfax, head west on SR-194 to take in Boyer Park and the Lower Granite Dam. The 80-acre Boyer Park has a marina and campsites, swimming, fishing and boating. Lower

Granite Dam is just 2 miles up the road and offers fish viewing rooms as well as a visitor center. Steelhead, catfish, bass and sturgeon fishing are popular in Lake Bryan—the backwaters below the dam.

### Pullman: Home of the Cougars

Pullman, home to Washington State University, features unique restaurants, shops, galleries and boutiques. Visit the WSU campus to see the beautiful architectural blending of both classic and contemporary styles.

Swing by the WSU Creamery to take home a round of its famous Cougar Gold cheddar, and allow time to tour the

Grizzly Bear Research Center. Afterwards, enjoy a meal in one of Pullman's many fine pubs and restaurants.

### Visit the Dahmen Barn near Uniontown

At the southernmost extension of the byway, on SR-195 in Uniontown, you'll find the Artisans at the Dahmen Barn.

This restored dairy barn, surrounded by a fence made from more than 1,000 wagon wheels, houses several artists' studios, where travelers are invited to watch regional artists at work. Head down the road to see the historic St. Boniface Catholic Church.



### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 east to Vantage, then SR-26 east to the starting point just past Washtucna. The 208-mile byway is neither a loop nor a straight line, but includes sections of various highways in southeast Washington that crisscross and connect several small farm communities. The byway begins when SR-26 reaches the Palouse River near Hooper and continues east, then north, south and west.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Hotels, motels, cabins, RV parks, campgrounds, and more can be found both in the 11 communities on this byway and in some recreation areas. Gas stations and restrooms are plentiful.



**NEARBY SCENIC BYWAY:**  
Lewis and Clark Trail



**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
**Palouse Scenic Byway**  
[www.palousescenicbyway.com](http://www.palousescenicbyway.com)  
**Pullman Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.pullmanchamber.com](http://www.pullmanchamber.com)

DRIVING DISTANCE	208 MILES
DRIVE TIME	4-5 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



SAN JUAN ISLANDS

## San Juan Islands

*The San Juan Islands Scenic Byway is Washington's newest byway and the first route in the lower 48 states to include a marine highway—a historic canoe route originally traveled by the Coast Salish people.*

Today, Washington State ferries ply these waters, laden with locals and visitors traveling by car, by bike or on foot. Occasionally someone even walks onto a ferry hand-carrying a kayak to launch at his or her destination.

The recreational appeal of these islands is undeniable. Winding roads with light traffic beckon cyclists. Rocky coves captivate paddlers. Artistic communities, eclectic shops and water views everywhere charm everyone who visits the San Juans.

### Friday Harbor on San Juan Island

The historic seaport Friday Harbor greets the ferry with water-view restaurants, boutiques, bookstores, galleries, and museums. Relax at the waterfront park between the “Portals of Welcome” (Coast Salish house posts) and watch ferries, seaplanes and boats enter the harbor, take a whale-watching

cruise, or rent a moped for a self-guided island tour. A farmers’ market is located in a historic brickworks building for a taste of island-grown fare.

Take a self-guided walking tour of the downtown historic district and browse the Whale Museum or the San Juan Historical Museum.

### Head over to Roche Harbor

Begin your tour by driving west on Roche Harbor Road. Three miles out of town, swing into a wine-tasting room housed in a historic schoolhouse. Nearing Roche Harbor, tour the San Juan Islands Museum of Art’s Sculpture Park, which boasts over 100 sculptures placed in a 19-acre natural setting.

Continue to Roche Harbor Resort, where you’ll find the Hotel de Haro, which was built in 1886 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Several types of lodging, restaurants,

shops, gardens and a marina make Roche Harbor a great stop for a meal and historic walking tour. Guided kayak and whale watching tours are available and provide a great way to get a better sense of the place.

### Lime Kiln Point State Park

Lime Kiln Point State Park, a.k.a. Whale Watch Park, is a kayaker’s paradise and the only park in the world dedicated to shore-based orca whale watching. This day-use park has a picturesque working lighthouse, trails, and an interpretive center. Late spring through fall are the best whale-spotting months.

Follow West Side Road to Wold Road, where you’ll find a 25-acre lavender farm that produces over 250 lines of lavender-based products. The San Juan Island Lavender Festival is held here the third weekend in July each year.

## Orcas Island

The byway continues with a 40-minute ferry ride from Friday Harbor to Orcas Island, the largest of the San Juans. The ferry lands at Orcas Village, with its distinctive general store built on pilings above the shore and the 1904 Orcas Hotel.

Head out on Orcas Road and turn west onto Deer Harbor Road to the quiet hamlet of Deer Harbor. Here you can rent a boat or a bike, take a kayak or whale watching tour, or just buy a coffee from a store on a dock and enjoy the view.

## Pottery cooperatives

Orcas—or “the rock,” as locals call it—is known for its pottery. Ask the locals where you can find potters spin clay into art at any one of the local historic studios.

## Bustling Eastsound

Continue to Eastsound, the commercial hub of Orcas Island. Here

you'll find shops, galleries, restaurants and lodging. The Orcas Island Historical Museum, located in the center of the village, has exhibits housed in six original 1800s homestead cabins.

## Historic Rosario Resort

Heading south on Olga Road brings travelers to the historic Moran Mansion at Rosario Resort. Robert Moran, a shipbuilder and former mayor of Seattle, built the mansion in 1909, and today it's the centerpiece of this popular resort and marina. The mansion houses photographs from the 1900s, arts-and-crafts furniture and a music room featuring Tiffany chandeliers, a Steinway grand piano and a renowned Aeolian pipe organ.

## Moran State Park

Continue south to Moran State Park, Washington's fourth-largest state

park. Enjoy campsites, five freshwater lakes and over 38 miles of hiking trails. The park's Mount Constitution is the highest point in the San Juans at 2,409 feet and boasts panoramic views of islands and the Cascade Mountains—a must-do side trip.

## Last Stops: Olga and Doe Bay

Come back down the mountain and continue south to the hamlet of Olga for shopping and a meal at the Orcas Island Artworks cooperative, housed in a 1936 strawberry-packing plant. The last stop along the byway is Doe Bay, where you'll find a rustic resort. This Northwest icon offers yurts near the beach, soaking tubs and a truly laid-back island experience.

Retrace your route back to Orcas Village, catch an Anacortes-bound ferry and savor the return cruise through the scenic San Juan Islands.



DRIVING DISTANCE	120 MILES*
DRIVE TIME	2.5 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	2 OR MORE DAYS
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND**
TOP ADVENTURES	➊ ⚓ ➋ ☀ ➌ 🏔 ➍ 🛳

## PLANNING TIPS

**GETTING THERE:** Take a Washington State ferry from Anacortes to Friday Harbor on San Juan Island to begin your journey. Be sure to arrive at the ferry terminal early, especially during peak summer and weekend travel.

Once you've explored San Juan Island, take an inter-island ferry to Orcas Island. Keep an eye out for resident orca pods. Foot passenger service is also available seasonally from Bellingham, Seattle and Port Townsend.

**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** There are plenty of accommodations on both islands, although reservations are recommended, especially in summer months. Local groceries, restaurants and resorts provide food for all tastes. Gas can be found in Friday Harbor and Roche Harbor on San Juan Island, and in Eastsound on Orcas Island.

