Greetings,

Congratulations on taking the first step towards starting a rewarding career as a Sheriff’s Deputy! We have received your application and are excited that you are considering joining our ranks.

The mission of the King County Sheriff’s Office is to be a trusted partner in fighting crime and improving quality of life for our residents. We focus our efforts and resources to reduce crime, reduce the fear of crime, to build a trusted relationship with the communities we serve and enhance the quality of life for all who call King County and our Contract Cities home.

The hiring process is quite extensive, consisting of adherence to a set of minimum qualifications, various tests, interviews, and a comprehensive background check including a polygraph, medical and psychological examinations. As law enforcement officers we have been entrusted with the privilege of enforcing the laws and regulations of our community. With this responsibility it is essential that every deputy that takes the oath of office is vetted thoroughly.

We greatly appreciate the time and consideration you will take to move through this process with us. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to the King County Sheriff’s Office Human Resources Unit at (206) 263-2664 with any questions or concerns. I also encourage you to visit our department website for additional information on our hiring process and deputy benefits. The web address is: www.kingcounty.gov/depts/sheriff/careers/deputy.aspx

I wish you the best on the hiring process!

Regards,

Patricia Cole-Tindall
SHERIFF
Thank you for your interest in the King County Sheriff’s Office, we hope you’ll find this packet useful in learning more about us and what we have to offer! If you’d like more information we’ve listed resources below as well as articles, videos and twitter accounts on our speciality unit pages.

About King County Sheriff’s Office:

- Deputy Sheriff Flyer (Pay Information Included)
- Medical Plan Information
- WA State Retirement Information
- Sheriff’s Mission Statement
- Contract Partners
- K9 Unit
- MARR Unit: Accident Response and Reconstruction
- Air Support Unit
- Marine Dive Unit
- SWAT: TAC 30
- AFIS Program

About King County:

- Brief Overview of King County Government
- King County Organization Chart
- King County Strategic Plan
- King County Training and Development

About The Region:

- Brief Overview of Washington and King County
- Employer Article
- WA State Board of Education

Additional Resources:
- KCSO Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/KingCountySheriff
- KCSO Twitter Page: https://twitter.com/kingcosheriff
Benefits

2022 Salary Range (Annual): $73,401.55 - $102,777.55
Lateral Hire Incentive $15,000, $5,000 upon hire and $10,000 at the end of probation.
3 yr. time commitment
Starting pay commensurate with experience (each Lateral’s experience is evaluated)
Pay incentives range 1% - 16% of base rate for longevity, education incentive & premium pays based on assignment (Patrol, Detective, K-9, SWAT, Rescue Diver, etc.)
Initially earn 12 days annual vacation leave. Receive 10 paid holidays, 12 sick days annually, able to accrue compensation time.
100% employer paid premiums for medical/dental/vision for you and your dependents
Take-home car assigned immediately after swearing in and weapons qualification with a potential annual savings between $3,000-$5,000
King County provides all uniforms and most equipment

To Apply

Virtual Oral Board Interview
Exempt from Video and Physical Ability Test
Preference Points for Veterans & Foreign Language
Requirements

Experience as a full-time commissioned police officer with a minimum 12 months of patrol
Successful completion of commissioned probation with a city, county or state agency
Less than a two year break in service from a former commissioned position
Academy training that meets or exceeds Washington State standards
Pass the basic written tests
Out-of-state applicants complete equivalency academy

To learn more about the process contact:
KCSO HR Department at (206) 263-2664 or kcsorec@kingcounty.gov

King County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This brochure is available in alternate formats.
## 2019 Medical Plan Quick Comparison: Deputy Sheriff Employees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Feature (In-network)</th>
<th>SmartCare Gold (Kaiser)</th>
<th>KingCare Gold (Regence &amp; CVS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provider Choice</td>
<td>A primary care provider coordinates care through the plan network. You may self-refer to many Kaiser specialists. No coverage for out-of-network care unless approved/referred.</td>
<td>You may choose any qualified provider, but your out-of-pocket costs are lowest when you use network providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-Area Coverage</td>
<td>Covered care is available at out-of-area Kaiser Permanente facilities—call Member Services to set up access. If outside the Kaiser area, urgent and emergency care is covered at any provider.</td>
<td>Same coverage as when home, through Regence and CVS Caremark® national provider networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Access Fee</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$75 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Deductible¹ | Single: $0  
Family: $0 | Single: $100  
Family: $300 |
| Out-of-Pocket Limit² | Single: $1,000  
Family: $2,000 | Single: $900  
Family: $1,900 |
| Prescription Out-of-Pocket Limit | Single & Family: $0  
Copays apply to out of pocket maximum | Single: $1,500  
Family: $3,000 |

### Your cost—after deductible—using in-network providers³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>SmartCare Gold (Kaiser)</th>
<th>KingCare Gold (Regence &amp; CVS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Room</td>
<td>$100 copay</td>
<td>10% after $100 copay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital inpatient</td>
<td>$200 copay</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs, X-ray, Tests</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Mental Health | Outpatient: $20 copay  
Inpatient: $200 copay | 10% |
| Office Visits | $20 copay | 10% |
| Prescription Drugs (retail 30-day supply) | Generic: $10 copay  
Preferred brand: $20 copay  
Non-preferred brand: $30 copay | Generic: $7 copay  
Preferred brand: $30 copay  
Non-preferred brand: $60 copay |
| Urgent Care | $20 copay | 10% |

### DISCLAIRER:
This chart should be used as a general guide only. For specific plan details, refer to the governing documents at [KingCounty.gov/Plan-Detail](http://KingCounty.gov/Plan-Detail).

1. Deductible: The amount you pay per year before the plan begins to pay.
2. Out-of-pocket limit: The most you could pay per year for your share of the costs of covered services, including the deductible, copays, and coinsurance.
3. All services must be medically necessary. See plan guide for details, limits, restrictions, and preauthorization requirements.
Law Enforcement Officers’ and Fire Fighters’ Retirement System (LEOFF) — Plan 2

**Welcome to LEOFF**
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3 How to contact the Department of Retirement Systems
3 Privacy of your information
4 How your plan works
6 Planning for retirement

**Milestones/ life changes**
7 Becoming vested
7 Leaving public service
7 Returning to public service
8 Marriage or divorce
8 If the unexpected happens

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**Once you retire**
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14 Working after retirement
14 Benefit overpayments or underpayments
14 Changing a benefit option or survivor after you retire

16 Glossary of terms
17 Index
LEOFF Plan 2 is a defined benefit plan. When you meet plan requirements and retire, you are guaranteed a monthly benefit for the rest of your life.

Your monthly benefit will be based on your earned service credit and compensation while a member of LEOFF Plan 2. This formula will be used to calculate your monthly benefit:

$$2\% \times \text{service credit years} \times \text{Final Average Salary} = \text{monthly benefit}$$

You, your employer and the state each contribute a percentage of your salary or wages to help fund the plan. The LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board adopts contribution rates and periodically adjusts them to reflect the overall cost of the plan.

You are vested in the plan when you have five years of service credit. Once you are vested, you have earned the right to a future monthly benefit. If you leave your job and withdraw your contributions, however, you give up your right to a benefit.

You are eligible to retire with a full benefit at age 53 if you have at least five years of service credit. Retirement before 53 is considered an early retirement. If you have at least 20 years of service credit and are at least age 50, you can choose to retire early, but your benefit might be reduced.

If the unexpected happens — disability or death before retirement — a benefit might be available. If you become totally incapacitated and leave your job as a result, you might be eligible for a disability retirement benefit.

If you die before you retire, your spouse, registered domestic partner or minor child, if applicable, could be eligible to receive a benefit based on your years of service credit.

Log in to or sign up for online access to your retirement account. Track your contributions and service credit. Read the latest newsletter. Update your beneficiary information or email address. Use your individual data to estimate your monthly benefit. And when you’re ready, apply for retirement. You can get started at drs.wa.gov/oaa.
How to contact the Department of Retirement Systems


To contact DRS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Write</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>360.664.7000</td>
<td>Department of Retirement</td>
<td>General inquiries:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800.547.6657</td>
<td>Systems Po Box 48380</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drs.contact@drs.wa.gov">drs.contact@drs.wa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTY 711</td>
<td>Olympia, WA 98504</td>
<td>Send a secure message through your online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>account: drs.wa.gov/oaas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visit</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6835 Capitol</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 8 am to 5 pm</td>
<td>drs.wa.gov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blvd. SE Tumwater, WA 98501</td>
<td>Pacific Time</td>
<td>You can also send email through the Contact Us page on the DRS website.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To contact DCP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Contact the DRS record keeper, Voya Financial for assistance with your investment account. You can also log into your investment account and chat live with an associate.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>888.327.5596</td>
<td>Visit drs.wa.gov/rk for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTY 711</td>
<td>Fax 844.449.2551</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Privacy of your information

We are committed to protecting the privacy of your personal account information, including your Social Security number, which we use to track your account and submit required reports to the IRS. We will not disclose your information to anyone unless we are required to do so by law.

If you have insurance coverage through the Washington State Health Care Authority (PEBB or SEBB for example), we could share your information with HCA to better serve you.

Handbook summary

This handbook is not a complete description of your retirement benefit under Plan 2 of the Law Enforcement Officers’ and Fire Fighters’ Retirement System. State retirement laws govern your benefit. If any conflicts exist between the information shown in this handbook and what is contained in current law, the law governs.

Glossary

Terms highlighted in bold print appear in the glossary of terms on page 16.
How your plan works

Overview
LEOFF Plan 2 is a 401(a) defined benefit plan. When you retire, you will receive a monthly benefit for the rest of your life that is based on your earned service credit and your Final Average Salary (FAS). Even though the contributions you make help to fund the plan overall, they don’t factor into the monthly benefit you receive.

Membership in LEOFF Plan 2
You are eligible for LEOFF Plan 2 membership if you were hired on or after Oct. 1, 1977, as a full-time, fully compensated and fully commissioned law enforcement officer or fire fighter.

Law enforcement officers: A law enforcement officer is someone who works for a LEOFF employer and is fully commissioned and empowered to enforce the laws of the state of Washington. These positions include:
- County and deputy sheriffs
- Police chiefs
- City police officers (if appointed to offices, positions or ranks that a city charter provision or ordinance specifically designates)
- Town marshals and deputy marshals
- General authority law enforcement officers a state university or port district employs
- Directors of public safety and public safety officers (if cities or towns whose populations are less than 10,000 employ them)

The following positions are excluded from LEOFF membership:
- Noncommissioned people in positions that are primarily clerical or secretarial
- Deputy sheriffs who have not passed a civil service exam
- Directors of public safety or public safety officers in cities or towns whose populations are less than 10,000, if they were receiving a LEOFF retirement allowance on July 25, 1993

Fire fighters: A fire fighter is someone who has the legal authority and primary responsibility to direct or perform fire protection activities (preventing, controlling and extinguishing fires). Secondary fire protection activities might include incidental functions, such as housekeeping, equipment maintenance, grounds maintenance, fire safety inspections, lecturing, performing community fire drills, and inspecting homes and schools for fire hazards. Supervisory fire fighter personnel meet the criteria of a fire fighter.

The following positions are excluded from LEOFF membership:
- Fire fighters who have not completed a civil service exam (if the employer requires it)
- Volunteer or resident volunteer fire fighters

Membership in LEOFF might be optional for some elected or appointed officials. Please contact DRS if you are elected or appointed to the Legislature or another state elective office.

Previous membership in another Washington state public service retirement system
Membership in another of Washington’s public service retirement systems (including the city retirement systems of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane) can affect your:
- Eligibility for LEOFF Plan 2 membership
- Eligibility to retire
- Benefit calculation

If you have ever been a member in another of Washington’s retirement plans, it is important that you contact us to confirm your eligibility and discuss your retirement options.

If you have earned service credit in another of the state’s public retirement systems, you may be able to combine your LEOFF service credit with credit you earned in the other system(s). For more information, read the What Is Dual Membership and How Does It Affect Me? publication.
**Contributing to the plan**
You are required to contribute a percentage of your salary or wages to your retirement plan. This includes overtime and tax-deferred wages, but it doesn’t include severance pay or cash payments for unused sick or vacation leave.

If you have questions about the compensation your employer reports for you, please contact your employer.

The state’s and your employer’s contributions are also based on a percentage of your salary or wages. They aren’t matching funds, and you cannot withdraw them if you leave public service.

When you retire, the monthly benefit you receive will have been funded over time by your contributions, the state’s contributions, your employer’s contributions and investment earnings. The LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board adopts contribution rates and periodically adjusts them to reflect the overall cost of the plan. The Legislature has the final decision on contribution rates.

Federal law limits the amount of compensation you can pay retirement system contributions on and that can be used in your benefit calculation. The amount can be adjusted each year (see the current IRS limit). If you reach the limit in any calendar year, you don’t pay contributions for the remainder of the year and any salary earned over that amount isn’t used in your pension calculation.

**Earning service credit**
**Service credit** is based on the number of hours you work, which your employer reports to DRS. When you retire, your service credit is a part of your monthly benefit calculation.

You receive one service credit month for each calendar month in which you are compensated for 90 or more hours of work. No more than one month of service credit can be earned each calendar month, even if more than one employer is reporting hours you work.

You receive half a service credit if you work fewer than 90 hours but at least 70 hours. You receive one quarter a service credit for any calendar month in which you receive compensation for fewer than 70 hours in a calendar month.

**Designating your beneficiary**
The **beneficiary** information you give DRS tells us the person(s) you want to receive your remaining benefit, if any, after your death. You can submit or update your beneficiary information at any time before retirement in your online retirement account. Sign up for or log in to your account. Then select My Account > View/Edit (beside Beneficiary). You have the option of submitting a paper Beneficiary Designation form instead, if you prefer.

If you don’t submit this information, any benefits due will be paid to your surviving spouse or minor child. If you don’t have a surviving spouse or minor child, we will pay your estate.

Be sure to review your beneficiary designation periodically and update it in your online retirement account if you need to make a change. If you marry, divorce or have another significant change in your life, be sure to update your beneficiary designation because these life events might invalidate your previous choices.

State-registered **domestic partners**, according to RCW 26.60.010, have the same **survivor** and death benefits as married spouses. Contact the Secretary of State’s Office if you have questions about domestic partnerships.
When you will be vested
Once you have at least five years of service credit in LEOFF, you have a vested right to a retirement benefit.

If you leave LEOFF employment before you’re eligible to retire, you can choose to either leave your contributions in the plan, where they will continue to earn interest, or you can withdraw your contributions. If you have 10 or more years of LEOFF service credit, you can withdraw 150% of your accumulated contributions.

If you decide to withdraw your contributions, you give up your right to a future LEOFF retirement benefit. See “Returning to public service” on page 7 to find out more about re-establishing your benefit rights in certain circumstances.

When you will be eligible to retire
You are eligible to retire at age 53 if you have at least five years of service credit.

Options to retire earlier are available (see “Early retirement” on page 11), but your benefit will be reduced to reflect that you will be receiving it over a longer period of time. To retire early, you must be at least 50 and have 20 or more years of service credit.

If you have at least 20 years of service credit and leave LEOFF-covered employment before age 53, you don’t have to retire immediately. You can wait until age 53 to retire. If you do, your benefit will increase by about 3% per year from the date you leave LEOFF-covered employment until the date you reach age 53.

How your monthly benefit will be calculated
Your benefit is determined by your service credit years and compensation. When you retire, this formula will be used to calculate your benefit:

\[ \text{monthly benefit} = 2\% \times \text{service credit years} \times \text{FAS} \]

Final Average Salary (FAS) is the average of your 60 consecutive highest paid service credit months. Any severance pay or lump sum payment for unused sick leave or vacation/annual leave is not included.

Example
Using the formula

If you retire at age 53 with 20 years of service credit and a monthly Final Average Salary of $8,000, your monthly benefit is $3,200, calculated as follows:

\[ 2\% \times 20 \times \$8,000 = \$3,200 \]

Planning for retirement
Even though retirement might seem far away, planning for it now is one of the best things you can do for yourself and your family. Your monthly benefit will be an important part of your income in retirement, but it is just a portion of what you will need. How do you begin developing your personal plan for retirement? First, estimate how much money you will need. That can vary based on factors that include:

- The retirement lifestyle you’ll want
- Your health
- Whether you’ll carry debt into retirement
- Your life expectancy

Next, estimate how much money you will receive from all sources, such as Social Security, personal savings and other employer pension plans. When you compare this number with what you think you will need, you can adjust your savings plan accordingly.

Many tools can help you with your planning. Here are some on the DRS website:

- **Live webinars** are available to attend online. Topics include Plan 2, Plan 3, plan choice, the Deferred Compensation Program (DCP), distributions from Plan 3, investment basics and Social Security basics.
Retirement seminars are available to attend in person. You can also watch seminars when it’s convenient for you on the DRS Retirement Seminars webpage. Topics include Plan 1, Plan 2, Plan 3, DCP, Social Security and health care options, and the Voluntary Employees’ Beneficiary Association (VEBA).

The benefit estimator within your online account can calculate your monthly benefit based on a variety of scenarios (for example, different retirement dates) using your actual account data. If you haven’t already registered for this service, it takes just a few minutes to do so.

The Deferred Compensation Program (DCP) is a special type of savings program that helps you invest for the retirement lifestyle you want to achieve. Unlike traditional savings accounts, DCP is tax-deferred. That means it lowers your taxable income while you are working and it delays payments of income on your investments until you withdraw your funds. Contributions are automatically deducted from your paycheck, so saving is easy. You can start with as little as $30 per month. You can also let your contributions grow with percentage deductions.

Be sure to revisit your plan periodically and adjust for any changes in your professional and personal life.

Leaving public service

If you leave LEOFF employment, you can choose to either leave your contributions in the plan until you’re eligible to retire or withdraw them. The IRS requires that you begin taking payment of your monthly benefit no later than age 72, unless you are still employed.

Leaving LEOFF-covered employment is the only circumstance in which you can withdraw your contributions. Doing so cancels any rights and benefit you have accrued in LEOFF. If you have 10 or more years of LEOFF service credit, you can withdraw 150% of your accumulated contributions. You can restore your contributions and re-establish your benefit only in certain circumstances (see the next section).

There are tax implications to withdrawing your contributions, so you might want to contact the IRS or a tax advisor before making a decision. The Withdrawal of Retirement Contributions publication offers more detailed information.

Be sure to keep us up to date on any name or address changes. Also keep your beneficiary designation current, because a divorce, marriage or other change might invalidate it.

Returning to public service

If you leave your position, withdraw your contributions and later return to LEOFF work, you might be able to restore your previous service credit. To do so, you must repay the total amount of the contributions you withdrew plus interest within five years of returning to work or before you retire, whichever comes first. Contact us to find out that amount.

A dual member, or someone who belongs to more than one retirement system, might be able to restore service credit earned in a retirement system other than LEOFF.

Milestones/life changes

Becoming vested

When you have at least five years of service credit in LEOFF Plan 2, you have a vested right to a retirement benefit. This is a significant milestone in your public service career.

A dual member, or someone who belongs to more than one retirement system, might be able to restore service credit earned in a retirement system other than LEOFF.
Each time you become a dual member, you’ll have 24 months to restore service credit earned in a previous retirement system.

It might still be possible to purchase service credit after the deadline has passed. However, the cost in that case is considerably higher.

See more at Plan 2 Recovery of Withdrawn or Optional Service Credit for PERS, SERS, TRS, PSERS and LEOFF. You might find helpful information in What Is Dual Membership and How Does It Affect Me?

Marriage or divorce
Marrying, divorcing or separating can affect your monthly benefit.

Court-ordered property division
A court-ordered property division could affect your benefit. As long as the order complies with applicable laws, we will pay a monthly benefit to your ex-spouse according to the division. The publication How Can a Property Division Affect My Retirement Account? contains detailed information.

Updating your beneficiary
The beneficiary information you give DRS tells us the person(s) you want to receive your remaining benefit, if any, after your death. You can submit or update your beneficiary information at any time before retirement in your online retirement account. Sign up for or log in to your account. Then select My Account > View/Edit (beside Beneficiary). You have the option of submitting a paper Beneficiary Designation form instead, if you prefer.

If you marry or divorce before you retire, you need to update your beneficiary information, even if your beneficiary remains the same. It’s very important to keep it up to date.

If the unexpected happens
Temporary leave from your job
You might need to take a temporary leave from your job because of:
• Military service
• An authorized leave of absence
• A temporary disability

If so, you might be able to obtain service credit for work time missed while you were on leave.

Service credit for military service
If you left your position for uniformed military service, you might be eligible to receive service credit for that period. To qualify, you must:
• Apply for a position with the same LEOFF employer within 90 days of receiving an honorable discharge
• Pay the contributions within five years of returning to employment or before you retire, whichever comes first; contributions might not be required if your military service occurred during certain periods of war and you earned a campaign medal

If you become totally incapacitated as a result of serving in the United States military, you (or your surviving spouse or children, in the case of your death) can apply for military service credit without returning to employment.

See Military Service Credit.

Service credit for an unpaid, authorized leave of absence
You could be able to earn up to two years of service credit for an authorized unpaid leave of absence. To do so, you must:
• Return to work in a LEOFF-covered position
• Pay your contributions with interest as well as your employer’s contributions with interest for the period of time you were on leave
You must complete payment within five years of returning to employment or before you retire, whichever comes first. Find out more at Recovery of Withdrawn or Optional Service Credit for PERS, SERS, TRS, PSERS and LEOFF.

If you’re a law enforcement officer and your employer authorizes a part-time leave of absence, you can buy part-time service credit when you return to full-time employment.

Disability before retirement
In some cases, you can obtain service credit for work time missed while you were on leave for a temporary disability. If you become totally incapacitated and leave your job as a result, you might be eligible for a disability retirement benefit. Refer to LEOFF Plan 2 — Disability Benefits or call us for information.

Death before retirement
If you have fewer than 10 years of service credit at the time of your death, your contributions plus interest will be paid to your beneficiary.

If you have 10 or more years of service credit at the time of your death, your spouse (or the guardian of your minor children, if you aren’t married) can choose to receive either a lump sum payment of 150% of your contributions plus interest or a monthly benefit. If you don’t have a surviving spouse or minor children, your contributions plus interest will be paid to your beneficiary or estate.

The monthly benefit will be calculated as if you had retired and chosen a 100% survivor benefit (see Option 2 on page 12 in the “Ready to retire” section of this handbook).

If your surviving spouse dies while receiving the benefit, your minor children will receive the benefit that was being paid to your surviving spouse. The benefit will be divided equally among the children, and each will receive their portion until they turn 18.

Death as a result of an injury or occupational disease sustained during employment
If the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) determines that your death was the result of injuries sustained during the course of employment or an occupational disease or infection that arose from your employment, your beneficiary will be entitled to a one-time, duty-related death benefit.

Your surviving spouse or registered domestic partner and dependent children could also be eligible for health care and education benefits. For more information, contact DRS.

In addition, your surviving spouse, partner or, if none, the guardian of your minor children will be eligible to choose one of the following:

- A lump-sum payment of 150% of your contributions
- A monthly benefit equal to 10% of your FAS plus 2% of your FAS for each year of service beyond five years (which isn’t reduced for a survivor option and isn’t taxable)

If your surviving spouse or partner remarries
As of July 24, 2015, after L&I stops the benefit due to remarriage, your surviving spouse or domestic partner can request equivalent payments from DRS. If they chose the lump sum option before remarriage, the equivalent benefit payments from DRS will be reduced.

Your survivors are entitled to free health care benefits through the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB). Health care is paid for your survivor’s lifetime and for your children until they are no longer eligible under PEBB rules.

Disaster response benefits and service credit
There are certain circumstances, on or after March 22, 2014, when you might qualify for disaster response benefits and service credit. In all situations listed below, your death or disability must have occurred while you were in eligible federal service providing eligible emergency management services.
Death benefit while working for a LEOFF Plan 2 employer
Your surviving spouse or registered domestic partner, or if none, the guardian of your minor child or children might qualify for an unreduced death benefit if you leave the employment of your LEOFF Plan 2 employer to provide a disaster response, and you die on or after March 22, 2014. The benefit will be a minimum 10% of your Final Average Salary.

Disability benefit while working for a LEOFF Plan 2 employer
You might qualify for a disability benefit if you leave the employment of your LEOFF Plan 2 employer to provide a disaster response, and you become disabled on or after March 22, 2014. Your benefit won’t be reduced if you retire early. The benefit will be a minimum 10% of your Final Average Salary.

Service credit for leave of absence while working in eligible federal service
You might qualify for service credit for your leave of absence if you become disabled when you leave LEOFF Plan 2 employment to provide a disaster response, on or after March 22, 2014. Your surviving spouse or registered domestic partner, or if none, the guardian of your minor child or children may qualify for this service credit if you die as a result of this federal service.

Approaching retirement

Retirement planning checkup
Consider taking time to check in on your retirement planning. Have you analyzed how much you will need and how much you will have in retirement? Has anything in your plan changed? Have you joined the state’s Deferred Compensation Program (DCP) or another supplemental savings program?

Things to consider:
• Identify your retirement lifestyle goals. Will you want to travel the world or stay close to home? Different lifestyle choices can mean different financial goals.
• Take care of your health. The cost of medical care can be one of the largest expenses you incur in retirement. Getting regular checkups now and maintaining a healthy lifestyle can have an impact on what those costs will be when you retire.
• Pay down debt. Debt lessens the money you have available to save. Paying off debt while you’re still generating a paycheck will affect how much you have to save and give you greater flexibility in retirement.
• Sign up for DCP or another similar savings vehicle. (It’s never too late to get started.) If you’re already saving with DCP or another plan, consider increasing your contribution amount. Making even a small increase can make a big difference over the long run. Use the calculator on the DCP website to see the impact different contribution amounts could have. Here’s an important tip: If you’re age 50 or older, the IRS allows a higher contribution limit, which enables you to save even more in your DCP account if you choose.

These questions are key as you approach retirement:
• How much income will you need in retirement?
• What will your monthly benefit be?
• How will your benefit change if you work past age 65 or you decide to retire early?
• Will you want to increase your benefit by purchasing additional service credit?
• What other income will you have available to you in retirement?

This section can help you find the answers. If you haven’t already signed up for an online account, consider doing so. With this account, you can calculate your benefit using different scenarios and your individual account information.
Service retirement
You are eligible to retire when you are age 53 and have at least five service credit years. This formula will be used to calculate your benefit:

\[ 2\% \times \text{service credit years} \times \text{FAS} = \text{monthly benefit} \]

FAS is the average of your 60 consecutive highest paid service credit months. Any severance pay or lump sum payment for unused sick leave or vacation/annual leave is not included.

Example Service retirement
If you retire at age 53 with 20 years of service credit and a monthly Final Average Salary of $4,700, your monthly benefit is $1,880 each month, calculated as follows:

\[ 2\% \times 20 \times 4,700 = 1,880 \]

If your monthly benefit is less than $50, you can choose to take a lump sum retirement benefit. (It’s likely that only a member who retires early on disability or as a dual member would receive this type of payment.) If you receive a lump sum payment, you are considered retired from LEOFF.

Early retirement
Any retirement before age 53 is an early retirement. If you retire early, your benefit will be reduced to reflect that you will be receiving it over a longer period of time. Your benefit depends on how much service credit you have earned and your age.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>% of Option 1 benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Retiring as a dual member
If you are a member of more than one Washington state retirement system, you are a dual member. You can combine service credit earned in all dual member systems to become eligible for retirement.

In most cases, your monthly benefit will be based on the highest base salary you earned, regardless of which system you earned it in. Base salary includes your wages and overtime and can include other cash payments if those payments are included as base salary in all the retirement systems you are retiring from.

Example Dual member
If you retire at age 53 with three years of service credit from LEOFF Plan 2 and four from the Public Employees’ Retirement System (PERS) Plan 2, you are a dual member. Without dual membership, your service wouldn’t be eligible for a monthly benefit from either system. With dual membership, your service credit is combined, giving you enough to retire. Your benefit is calculated with service from that system alone. Here’s the calculation:

\[ 2\% \times 3 \times \text{LEOFF service credit years} \times \text{Final Average Salary (FAS)} = \text{LEOFF benefit} \]

\[ 2\% \times 4 \times \text{PERS service credit years} \times \text{FAS} = \text{PERS benefit} \]

\[ \text{LEOFF benefit} + \text{PERS benefit} = \text{total monthly benefit} \]

For more information, read the publication What Is Dual Membership and How Does It Affect Me?
Estimating your benefit

If you are within five years of retirement, we encourage you to review your online account and use the online benefit estimator to determine how much your benefit might be. You can use this estimator at any point in your career.

If you expect to retire within the next year, contact us through your online account or call to request a written estimate of your benefit.

Annuity options

An annuity is a guaranteed income plan you purchase. When retiring, LEOFF Plan 2 members have two available annuities.

LEOFF Plan annuity: With this annuity, the retirement benefit increase you receive is based on the dollar amount you choose to purchase. While there is no maximum amount, a minimum purchase of $25,000 is required. The funds to purchase this annuity must come from an eligible governmental plan, such as your DCP savings. Estimate the monthly retirement income increase through the “Purchase an Annuity” calculator in your online account.

Service credit annuity: This annuity allows you to add up to 60 months to your service in the final pension calculation. Purchased service credit does not actually increase the number of years you’ve worked and won’t help you qualify for retirement, but it can make a big impact when it comes to your pension benefit! Estimate the monthly retirement income increase as well as the annuity cost through the “Purchasing Service” calculator in your online account.

So how do you fund these annuities? Many members use their DCP savings account. For more information about these annuities, see DRS annuities.

Ready to retire

Applying for retirement online

To apply online, go to your online account and either sign up for or log in to your account.

The online retirement application will display only what you need based on your retirement system, plan and retirement eligibility rules. Follow the step-by-step instructions and electronically submit the application to us when you’re ready.

Applying for retirement on paper

Request a retirement application from us. Turn in the completed application with all required signatures and documentation, including proof of age for your survivor if you choose a Survivor Option (see Options 2, 3 and 4).

If you’re purchasing service credit, complete and turn in your Request to Purchase Retirement Service Credit form with your application.

Your benefit options

When you apply for retirement, you will choose one of the four benefit options shown below. Once you retire, you can change your option only in limited, specific circumstances, so select carefully.

Option 1
Single Life

This option pays the highest monthly amount of the four choices, but it is for your lifetime only. No one will receive an ongoing benefit after you die. If you die before the benefit you have received equals your contributions plus interest (as of the date of your retirement), the difference will be paid in a lump sum to your designated beneficiary.
Option 2
**Joint and 100% survivor**
Your monthly benefit under this option is less than the Single Life Option. But after your death, your survivor will receive the same benefit you were receiving for their lifetime.

Option 3
**Joint and 50% survivor**
This option applies a smaller reduction to your monthly benefit than Option 2. After your death, your survivor will receive half the benefit you were receiving for their lifetime.

Option 4
**Joint and 66.67% survivor**
This option applies a smaller reduction to your benefit than Option 2 and a larger reduction than Option 3. After your death, your survivor will receive 66.67% (or roughly two-thirds) of the benefit you were receiving for their lifetime.

**You must get consent in certain circumstances**
If you are married, legally separated or a registered domestic partner and do not leave a survivor option for your spouse/partner, the law requires their consent to your choice. If their notarized consent is not provided on your retirement application, your benefit will be calculated at Option 3 and they will be the designated survivor.

**Health insurance coverage**
Ask your employer if you will be eligible for health insurance coverage through the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) once you retire. You can also call the Health Care Authority at 800-200-1004 or visit www.hca.wa.gov.

If you qualify for continuing coverage, you must meet strict timelines to apply or request a deferral. If you are not entitled to PEBB coverage, you might be eligible for health insurance your employer provides. For more information, consult your employer.

**Federal benefit limit**
When you retire, your benefit could be limited if it exceeds the federally allowed amount. It can be adjusted annually for inflation (see the current IRS limits). Members hired before Jan. 1, 1990, have different limits. When we process your benefit estimate, we will notify you if your benefit exceeds the limit.

Few retirement system members should be impacted by this limit. If you think it could impact you, call us for additional information.

**Federal tax on your monthly benefit**
Most, if not all, of your benefit will be subject to federal income tax. The only exception will be any portion that was taxed before it was contributed. When you retire, we will let you know if any portion of your contributions has already been taxed.