**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Whidbey Island Scenic Isle Way, Cascade Loop, Chuckanut Drive

**LOCAL RESOURCE:** San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau [www.visitsanjuans.com/visitors/scenic-byway](http://www.visitsanjuans.com/visitors/scenic-byway)

\*This byway has three segments: a 30-mile ferry ride, a 46-mile loop on San Juan Island and a 44-mile (one-way) road tour on Orcas Island.

\*\*Shoulder seasons are best for avoiding crowds. Check for updated Washington State Ferries information at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries).



## Sherman Pass

*Don't be fooled by this northeast Washington byway's short length—it's long on natural beauty and fascinating history.*

SHERMAN PASS

**S**tep off the road and the din of modern life becomes muted by cheerful waterfalls and vast forests of pine, larch and fir. Dig for fossils, live on a houseboat for a weekend or enjoy the simple pleasure of walking alone in the forests of the Kettle Mountain Range.

The Sherman Pass Scenic Byway begins in the town of Republic on SR-20 and runs east across Sherman Pass—Washington's highest maintained pass at 5,575-feet—through Colville National Forest to the town of Kettle Falls on the Columbia River.

A historic route used by Native Americans on their way to fish and by wagon trains, the byway is named for

Civil War General William T. Sherman, who passed through in 1883. Paved in the 1950s, this pass serves as the area's primary year-round east-west connector.

### Republic

Downtown Republic is an authentic remnant of the old frontier, filled with nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings. Enjoy a fine walking tour past murals and photographs depicting the area's rich gold-mining history. It's not all history, though—there's still an operational gold mine in Republic.

In Republic you can have the "city slicker" experience at a local dude ranch, or, for a more passive endeavor, watch the resident deer herd graze on the town's lawns and gardens nearly every evening at sunset.

### Stonerose Interpretive Center

A great family stop on this byway is the Stonerose Interpretive Center in downtown Republic, where visitors can participate in a public dig of a fossil bed that dates to the Eocene epoch (making it nearly 50 million years old). An inexpensive admission fee (free for kids under the age of six) provides an opportunity to dig up fossils and take

home up to three of them.

Staff will help identify findings and explain how to care for them. Check [www.stonerosefossil.org](http://www.stonerosefossil.org) for updated schedule information.

### The Republic to Curlew trail

The bed of an abandoned railway line has been transformed into a wonderful 30-mile hiking, biking and horse trail that runs from Republic to Curlew, which is home to the Ansorge Hotel Museum and the Antique Car Museum.

### Curlew Lake State Park

Eight miles north of Republic on SR-21, this 123-acre state park is a haven for year-round relaxation and recreation on water and in snow. A memorable camping experience can include opportunities for trout and bass fishing, water- and jet-skiing and birding.

Wildlife is abundant. Birders should watch for osprey, eagles, hawks, hummingbirds, and wild turkeys. Foxes, marmots, deer and elk are also plentiful.

### Crossing Sherman Pass

Heading east from Republic on SR-20, you will cross Sherman Pass (5,575 feet). This gorgeous crossing



FOSSIL HUNTER IN REPUBLIC

wanders past waterfalls and through Douglas fir forests. In fall, the deciduous conifer larch trees, which look like evergreens in the summer, turn a radiant gold, and their needles drop to the ground, creating a beautiful golden highway.

### The Sherman Pass overlook

Along SR-20 there is a pullout at the White Mountain/Sherman Overlook with an easy quarter-mile paved trail and interpretive signs detailing the devastating fires of 1929 and 1988. Ghostly gray snags still stand, remnants of the massive fires.

There are interpretive trails all along the route, so plan some time to loiter. These areas include an old log-flume site with an easy paved quarter-mile trail, and Camp Growden, where hundreds of young men were sent to work during the Great Depression in FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps.

### Colville National Forest

Colville National Forest offers abundant recreational opportunities for hikers on almost 500 miles of trails. Occupying more than a million acres and filled with elk, moose, rattlesnakes, bears, cougars, and bobcats, this is truly one of America's great, untamed wilderness areas.

There are trails for horses, mountain bikes, motorcycles and snowmobiles, boat launches on the lakes, scenic drives to take and rivers to explore. There are also 28 well-maintained campgrounds that offer a multitude of distinct ecosystems to experience firsthand.

### Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

The creation of the Grand Coulee Dam also created 150-mile-long Lake Roosevelt, with 600 miles of shoreline and 30 species of fish (including trout and salmon). The Lake Roosevelt National Recreation

Area and its dozens of campgrounds are popular for boating, swimming and fishing, [www.nps.gov/pwr/laro](http://www.nps.gov/pwr/laro).

### Kettle Falls, a town that moved

The byway ends at Kettle Falls, a recreational haven nestled between the Kettle Mountains and Lake Roosevelt's blue waters—which submerged the original town when the Grand Coulee Dam was finished. Today, the edge of the former town site is Old Kettle Falls Campground, which has riverfront sites, interpretive signage with a marina and houseboat rental business next door. Houseboats, complete with slides and hot tubs on board, are a popular way to enjoy the waters of Lake Roosevelt.

### Worthwhile side trips

For further exploration, there are some rewarding side trips from Kettle Falls. Head south along US-395 to Colville, a charming town surrounded by enough streams, rivers, lakes and reservoirs to make it a popular fishing spot.

Thirteen miles east of Colville on SR-20 is the turn-off to Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge. Follow the signs for another 6 miles. At nearly 42,000 acres, this stunning area is the only mountain forest refuge of mixed conifers in the continental United States. There's free camping and ample fishing, and wildlife galore. More than 206 bird species and 58 mammal species can be found in this refuge, [www.fws.gov/littlependoreille](http://www.fws.gov/littlependoreille).



### PLANNING TIPS

**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, it's a 300-mile trip (about five hours), driving over Stevens Pass and heading north on US-97 then east on SR-20, to the byway's beginning in Republic.

**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Gas, food and lodging are available at both ends of the byway in Republic and Kettle Falls or nearby Colville. Camping is plentiful along this byway.

**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:**  
International Selkirk Loop, North Pend Oreille, Okanogan Trails

**LOCAL RESOURCES:**  
Republic Tourism [www.republicwa.org](http://www.republicwa.org), Kettle Falls [www.kettlefalls.com](http://www.kettlefalls.com)  
Colville Chamber of Commerce [www.colville.com](http://www.colville.com)

**DRIVING DISTANCE** 35 MILES

**DRIVE TIME** 45 MINUTES

**PLAN TO SPEND** 1–2 DAYS

**BEST SEASONS\*** YEAR ROUND

**TOP ADVENTURES**

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



# Spirit Lake

*This is the only scenic byway in the United States that penetrates a fresh volcanic blast zone.*

Also known as the Spirit Lake Memorial Highway, SR-504 is a 52-mile journey into the scene of epic destruction that Mount St. Helens caused when it erupted on May 18, 1980.

Along the way, experience the enormous geologic, economic and personal impact the eruption had on this area, and witness the region's recovery.

Rebuilt and reopened in 1992, the byway continues to carry its original name but no longer leads to Spirit Lake. Rather, it ends at Johnston Ridge and affords a striking view of the post-eruption lake and the volcano's yawning crater.

Along the byway are four distinct interpretive and tour centers: Silver Lake, Hoffstadt Bluffs, the Weyerhaeuser Forest Learning Center and Johnston Ridge. Each one tells a different part of the story from the natural history prior to the May 1980 eruption, the aftermath, reforestation efforts and natural recovery of plants and animals. Above all, the devastated landscape is an extraordinary

lesson about our planet's ferocious power and miraculous ability to regenerate.

## Mount St. Helens Visitor Center at Silver Lake

Five miles east of Castle Rock is the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center at Silver Lake. The center describes each chapter of the mountain's history from pre-eruption years to today. It also features exhibits about the region's history and culture as well as offering geological background on the volcano and the surrounding area's slow but steady recovery.

Look down the valley where the bleached bones of a blown-down forest are in view. See the evidence of an unimaginable force that flattened 150 miles of old-growth timber as if the trees were toothpicks.

## Relax at Silver Lake

A nature trail at the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center leads to beautiful Silver Lake and its wetlands. Silver Lake covers 3,000 acres, with camping available at

Seaquest State Park.

The park occupies a mile of Silver Lake's shoreline and offers 6 miles of woodland trails for hiking and biking. A public-access boat ramp is located 5 miles east on SR-504, and fishing (bass, bluegill, perch, trout, catfish), wildlife viewing and bird watching are pleasant recreations here. This byway is part of Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Southwest Loop.

## Toutle River

Five miles past the visitor center is the Toutle River, which the byway will parallel for the remainder of this route. The river became a nightmarish mudflow during the eruption as massive amounts of sediment poured into the water.

You can find some of that mud today on the walls of the North Fork of the Toutle River, and you can get a closer look from a viewpoint on Stewart Dam Road (turn right just before the Toutle River Bridge).





ELK HERD

## Kid Valley

A small, spirited community that survived the blast, Kid Valley was once a town of logging camps and mining claims. When Mount St. Helens blew up, many families in Kid Valley's outlying areas lost their homes. Mudflows buried logging camps and the Green River Fish Hatchery.

Today, Kid Valley has reestablished its character and charm. A local family turned one of the original homesteads into the Kid Valley Campground, a convenient base for sightseeing, hiking and biking the Mount St. Helens area.

## Hoffstadt Bluffs Visitor Center

About 27 miles along the byway, Mount St. Helens becomes spectacularly visible. The Hoffstadt Bluffs Visitor Center, the second of four tour centers, offers an opportunity to take a good look at the volcano and surrounding valley. Large elk herds can often be seen in the mudflats below the parking lot. Helicopter tours operate from here from spring through fall, and there's a full-service restaurant with a one-of-a-kind volcano view.

A memorial trail through a nearby grove pays tribute to 57 people who lost their lives in the eruption.

## Weyerhaeuser Forest Learning Center

Continue east over the half-mile-long bridge over Hoffstadt Creek, and enter the blast zone. The Weyerhaeuser Forest Learning Center, at milepost 33, describes the work of foresters

before, during and after the eruption, with an emphasis on reforestation and conservation projects. One of the interesting goals of the learning center is to not interfere with the destruction caused by the eruption and let nature take its course as much as possible.

## Johnston Ridge Observatory

At the end of the Spirit Lake Scenic Byway is Johnston Ridge Observatory, where visitors are only 5 miles from the crater and lava dome of Mount St. Helens. Stands of dead trees, stripped of their bark, and the remains of Spirit

Lake, its surface still covered by a mat of logs, leave a lasting impression. The entire lake was tossed 800 feet up the opposing mountainside during the blast and now rests where it returned, half as deep and with twice the surface.

Experience the power of this place by taking a short hike. The Coldwater Lake Trail is an easily navigated boardwalk leading to a lake that was formed after the eruption. The Hummocks Trail—hummocks are mounds of volcanic debris—takes an hour to walk and is moderately strenuous, winding through lupine fields and beaver ponds on what was once the site of the largest landslide in recorded human history.



## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-5 south to Exit 49 at Castle Rock (120 miles / two hours). The byway starts in Castle Rock and goes east along SR-504, mostly following the North Fork of the Toutle River to the Johnston Ridge Observatory.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Hotels and motels are available in Castle Rock and Silver Lake, and several campgrounds and RV park facilities are located along the byway. Food and gas can be found in Castle Rock, Silver Lake, Toutle and Kid Valley.



### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Columbia River Gorge, Pacific Coast, Lewis and Clark Trail



### LOCAL RESOURCE:

Cowlitz County Tourism Bureau [www.visitmtsthelens.com](http://www.visitmtsthelens.com)

### DRIVING DISTANCE

52 MILES

### DRIVE TIME

2 HOURS

### PLAN TO SPEND

1 DAY

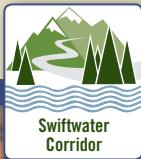
### BEST SEASONS\*

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL

### TOP ADVENTURES



\*Most of the route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



CLE ELUM



ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS

## Swiftwater Corridor

*The Swiftwater Corridor features sun-drenched views of pine forestland, pristine waters and valley cattle ranches.*

The Stuart Range and the Alpine Lakes Wilderness play host year round to campers, snowmobilers and fishermen.

The corridor contains historic towns, logging camps, mines and ranches. Remains of the boom times abound—access a vast wilderness from a former railroad grade, or belly up to the bar in Washington's oldest tavern. This byway rambles through the back roads between Salmon La Sac and Ellensburg and reveals natural beauty, signs of the past and country communities that travelers on the speedier bypass miss out on entirely.

### Alpine Lakes Wilderness

The byway begins with this stunning section of the Okanogan and Wenatchee national forests. Encompassing nearly 400,000 acres with 47 trailheads and 615 miles of trails, the area takes its name from nearly 700 small alpine lakes found in the valleys lying between jagged granite peaks.

Access to the southwestern end of the wilderness is from Salmon La Sac, a camping area about 10 miles north of Roslyn on Salmon La Sac Road. Cle Elum Lake, a reservoir, lines one side of the road. The surrounding wilderness is home to black bears, elk, deer, cougars, bobcats, beavers, otters, badgers, wolverines, mink and weasel. Birds from white-tailed ptarmigan to bald eagles abound here also.

For in-depth information on birding along this byway, order Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Sun and Sage Loop at <http://wa.audubon.org>.

### Salmon La Sac

The mineral rush in this region brought the Kittitas Railway and Power Company, financed by French investors in 1911. With it came the construction of a depot at Salmon La Sac, a wilderness area located at the beginning of this byway.

The depot, now on the National Register of Historic Places, sits at the entrance to the Salmon La Sac campground. In summer, this place is filled with campers, anglers and hikers heading into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Wintertime sees an influx of snowmobile riders. Don't expect a town in Salmon La Sac—but you can find a restaurant and snowmobile rentals in the village of

Ronald, which you'll drive through along the way.

## Roslyn

Embarking east on SR-903 along the byway, you'll drive through the heart of Roslyn, a coal-mining town founded in the late 1800s. The historic buildings and weathered wood facades caught the attention of Hollywood location scouts, and the town was reborn in the 1990s as Cicely, Alaska, on the popular show "Northern Exposure."

Today it offers a number of unique stops for travelers, including the Brick Tavern (the oldest tavern in Washington), the town's small café (with its familiar outdoor Roslyn mural), a historical museum and a miners' memorial.

Don't miss the Roslyn Historical Cemetery, which is actually a couple dozen separate cemeteries located adjacent to one another. Here the deceased are segregated by lodge or church affiliation and often by nationality. At least 24 countries are represented here, a testament to the diversity of the region's mine workers.

## Cle Elum and Iron Horse State Park

Further east, you'll find the town of Cle Elum. Garlic lovers will want to visit in February, when the town hosts its annual Bagna Cauda Festival—a local celebration of a traditional Italian dip so potent it is guaranteed to keep vampires away.