Since most public employers deduct contributions before taxes, it’s likely your entire retirement benefit will be taxable.

At retirement, you must complete and submit a federal **W-4P form** to let us know how much of your benefit should be withheld for taxes.

If you don’t, IRS rules require withholding as if you are married and claiming three exemptions. You can adjust your withholding amount at any time during retirement by completing a new **W-4P form**.

For each tax year you receive a retirement benefit, we will provide you with a 1099-R form to use in preparing your tax return (see the **1099-R guide**). These forms are usually mailed at the end of January for the previous year. The information is also available through your online account.

It is your responsibility to declare the proper amount of taxable income on your tax return.
Legal actions
In general, your monthly benefit is not subject to assignment or attachment. However, it could be subject to court and administrative orders issued under federal law or for spousal maintenance and child support. You can find more information in the publication Can Legal Action Affect My Retirement Account?

When and how your benefit will be paid
After you retire, your retirement benefit will be paid at the end of each month and directly deposited in your financial institution account. You must enter your banking information in your online retirement account or complete the Direct Deposit Authorization form as part of your retirement application.

If you need to change your financial institution once you’ve started your retirement, just update your information in your online account or send us a new authorization form. In rare cases, if you are unable to receive payment by direct deposit, payment will be mailed at the end of each month.

Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)
On July 1 of every year following your first full year of retirement, your monthly benefit will be adjusted to a maximum of 3% per year, as determined by the Consumer Price Index.

Working after retirement
If you return to public service in Washington state after you retire, your benefit could be affected, depending on the position and number of hours you work.

In certain circumstances, you might be required to become a member of, and pay contributions to, another retirement system. You might be able to work limited hours with no impact to your benefit.

If you think you might be returning to work after retirement, call us to see if your benefit will be affected. Consider reviewing the Thinking About Working After Retirement? publication.

Benefit overpayments or underpayments
If you ever receive an overpayment of your monthly benefit, you are required to repay it. If we discover your benefit has been underpaid, we will correct the error and award you a retroactive payment, if applicable.
Changing a benefit option or survivor after you retire

Once you retire, you may change your benefit option or survivor in the following circumstances only:

• If you designate someone other than your spouse to receive your survivor benefit, you can change to an Option 1 (no survivor) benefit at any time after retirement.

• If you choose a Survivor Option (Option 2, 3 or 4) and your designated survivor dies before you do, your monthly benefit can be adjusted to the higher Option 1 payment level. Be sure to notify us to begin this change.

• If you marry or remarry after retirement and remain married for at least one year, you might be able to change your benefit option and provide a survivor benefit for your new spouse. To qualify for this opportunity, you must request the change during your second year of marriage. Contact us for estimates on how this will affect your monthly benefit. Also, be aware that this opportunity might not be available if a court-ordered property division has impacted your benefit.

• If you re-enter LEOFF membership and earn 24 months of uninterrupted service credit, you can select a different Survivor Option when you retire again.
**Glossary of terms**

**Beneficiary:** The person(s), estate, organization or trust you have designated to receive any benefit payable upon your death. Your beneficiary must have a federal tax identification number or a Social Security number.

**Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA):** On July 1 of every year following your first full year of retirement, your monthly benefit will be adjusted to reflect the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index — to a maximum of 3% per year.

**Defined benefit:** A retirement plan in which your benefit is based on a formula rather than an account balance. The formula provides a monthly benefit based on your years of service and your Final Average Salary.

**Domestic partner:** In a registered domestic partnership, both individuals have met the state’s legal requirements and registered their partnership with the Secretary of State’s Office or another jurisdiction. Contact the Secretary of State’s Office if you have questions about the requirements. Registered domestic partners have the same survivor and death benefits as married spouses. However, differences could occur in how taxes are handled at the federal level.

**Dual member:** You are a dual member if you have established membership in more than one Washington state retirement system, including First Class City Retirement Systems for Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma, but excluding Plan 1 of the Law Enforcement Officers’ and Fire Fighters’ Retirement System.

**Early retirement:** Retiring before age 53.

**Final Average Salary (FAS):** The monthly average of your 60 consecutive highest paid service credit months. Your Final Average Salary is used in determining your monthly benefit.

**Membership status:** The status of your retirement membership. This can be:
- Active, which means you are currently employed in a position covered by one of the state retirement systems
- Inactive, which means you no longer are actively contributing to the state retirement system and have not withdrawn your contributions after leaving employment (which might leave you eligible to receive a benefit once you reach retirement age)
-Withdrawn, which means you were employed in a position covered by one of the state retirement systems and you withdrew your contributions after leaving employment

**Reduced benefit:** A benefit that has been decreased by a factor provided by the Office of the State Actuary. A benefit is reduced in two situations: when you retire early or you retire and select a Survivor Option (which pays a benefit to your survivor after your death).

**Service credit:** The credit you receive each month for working in a position covered by one of the state retirement systems. Service credit is used to determine your eligibility for retirement and your benefit amount.

**Survivor:** The individual you choose — when picking Option 2, 3 or 4 at retirement — to receive benefit payments after your death.

**System/plan:** The retirement system and plan in which you are a member.

**Vested:** You have earned the right to receive a retirement benefit once you reach an eligible age.
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MISSION – Why are we here?

The King County Sheriff’s Office is a trusted partner in fighting crime and improving the quality of life for our residents and guests.

VISION – Where are we going?

The King County Sheriff’s Office is a highly effective and respected law enforcement agency and criminal justice partner, both trusted and supported, helping King County to be the safest county in America.

GOALS – How will we get there?

Through community engagement and collaboration we will:

- Develop and sustain public trust and support while reducing crime and improving the community's sense of safety.
- Improve traffic safety by reducing impaired, unsafe driving behaviors and traffic collisions.
- Recruit, hire, train and promote the best people to provide high quality, professional and responsive service.
- Provide facilities, equipment, technology, systems and processes that support achievement of our mission.
- Provide for the safety, health and wellness of members of the King County Sheriff’s Office.

OUR VALUES – How do we do business?

LEADERSHIP

- We are honest, respectful, effective and humble.
- We have clear expectations.
- Our managers model expectations and we lead by example for all levels.

INTEGRITY

- We are open, transparent, and accountable to the public we serve.
- We acknowledge that public trusts matters – all the time.
- Good faith performance errors are addressed through training.
- Bad faith, criminal behavior, abuse of authority, and repeated or egregious acts are not tolerated.

SERVICE

- We are timely in our response and seek every opportunity to have positive impact on the people we serve.
- We are good stewards of taxpayer dollars, engage and collaborate, and strive to innovate.
- We focus on hot spot locations, high impact and repeat offenders, and visible presence when needed.

TEAMWORK

- We recognize that relevant training and effective communications increase public and officer safety.
- We fight crime constitutionally.
- Our managers coach, mentor and develop a strong team culture.
A key principle adopted in our shared city interlocal agreement is that, “each city should have the ability to choose unique police uniforms and markings for police vehicles assigned to the city.”

Today, partner cities and agencies wear dark blue or black uniforms with unique police patches. Partners also design their own vehicle markings, provided that some form Sheriff’s logo is retained on the vehicle (you’ll usually find it by the mud flap!). In addition to the unique police department’s “look,” partners have complete control over policing priorities, department staffing, police program type, and selection process for their police chiefs.

Contract Partners

The King County Sheriff’s Office (KCSO) provides services to all of Unincorporated King County and more than 50 other entities. We provide comprehensive police service to 12 cities (Beaux Arts Village, Burien, Carnation, Covington, Kenmore, Maple Valley, Newcastle, Sammamish, SeaTac, Shoreline, Skykomish, Woodinville), as well as the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Sound Transit, Metro Transit, and the King County International Airport. Our Marine unit provides contract services for various cities and the unincorporated areas along Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish shorelines. Sound Transit and Metro Transit contract for complete law enforcement service on train, light rail, buses and for other transit facilities and properties. All contract partners establish their level of service and set priorities tailored to the unique needs of their communities and the customers they serve. The contracting program is beneficial for the citizens of Unincorporated King County and for those living in contract cities because all are able to share the cost of expensive infrastructures, like the Communications Center and Records Management System. At the same time they also share specialty units such as SWAT, Air Support, Marine, Bomb Detection, Major Crime Investigations, and Major Accident Response and Reconstruction.
The K-9 Units are an integral part of police response. The Sheriff’s Office K9 Unit includes 8 handler and dog teams. Many of our K-9 teams are cross-trained to perform both generalist and narcotics detection functions. In addition to performing drug searches, they also can provide backup to deputies, locate suspects and victims, and find evidence at or near crime scenes.

K9 Unit

Behind the Scenes KIRO7 and K9 - https://kiro.tv/2M5fG2a

**Generalist Police Dogs**

Generalist police dog handlers and their partners attend a 12-week (480-hour) training course. During the course, the dog and handler learn to work together through basic obedience and agility. The dog is taught to locate and track human scent, search areas and buildings for suspects, evidence, and how to protect their handler. The handler learns to read and interpret the dog’s body language and the noises the dog makes when it has located something and is on a track.

**Narcotics Police Dogs**

Narcotics police dog handlers and their partners attend a training course where the dog is trained to recognize and alert the handler to the presence of narcotics.

**Explosives Detection Dogs**

Explosives detection dogs and their handlers are part of our Bomb Unit.
The King County Sheriff’s Office Major Accident Response and Reconstruction (MARR) Unit is responsible for responding to all fatal and critical injury collisions in our jurisdiction. The unit also investigates felony hit and run collisions and assists the Major Crimes Unit in diagramming crime scenes. Upon request the unit is available to assist other agencies with these specialized skills.

MARR Unit: Major Accident Response & Reconstruction


Our MARR detectives use state-of-the-art specialized equipment to reconstruct motor vehicle collisions and major crime scenes, with two- and three-dimensional computer imaging. The work requires significant ongoing training and regular use of equipment and computer software to maintain proficiency. Their efforts to reconstruct collisions, photograph scenes, and analyze data are used in both criminal and tort cases (e.g., those related to road design).

The unit includes one sergeant, six detectives, and one administrative support staff. The detectives and sergeant are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
The King County Sheriff’s Air Support Unit is the only full-time rotary-wing law enforcement aviation unit in Washington State. Four other counties (Chelan, Thurston, Snohomish and Spokane) each operate helicopters on a limited, part-time basis, primarily for wilderness Search & Rescue and wilderness firefighting support.

The Air Support Unit operates six days per week. We operate one Bell 206B3 helicopter, one UH-1H “Huey” helicopter that we received from the Federal 1208 (surplus) program and one Bell 407 received from regional UASI funds. Our total annual flight time averages about 1200 hours a year.

**Patrol**
A helicopter’s vantage point permits observation of activities not seen by ground officers, such as on rooftops and in fenced yards. At normal patrol speeds and altitudes, a helicopter can keep an object in view on the ground ten times longer than a ground officer moving at normal street patrol speeds. Our helicopters are equipped with tracking equipment capable of locating bank robbers and stolen vehicles. We have color and forward looking infrared (FLIR) cameras and 30 millioncandle power spotlights that enable us to find suspects at night.

**Interagency Support**
In addition to its many law enforcement applications, the helicopter may be required to assist other agencies in diversified missions. We have assisted the Secret Service, FBI, DEA, Customs and local law enforcement with a wide variety of surveillances and other missions. In many jurisdictions, law enforcement helicopters are often used to transport local and government officials and visiting dignitaries, providing a significant and economical improvement in security.

**Search and Rescue**
The helicopter’s excellent visibility and the ability to hover make it a very effective Search & Rescue (SAR) vehicle. We have assisted the SAR community throughout Washington and Oregon. Unhampered by terrain, a helicopter can quickly bypass ground obstacles, saving valuable time. It can search large areas quickly, allowing ground searchers to concentrate their efforts in other search areas. Using the hoist we can insert rescuers and evacuate victims. The time saved can easily mean the difference between life and death.
The King County Sheriff’s Office Marine Rescue Dive Unit (MRDU) deploys specially trained and equipped Deputies that are responsible for water-related law enforcement, investigations, rescue and recovery work.

Operational areas include Puget Sound, Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish and other lakes, ponds and rivers throughout the unincorporated areas of King County, cities / towns that contract for service and any other jurisdiction that requests specific assistance.

**Marine and Dive Unit**

https://twitter.com/kcsos rescue

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**Public Safety SCUBA Diving**
Deputies are trained and equipped public safety SCUBA divers that primarily dive in cold waters with little to no visibility, including moving water (rivers). Deputies receive specialized training in underwater evidence searches and evidence, victim and vehicle recoveries. Deputies utilize underwater cameras, metal detectors and a remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) equipped with sonar, video and a gabber jaw. Divers can be deployed by helicopter into remote and hard to reach areas.

**Swiftwater, Flood and Ice Rescue**
Deputies are trained and equipped in swiftwater, flood and ice rescue and recovery operations. Deputies utilize special equipment to conduct rescues and recoveries in and around rivers, flooded areas and frozen bodies of water. Deputies can be lowered by helicopter hoist into remote and hard to reach areas.

**Vessel Operations**
Deputies are trained in emergency vessel operations. The MRDU operates vessels of various types, capabilities and sizes that allow deployment on bodies of water almost anywhere (including by helicopter) when needed.

**Vehicle Operations**
Deputies drive specially equipped 4x4 trucks to aid in reaching remote areas, tow various vessels and carry a wide assortment of rescue equipment.
The TAC 30 Unit (SWAT) is a team that is trained in the use of special weapons, equipment and tactics necessary to contain, control and arrest suspects or individuals under circumstances that standard patrol deputies are ill-equipped to resolve without extreme personal hazards.

The TAC 30 Unit may be called to the following situations:

- Counter-sniper activity
- To protect police officers, firefighters and the general public during unusually dangerous situations.
- Citizen and hostage rescue
- Provide security for diplomatic and government officials while visiting King County
- High risk or heightened security prisoner transports
- High risk search warrant and arrest warrant service
- Counter-terrorist operations
- Surveillance details
- Any situation by its apparent nature, which is life threatening and that would be beyond the scope of a normal police response or capability.
- Any response requiring specialized equipment
- Maritime security operations
King County Regional AFIS made its first hit in April 1988 on an Auburn rape case. The suspect was convicted in Superior Court. Since then, numerous other crimes have been solved through the use of AFIS...

Brutal Rape at Senior Care Center
In July 2017, a man broke into a room at a senior care center in SeaTac and brutally assaulted and raped a 71-year-old resident. Detectives had no suspects. AFIS staff processed the crime scene and lifted a print that produced a suspect name in just over 24 hours after the crime. A warrant was issued and the suspect was arrested two days later. “Without that fingerprint... we certainly wouldn’t be here as quickly as we are”, said Lisa Mulligan, SeaTac Police Chief.

As of January 2018, the suspect is awaiting trial. This charge qualifies under the Washington State Three Strikes Law.

Attempted Robbery Turned Homicide
In January 2017, a man was robbed, shot, killed, and dumped in the parking lot of a Federal Way apartment complex. Several days later, the victim’s vehicle was found abandoned and set on fire. With no leads, AFIS staff examined the victim’s vehicle for latent evidence. Latent prints were collected and identified, which assisted detectives in their investigation.

In March 2018, prosecutors charged a suspect with first-degree murder. He is being held on $1 million bail while awaiting trial.

Mobile ID: A “Must Have” Resource
An officer reported three successful field identifications in the same week. The first was a person of interest in a Newcastle burglary. The second was a driver who gave a false name and whose driving status had been revoked. The third confirmed the identity of a suspected burglar’s female associate.

“The response times were fast and the mobile fingerprint scanner was easy to use. This is an absolutely fantastic tool and is quickly becoming a ‘must-have’ resource in the field,” Officer Scott McDonald, Newcastle Police.

And there are many more stories!

AFIS Program Overview
King County’s Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a property tax levy funded program that provides staff and technology to support criminal fingerprint identification services for all 39 cities, transit services, and unincorporated areas of the county. This regional approach provides enhanced services through shared resources:

1. To quickly identify arrested individuals, preventing the wrongful release of those using false names, and establish accurate criminal history records.
2. To identify crime scene fingerprints and palmprints that aid in investigations and provide evidence in court.