Nearby is the longest, narrowest state park in Washington. Iron Horse State Park is a 1,612-acre park that was once on the path of the Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul-Pacific Railroad. More than 100 miles of trail extends from Cedar Falls (near North Bend) to the Columbia River.

The trail encompasses a variety of ecosystems and geological zones. Hikers and bikers enjoy it in the summer, and in the winter, cross-country skiers and even

dogsledders find fun here. No motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail, except on the higher-elevation stretches, where snowmobiles are permitted in winter.

## Thorp

As you follow SR-10 from Cle Elum, don't miss the tiny community of Thorp. A gristmill that was built in the 1870s still stands, and visitors are welcome. Also, an odd combination fruit/antique stand here sells preserves and locally grown produce along with antique home furnishings.

Keep on the lookout for remnants of long-abandoned gas stations, motels and

a historic wooden water-flume irrigation system—all excellent photo ops.

## Ellensburg

In Ellensburg the byway ends, but the discoveries don't. Here you'll find a rich and genuine culture thanks to a vibrant arts community, the influence of the Central Washington University student population and plenty of cowpokes. All of this is woven beautifully into the fabric of a historic downtown district. A vibrant farmers' market, a brewery offering handcrafted beers and a few noteworthy bakeries are located here.



## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 east to Roslyn (85 miles / 90 minutes). Take the Salmon La Sac Road about 10 miles north from Roslyn to reach the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Salmon La Sac Recreational Area.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** A golf resort, hotels, motels, inns, and other accommodations can be found from Roslyn to Ellensburg, and camping is plentiful. There are a lot of good locally owned eateries in Roslyn, Cle Elum and Ellensburg. Gas can be found in all the communities along the byway, but always gas up before you head into the wilderness areas.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Mountains to Sound Greenway, Yakima River Canyon, Stevens Pass (via US-97/Blewett Pass), Cascade Loop



**LOCAL RESOURCES:** **Alpine Lakes Wilderness** [www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/cle-elum-wilderness](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/cle-elum-wilderness)  
**Cle Elum/Roslyn Chamber of Commerce** [www.cleelumroslyn.org](http://www.cleelumroslyn.org)  
**Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce** [www.visitellen.com](http://www.visitellen.com)

DRIVING DISTANCE	42 MILES
DRIVE TIME	2 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	YEAR ROUND
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*Portions of the route are not maintained in winter, so check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and seasonal closures.



# Whidbey Scenic Isle Way

## Welcome to “Island Time”



EBEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORIC RESERVE

**L**ocated entirely on a single island and a mere hour from downtown Seattle, this byway is as accessible as it is leisurely. And, 20 minutes of the journey includes a relaxing Washington State ferry ride. The transformation from mainland to island is not just physical—it is also psychological. The pace of life slows, traffic jams are nonexistent and tension vanishes. Welcome to “island time.”

Whidbey Island is a Mecca for artists of all stripes—visual, literary, performing and culinary. Studios and galleries are tucked in among small boutiques, coffee shops, wineries, microbreweries, and artisan chocolatiers. Eateries feature

seafood from local waters and produce from island farms.

Take a walk on a sandy beach or sit on a hunk of driftwood and ponder the view. The salt air, the friendly people and the local fare allow you to savor your day and renew yourself for the coming week.



MUKILTEO LIGHTHOUSE

### Langley

Perched on a bluff overlooking Saratoga Passage and the Cascades, the seaside village of Langley is an artist's haven and stroller's paradise. Watch skilled artisans blow glass; explore galleries, antique shops and bookstores; visit a coffee roaster; dine with a view; taste wines; and relax in upscale waterside accommodations. Take in the gorgeous views of Mount Baker and watch for gray whales feeding near shore from February through May. If you spot one, you get to ring the town's whale bell!

### South Whidbey State Park

A camping park with 347 acres and 4,500 feet of saltwater shoreline on Admiralty Inlet, this lush park includes old-growth forest and remarkable views of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains.

Outdoor recreation includes 3.5 miles of hiking trails, beachcombing, saltwater fishing, swimming and tidelands for crabbing and clamping. There's also a variety of birding and wildlife viewing.

### On the Whale Trail

Several locations on the newly developed “Whale Trail” are found along this route in Langley, Keystone and Coupeville. This trail consists of

a series of marked locations around Northwest waters where the public may get a glimpse of orcas along with other marine mammals and wildlife. For more information, visit [www.thewhaletrail.org](http://www.thewhaletrail.org).

### Historic forts and lighthouses

In the 1890s, Whidbey Island was considered a bulwark against possible enemy invasion of Puget Sound. Fort Casey and Fort Ebey, both near Coupeville, long ago stood down, but the former's underground bunkers and the latter's concrete platforms marking gun locations are exciting spots for exploration (and imagination).

Views of the Admiralty Inlet and the Strait of Juan de Fuca are fantastic—after all, watching for an attack on those waters was the reason why these forts were built.

### Stay or just play

Today, Fort Casey State Park is a year-round camping park with a lighthouse to visit, historic guns on display and opportunities for boating, hiking and saltwater fishing. Designated areas for remote-control gliders and kite flying add to the fun.

This is also the site of the eastern

terminal of the Coupeville-Port Townsend state ferry run, boasting the newest ferries in the state's system—the Chetzemoka. Reservations are recommended for this limited schedule route ([www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries)).

### **Fort Ebey State Park**

Continuing north, Fort Ebey State Park is another all-season camping park with 3 miles of saltwater shoreline on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, a freshwater lake for fishing, plus extensive hiking and biking trails. This park is a popular surfing area, and seaweed harvesting is allowed from mid-April to mid-May.

### **Walkable Coupeville**

In charming Coupeville, be sure to pick up a walking-tour map of more than 50 buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today many of them house waterfront shops, bed-and-breakfasts, art galleries, bookstores and restaurants.

Home of the delectable, world-famous Penn Cove mussels, Coupeville has many restaurants, cafes and taverns that incorporate these delicacies, along with other locally grown products, into their menus.

### **Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve**

For an even greater sense of this area's history, visit Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve. This 24-square-mile mosaic of 17 working farms, iconic barns and rambling trails has been preserved as living history. Don't miss the breathtaking vistas along a popular trail that climbs a beach bluff.

In Coupeville, at the intersection of Main Street and SR-20, follow signs to Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve.

### **Oak Harbor**

Oak Harbor is Whidbey's biggest city and home to the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station. During regular training, Navy jets can be seen—and heard—circling above Coupeville and Oak Harbor.

In downtown Oak Harbor, check out the new PBY Foundation Memorial which includes an interpretive center and one of the original amphibious planes that flew off Whidbey in 1943. Several excellent restaurants, seafood shops and handcrafted-ale pubs can be found here.

### **Deception Pass State Park**

Set on both sides of the handsome Deception Pass Bridge, this all-season

marine and camping park offers beaches, old-growth forests, plenty of wildlife, dramatic cliffs, 77,000 feet of saltwater shoreline and 34,000 feet of freshwater shoreline on three lakes. The bridge and the cliffs it spans may look familiar to you because this spectacular site has been featured in numerous national commercials. Hiking, biking and horse trails are available, while boating, fishing (catfish, cod, salmon), kayaking and freshwater swimming are among the many recreation options.

As you drive slowly across this bridge crowded with pedestrians enjoying the view, reflect on this little-known fact; Deception Pass has more visitors each year than the Grand Canyon!