Strategic Benefits
- Invests in centralized staff and technology with an overall lower cost than agencies funding their own
- Contributes to information sharing among agencies
- Supports task forces, special initiatives, and major crime investigations

Technology
- The AFIS database searches and stores biometric records
- 53 Livescan devices capture prints, photos and demographics for transmission to the local, state, and federal identification systems
- 270 Mobile ID devices, used by officers in the field to identify people within minutes

For more information please contact:
afis@kingcounty.gov
Or visit us on the Web!
www.kingcounty.gov/afis

The Regional AFIS Program promotes public safety and contributes to crime reduction by providing fingerprint identification services and technology to criminal justice agencies throughout King County.

Available in Alternative Formats
**Arrest Identification**

Police agencies and correctional facilities throughout King County use Livescan to collect and transmit fingerprint images to the AFIS database for search. The goal is to ensure that anyone using a false name is identified prior to their release from custody, preventing them from evading warrants, or hiding criminal records. This also ensures individuals aren’t held wrongfully under other’s warrants.

AFIS staff ensure fingerprints, palmprints, mugshots, and arrest information are reported quickly to state and federal systems, so that courts, law enforcement, and licensing agencies have access to the most current criminal records possible. These records aid in investigations, warrant and background checks, and sentencing determinations.

Additionally, AFIS works with identity theft victims and identifies unknown injured, unconscious, or deceased persons.

**Program Technology**

Automated Fingerprint Identification System

“AFIS” is a biometric identification system that uses digital imaging technology to obtain, store, and analyze print data. The program provides AFIS search capability to support all law enforcement agencies within King County.

**Crime Scene Identification**

Prints recovered from crime scenes are known as latent prints. Examiners use various techniques to reveal prints left on evidence to identify potential suspects. When there are no known suspects, latent prints are searched against millions of prints in the AFIS database. AFIS produces a list of potential matches based on ridge detail within the print. Examiners then compare the latent prints to prints on file to determine who left the impressions. Examiners commonly testify in court regarding conclusions reached.

**The AFIS Program supports 53 Livescans and 270 handheld Mobile ID devices**

Located throughout the county at various police agencies and correctional facilities.
A HIGHLY ENGAGED, DIVERSE, AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE WORKFORCE IS CRITICAL TO SERVING THE PEOPLE OF KING COUNTY WELL.

AN ENGAGED WORKFORCE MEANS:

- Higher productivity
- Better customer service
- Commitment to improving how we deliver services
- Employees go “the extra mile”
- Commitment to innovation
- Results for our region
- Lower turnover
- Lower rates of absenteeism
- Fewer complaints and grievances
- Fewer safety incidents

KING COUNTY’S WORKFORCE AT A GLANCE

5th LARGEST EMPLOYER IN THE REGION

1. The Boeing Co.
2. Microsoft Corp.
3. University of Washington
4. Amazon.com
5. King County Government
6. Starbucks Corp.

WITH ABOUT 14,000 EMPLOYEES

80% OF EMPLOYEES ARE REPRESENTED BY 110 BARGAINING UNITS

WHY WE’RE STRENGTHENING OUR WORKPLACE AND WORKFORCE

King County is growing and becoming more vibrant and multicultural.

We need a highly engaged, more diverse, and culturally responsive workforce to serve our changing communities.

WE ARE MORE RACIALLY DIVERSE THAN THE AVAILABLE WORKFORCE

33% KC Employees
27% Available Workforce

...AND EVEN LESS RACIALLY DIVERSE AT THE HIGHER END OF THE PAY SCALE.

22% KC Staff Earning $50+/hour

38.5% KC Population

33% KC Employees

BUT LESS RACIALLY DIVERSE THAN THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

NEARLY 40% OF OUR WORKFORCE WILL TURN OVER IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS BECAUSE OF RETIREMENTS AND REGULAR ATTRITION.

We need to develop and promote our current employees and recruit the next generation of County employees.

WHO IS THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES?

YOUNGER
Born between 1982 & 2004

MORE RACIALLY DIVERSE

44%

FOR MANY POTENTIAL EMPLOYEES, ENGLISH ISN’T THEIR FIRST LANGUAGE

PEOPLE OF COLOR

50+ LINES OF BUSINESS

...
EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT VARIES ACROSS KING COUNTY GOVERNMENT BY RACE, POSITION AND GENDER

OVERALL EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT INDEX: 70%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Position/Gender</th>
<th>Engagement Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Asian American</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black, African American</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Origin</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Race</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer Not to Disclose</td>
<td>57%</td>
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</table>

BY RACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Engagement Index</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Asian American</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Race</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer Not to Disclose</td>
<td>57%</td>
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BY GENDER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Engagement Index</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>71%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer Not to Disclose</td>
<td>53%</td>
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BY POSITION

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<tr>
<td>Administrative and Managerial</td>
<td>85%</td>
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<td>Administrative Services</td>
<td>76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community, Social and Health Services</td>
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<td>Judicial and Legal Services</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement and Public Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office and Clerical</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific and Technical</td>
<td>69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service and Maintenance</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skilled Trades</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown/Other</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
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SIGNS OF PROGRESS
NOTABLE IMPROVEMENTS IN EMPLOYEE OPINIONS SINCE 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Improvement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“I have an acceptable workload that allows me to do my best work.”</td>
<td>+21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I feel committed to King County’s goals.”</td>
<td>+21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“My work unit is open to new ideas to improve the way we work.”</td>
<td>+20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“My work unit acts on the feedback we receive from customers/clients.”</td>
<td>+8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I have the tools and resources to do my job well.”</td>
<td>+7%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

TAKING ACTION
WE WILL CONTINUE AND EXPAND THE WORK OF INVESTING IN OUR EMPLOYEES TO ENSURE THAT WE CAN BETTER SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

IN 2017-18, WE WILL FOCUS IN THREE AREAS:

1. Strengthen our workplace so every employee is engaged and experiences trust and respect, is treated with dignity, and feels confident to perform at their best.

   - Say: Pride & willingness to advocate
   - Stay: A sense of belonging & contribution
   - Strive: Going the extra mile
   - Drivers of Engagement: Strategic Alignment, Trust in Senior Leadership, Relationships with Supervisor, Peer Culture, Personal Influence, Growth and Development, Recognition, Work Environment

2. Invest in our employees’ professional growth through training, development, coaching and mentoring so they can lead, innovate and meet the expectations of our customers.

   - Only 50% of employees are satisfied with opportunities to achieve their career goals.

3. Build a more culturally responsive workforce at all levels, that reflects the diversity of the people and communities we serve.

   - The needs of our residents are changing...and we’re changing to meet those needs. Our diversity makes us stronger.

HOW WE WILL MONITOR PROGRESS

- Engagement scores and reduced disparities in engagement
- Levels of racial diversity in the higher pay ranges
- Use of sick leave
- Customer satisfaction

Sources: King County Engagement Survey (2012, 2015); Gallup Research Organization; King County Peoplesoft; U.S. Census
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**Mobility**
Deliver a safe, reliable, and seamless network of transportation options to get people and goods where they need to go, when they need to get there.
1. Increase integration between transportation modes and all service providers
2. Preserve and optimize the mobility system
3. Ensure safety and security for customers and employees using the mobility network
4. Provide more equitable mobility access and reduce historic gaps

**Safety and Justice**
Provide for a safe and just community through proactive law enforcement and an accessible and fair justice system, while implementing alternatives to divert people from the criminal justice system.
1. Enhance community safety
2. Reduce disproportionate minority representation in the criminal justice system
3. Increase diversion of young people from the criminal justice system and minimize the harmful effects of incarceration on youth
4. Reduce overall incarceration rates in County jails for individuals who do not pose a public safety risk
5. Support a safe, accessible, and fair justice system by developing long-term, sustainable funding solutions

**Health and Human Services**
Improve the health and well-being of all people in our community.
1. Ensure that all babies are born healthy and establish a strong foundation for lifelong health and well-being
2. Provide equitable opportunities for all children to progress through childhood safe and healthy, with academic and life skills to thrive in their community
3. Reduce disparities and improve overall health and personal well-being to create thriving communities
4. Improve the outcomes and lower the costs of care in King County by focusing on prevention and recovery from health and social problems
5. Improve health, social outcomes, and experience of care while lowering County costs for high utilizers of jail with mental health and/or substance use conditions

**Economic Vitality**
Increase access to family-wage job opportunities throughout the County.
1. Add and retain jobs in King County, prioritizing sectors that lead to family-wage jobs
2. Improve pay and benefits for the lowest wage workers
3. Provide opportunities for people in low-wage jobs to move up career ladders
4. Prepare all youth to achieve self-sufficiency and be contributing members of society

**Accessible, Affordable Housing**
Increase access to quality housing that is affordable to all.
1. Improve services to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time
2. Provide targeted affordable housing resources to communities and individuals that meet their specific needs
3. Increase housing stability for low-income families
4. Seek innovative partnerships to expand the supply and funding of affordable housing

**Healthy Environment**
Preserve open space and rural character while addressing climate change.
1. Maintain rural character by focusing new growth in urban areas
2. Protect and support healthy and productive farms, forests, and open spaces
3. Reduce countywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030
4. Integrate climate preparedness into County operations and provision of public services

**Efficient, Accountable Regional and Local Government**
Ensure that County government operates efficiently and effectively and is accountable to the public.
1. Develop a highly engaged, diverse, culturally responsive, and high-performing workforce
2. Align funding, policy, and operational goals of King County government with community priorities
3. Optimize County operations through innovation and continuous improvement
4. Deliver consistent, responsive, equitable, high-quality services to residents, cities, and districts
5. Exercise sound financial and risk management and build King County’s long-term fiscal strength
The Electorate of King County

2019–2020 King County Organization
Elected Officials, Departments and Divisions

SEPTEMBER 2018
GREETINGS!
from your human resources learning and development team

We’re excited to serve and support you as you excel at your job. In order to keep you learning and engaged—qualities we feel are essential to delivering second-to-none customer service—we focus on giving you a supportive place to grow. A place to develop your skills, do work that matters, and bring your best, authentic self.

CLASSROOM TRAININGS
Do you like bouncing ideas off others and learning from shared insights? Discover our trainings delivered in a classroom setting. They focus on categories that are key to our culture and service delivery.

KC eLEARNING
Maybe you enjoy the flexibility of 24/7 access, learning at your own pace in your own space, or finding that just-in-time support for an immediate task. With thousands of courses, books, and videos at your disposal, KC eLearning is a valuable resource.

If that isn’t cool enough, there’s an app to take your learning mobile. Suddenly that morning bus ride becomes productive, valuable time, and you have videos from subject matter experts at your fingertips—a great way to kick off meetings.

To learn more and begin leveraging this asset, head to: KingCounty.gov/eLearning.

continued on other side
ONE-ON-ONE CAREER COACHING
We understand this is just the beginning of your new gig, but when you’re ready, you can talk one-on-one with a career coach in the employee resource center. You’ll find guidance, tools, training, and resources to help you manage your career, identify employment opportunities, and enhance your skills.

WE’RE HERE FOR YOU
We’re looking forward to helping you develop at King County and seeing the positive ways in which you serve our communities.

Website: KingCounty.gov/Learning
Email: Learning@KingCounty.gov
Career Coaching: KingCounty.gov/CareerResources

LEARNING GOALS

An integral part of contributing to our King County culture—and to your career success—is your commitment to learn and grow. Instead of limiting yourself by asking “Am I good at something?” try inspiring yourself everyday by asking “How can I get better?” Just like our lean-based approach to service delivery, this growth mindset encourages lifelong growth and improvement.

With that in mind, jot down a few areas in which you’re eager to learn and improve. These may come in handy in the days, weeks and months ahead, as you build your capabilities, make an impact, and chart your career path at King County.

30-day learning goal: ____________________________________________

90-day learning goal: ____________________________________________

One-year goal: ____________________________________________

Orientation check in contact (name and email address): ____________________________________________

“I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious.”
--Albert Einstein
While Washington State is known for its lattes, software companies, airplane manufacturing and music scene, its home to so much more. From the world-class vineyards perched above the Columbia River in high-desert eastern Washington to the only temperate rainforest in the lower 48 states on the Olympic Peninsula, Washington has it all. No other state offers a richness of experience like Washington. In the morning you could be shopping for artwork while dodging flying salmon thrown by fish mongers in the Pike Place Market, then in the afternoon walking along meadows of wildflowers in aptly named Paradise in the shadows of Mt. Rainier. You can kayak near pods of orcas off the coast of the San Juan Islands one day, and sample wine on the banks of Lake Chelan the next.

The population of King County was 2,269,675 in the 2020 census. King is the most populous county in Washington, and the 13th-most populous in the United States. The county seat is Seattle, which is the state’s largest city. As of 2011, King County was the 86th highest-income county in the United States. King County has nearly twice the land area of the state of Rhode Island. The highest point in the county is Mount Daniel at 2,426 meters (7,959 feet) above sea level.
The 10 Biggest Employers in the Seattle Area

By Nathan Williams

Updated 05/25/18

Seattle is a city filled with big businesses and major companies. Several Fortune 500 companies are headquartered in and around the Emerald City, driving a healthy employment market and inviting new residents to move to the city - so much so that Seattle real estate has been one of the hottest markets in the country for a few years in a row.

But who are the top Seattle-area employers? While the Fortune 500 companies definitely make a showing, they're not the only ones at the top.

Dependable companies that once seemed like a permanent part of the community (Washington Mutual, Seattle P-I) have disappeared. Others have exploded out of nowhere (like Microsoft and Starbucks 20 years ago). It may be that tomorrow’s big employer is tucked away in a third-story office in Belltown right now, or maybe in somebody’s garage in Renton.

But for the moment, the biggest employers in Seattle are major companies whose names are often known worldwide.

The biggest employers in the Seattle area:

**Boeing** – about 80,000 employees

With Boeing known for sometimes going through cycles of mass layoffs, it’s easy to forget that they are still far and away the state’s largest private employer with about 80,000 employees in the area (and more than 165,000 worldwide). While Seattle is no longer the Jet City of old,
dependent entirely on aerospace (and thank goodness), Boeing is still an essential part of our economic landscape and community.

And though a Boeing job may not offer cradle-to-the-grave security anymore, it’s still one of the best jobs in town with strong benefits and pay.

**Joint Base Lewis-McChord** - about 56,000 employees

The Seattle area has a major military presence, largely due to JBLM located about an hour south of Seattle, just south of Tacoma.

With 45,000 military and civilian employees working on base and others working offbase, JBLM has a major impact on the local employment scene (and the jobs offer some pretty solid benefits as well).

**Microsoft** – about 42,000 employees

Though the company was actually founded in New Mexico, Bill Gates quickly moved the company back to his home in the Puget Sound region and launched the great Seattle tech boom, which is still shaping the region today. Microsoft remains a powerful economic and political force in the region. Until people stop buying PCs, expect Microsoft’s dominance to continue.

**University of Washington** – about 25,000 employees

With its largest campus in Seattle and two growing campuses in Bothell and Tacoma, the University of Washington is a major player in the Washington State employment scene. The UW’s national stature as a major research university is primarily the legacy of powerful senators Scoop Jackson and Warren Magnuson, who in the ‘60s and ‘70s secured huge rewards of federal investment in the school. Today, it’s considered one of the best value undergraduate educations in America, and boasts highly ranked medical, law and business schools as well as several Nobel Prize winners.

**Amazon** – about 25,000 employees

No company did as much in the ‘90s to push online shopping into the mainstream of America, showing that the experience could be safe, fast and inexpensive. More importantly for Seattle, Amazon built a robust structure that survived the dot-com bubble burst of the end of that decade, and has thrived despite the massive retail downturn in recent years. With new buildings in South Lake Union, Amazon has boomed as an employer and in fact is the top private employer in town. Amazon also has several fulfillment (shipping) centers located throughout the Seattle-Tacoma area in cities like Renton and Dupont so jobs are spread out among these. The company is only growing its local presence so don't expect its place on this list to change anytime soon.

**Providence Health & Services** - about 20,000 employees
Providence is the third-largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. with a presence in Alaska, California, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

Providence has a heavy presence in the Seattle area with Swedish Medical Center in Seattle and Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, as well as its 15-acre office campus in Renton, just south of Seattle.

**Walmart - about 20,000 employees**

Walmart has become a major employer in many regions and the Northwest is no different. While many Northwest shoppers prefer local one-stop-shopping option Fred Meyer, Walmart has gained a foothold in the area with supercenters and stores in Renton, Bellevue, Tacoma, Everett, Federal Way and other Seattle-area cities. However, as of early 2016, there is still not a store within the city limits of Seattle.

**Weyerhaueser – about 10,000 employees**

Weyerhaueser’s prominence in the Northwest may have waned, as other industries have grown while logging and wood processing has remained static, but Weyerhaueser also has a more reliable future. As long as trees grow back and people buy things made of wood, expect this dependable local employer to remain a presence. Weyerhaueser's headquarters was in Federal Way from 1971 until 2016, but it has since relocated to Pioneer Square, right in the heart of Seattle.

**Fred Meyer – about 15,000 employees**

Based in Portland, Fred Meyer became the dominant Northwest grocery chain, with numerous stores in Oregon, Idaho, Washington and Alaska, before merging with Kroger. Kroger has bought dozens of grocery chains nationwide, but has so far maintained local branding and styles—nobody would mistake the inside of a massive Fred Meyer for the more boutique QFC, for instance (both Kroger companies). With its corporate offices remaining in Portland, the vast majority of Fred Meyer jobs in the Seattle area are retail, stocking and other store-level jobs.

**King County Government - about 13,000 employees**

From elected officials to desk clerks at the local licensing offices, King County government workers help make the local world go 'round. The jobs with the county are incredibly varied and include nurses, budget analysts, engineers, custodians, librarians and more - a little bit of everything!

*Updated by Kristin Kendle.*
Opportunity & Imperative

Ensuring all students have the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills they need

The Washington State Board of Education (SBE) provides oversight of the Washington K–12 education system to ensure that all students have the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills they need to be become lifelong learners, take advantage of their choice of post-secondary training and education, support themselves and their families, live satisfying, healthy and productive lives, and exercise their civic responsibilities.

Washington State is experiencing tremendous change in career opportunities, access to information, transportation, and mobility. Likewise, the demographics of our residents and our students are changing rapidly. While the pace of these changes appears to be accelerating, our schools have struggled to keep pace and meet the needs of our students and their families, communities, and employers in this vibrant and growing economy.
Over the past 10 years, we have seen a 57 percent increase in the number of English Learners enrolled in public K–12 schools.\(^1\)

We have also seen increased diversity with students of color now making up 46 percent of the student population compared to 34 percent a decade ago.\(^2\) However, the diversity of educators falls well short of the student percentage, as only 10 percent of teachers report a race other than “white.”

The rate of low-income students, as measured by the percent of youth receiving Free or Reduced Price Lunch, has risen modestly over the past decade. However, we have seen a marked increase in the share of students experiencing housing insecurity as demonstrated by a 34 percent increase in the share of students who report they have experienced homelessness in just the last five years.\(^3\)

Gaps in opportunities for all students to fully realize their potential in their education, career, and life pathways are apparent and result in performance or achievement gaps. For example, grade-level measures of science, math, and English skills; enrollment in dual credit programs; and high school graduation are all lower for students of color, students with disabilities, and students qualifying for free or reduced price lunch.

On the 3rd-grade English Language Arts assessment in 2018, 63.6 percent of white students demonstrated proficiency while 37.2 percent of Hispanic students demonstrated proficiency — a difference of more than 25 percentage points.

On the 5th-grade science assessment in 2018, 23 percent of students with disabilities scored proficient while 60 percent of students who do not report a disability met the benchmark, a performance gap of 37 percentage points.

The black-white achievement gap for Washington students from low socioeconomic homes as measured on the 8th grade NAEP math assessment grew at the second highest rate in the nation between 2011 and 2017, resulting in a gap for 2017 that is the fifth largest in the nation.
The class of 2017 four-year graduation rate for students qualifying for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program (70.0 percent) is nearly 20 percentage points lower than for students not qualifying for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program (89.5 percent).

In addition, while the diversity of the student population in Washington State has changed, the diversity amongst teachers and the school staff has not mirrored that change. This has led to disparities in strong connections to diverse communities, full understanding of students’ cultures, identities, and social and emotional needs, and in bilingual instruction. Students and families believe that teachers and other educator role models “who look like them” are essential to creating strong, trusting relationships necessary for engagement and student success.

It is imperative to bridge these opportunity gaps, remove barriers to student success, and implement new ways of providing flexibility and student-focused education to meet the needs of individual students in a rapidly changing economy. This will take more than individual teachers and counselors working to do their very best to serve all students. It will take an entire system that works — as a system — to serve all students. We can no longer tinker around the edges and expect to make marked improvement in closing opportunity gaps.

Substantial state investments in our P–12 education system.

Systemic reform in the how the state organizes work to support children and families with the creation of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

A system of accountability designed to identify and support schools based on need.

Consensus among policy makers, educators, and stakeholders about the urgent need to address systemic challenges that lead to inequitable outcomes for our students.

We can no longer tinker around the edges and expect to make marked improvement in closing opportunity gaps.

The College Bound Scholarship program demonstrates that early commitment to the State Need Grant to provide financial assistance for post-secondary education can lead to greater success in K–12 and greater likelihood of college attendance.

We have also seen promising work connecting to careers through “Grow Our Own” programs to encourage students of color to become teachers and programs like CorePlus that link high school students directly to career pathways.

1 Increase in the number of English Learners between the 2007–08 school year and the 2017–18 school year.
2 Students of color = 33.8% in 2007–08 and 45.6% in 2017–18
3 FRL rate was 37.9% in 2007–08 and was 42.4% in 2017–18 (Last 10 years). 30,366 students reported they were homeless in 2012–13 compared to 40,950 in 2016–17 a 34% increase in 2016–17 from 2012–13.
OVERVIEW

Vision
The Washington State Board of Education envisions an education system where students are engaged in personalized education pathways that prepare them for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.

Mission
Provide transparent leadership in K–12 education policy-making; effective oversight of schools serving Washington K–12 students; and, assertive advocacy for student personal growth and success. These three areas of responsibility will support a system that personalizes learning for each student and values diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles.

Values

Equity
Equity is a primary consideration in our policy-making, initiatives, actions, and interactions. The Board has adopted an Equity Statement of Intent (https://sbe.wa.gov/about-us/equity) and we actively seek to identify and remove barriers that inhibit equitable access to high-quality learning opportunities.

Student-Focused Education
Provide educational, social, emotional, and mental health supports for the whole child. Enact policies that benefit our students, and modify or eliminate policies that are not beneficial. Create meaningful opportunities to hear from and respect diverse student voices. Build authentic, caring relationships with students. Empower students to lead their own learning and provide personalized learning that is relevant to students.

Strategic Action
Enact impactful, sustainable, research-based initiatives to fulfill our mission and vision. Support an innovative and adaptive system that meets the needs of individual students.

Dynamic and Future-Focused Innovation
Think, plan, and lead proactively. Anticipate the needs of our students and society. Employ research-based strategies. Encourage schools to innovatively cultivate student achievement and develop transferable skills for a changing workplace. Recognize the changes in our students’ needs and change the system accordingly.

Collaboration, Caring, and Inclusion
Engage and collaborate with partners to achieve shared goals. Value, listen, and learn from all voices. Intentionally seek the wisdom of students, families, and communities, particularly those historically marginalized by the educational system, to inform policies and practices.

Integrity
Act with honesty, professionalism, and transparency. Fulfill our commitments in a fair and ethical manner.
The overarching goal for our education system, as expressed in our Vision Statement, is to ensure students are engaged in personalized education pathways that prepare them for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.

The strategic plan also lays out a set of goals connected to the priorities identified by the Board.

These include:

- All students feel safe at school, and have the supports necessary to thrive.
- All students are able to engage in their schools and their broader communities, and feel invested in their learning pathways, which lead to their post-secondary aspirations.
- School and district structures and systems adapt to meet the evolving needs of the student population and community, as a whole. Students are prepared to adapt as needed and fully participate in the world beyond the classroom.

- Students successfully transition into, through, and out of the P–12 system.
- Students graduate from Washington State high schools ready for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.
- Equitable funding across the state to ensure that all students have the funding and opportunities they need, regardless of their geographical location or other needs.

The Board monitors educational system progress toward meeting aspirational and achievable, system-wide performance goals. The educational system monitoring allows the Board to annually determine whether or not the state is on track to meet the Educational System Health goals aligned with Washington’s ESSA consolidated state plan, and make recommendations to target areas for improvement.

System progress is evaluated based on indicators articulated in the Education System Health report, developed in collaboration with other state education agencies. The six primary indicators (Kindergarten Readiness, 4th Grade Reading, 8th Grade Math, High School Graduation, Remedial Course-taking, and Post-secondary Engagement) provide an annual snapshot of the Washington education system beginning in kindergarten and extending into higher education and work. The indicators are intended to provide a state level look at key trends; however, they are not comprehensive. The OSPI Report Card provides detailed information down to the school building level. In addition, the state has recently adopted a new assessment in Science. While not every discipline has a state test, educators assess student progress toward the state standards in 14 subjects.

4 http://sbe.wa.gov/education-system-health
5 http://www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/learningstandards.aspx
The Board has identified a set of five priorities (see page 7) to guide our work over the next five years. Statewide goals will not be attained by agencies, organizations, and other entities working independently. All of this work must be approached from a viewpoint of system collaboration, leading to collective impact for the benefit of the students we serve. To this end, there is work that the State Board of Education leads, and work that the State Board of Education advocates for or otherwise supports. Our comprehensive strategic planning process drew on the work of the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee; Expanded Learning Opportunities Council; Career Connect Washington; Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction; Professional Educator Standards Board; Center for the Improvement of Student Learning; Washington Student Achievement Council; Washington State School Directors’ Association; Department of Children, Youth, and Families; Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board; and others, entailed extensive input from and collaboration with partners, input via a public survey and community forums, and in-depth Board and staff dialogue. The State Board of Education is committing to actions and advocacy in five priority areas for this strategic plan. For each of these areas, there are clear goals, indicators of progress toward the goals, actions the Board encourages and supports that may be led by partner organizations, and actions the Board will initiate. To implement this plan the Board will develop specific initiatives and statements of support through agency budget requests, legislative requests, and an annual legislative agenda.

Ongoing outreach to and engagement with education partners including agencies, organizations, communities, families, and students will be essential to ensure that systemic changes are equitable and meet the needs of students. Success will be assessed through a number of indicators designed to measure the degree to which:

- Young children are prepared to learn as they transition into the K–12 system.
- Students have access to quality schools and programs.
- Students receive the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge to be prepared for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.
**INDICATORS**

**STUDENT WELL-BEING**

**INDICATORS:**
- Students, parents, educators, and administrators report improvements in well-being, school climate, and culture.
- Schools report implementation of proven approaches to increase engagement and improve school climate.
- Exclusionary discipline, including expulsion and suspension, rates decline and exclusionary discipline disproportionality decreases.
- Chronic absenteeism decreases and attendance rates increase.
- The graduation rate will increase at a pace to meet statewide goals.

**STUDENT TRANSITIONS & DIPLOMA**

**INDICATORS:**
- The percentage of children entering kindergarten who are kindergarten-ready increases.
- The number of students successful in all 9th-grade courses increases.
- The graduation rate will increase at a pace to meet statewide goals.
- An increasing share of students meet the Career Connect Washington career awareness goal.
- The number of students who successfully transition to post-secondary training, education, and work increases.

**LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

**INDICATORS:**
- Reduction in absenteeism and chronic absenteeism.
- Increase in the four-year graduation rate.
- Increase in engagement in post-secondary education, training, or careers identified in a student’s High School and Beyond Plan.

**FUNDING & ACCOUNTABILITY**

**INDICATORS:**
- Improving scores in the Washington School Improvement Framework (WSIF).
- Improving student growth in schools identified for Comprehensive Support and in districts identified for Required Action.
- Improvement in funding equity, prioritized to those districts most in need.

**SYSTEM DESIGN**

**INDICATORS:**
- Opportunity gaps among various student groups are eliminated (e.g. equitable access to quality schools and expanded learning opportunities).
- Students have more ways to reach graduation, including competency-based education.
**STUDENT WELL-BEING**

**GOAL:** All students feel safe at school, and have the supports necessary to thrive.

SBE recognizes the right of all students and staff to attend physically and emotionally safe schools. Safe schools create the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement and the health of Washington’s K–12 system. Unless students are safe and have “felt safety,” both physically and emotionally, they are at a greater risk of not fulfilling their potential within the educational system. In order to support the positive mental health and self-actualization of our students, schools must value the diverse cultures, abilities and learning styles of students and tend to each student’s basic needs, including the need to have healthy, connected relationships.

**Board Initiatives**

- Shifting the focus of discipline to an integrated student supports system that keeps youth engaged in school and out of the juvenile justice system.8
- Strengthening current high school health learning standards to include information on mental health relevant to students and improve mental health instruction in K–12.
- Broadening efforts to support the emotional well-being of our teachers.
- Expanding efforts to ensure students have agency and input in their learning environments.

**The Board Supports**

- Developing a statewide framework for school safety and mental health to provide all schools with access to mental health professionals in schools with links to community-based mental health and other health-care providers, wrap-around supports for students, professional development to support mental health, social emotional learning, trauma-informed instruction, positive behavioral interventions and support (PBIS), and emergency preparedness for all educators and other school staff.

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6 For example: Washington Integrated Student Supports Protocol (WISSP)
7 2016 Healthy Students Survey Analytic Report

### 10TH GRADERS IN WASHINGTON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seriously considered suicide</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted suicide</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have no adult to turn to when sad/hopeless</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GOAL: All students are able to engage in their schools and their broader communities, and feel invested in their learning pathways, which lead to their post-secondary aspirations.

The SBE promotes policies and innovations that support a positive learning environment, to create the conditions for the success of every student. We believe learning should be relevant, effective, engaging, and grounded in a research-based approach to how students learn best. Students need to feel safe, valued, celebrated, and respected in their schools. Students need to be empowered to pursue their own individualized education pathways, including career-connected learning opportunities, with the guidance and support of educators. Learning environments should reflect the values of our students and their communities, as well as those of the teachers and staff. Multicultural perspectives and multiple ways of teaching, learning, and assessing what students know and can do are necessary to meet the needs of students.

Board Initiatives

- The Board is working with partners to support more effective communication with students, parents, and educators about information supporting multiple pathways to post-secondary options, flexibility of graduation requirements, and the shift to authentic learning and assessment with the implementation of the Washington State Science Learning Standards (WSSLS).
- Collaboration with partners in support of implementing state standards, including efforts around the Washington State Science Learning Standards, to communicate the importance of implementing our new science standards with fidelity, with a special emphasis on equity.

The Board Supports

- Promoting programs and policies that enable and encourage meaningful family and community engagement at every level of the education system to ensure schools are responsive to the needs of communities.
- Expanding use of personalized learning strategies and project-based and career-connected learning opportunities, including credit for competencies acquired in the workplace, through volunteer work, or other extracurricular activities.
- Implementation of emerging and effective practices in the teaching and learning of math.
- Scaling these efforts and sharing effective practices to implement continual curriculum improvement using research-based models to improve teaching and learning.
- Ensuring relevancy and personalization for students is valued.
**GOAL:** School and district structures and systems adapt to meet the evolving needs of the student population and community, as a whole. Students are prepared to adapt as needed and fully participate in the world beyond the classroom.

The State Board of Education supports a more flexible school system — a system more responsive to the needs of students, while maintaining oversight and ensuring that students have the opportunity to learn. The Board promotes innovation and flexibility that supports personalized pathways to learning. The Board supports structures, policies, and practices which support all students, and eliminate systemic bias, barriers, and inequities in education opportunities. Strong school leadership is essential for improving outcomes, eliminating performance gaps, and ensuring students successfully transition to their next phase in their education journey.

**Board Initiatives**

- Ensure the accountability and recognition system employed by the Board reflects the values of the Board and support improvements that will reduce opportunity and achievement gaps.

- Evaluate how the basic education compliance process may be used to ensure students have equitable opportunities within the program of basic education. Integrate private school approval and support. Serve as a resource for public charter school authorizers and conduct thorough monitoring and reporting. Ensure effective regulation of private schools while respecting the autonomy of private schools.

- Intentionally engage students in policy work through the targeted gathering of student perspectives, with students in an advisory role.

**The Board Supports**

- Investments to expand high-quality, publicly funded learning opportunities including extended day, summer learning opportunities and extracurricular activities as well as transportation and other supports necessary to ensure equitable access.