## **PLANNING TIPS**



**GETTING THERE:** Take the ferry from Mukilteo, 30-minutes north of Seattle, to Clinton, the southernmost town on the island. The 54-mile byway begins on SR-525, which becomes SR-20 near the town of Coupeville. Contact [www.dot.wa.gov/ferries](http://www.dot.wa.gov/ferries) for ferry schedules and rates.



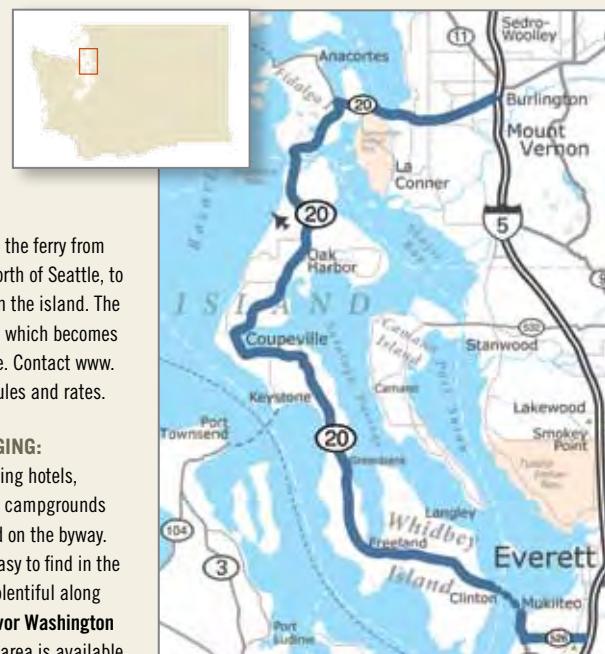
**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Accommodations, including hotels, cabins, inns, bed and breakfasts, campgrounds and RV parks, can be easily found on the byway. Restaurants and cafes are also easy to find in the island's towns. Gas stations are plentiful along the much of the main route. A **Savor Washington "Farm to Fork" itinerary** for the area is available at <http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx>.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** San Juan Islands, Chuckanut Drive, North Cascades, and a portion of the Cascade Loop



**LOCAL RESOURCE:**  
**Whidbey-Camano Island Tourism**  
[www.whidbeycamanoislands.com](http://www.whidbeycamanoislands.com)



<b>DRIVING DISTANCE</b>	54 MILES
<b>DRIVE TIME</b>	75 MINUTES
<b>PLAN TO SPEND</b>	1 DAY
<b>BEST SEASONS</b>	YEAR ROUND
<b>TOP ADVENTURES</b>	



## Yakama Scenic Byway

*This byway slices through the Yakama people's ancestral homeland, much of it now known as the Yakama Reservation.*

MT. ADAMS BEHIND TAHLAKH LAKE

The Yakama Scenic Byway runs south from the city of Yakima (yes, a different spelling) on US-97 to where the highway meets SR-14 at the Columbia River. The byway begins where arid desert hills drop into productive plains—the Yakima Valley is one of the world's leading agricultural regions. The influence and presence of the Yakama people can be keenly felt along this byway; museums and a cultural center, and a restaurant featuring authentic Yakama fare, are just a handful of ways travelers can learn more about the original inhabitants of this land.

### Union Gap

This small town marks an actual gap in the landscape that leads into the bountiful Yakima Valley. Duck into town and look for a small restaurant that serves mouthwatering handmade tamales (authentic and delicious Mexican food is easy to find in this region) then begin your drive through 'The Gap'.

If you're captivated by the hop and mint fields spread before you, and the fruit orchards in the hills, you may want to consider a stop at The Central Washington Agricultural Museum. This free (donations suggested) museum provides a look at the history and lives

of farmers and growers in Washington State. Nearly any implement that was ever used to farm the land can be found here.

### Yakama Nation Cultural Center

Approaching Toppenish, you'll see a building with a distinctive roofline. It's fashioned after an ancient Yakama winter lodge, and marks the Yakama Nation Cultural Center. This 30-year-old museum tells the story of the Yakama people from their own perspective. Life sized reproductions of dwellings, audio-visual displays, and artifacts are just part of the "Yakama Experience."

Sample traditional dishes like salmon, buffalo stew or steak, finished off with huckleberry pie and handmade ice cream in the museum's Heritage Inn Restaurant, or overnight in a tepee at the nearby Yakama Nation RV Park, [www.YNRV.com](http://www.YNRV.com). The campus is further graced by a splendid view of Mount Adams.

The Cultural Center is open seven days a week; guided tours and storytelling are available by appointment. [www.YakamaMuseum.com](http://www.YakamaMuseum.com) You'll find plenty of great gaming and entertainment nearby at the Tribe's popular casino, [www.LegendsCasino.com](http://www.LegendsCasino.com). Throughout Yakama country, you'll encounter

abundant wildlife, birding and even wild horses, [www.YNWildlife.org](http://www.YNWildlife.org).

### Downtown Toppenish murals

Toppenish is located entirely within the bounds of the Yakama Nation. Toppenish's museums, Native American and Western traditions, cultural diversity and 73 historically accurate murals create an inviting atmosphere for anyone with a passion for history.

This town is also home to The American Hop Museum, and directly across the street, The Northern Pacific Railway Museum. Visit [www.toppenish.net](http://www.toppenish.net) for more information about downtown Toppenish.

### Fort Simcoe Historical State Park

A day-use heritage park since 1956, Fort Simcoe, located 27 miles west of Toppenish on SR-220 is a fascinating side trip and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. Revealing much about army life in those days, it also offers insights into local Yakama Nation traditions in the 1850s.

The park has original blockhouses and officers' homes, large, grassy areas for sports, picnic tables, and a short hiking trail. Seasonal birding includes Lewis woodpeckers, owls, eagles, hawks,



SILVERY BLUE BUTTERFLY

and wrens; mammals in the park include bobcats, deer, elk and badgers.

### Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge

As US-97 bends southward from Toppenish, it crosses through a nearly 2000-acre oasis of wetlands, grasslands and wildlife. The Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge draws on streams and summer irrigation to provide food and breeding grounds for migratory birds, and habitat for animals. It's also part of Audubon Washington's Great Washington State Birding Trail—Sun and Sage Loop.

### St. John the Forerunner Monastery

Located at milepost 24 between Toppenish and Goldendale, you can stop at this Greek Orthodox Monastery, home to 20 nuns and novices. Here you can pick up refrigerated dinners and pastries (perfect for campers looking for a gourmet fix) along with a large selection of handmade soaps, candles and traditional art. This is a truly unique experience.

### The Satus Pass crossing and Brooks Memorial State Park

Satus Pass, at 3,100 feet, has superb views of distinctive volcano-formed hills: narrow ridges, trending in an east-west direction. Keep an eye on the hillsides for wild horses. This mountain range is one of the few remaining areas in Washington where horses still run free.

A few miles south of the pass, Brooks Memorial State Park is a 700-acre, year-round camping park set in the forests of

the Simcoe Mountains.

Nine miles of hiking and biking trails lead to grand views of Mount Hood.