- Increasing investments and professional development to address the needs of diverse learners, including expansion of dual language and immersion programs beginning in elementary school and continuing through high school.

- Encouraging intentional consideration of culturally-responsive, flexible calendars and scheduling and alternatives to the traditional 180-day calendar.

- Recruiting and retaining educators and administrators who represent the diversity of the students served, and innovative educational leaders who are committed to eliminating biases, barriers, and opportunity gaps.

- Providing additional professional development opportunities for educators and administrators.

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9 ExpandED Schools, 2013: The 6,000-Hour Learning Gap
**GOALS:** Students successfully transition into, through, and out of the P–12 system, and graduate from Washington State high schools ready for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.

The State Board of Education supports an integrated preschool through post-secondary education, training, and career-readiness system. Within that system, the K–12 sector promotes successful student transitions and individualized pathways to a Washington State high school diploma. The Board encourages and supports student voices, and individualized education and career pathways. We actively seek to identify and eliminate biases and barriers to student success. To advance these goals, the Board has initiated a portfolio of related actions to address diploma flexibility and transitions.

**Board Initiatives**

- Inform and engage districts, students, and parents about flexibilities within the current graduation requirement framework.
- Engage partners to develop a framework for a competency-based diploma pathway and additional options for competency-based credit.
- Examine and highlight options to improve the impact of the High School and Beyond Plan as a means to support student agency and voice, advance the goals of Career Connect Washington, transition to earlier engagement on the plan, and development of a framework for a credit-bearing High School and Beyond Plan that integrates the Financial Education standards.
- Study math pathways aligned to specific post-secondary and career pathways.
- Collect information and convene experts to share effective practices in student transitions from pre-K to post-secondary.

**The Board Supports**

- Improving early learning and transitions within the K–12 continuum.
- Expanding the availability of graduation specialists and career specialists in high school.
- Maintaining the state commitment to rigorous standards and assessment while eliminating the proficiency requirement on assessments to earn a diploma.
- Increasing equity in access to accelerated learning opportunities, including dual credit programs.

**MATHEMATICS IN WASHINGTON**

- Graduation requirements in math have increased from 2 credits to 3, starting with the Class of 2013
- Percentage of recent high school graduates who enrolled in pre-college-level math at a community or technical college has decreased

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16 Measured by the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills.
**GOAL:** Equitable funding across the state to ensure that all students have the funding and opportunities they need, regardless of their geographical location or other needs.

The Board believes the education system requires additional funding, especially to reduce gaps, and to ensure an equitable funding system across the state, prioritized to those most in need. The Board believes in holding schools accountable for more than test scores, and recognizing schools that are overcoming barriers and improving equity in opportunities for students.

**Board Initiatives**

- Analyze the characteristics of schools that are demonstrating success overcoming barriers and establish a new, more equitable school recognition system in partnership with OSPI and the EOGOAC.
- Develop and implement a new model to support Required Action Districts, in partnership with OSPI.
- Reconstitute the Achievement and Accountability Workgroup to examine potential revisions to the School Improvement Framework, including additional school quality indicators to address school climate and culture, access to effective, experienced, and appropriately credentialed educators, and disproportionate discipline.

**The Board Supports**

- Targeted funding to schools and students who need it most, including support for increased access to mental health services, wrap-around supports, Special Education, and English Language Learners.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT BONDS**

Over the previous 5 years, more than 1 in 3 local school district bonds were supported by the majority of voters but failed to reach the 60% approval rate required to pass

- Fully funding dual credit programs in all subject areas to eliminate disparities related to cost.
- Revising the prototypical school funding model to better reflect needs of the students schools serve; to include a specific student to mental health professional ratio, and to increase the ratio of instructional staff to students (reduce class size).
- Increasing funding for professional development to strengthen, develop, and retain strong, sustainable, diverse school leadership at every level.
- Providing funding to recruit and retain teachers, staff, and school leaders, to reflect the diversity of the school and community.
- Providing adequate state funding for school and district facilities and changing the capital funding threshold to require a simple majority for passage of bonds.
CONCLUSION

Measuring Progress and Updates

This strategic plan serves as a foundation for Board actions and efforts for the period of 2019 through 2023. During this time period, progress will be measured on an annual basis using the indicators of system health. In addition, the plan will be reviewed and the legislative priorities will be updated annually beginning in September of each year. A full review of the strategic plan will be completed by the fall of 2023.

The monitoring of the Statewide Indicators of the Educational System Health centers on three primary framing questions:

- Are young children prepared to learn as they transition into the K–12 system?
- Do students have access to quality schools and programs?
- Are students provided an opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge to be prepared for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning?

Are Young Children Prepared to Learn as They Transition Into the K–12 System?

Participation on the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developmental Skills (WaKIDS) has increased steadily from 2011 and is currently at 96.4 percent. However, the percentage of students who are kindergarten ready has remained between 44 and 47 percent over the last three administrations. The percentage of three- and four-year olds attending early childhood education programs is on the increase, which would be expected to bolster the kindergarten readiness measure in the coming years.

- In the fall 2018, approximately 47 percent of young children were deemed kindergarten-ready by meeting all six readiness domains on the WaKIDS.11

Readiness to learn should not necessarily be restricted to kindergarten readiness, as the transitions from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school can be challenging to many children and adolescents. The statewide indicators do not focus in on the former but perhaps should. The TAC sees some merit in continuing to report on the 8th grade high school readiness indicator. For the start of the 2017–18 school year, approximately 40 percent of first time 9th graders were ready for the increased rigor of high school coursework.

Access to Quality Schools and Programs

The statutorily required indicators are not particularly well suited to address a qualitative question such as this, but the SBE monitors some measures that shed light on the question. The Washington School Improvement Framework includes indicators for School Quality and Student Success. Presently the indicators are limited to attendance in grades 3–8. For high school, dual credit enrollment and 9th grade success are added. Three additional metrics have been identified for consideration in the School Improvement Framework that could also be considered in the Education System Health indicators: school climate and culture, access to effective, experienced, and appropriately credentialed educators, and disproportionate discipline. The Board recommends that a workgroup be established and funded to develop the best options for Washington to collect school climate and culture data from students, parents, and educators to ensure that every student has access to a quality school and programs. Students of color, students receiving special education services, and those qualifying for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program continue to have less access to experienced educators and face exclusionary discipline at disproportionately high rates, which severely limits access to quality education programs. The Board seeks ideas on the suitability of educator quality measures for possible inclusion in the statewide indicator monitoring.

11 http://www.k12.wa.us/wakids
Opportunity to Develop the Knowledge and Skills Needed for Post-secondary Success

Approximately 57 percent of 4th grade students demonstrated proficiency on the statewide ELA assessment and approximately 48 percent of 8th grade students demonstrated proficiency on the statewide math assessment in 2018. Disparities in traditional measures of student progress persist between students of color, students receiving special education services, students in bilingual education, and those qualifying for the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program compared to white, non-Free and Reduced Price Lunch–eligible students. The fact that these measures are essentially unchanged in recent years reveals that the existing system is simply not meeting the needs of students of color, students whose first language is not English, students with special education needs, and students from families with low-income.

The four-year graduation rate (79.3 percent for the class of 2017) is 1.2 percentage points better than the corresponding rate for the class of 2015, but at least one of every four students of color is not graduating high school in four years. Of all students graduating in four years, about one-half enroll in higher education and approximately one of every five high school graduates enrolling in higher education also enroll in a non–credit-bearing English or math course because they are not prepared for college coursework. The statewide indicator monitoring makes it clear that not all students are acquiring the knowledge and skills required for post-secondary success.
A Systemic View of Washington K–12 Education

The Statewide Indicators of the Educational System Health are a measurement of system quality. However, no single indicator is sufficient to characterize the system quality; multiple measures must be viewed simultaneously to make such a characterization. Even then, the picture of the Washington educational system is blurred by differential outcomes, sporadic success, and stagnating results. Real progress will require a different approach to addressing the challenges in ensuring that each student is engaged in his or her personalized education pathway that is preparing each and every student for civic engagement, a career, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning.

Working Together

Washington faces a real opportunity to address persistent challenges in our education system. There is a great deal of alignment and energy among partners in the Washington state education system. Many of our partners have established goals and initiated actions that align with the SBE vision of an education system where students are engaged in personalized education pathways that prepare them for civic engagement, careers, post-secondary education, and lifelong learning. The State Board of Education is committed to working with partners in education to attain our common goals.

11 http://www.k12.wa.us/wakids
The State Board of Education (SBE) is charged with advocacy and oversight of Washington’s education system, provides leadership for a system that personalizes education based on each student’s needs, develops policies and structures designed to create an accountability system to improve student achievement, and promotes the achievement of state goals for basic education. The Board is comprised of sixteen members, including two student members, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, one member elected by the private schools, five members elected by local school boards, and seven members appointed by the Governor. The Board holds six regularly scheduled public meetings each year. Specific responsibilities of the SBE include:

**Advocacy and strategic oversight of public education:** The Board provides a public forum to develop policies and provide advocacy to support a system of education that responds to individual student goals and community needs.

**Basic Education Compliance:** The Board adopts rules and monitors compliance with a standards-based program of basic education, approves private schools operating in Washington, and approves and monitors districts wishing to authorize charter schools.

**High School Graduation Requirements:** The Board establishes credit and non-credit requirements for high school graduation, determines threshold scores for assessments, and alternatives to meet graduation requirements.

**Accountability and Improvement:** The Board adopts goals for the system, consults with OSPI to develop, maintain, and report on the state assessment system, establishes the index for system accountability and metrics for system health, and identifies criteria and approves districts for recognition and improvement.

### Board Members

- Kevin Laverty, Chair
- Peter Maier J.D., Vice Chair
- MJ Bolt
- Jeff Estes
- Patty Wood
- Ryan Brault
- Dr. Alan Burke
- Connie Fletcher
- Holly Koon
- Harium Martin-Morris
- Dr. Paul Pitre
- Ricardo Sanchez
- Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Judy Jennings, Private Schools Representative
- Joe Hofman, Student [Cascade HS]
- Autymn Wilde, Student [Central Valley HS]

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**About the Plan**

The Washington State Board of Education (SBE) began the strategic planning process in January 2018, building on prior work to shape key priorities, including the development of the Board’s Equity Statement of Intent. The Board conducted extensive outreach to gather information to support the development of the plan and the priorities. This included regional community forums, outreach at partner meetings, presentations to the State Board, and a public survey that reached 2,690 participants. Half of the survey participants identified as parents, while other affiliations included representatives of state agencies, community groups, students, educators, and school and college administrators. The Board drew on this feedback and developed a set of priorities during their September Retreat. A draft of the plan was available for comment in early October. The final report was approved by the Board on November 8, 2018.
Washington State Visitors’ Guide

Relaxing ROAD TRIPS
Rediscovering the Evergreen State’s natural wonders and vibrant cities

2021
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Maryhill is now showcasing regionally inspired food along with approachable, high-quality wines in Goldendale, Spokane, Vancouver and Woodinville, Washington. Family owned since 1999, Maryhill is proud to showcase the rich and diverse flavors of Washington state wine with passion, patience and balance. Visit one of Maryhill’s destination tasting rooms and experience award-winning wines along with stunning views, live music and a quality food menu to enhance your wine tasting experience.

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Park FREE at your Seattle waterfront

EXPLORE YOUR WATERFRONT

*Get up to 3 hours FREE parking in Pike Garage with purchase on waterfront
Open air seating at your Seattle waterfront

Search for the Kraken at your Seattle waterfront

A day of water, views, community & fun
SeattleWaterfront.org
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See endless rolling hills, bustling Pullman, and the nation’s deepest gorge.
Welcome to Washington

DURING THIS CHALLENGING PAST YEAR, WE'VE BEEN REMINDED OF THE POWER of travel—that we enrich our lives by visiting magical places, trying new experiences, and exploring the world alongside the people we care about. With the 2021 edition of the Washington State Visitors' Guide, we're excited to show you what's special about our beautiful state.

You'll discover an incredible variety of things to see and do in Washington: viewing magnificent orcas and gray whales from a sea kayak or ferry boat. Biking, hiking, and skiing amid glacial volcanic peaks and gently rolling hills. Camping under the stars and tasting wine in the sunshine. Indeed, the Evergreen State is a fantastic destination for food and drink—not just amazing wine, but artisan beer, coffee, and spirits, along with local salmon and Dungeness crab, juicy cherries and crisp heirloom apples, and delicious international fare, from Korean bibimbap to Ethiopian lamb stew to Pervian ceviche.

Awe-inspiring natural beauty greets you at every turn, including in our vibrant cities, which hum with art and culture, hip walkable neighborhoods, and leafy parks. Snowcapped peaks frame our city skylines, from the Selkirk Mountains near Spokane to iconic Mount Rainier southeast of Tacoma and Seattle. And from the sculpted inlets of Puget Sound to the scenic banks of the Columbia River, you're never far from a pristine body of water. See our feature, "The Open Road," on p. 24, for three detailed itineraries that showcase the state's tremendous diversity.

We've missed you during the past year. On behalf of our tour operators and museum docents, hotel workers and restaurant staff, shopkeepers and artisans, and countless other passionate Washingtonians, we're thrilled to share our hospitality with you. And we've taken every possible step to ensure that you have a safe, comfortable, and—above all—captivating visit.

We look forward to seeing you!
Discover Seattle
The Gateway to Alaska

Save time to explore Washington State

www.portseattle.org | www.seattlecruisealaska.co.uk
New Horizons
Magical mountain vistas, buzzy urban neighborhoods, peaceful Puget Sound coasts, kid-approved parks and museums, rolling wine country vineyards—you’ll discover all of these and much more in the Evergreen State.
WASHINGTON'S BEVERAGE scene is justly revered and encompasses everything from industry icons to emerging start-ups focused on experimentation and innovation. What started with a few grape plantings at Fort Vancouver in 1825 has evolved into one of the world's premier wine regions, with more than 60,000 acres of vineyards and 1,050-plus vintners throughout the state. The first hops grown at Steilacoom in 1865 foreshadowed a beer industry with nearly 400 craft breweries—the Yakima Valley now grows more than three quarters of the nation's hops. And an early embrace of coffee roasting has led to Seattle (p. 37) earning a reputation as one of the world's best coffee cities. In 2021, we toast three of Washington's craft beverage pioneers.

While early settlers roasted beans from Hawaii, coffee truly found its local foothold 50 years ago when Starbucks brought premium beans and espresso machines to the market. The company's Pike Place Market shop, now dubbed the original location, opened in 1971 under the leadership of Howard Schultz, with an emphasis on creating a community gathering space and serving sophisticated Italian-style espresso drinks.

The state's oldest winemaker, Chateau Ste. Michelle, started in 1954 as the American Wine Company and opened its current winery 45 years ago, just outside Seattle in Woodinville (p. 37). You can get a sense of all the company has accomplished on a guided tour through the chateau's craftsman-style buildings and blooming gardens, which anchor a 105-acre wooded estate. And you can learn about winemaking by bottling your own blend, or take in a summer concert on the grand lawn—perhaps while enjoying a crisp, dry riesling, the varietal Chateau Ste. Michelle produces more of than any winery in the world.

Redhook brought craft brewing to the state in 1981 by opening its first operation in Seattle's Ballard district. This well-respected brewer produces more than 220,000 barrels and now operates the Redhook Brewlab in the diverse Capitol Hill neighborhood. Both an experimental brewery and a community hub, this airy space serves rotating brews made from Washington-sourced ingredients on 16 taps. Sit at the bar; order a hearth-baked pizza, or head outside to the inviting patio with firepits and picnic tables.

What's new at Starbucks? Also on Capitol Hill, you can visit this coffee powerhouse's latest concept, Starbucks Reserve Roastery, a sprawling café that offers delicious Princess baked goods, four-themed bars, and ample seating to watch beans roasting on-site and then whirling overhead in glass tubes. You can order flights showcasing different roasts and brewing methods, as well as coffees with seasonal flavors and unique concoctions, such as nitro-brewed milkshakes and coffee-inspired cocktails. Cheers!—Emily Boynton
EXPLORE SAFELY IN SEATTLE'S BACKYARD

EXPLORE THE GREAT OUTDOORS ALONG MILES OF TRAILS INCLUDING DES MOINES BEACH PARK.

Seattle Southside is ready to welcome you to explore the region while keeping your safety and comfort top of mind. Come stay and play in Seattle's Backyard, Seattle Southside. Find more to explore at ExploreSeattleSouthside.com
Meet the Makers

Looking for a gift or a keepsake that supports Washington’s artists and artisans? These producers represent some of the best the state has to offer, from fine art to conscious candles. –Emily Alhadeff

ODIN LONNING
VASHON ISLAND
Tlingit (Alaska Native) carver, artist, graphic designer, educator, and dancer Odin Loning creates pieces that honor First Nations’ covenant with the natural world. His works include wood carvings and painted drums depicting the animals and stories that represent history and identity. “Producing and teaching the art of my ancestors sustains a living legacy, which I find deeply rewarding,” Loning says. odinlonning.com

THEA CANDLE CO.
SEATTLE
What started as a project for a University of Washington entrepreneurship class turned into a full-blown business for Olivia Beddeley and Jennifer Em. Motivated by a desire to impact the world positively, they undergraded launched Thea Candle, a sustainable, all-natural aromatherapy candle company that donates 15 percent of all proceeds to health, mental health, and social justice causes. You can find their wares at metro Seattle’s Made in Washington stores. theacandleco.com

COUNTRY GARDEN FARM
ELLENSBURG
Bill and Lynette Miller moved to a farm in the Kittitas Valley to raise their family with nature as their backyard. Situated in prime lavender-growing territory, they started producing natural, small-batch products, from soaps and lotions to beard oils and culinary lavender. “Making high-quality products using lavender sourced in Washington is our passion,” Lynette says. “We love the relationships that we’ve built with other farmers and our terrific customers.” Find their products at the Thorp Fruit and Antique Mall, and at Gallery One Visual Arts Center in Ellensburg. countrygardenfarm.com

VINCENT KEELE
LAKE STEVENS
Vincent Keele, a second-generation expressionist painter, “is interested in awakening cognitive processes, harnessing creative energy, and expanding the limits of universal thinking.” His pieces flow with strong lines and bold colors that invite viewers to interpret individually. Collectors are drawn to his original canvases (with Keele’s signature vermilion edges), but more accessible items include home goods, apparel, and accessories printed with Keele’s designs. vincentkeele.com

CAPULI CLUB
KIRKLAND
Inspired by tea traditions from their native Ecuador and seeking a flavorful wellness drink, mother-daughter team Lourdes Hidalgo and Gabriela Alban launched

10 WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021 EXPERIENCEWA.COM
“The ability to create using a vast array of tools, textures, and materials enables my imagination to run wild in a field of infinite possibilities.”

—TRACY POINDEXTER-CANTON

Capuli Club in 2017. “As a former architect, I was frustrated by how my work brought beauty to only a very elite group of people in the form of luxury homes,” Gabriela says. “My favorite aspect of my work is seeing how our Edible Fruit Teas bring a moment of happiness to people from all walks of life.” The women upcycle imperfect fruits for their all-natural teas and snacks, sold at Made in Washington and PCC Community Markets. capuliclub.com

TRACY POINDEXTER-CANTON

TRACY POINDEXTER-CANTON SPOKANE

Using paint, pastel, magazine clippings, and found objects, Tracy Poindexter-Canton creates rich, dynamic works of art, many that represent the Black American experience. Poindexter-Canton blends “literary imagery with visual art,” as seen in a series of pieces based on Toni Morrison’s novels. “The ability to create using a vast array of tools, textures, and materials enables my imagination to run wild in a field of infinite possibilities,” she says. tracypoindexter-canton.com

AIDE-MÉMOIRE

SEATTLE

Aran Galligan launched Aide-mémoire in 2012, “with the desire to create beautiful, unique, and well-crafted jewelry that’s also accessible, inclusive, and eco-friendly.” The queer- and woman-owned shop works with fair-trade, lab-grown, and recycled diamonds, gemstones, and metals to produce conflict-free and sustainable pieces that are both understated and stunning. aidememoirejewelry.com

GIRL MEETS DIRT

ORCAS ISLAND

A rising star on Wall Street, Audra Lawlor and her husband left Manhattan to run an organic farm in the San Juan Islands. Their efforts proved, well, fruitful. Her products include pear-balsamic jam, Italian plum preserves, and a lemon-lavender shrub drink mix. Find her goods at the San Juan and Orcas Island farmers markets, specialty shops, and in their Eastsound tasting room. girleetsdirt.com

NIKKI MCCLURE

OLYMPIA

Nikki McClure’s unmistakable papercuts capture nature and life’s intimate moments. She grew up “watching ants and pretending I was an artist.” McClure creates children’s books and calendars, and works with her husband, a fine woodcutter. She spends summers picking berries and swimming. Find her prints, books, and wares at buyolympia.com and in many fine shops throughout the area. nikkimcclure.com
Family Outings

Fun, kid-friendly surprises await you in every season in Washington, from springtime sojourns to winter sleigh rides. —Naomi Tomky

**SPRING**

**HIKE IN A RAINFOREST**
Lean into the dampness of one of the country’s wettest places, in the heart of Olympic National Park (p. 58). Trails snaking through the Hoh Rainforest’s mossy maple trees and past splashy waterfalls range from less than a mile to multi-day trekks. rangers.gov/olympic

**RIDE HORSES ON THE BEACH**
See more from the sand by mounting up for a guided ride along Long Beach Peninsula (p. 65). Local outfitters offer tours with stunning Pacific Ocean views and provide plenty of help for beginners of all ages. visitlongbeachpeninsula.com

**SEE AN ARBORETUM IN BLOOM**
In Seattle (p. 37), walk the trails or hop a tram tour along Washington Park Arboretum’s historic Azalea Way to catch the spon- yrous spring blooms, as well as those of the cherry trees, dogwoods, and rhododendrons. botanicgardens. uw.edu

**SUMMER**

**HUNT FOR HUCKLEBERRIES**
August paints the mountains of Washington blue with tart huckleberries. Armed with a bucket, hit the huckleberry fields near Trout Lake (p. 77) in Indian Heaven Wilderness. mtbarneschamber.com

**EXPLORE TULALIP HIBULB CULTURAL CENTER**
Learn about the history and current culture of the indigenous people who first inhabited Puget Sound (p. 37) at this enormous interactive museum and natural history preserve. hibulb.org

**GET AN UP-CLOSE VIEW OF MOUNT BAKER**
Behold the North Cascades’ alpine grandeur at Artist Point via scenic Mount Baker Highway. Hike the 3-mile loop trail through Heather Meadows, and admire glacier-covered Mount Baker (p. 49). mtbakerchamber.org

**FALL**

**EXPLORE THE WHITMAN MISSION**
Along with the network of scenic trails, this national historic site near Walla Walla (p. 91) remembers the first Christian mission set up in the Pacific Northwest through an educational examination of its complex history. rangers.gov/whitman

**GO WHALE WATCHING**
Cool weather brings fewer crowds, making autumn an ideal time to book a whale watching tour around the San Juan Islands (p. 55), where graceful orcas and their friends cavort in the waters. visitsanjuans.com

**VIEW COLORFUL BIRDS**
Birdwatching is fun for all ages, and fall brings white pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and great blue herons to McNeil National Wildlife Refuge’s 15,000 acres of wetland habitat in Tri-Cities (p. 91). fws.gov/ refuges/mcneil

**WINTER**

**CUDDLE WITH WOOL**
The 150-year-old Pendleton Woolen Mills crafts much of its famously soft and colorful fabric in Washougal (p. 77), in the scenic Columbia Gorge, where visitors can view the process on a free tour. pendletonusa.com

**EXPAND YOUR MIND WITH COOL EXHIBITS**
Visit Spokane’s (p. 97) Mobius Discovery Center in a historic power build- ing, near Riverfront Park. Explore an impressive children’s museum and imaginative, interactive galleries and touch-friendly exhibits. mobsdiscoverycenter.org

**VISIT SOME REINDEER**
The Bavarian-style mountain town of Leavenworth (p. 61) transforms to a Christmas wonderland with twinkling lights, sleigh rides, and even a reindeer farm with tours — naturally, these adventures include cocoa, cookies, and Santa. leavenworth.org
Par 5

SINCE HOSTING THE U.S. OPEN in 2015, Washington’s golfing glory keeps growing. The state offers an array of dazzling courses, from rolling high-desert fairways to exacting湾区 sides greens. Slope and yardage are from the white tees.

CHAMBERS BAY, UNIVERSITY PLACE One of the few public courses to host the U.S. Open, these Scottish-style links offer stunning Puget Sound and Olympic views. It’s known for sweeping sand dunes and an iconic lone fir tree by the 15th green. Slope 127 Yardage 6015

GAMBLE SANDS, BREWSTER Since David McLay Kidd of Bandon Dunes fame designed this course in 2014, Gamble Sands has earned countless accolades. It’s set high on a plateau above the Columbia River with vast fairways sculpted by desert scrub and native sand bunkers—and not a water hazard in sight. Slope 118 Yardage 6207

PALOUSE RIDGE, PULLMAN Home to the Cougars golf team, this championship course on Pullman’s Washington State University campus features undulating dunes, fierce greens, and fusty hill sides, while the sometimes strong winds of the Palouse can test your nerves. Slope 134 Yardage 7308

APPLE TREE RESORT, YAKIMA Fashioned out of a century-old Yakima orchard, this course pays homage to the region’s famous fruit export with an island green and a red-sand bunker, both of them shaped like apples. On the 17th and 18th holes, enjoy dramatic views of the Yakima Valley at the resort’s Slice Outdoor Lounge. Slope 140 Yardage 7269—Nils Gallerstad

SALISH CLIFFS, SHELTON At the Little Creek Casino Resort near Hood Canal, this stunning course boasts dense canopies of trees and dramatic changes in elevation that will test your accuracy and judgment. Lush greens with tricky pin placements add to the excitement. Breathe deeply, and enjoy the big views of Kamiah Valley. Slope 151 Yardage 6513

EXPERIENCEWA.COM WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021 13
Sitting on the Dock of the Bay
Treat your senses at these sensational dining spots with thrilling water views.

WESTWARD, SEATTLE Paddle your kayak up to the dock at this modern Mediterranean bistro on Lake Union. Grab weekend brunch with friends or watch the sunset over the water.

DRAYTON HARBOR OYSTERS, BLAINE Order a plate of briny bivalves or a fried oyster po’boy in this funky fireplace-warmed seafood shack on the harbor near the Canadian border.

DUKE’S SEAFOOD, TACOMA This branch of the popular Puget Sound chainlet has dramatic views of Commencement Bay and is known for its great happy hour deals. Try the sampler of tantalizing seafood chowders.

THE FIRESIDE, PORT LUDLOW This romantic, warmly lighted spot overlooks lively Port Ludlow Marina and serves up tender halibut caught in Nush Bay and hearty omelets.

MCMENAMINS ON THE COLUMBIA, VANCOUVER This quirky brewpub on the bike-friendly Renaissance Trail has patio views of the Columbia.

RAY’S BOATHOUSE, SEATTLE This iconic dockside establishment on Ballard’s Shilshoe Bay offers unparalleled panoramas from both the dressier main dining room and the more casual upstairs café, which offers a lighter menu.

VIN DU LAC BISTRO, CHELAN This delightful wine-centric eatery overlooking Lake Chelan exudes old-world charm. Chew on the dramatic scenery while sipping a glass of local dry riesling or syrah paired with a charcuterie board.

SIRENS, PORT TOWNSEND Catch views of Fort Flagler State Park or watch the ferry from this cozy gastropub with a waterfront deck as well as an indoor space warmed by a fireplace. Fair the Dungeness crab cakes with a local ale.

SALT PUB, ILWACO On the Columbia River at the base of the Long Beach Peninsula, this lively eatery is perfect for relaxing after a hike or boat trip. Feast on a smoked-tuna melt or Dungeness mac ‘n’ cheese.

CLINKERDAGGER, SPOKANE A converted late-19th-century redbrick flour mill with spectacular views of the roaring waterfalls on the Spokane River, this landmark restaurant turns out expertly prepared surf ‘n’ turf fare, including wagyu steaks. —Nils Golsterrud
New Regional Drive Itineraries Available at: EXPERIENCEOLYMPIA.COM

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Going Downtown

These culturally vibrant cities make for an action-packed weekend.

SEATTLE From rooftop bars in swanky hotels to one-of-a-kind shops and indie chef-owned restaurants at street level, Seattle’s p.37 commercial core marries big-city excitement with community-driven creativity. Admire the awesome water and mountain views while checking out the singular boutiques and crafters’ stands around Pike Place Market and Pioneer Square.

BELLEVUE Long outgrown from its modest rural beginnings into a high-tech cosmopolitan city, Bellevue p.37 lies just across Lake Washington from Seattle and features the luxe lodgings, chic shopping, and upscale dining that makes even a short visit feel special. Hit the retailers at the Bellevue Collection for posh wares, take in the classic feel of Main Street in Old Bellevue, or check out downtown’s wealth of international restaurants and retailers.

TACOMA Friendly, up-and-coming Tacoma p.37 is a hot spot among young entrepreneurs and creative spirits. Spend time in the exceptional Museum District, overlooking picturesque Thea Foss Waterway, where many historic buildings have been beautifully repurposed and now contain cool craft breweries, farm-to-table restaurants, and contemporary art galleries.

SPOKANE Washington’s second-largest city, Spokane p.97 offers a rich mix of old and new. Riverfront Park, along the scenic Spokane River, recently completed a sparkling renovation—explore it on foot, bike, or ice skates, in front of live music, light shows, or in an aerial tram above a waterfall. Within a two-minute walk you’ll find yourself in Spokane’s energetic downtown, a hub of stellar restaurants, historic hotels, and winery tasting rooms.

VANCOUVER Across the river from Portland, easygoing but fast-growing Vancouver p.77 has undergone a vibrant renaissance. The centerpiece is a stunning new Waterfront District with alluring art installations and stylish places to eat and sample Washington wines. Vancouver has earned serious chops for its craft breweries, the independent shops and cafes of Uptown, and the walkable art and cultural scene around downtown. —Naomi Tomley
There’s a jewel that shines bright in the South Sound, inviting you to experience a new high point to your Washington vacation. That jewel is Little Creek Casino Resort.

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Perfect Pairings

What better way to reward yourself after a rugged trek than by eating at a scenic restaurant? Try these six fun hiking–dining combos.

**CASCADES DRAMA**
**HIKE** Not far from Seattle, the 4-mile round-trip Battlesnake Ridge hike curves around a rippling lake, past huge moss-covered boulders to a sheer cliff with dazzling views.

**EAT** North Bend’s easygoing Iron Duck Public House serves up creatively topped burgers and pizzas—try the specialty pie with rosemary aioli, goat cheese, and duck.

**SUNSET IN THE SAN JUANS**
**HIKE** On the quieter side of stunning Orcas Island, traverse Turtleback Mountain Preserve via a 5.7-mile roundtrip trail with grand views of San Juan Island’s Roche Harbor and the Olympic Mountains.

**EAT** At intimate Hogstone’s Wood Oven, feast on bountiful salads and wood-fired pizzas topped with local ingredients.

**PALOUSE PANORAMAS**
**HIKE** The sunny, dog-friendly 5.4-mile trek through Ilwaco Creek Conservation Area provides many chances to spot birdlife—plus occasional black bears and moose.

**EAT** A friendly Spokane neighborhood gastropub with a big patio overlooking a verdant meadow, Craft & Gather doles out delicious spicy Cuban sandwiches with bacon-jalapeno jam and brownie sundaes with bourbon-caramel sauce.

**GORGEOUS GORGE**
**HIKE** Enjoy phenomenal Columbia Gorge views on your way up the gradual slope of Coyote Wall, a massive basalt cliff near White Salmon. The 7.5-mile loop has a 1,700-foot elevation gain, but you’ll get fantastic vistas hiking even a mile or two.

**EAT** Drop by Feast Market & Delicatessen, with its sunny deck offering big river and mountain views. There’s plenty of craft beer, and the butternut-squash ravioli and Reuben sandwiches are sure to satisfy.

**MARVEL AT MOUNT RAINFOREST**
**HIKE** Follow the 5.2-mile Naches Peak Loop in Enumclaw from Tipsoo Lake up around Naches Peak for eye-popping vistas of Mount Rainier. The loop continues through lush meadows and past alpine ponds.