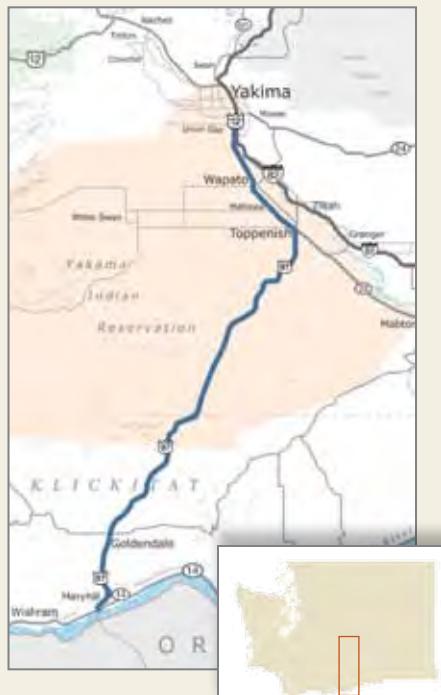
This is also a prime winter spot for cross-country skiing.

### Goldendale Observatory State Park

An unusual public facility, this state park is a mere five acres atop a 2,100-foot-high hilltop, with a view of the *entire* universe. Featuring one of the nation's largest public telescopes, the park's observatory has attracted amateur astronomers since 1973 and is open to anyone who wants a look.

### Maryhill Museum of Art and Stonehenge Memorial

This castle-like chateau perched above the Columbia River houses a world class art collection ranging from Native American antiquities to sculptures and watercolors by August Rodin (including the a pedestal-sized plaster version of The Thinker). Also near the grounds, incongruent and spectacular, is a replica of England's ancient Stonehenge. The monument serves as a memorial to soldiers from Washington State that died in WWI, WWII, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, [www.maryhillmuseum.org](http://www.maryhillmuseum.org).



### PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 eastbound to Ellensburg then I-82 (or take the Yakima River Canyon Scenic Byway, SR-821) to the starting point in Union Gap, just 3-miles south of downtown Yakima (150-miles / 2.5 hours). The 76-mile byway follows US-97 from Union Gap, across the tribal land of the Yakama Nation and Satus Pass to Goldendale and the Columbia River Gorge.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Hotels, motels, campgrounds and RV parks are found in every community along this byway. Gas is available along the route, with the exception of the stretch from Toppenish to Goldendale. A **Savor Washington Itinerary: Yakima Valley** for is available at [www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx).



#### CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:

Columbia River Gorge, Lewis and Clark Trail, White Pass, Chinook Pass



#### LOCAL RESOURCES:

**Yakama Nation** [www.YakamaNation-nsn.gov](http://www.YakamaNation-nsn.gov)  
**Yakima County Convention & Visitors Bureau** [www.visityakima.com](http://www.visityakima.com)  
**Toppenish Chamber of Commerce** [www.Toppenish.net](http://www.Toppenish.net)

DRIVING DISTANCE	76 MILES
DRIVE TIME	1.5 HOURS
PLAN TO SPEND	1 DAY
BEST SEASONS*	SPRING, SUMMER, FALL
TOP ADVENTURES	

\*The route is open year round. Check [www.dot.wa.gov](http://www.dot.wa.gov) for road conditions and periodic winter closures over Satus Pass.



## Yakima River Canyon

*The short and sweet Yakima River Canyon Scenic Byway is one of Washington's best-kept secrets.*

Also known as Canyon Road or SR-821, this byway is an efficient, dazzling alternative to driving I-82 between Ellensburg and Yakima. An 18-mile trip that is scenic year-around, Canyon Road follows the Yakima River on a lonely, curvy road, between high desert hills covered in sagebrush.

BLM manages over 9,000 acres in the Yakima River Canyon area, including four developed river access sites. This is a must see destination for the consummate birder, wildlife watcher, fly fisherman or photographer. Canyon Road features stately basalt cliffs that rise dramatically above the meandering Yakima River, where rafters, inner tubers and fly fishermen somehow find a way to coexist.

Rangeland and ranches lie to the east. To the west is the sprawling Wenas Wildlife Area, where springtime flowers bloom in brilliant yellow, purple and orange and wildlife viewing is accessible all season from a trailhead that crosses the river and leads up to the canyon ridge.

### Recreation on land and water

Outdoor-recreation enthusiasts will find great hiking through rolling hills and rafting opportunities on the Yakima River. The canyon is famous for year-round water sports and is widely regarded as one of the finest destinations for fly and drift-boat fishing in the nation. This stretch of the Yakima River is the only Blue Ribbon trout fishery in the state.

### Umtanum Creek Recreation Area

A few miles south of Ellensburg, the Umtanum Creek Recreation Area, an ideal place for rafting, kayaking or fishing on the Yakima River, offers aspen and cottonwood groves, surrounding remnants of historic homesteads with their remaining untended apple and walnut trees. In spring, the desert comes to life with a dazzling display of wildflowers.

Beavers are busy modifying the creek, and the Audubon Society recognizes Umtanum as an important birding area;



there are lots of viewing opportunities. Rattlesnakes are also common during late spring and in the summer—leave them alone and stay alert so you can enjoy your visit.

Park in the lot and cross a suspension bridge over the river and head out for an easy hike along the creek, or ascend a succession of ridges to see snowcapped mountain peaks to the west and the Saddle Mountains and endless desert to the east.

Wildlife viewing includes California bighorn sheep, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, and coyotes. Golden eagles gracefully soar high above on the thermals that rise from the canyon floor. The basalt cliffs here, with their clefts and crevices, are home to the densest population of nesting raptors in the state of Washington. For a truly comprehensive look at birding opportunities along this byway, go to <http://wa.audubon.org> and look for the Great Washington State Birding Trail—Sun and Sage Loop.

## Roza Dam

Down the road from Umtanum Creek and 10 miles north of Yakima is Roza Dam. Built in 1939, the dam diverts water to irrigate the otherwise arid land in the lower Yakima Valley, making it one of the most bountiful agricultural regions in the world. Every vegetable you can imagine—and some you've never heard of—along with tree-ripened fruits like apples, cherries, peaches, pears, and plums, and of course hops and wine grapes, are grown in the valley's desert thanks in large part to the water diverted from this dam.

Take in the impressive operation, and don't miss the fish ladder where salmon and endangered steelhead make their heroic upstream leaps on the long journey home.

Just above Roza Dam is the Roza

Recreation Area, overseen by the Bureau of Land Management. A reservoir there is used for boating, swimming and rafting, and this is the last take-out point for floaters and anglers on the river.

## Selah Cliffs Natural Area Preserve

Five miles northeast of Selah, stretching along Selah Creek from the eastern edge of SR-821 and I-82, the Selah Cliffs Natural Area Preserve is an excellent example of a private and public partnership that resulted in conservation of an endangered habitat. The preserve, open to the public, is home to a rare population of basalt daisy, a threatened plant that certainly looks dainty and only grows high up in cracks in the rock left by ancient lava in the canyon's

southern half. If you want to stalk this rarest of rare plants, June is the best month to spy them blooming in the basalt columns, looking like bouquets left behind by rock climbers.

Binoculars are recommended to see the flower, which exists nowhere else in the world. But look around, too, at cliffs within the project area; they're a prime habitat for prairie falcons and golden eagles.

The byway officially ends as SR-821 rejoins the rushing traffic of I-82. But if you want to celebrate your discovery of this remote byway, cross the river into Selah, buy a can of apple juice and raise a toast to your travels in the town that dubs itself “the apple juice capital of the world.”

## PLANNING TIPS



**GETTING THERE:** From Seattle, take I-90 east for 107 miles to Ellensburg (about a 1.5-hour drive) and take the exit for SR-821 South/Canyon Road. The byway runs all the way to an intersection south of Selah, where it merges onto I-82 south heading toward Yakima.



**GAS, FOOD AND LODGING:** Motels, resorts, RV parks and other lodging are plentiful at both ends of the byway in Ellensburg, Selah and Yakima. Gas is available in Ellensburg at the north entrance and in Selah and Yakima at the south. Gas up before you head through the canyon.

Restaurants featuring locally grown cuisine are easy to find at both ends of the canyon in Ellensburg and Yakima. Check with the visitor center in Ellensburg or Yakima (see the resources below for their Web addresses) and find out where the locals eat. That's where the best food and conversation will be found.



**CONNECTED OR NEARBY SCENIC BYWAYS:** Swiftwater Corridor, Mountains to Sound Greenway, White Pass, Chinook Pass



### LOCAL RESOURCES:

**Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce**

[www.visitellen.com](http://www.visitellen.com)

**Yakima Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau**

[www.visityakima.com](http://www.visityakima.com)



**DRIVING DISTANCE**

18 MILES

**DRIVE TIME**

75 MINUTES

**PLAN TO SPEND**

1 DAY

**BEST SEASONS**

YEAR ROUND

**TOP ADVENTURES**





## Scenic Byway Designations

The byways are broken down into three tiers: All American Roads, National Scenic Byways and State Scenic Byways. These designations are awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration based on a rigorous grant application process and development of a "corridor management plan" by the destination marketing organizations and city planners.

This process involves countless hours of work and coordination with local communities and state agencies such as Tourism, Fish & Wildlife (with assistance from Audubon Washington), Transportation, Parks, and Agriculture to ensure proper signage, infrastructure and travel adventures are available along the selected routes.

The definition of "scenic" goes far beyond natural

beauty and breathtaking vistas. A selected byway must also demonstrate rich and varied archaeological, cultural, historical, natural, and recreational qualities. We've even included several "Savor Washington: Farm to Fork" itineraries for you to experience along the way. There is truly something for everyone to enjoy on these treasured pathways.

You, the traveler, are rewarded by simply being able to plan some time, select a direction and drive. It is our sincere hope that you will use this guide to plan many road trips across our wonderful state. Also of note is that the estimated travel times indicated in the planning tips in each byway come in two forms: the time it takes to accomplish the drive from start to finish and the time it may take to stop and enjoy a few of its distinct experiences.

## Scenic Byways Quick Reference Guide

### Statewide and National Resources

#### **Washington State Tourism**

[www.experiencewa.com/scenic-byways.aspx](http://www.experiencewa.com/scenic-byways.aspx)  
Phone: 360-594-4010 / 1-877-260-2731

#### **Washington State Parks**

[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)  
Phone: 360-902-8844 / 1-888-CAMP-OUT

#### **Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife**

<http://wdfw.wa.gov>  
Phone: 360-902-2200

#### **Washington State Department of Transportation**

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms/  
scenicbyways/map.htm](http://wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms/scenicbyways/map.htm)  
Phone: 360-705-7000

#### **Washington State Ferries**

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](http://wsdot.wa.gov/ferries)  
Phone: 206-464-6400 / 1-888-808-7977

#### **Washington State Department of Agriculture**

##### **Savor Washington**

[www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/  
SavorWA.aspx](http://www.agr.wa.gov/Marketing/SmallFarm/SavorWA.aspx)  
Phone: 360-902-1800

##### **Audubon Washington**

<http://wa.audubon.org/>  
Phone: 206-652-2444

##### **National Scenic Byways**

[www.byways.org/explore/states/WA](http://www.byways.org/explore/states/WA)  
Phone: 1-800-4BYWAYS

##### **National Parks Service**

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)  
Phone: 360-854-7200

##### **U.S. Forest Service**

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)  
Phone: 1-800-832-1355

### All American Roads

#### **Chinook Pass Scenic Byway – PAGE 9**

[www.chinookscenicbyway.com](http://www.chinookscenicbyway.com)  
Phone: 360-825-7666 or 205-304-3598

#### **International Selkirk Loop – PAGE 15**

[www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org)  
Phone: 208-267-0822

#### **Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance**

[www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp](http://www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp)  
Phone: 208-437-0274

## National Scenic Byways

### Coulee Corridor – PAGE 21

www.couleecorridor.com  
Phone: 509-632-8638

### **Grand Coulee Chamber of Commerce**

www.grandcouleedam.org  
Phone: 509-633-3074  
1-800-COULEE2

### **Grant County Tourism**

www.tourgrantcounty.com  
Phone: 509-754-2011 Ext. 331

### Mountains to Sound Greenway – PAGE 25

#### **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust**

www.mtsgreenway.org  
Phone: 206-382-5565

### Stevens Pass Greenway – PAGE 29

www.stevenspassgreenway.org  
Phone: 360-677-2030

### **Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce**

www.leavenworth.org  
Phone: 509-548-5807

### **Sky Valley Visitor Information Center**

www.skyvalleychamber.com

### **Snohomish County Tourism**

www.snohomish.org  
Phone: 425-348-5802  
1-888-338-0976

### **Wenatchee Valley Visitors Bureau**

www.wenatcheovalley.org  
Phone: 1-800-572-7753

### **Strait of Juan de Fuca - Highway 112**

PAGE 33

www.highway112.org  
Phone: 360-452-8552 / 1-800-942-4042

### **Olympic Peninsula Tourism**

www.olympicpeninsula.org  
Phone: 360-452-8552 / 1-800-942-4042

### **Sekiu-Clallam Bay Chamber**

www.sekiu.com  
Phone: 360-963-2339 / 1-877-694-9433

### White Pass Scenic Byway – PAGE 37

www.whitepassbyway.com  
Phone: 360-494-2223

### **Visit Rainier**

www.visitrainier.com  
Phone: 360-748-4514 / 1-877-270-7155

## State Scenic Byways

### Cape Flattery Tribal Scenic Byway – PAGE 40

#### **Makah Nation**

www.makah.com  
Phone: 360-645-2201

### **Strait of Juan de Fuca - Highway 112**

www.highway112.org  
Phone: 360-452-8552 / 1-800-942-4042

### **Olympic Peninsula Tourism**

www.olympicpeninsula.org  
Phone: 360-452-8552 / 1-800-942-4042

### Cascade Loop – PAGE 42

#### **Cascade Loop Association**

www.cascadeloop.com  
Phone: 509-662-3888

### **Lake Chelan Tourism**

www.cometothelake.com  
Phone: 1-877-440-7933

### **Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce**

www.leavenworth.org  
Phone: 509-548-5807

### **Skagit Valley Tourism (Mt. Vernon Chamber)**

www.visitskagitcounty.com  
Phone: 360-428-8547

### Cascade Valleys – PAGE 46

#### **Woodinville Tourism**

www.ci.woodinville.wa.us/play/tourism.asp  
Phone: 425-489-2700

### **Redmond Tourism**

www.experienceredmond.com

### **Snoqualmie Valley Chamber of Commerce**

www.snovalley.org/vg\_attractions.html  
Phone: 425-888-4440

### **Outside Seattle**

www.outsideseattle.org

### Chuckanut Drive – PAGE 48

#### **Chuckanut Drive Association**

www.chuckanutdrive.com

### **Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism**

www.bellingham.org  
Phone: 360-671-3990 / 1-800-487-2032

### Columbia River Gorge – PAGE 50

#### **Columbia River Gorge Visitors Association**

www.crgva.org  
Phone: 1-800-98-GORGE

### **Mount Adams Chamber of Commerce**

www.mtadamschamber.com  
Phone: 509-493-3630

### **Skamania County Chamber of Commerce**

www.skamania.org  
Phone: 509-427-8911 / 1-800-989-9178

### **Vancouver USA Tourism**

www.visitvancouverusa.com  
Phone: 360-750-1553 / 1-877-600-0800

### Cranberry Coast Scenic Byway – PAGE 52

### **Cranberry Coast Tourism**

www.cranberrycoast.net

### **Cranberry Coast Chamber of Commerce**

www.cranberrycoastcoc.com  
Phone: 360-268-9422 / 1-800-345-6223

### **Grays Harbor Tourism**

http://visitgraysharbor.com  
Phone: 1-800-621-9625

### Hidden Coast Scenic Byway – PAGE 54

### **Washington Coast Chamber of Commerce**

www.washingtoncoastchamber.org.  
WWCCC@washingtoncoastchamber.org

### **Grays Harbor Tourism**

http://visitgraysharbor.com  
Phone: 1-800-621-9625

### **Ocean Shores**

www.tourismoceanshores.com  
Phone: 360-289-9586 / 1-866-60-COAST

### Lewis & Clark Trail – PAGE 56

www.lewisandclarktrail.com/section4/  
washington.htm

### **Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau**

www.hells canyon visitor.com  
Phone: 509-758-7489 / 1-877-774-7248

### **Mount Adams Chamber of Commerce**

www.mtadamschamber.com  
Phone: 509-493-3630

### **Skamania County Chamber of Commerce**

www.skamania.org  
Phone: 509-427-8911 / 1-800-989-9178

### **Tri-Cities Visitors Bureau**

www.visittri-cities.com  
Phone: 509-735-8486 / 1-800-254-5824

### **Vancouver USA Tourism**

www.visitvancouverusa.com  
Phone: 360-750-1553 / 1-877-600-0800

### **Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau**

www.funbeach.com  
Phone: 360-642-2400/1-800-451-2542



## [Mt. Baker Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 60

### **Mount Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce**

[www.mtbakerchamber.org](http://www.mtbakerchamber.org)

Phone: 360-599-1518

### **Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism**

[www.bellingham.org](http://www.bellingham.org)

Phone: 360-671-3990 / 1-800-487-2032

### **Glacier Chamber of Commerce**

[www.glacierchamber.org](http://www.glacierchamber.org)

Phone: 360-599-2714

## [North Cascades Scenic Highway](#) – PAGE 62

### **Cascade Loop Association**

[www.cascadeloop.com](http://www.cascadeloop.com)

Phone: 509-662-3888

### **Skagit Valley Tourism**

[www.visitkagitzcounty.com](http://www.visitkagitzcounty.com)

Phone: 360-428-8547

### **Winthrop Tourism**

[www.winthropwashington.com](http://www.winthropwashington.com)

Phone: 509-996-2125 / 1-888-463-8469

## [North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 64

### **Pend Oreille River Tourism Alliance**

[www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp](http://www.porta-us.com/pages/activities/byway.asp)

Phone: 509-447-5286

### **International Selkirk Loop**

[www.selkirkloop.org](http://www.selkirkloop.org)

Phone: 208-267-0822

## [Okanogan Trails Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 66

### **Okanogan County Tourism Council**

[www.okanogancountry.com](http://www.okanogancountry.com)

Phone: 1-888-431-3080

## [Pacific Coast Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 68

### **Northwest Tribal Tourism**

[www.explorepacificnwtribes.com](http://www.explorepacificnwtribes.com)

### **North Olympic Peninsula Visitor Bureau**

[www.olympicpeninsula.org](http://www.olympicpeninsula.org)

Phone: 360-452-8552 / 1-800-942-4042

## [Port Angeles Chamber of Commerce](#)

[www.portangeles.org](http://www.portangeles.org)

Phone: 360-452-2363

### **Grays Harbor Tourism**

[www.visitgraysharbor.com](http://www.visitgraysharbor.com)

Phone: 1-800-621-9625

### **Willapa Harbor Chamber of Commerce**

[www.willapaharbor.org](http://www.willapaharbor.org)

Phone: 360-942-5411

### **Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau**

[www.funbeach.com](http://www.funbeach.com)

Phone: 360-642-2400 / 1-800-451-2542

## [Palouse Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 72

[www.palousescenicbyway.com](http://www.palousescenicbyway.com)

Phone: 509-334-3565 / 1-800-365-6948

### **Pullman Chamber of Commerce**

[www.pullmanchamber.com](http://www.pullmanchamber.com)

Phone: 509-334-3565 / 1-800-ENJOY-IT

## [San Juan Islands Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 74

### **San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau**

[www.visitsanjuans.com/visitors/scenic-byway](http://www.visitsanjuans.com/visitors/scenic-byway)

Phone: 1-888-468-3701 x 1

## [Sherman Pass Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 76

### **Republic Tourism**

[www.republicwa.org](http://www.republicwa.org)

Phone: 509-775-3216

### **Kettle Falls Visitor Center**

[www.nps.gov.laro](http://www.nps.gov.laro)

Phone: 509-738-2300

### **Colville Chamber of Commerce**

[www.colville.com](http://www.colville.com)

Phone: 509-684-5973

## [Spirit Lake Memorial Highway](#)

### (Mount St. Helens) – PAGE 78

### **Cowlitz County Tourism Bureau**

[www.visitmtsthelens.com](http://www.visitmtsthelens.com)

Phone: 360-577-3137

## [Swiftwater Corridor Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 80

### **Alpine Lakes Wilderness**

#### (Cle Elum Ranger Station)

[www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/cle-elum-wilderness](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/cle-elum-wilderness)

Phone: 509-852-1100

### **Cle Elum/Roslyn Chamber of Commerce**

[www.cleelumroslyn.org](http://www.cleelumroslyn.org)

Phone: 509-674-5958

### **Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce**

[www.visitellen.com](http://www.visitellen.com)

Phone: 509-925-3137 / 1-888-925-2204

## [Whidbey Scenic Isle Way](#) – PAGE 82

### **Whidbey-Camano Island Tourism**

[www.whidbeycamanoislands.com](http://www.whidbeycamanoislands.com)

Phone: 360-675-5412 / 1-888-747-7777

### **Snohomish County Tourism**

[www.snohomish.org](http://www.snohomish.org)

Phone: 425-348-5802 / 1-888-338-0976

### **Skagit Valley Tourism**

[www.visitkagitzcounty.com](http://www.visitkagitzcounty.com)

Phone: 360-428-8547

## [Yakama Scenic Byway](#) – PAGE 84

### **Yakama Nation**

[www.yakamanation-nsn.gov](http://www.yakamanation-nsn.gov)

Phone: 509-865-5121

### **Yakima Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau**

[www.visityakima.com](http://www.visityakima.com)

Phone: 509-575-3010 / 1-800-221-0751

### **Goldendale Chamber of Commerce**

[www.goldendalechamber.org/visitors](http://www.goldendalechamber.org/visitors)

Phone: 509-773-3400

## [Yakima River Canyon](#) – PAGE 86

### **Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce**

[www.visitellen.com](http://www.visitellen.com)

Phone: 509-925-3137 / 1-888-925-2204

### **Yakima Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau**

[www.visityakima.com](http://www.visityakima.com)

Phone: 509-575-3010 / 1-800-221-0751





U. S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**



Washington State  
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