**EAT** Take Crystal Mountain ski resort’s gondola on a 2,400-foot vertical climb to the rustic timber-ceiling dining room and spacious deck at the Summit House, the state’s highest-elevation restaurant, to savor wild game chili and waguu beef burgers.

**AROMATIC ADVENTURES**
**HIKE** A favorite excursion through Bellingham’s 2.748-acre Larabee State Park, the 4.5-mile Frangrance Lake Loop meanders beside clusters of sword ferns and beneath towering evergreens to a tranquil, sweet-smelling little lake.

**EAT** Perched among the Douglas firs and cedars on Chuckanut Drive, the Oyster Bar grants clear views of the Salish Sea. Sup on raw oysters and crab cakes, and note the exceptional wine list.—Andrew Collins
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Water World

Washington is defined by its oceanfront, its bays, its rivers, its lakes—and the many ways we play on the water.

WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES
Transportation, yes. But the state’s beloved ferry fleet is about so much more. With walk-on fares starting under $10, the white-and-green behemoths that putter around Puget Sound are a cheap way to view wildlife, stargaze on a clear night, or warm up in a booth during a dramatic rainstorm—some routes even have onboard puzzles for riders.

SIGHTSEEING CRUISES
Passenger boats ping pong across and around Puget Sound, from cityscape tours to a historic-themed route that lands on an undeveloped island for a Native American cultural feast. Orca whale-watching around the San Juan Islands (p. 55) is highly regulated to protect these playful, majestic killer whales, which are most commonly seen from June through September.

RAFTING AND FLOATING
Washington rivers range from the frothily wild to the meandering, so your experience along these scenic routes can vary considerably—but you can always count on magnificent scenery. Whitewater adventure abounds along the White Salmon and Methow rivers, while placid floats dominate the calm sections of the Wenatchee River near Leavenworth (p. 81) and the Snoqualmie River just east of Seattle.

PADDLING AND SAILING
Though Puget Sound is more sheltered than the Pacific Ocean, its saltwater waves demand a strong stroke. Paddlers can rent and launch sea kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, and other craft in Seattle (p. 37) or at the many beaches of the San Juan Islands, where the archipelago never seems to run out of plum landing sites. In some island bays, the water lights up with bioluminescence, which you can see during nighttime kayak excursions.

FISHING TRIPS
Though fishermen cast on rivers throughout the state—notably the Yakima (p. 91)—anglers flock most to the waterways that emerge from the Olympic Peninsula’s (p. 59) famous rainforests, reeling in steelhead and salmon from the Hoh and Bogachiel rivers into private and guide-operated boats that drift these doleful waters.

HOUSEBOAT RENTALS
Lake Roosevelt (p. 97), in the state’s northeast—though vast—is actually a dammed section of the Columbia River, a calm oval of water in one of the warmest summer climates in Washington. Houseboat rentals through Lake Roosevelt Adventures offer accommodation and adventure all in one; the largest vessels even boast onboard hot tubs, ideal on a lake where the water can be chilly even on sunny days. —Allison Williams

Sailing in the San Juan Islands
Snow Day!
From skiing and snowboarding to tubing and snowshoeing, Washington is a recreational winter wonderland.

Mount Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park

In Washington, folks take having fun in the snow seriously. Winter enthusiasts collectively hold their breath waiting to hear when the slopes will open for business, which can be any time from early November to mid-December, with the season running as late as mid-April.

Whether your forte is downhill or cross-country skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, sledding, or an old-school snowball fight, the state's sheer variety of winter-adventure destinations has what you're looking for. Most resorts are on the western side of the Cascade Range, but you'll find a few popular spots in the eastern half of the state, too.

Renowned for receiving the most snowfall of any ski area in the world, Mount Baker—near Bellingham (p. 49)—receives from 600 to 700 inches most years (although a whopping 1,140 fell on the resort in 1998–99, setting a record). Here you can ski those euphoric powder days far more often than not. About 45 minutes from Leavenworth (p. 81), discover the creme de la creme of off-piste and backcountry riding and skiing at Mission Ridge. The marked and groomed runs beckon to families of all skill levels. Other top resorts in this area include Stevens Pass, with its steep terrain that experts greatly appreciate, and Badger Mountain, which receives more than 300 days of sunshine and offers a terrain focused on intermediate skiers and riders. Families flock here, and those seeking chutes, bowls, and groomers give this resort the affirmative.

Closest to Seattle (p. 37), the Summit at Snoqualmie encompasses four exciting base areas catering to all degrees of expertise and a variety of snow play terrains. You'll find Nordic trails, tubing, and snowshoeing, as well as night skiing most evenings. Alpental, the most difficult of the four sections, sees intermediates and experts exploring through the snow.

Less than two hours from the Emerald City, scenic Crystal Mountain packs a punch with its picturesque gondola ride and the reach-out-and-touch Mount Rainier view at its lofty summit.

Near Naches (p. 91) and home to the Olympics skiing brothers Phil and Steve Mahre, White Pass is generally less crowded than some of the state's other recreation spots. Look for moonlight snowshoe tours, excellent lessons, tubing, and skiing—and in March a Winter Carnival with a snow-carved castle tall enough to walk through.

Named for its nearest city, Spokane (p. 97), eastern Washington's Mount Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park has more than 50 runs, plus snowmobiling. Nearby Mount Spokane State Park offers skijoring—skiing with your dog—along with lessons. Try a new snow sport or revel in what you know. And about an hour north, the 2,500 skiable acres at 49° North Mountain Resort offer a nice mix of terrain for all abilities plus amazing tree skiing. —Heather Larson
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The Open Road
Washington’s dazzling outdoor scenery and gorgeous byways make it ideal for car adventures. Here are three of the state’s ultimate road trips.

**These Itineraries Showcase**
Washington’s geographical diversity, and each can be covered in as little as a three-day weekend but also offer enough attractions and activities to keep you fully engaged for at least a week of touring.

These routes mostly avoid interstates and encourage slowing down to enjoy the scenery. If you happen upon an intriguing farmstand or cafe, stop for a look. Pass a picturesque trailhead? Hop out for a hike. Let your sense of wonder be your guide!
EVEN MORE THAN ITS SNOWCAPPED mountains, western Washington’s dominant feature is water. On the rugged, windswept coast, you can watch powerful waves crash against pristine beaches—the most dramatic swells can exceed 50 feet. In fact, the winter months, rainy though they can be, are actually great for exploring the coast. The drama of watching a mighty storm batter the shoreline—ideally through the picture window of cozy inn with a fireplace—is unforgettable.

But on this trip, which is a pleasure any time of year, you’ll also motor alongside the calmer Strait of Juan de Fuca, framed against the majestic backdrop of Canada’s mountainous Vancouver Island, and around 1,020-square-mile Puget Sound, with its forested islands and a jagged shoreline that flanks Seattle, Tacoma, and the beautiful Kitsap Peninsula.

On this drive you’ll experience the state’s breathtaking coastal beauty along curving shore roads, and by crisscrossing Puget Sound twice by ferry boat.
DAY 1: 36 miles
Explore the pristine beaches and wetlands of the Long Beach Peninsula (p. 65) with a trip to Leadbetter Point State Park, on whose easy trails you might spy peregrine falcons and western tanagers. Distinctive restaurants — including Beach Fire BBQ and the Depot — abound in downtown Long Beach and neighboring Seaview, which also offer with beachfront lodgings.

DAY 2: 124 miles
Follow U.S. 101 north through Willapa National Wildlife Refuge along the shore of Willapa Bay, through cute South Bend and the logging town of Raymond, and then up the coast to Westport, a bustling seaside town where you can stop for barbecue at Aloha Alabama or a Dungeness crab melt at the Blue Buoy. Follow Highway 105 around Grays Harbor and through the storied port city of Aberdeen, stopping to tour the Lady Washington, a replica of an 18th-century merchant ship, before heading west to overtime in the pretty shore towns of Ocean Shores and Copalis Beach (p. 65).

DAY 3: 212 miles
Backtrack to U.S. 101 and head up around the Olympic Peninsula to Olympic National Park (p. 59). Admire the rippling waters of Lake Quinault and stop for an oceanfront lunch at Kalaloch Lodge. Also make time for a stroll in the tranquil Hoh Rain Forest and along the lush shore of Lake Crescent. You’ll soon reach a string of bustling towns known for their stellar restaurants, funky shops, and historic inns: Port Angeles, Sequim, and Port Townsend (p. 59).

DAY 4: 73 miles
Savor a delicious breakfast by Port Townsend’s marina at Point Hudson Cafe, before viewing the nautical exhibits at the Northwest Maritime Center. Take the ferry to Whidbey Island (p. 55), making a quick detour southeast to Greenbank Farm to enjoy a Marionberry pie at Old Spots Bistro. Then head north to charming Coupeville and walk out on the pier overlooking Penn Cove, famed for mouthwatering mussels. Follow Highway 20 over dramatic 180-foot-tall Deception Pass and then to the tiny yet remarkable foodie mecca of Bow-Everett (p. 49). Continue along astonishingly scenic Chuckanut Drive to lively and outdoorsy Bellingham (p. 49), with its old-world Fairhaven district and array of trendy cafés, craft breweries, and cocktail bars.

DAY 5: 135 miles
Make your way down through the state’s most populous corridor, first by following Chuckanut Drive south again and then stopping in engaging La Conner for lunch on the deck of Neil Thorn bistro, overlooking Swinomish Channel. From here, meander southeast over the Skagit River to Conway, turn south onto Pioneer Highway to Stanwood, and continue west on Highway 532 onto Camano Island (p. 56) for a hike at either of its two secluded state parks on Puget Sound. Backtrack via Highway 532 and hop onto I-5 south to Seattle (p. 37) — itself, of course, worth possibly extending your trip by a day or two — and then catch the ferry to Bainbridge Island (p. 59), where you can explore the captivating galleries, winery tasting rooms, and casually chic eateries of Winslow, which overlooks Eagle Harbor. Definitely set aside an hour or two to stroll through the 150 acres of lush greenery and woodland paths at the island’s tranquil Bloedel Reserve.
DAY 6: 50 miles
From Bainbridge Island, head north over the bridge via Highway 305 and make the relaxing drive around the Kitsap Peninsula (p. 59), looping through the cute bayfront town of Poulsbo, and then following Highway 3 south to the military museums in the Navy town of Bremerton. Exploring the USS Turner Joy Museum Ship is a highlight. Next, it’s a straight shot down Highway 16 to Gig Harbor (p. 37), a relaxing and scenic overnight stop—some of its charming inns are right on the water. Saunter amid yacht-filled marinas downtown, and end your day with dinner at one of the enchanting bistros or friendly bars, maybe hip Brix 25° or old-school Tides Tavern.

DAY 7: 40 miles
From Gig Harbor, drive over the dramatic Tacoma Narrows Bridge to experience the wealth of arts and cultural draws in downtown Tacoma (p. 37), the centerpiece being the striking Museum of Glass. At the north end of downtown, don’t miss the outstanding Foss Waterway Seaport, a captivating maritime museum set in a massive timber-frame wharf building. From Tacoma, it’s an easy drive to the state capital, Olympia (p. 71). For a quiet break from the interstate, stop at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, and hop out to bird-watch or stroll along 4 miles of trails and boardwalks through peaceful estuarial marshes and wetlands. In Olympia, settle into a booth at the inviting Octopus Cafe, which serves up tasty seafood-driven tapas, offers live music on weekends, and pours terrific craft cocktails.
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Cascade Range, this route follows a swath
massive, craggy peaks dotted with glacial
lakes and coniferous forests that divides
wetter and greener western Washington
with its sunnier eastern side. This trip
is right up your alley if you love alpine
scenery and finding opportunities to
stretch your legs on woodland hikes.

The winding roads that twist and turn
through the Cascades reveal memorable
views at every turn—including the
colossal peaks of Mount Rainier and
Mount Baker—and just maybe a black
bear or Roosevelt elk. Drive carefully,
and be aware that snow and ice can make
high-elevation roads slick any time of year.
(The part of this route that crosses North
Cascades National Park closes due to snow
from about mid-November to early May.)

Summer and fall are arguably the most
beautiful times for this trip, as you’ll
encounter meadows carpeted with
wildflowers in June and July, and brilliant
fall foliage starting as early as Labor Day.

DAY 1: 191 miles
From Bellingham, drive east
through Glacier (p. 49) to
Artist Point, and behold the
jaw-dropping views of mammoth
Mount Baker. Return west, then
south to Sedro-Woolley, and
east on Highway 20 through
North Cascades National Park.

Good lunch stops en route
include Cascadian Farm market
in Concrete and down-home
Marblemount Diner. If it’s winter,
skip the national park and cross
the mountains farther south via
U.S. 2, which adds about 150
miles to your trip. Either way,
drive to the quirky Wild West-
themed town of Winthrop (p. 81)
and charming Twisp, where you’ll
find terrific lodgings and eateries,
like farm-to-table Arrowleaf
Bistro and Italian trattoria Tappi.

DAY 2: 122 miles
After visiting Winthrop’s engaging
Shafter Historical Museum, drive
south a little over an hour to the
southeast shore of Lake
Chelan (p. 81). This photogenic
journey takes you to views of
the Cascades on your right and
the vast high desert and
Columbia
River on your
left. Check out
the outstanding
wineries on
both sides of
Lake Chelan,
before
continuing to
Wenatchee,
a sunny,
outdoorsy

30 WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021 EXPERIENCEWA.COM

https://online.fliphtml5.com/nxcu/dsjk/#p=1
START: Bellingham  
END: Stevenson

DAY 4: 137 miles
Make your way south by way of Enumclaw to Mount Rainier National Park (p. 37 and 71), allowing an extra day if you wish to spend more time experiencing this incredible landscape. At a minimum, drive up to the village of Paradise for a closer look at the mountain, a short hike (with pretty good odds of seeing a marmot or two), and lunch at one of the park’s historic lodges. Continue south to the rugged mountain town of Packwood, a reasonably priced overnight base, and stop at the celebrated Cliff Dippers drive-in for a juicy elk burger with a side of tots.

DAY 5: 171 miles
Take U.S. 12 through quiet, woody Randle and by Mossyrock’s shimmering lakes, and turn south onto I-5, stopping in Castle Rock. At the very least briefly detour to Seaquest State Park and see the exhibits on Mount St. Helens (p. 71). If you have an afternoon and it’s summer, take Highway 504 to Johnston Ridge Observatory for a close-up view of the volcano. Either way, continue down I-5 to Vancouver (p. 77), stopping to stroll along the city’s beautiful Columbia River waterfront. Then take Highway 14 east through the iconic Columbia Gorge, which cuts dramatically through the Cascade Range. Finish up in the small town of Stevenson with a memorable meal at Red Bluff Tap House or Walking Man Brewing, or drive a bit farther to White Salmon and Bingen, which have several interesting places to eat and stay.

city on the Columbia that’s home to Bus Public Market, with its great food stalls. Explore the gorgeous grounds of Ohme Gardens, then drive west to experience the Bavarian charm of Leavenworth (p. 31), a mountain hamlet that’s rife with cozy inns and restaurants, such as Mana and Yodelin Broth Company.

DAY 3: 114 miles
Follow winding U.S. 97 through unspoiled mountains and coniferous forests down through the friendly town Cle Elum (p. 81) and into the Cascade foothills to Roslyn, with its old-time boutiques and eateries. Have lunch and browse the cool gifts and tomes at Basecamp Books and Bites, then hop onto I-90 and drive west over dramatic Snoqualmie Pass, continuing to North Bend (p. 37) and Snoqualmie, which are famous as the filming locations of David Lynch’s inimitable Twin Peaks TV series and movie. Dine overlooking the falls that appear famously in the show’s opening credits at the acclaimed Salish Lodge, where you can relax in the fabulous spa and soaking tubs.
**THE FARTHER EAST YOU TRAVEL IN**

Washington, the drier the climate. This fact will become dramatically apparent to you on this excursion that begins in the scenic Columbia Gorge just beyond the lush Cascades and zigzags north into the starkly gorgeous, semi-arid Yakima Valley wine country, then to the sun-kissed plateaus of the Upper Columbia Basin, and finally east to Spokane and the Palouse, revealing a landscape of undulating golden hills capped by big, sweeping blue skies.

With the exception of Spokane and a few smaller cities, this half of the state is sparsely populated—you won't encounter much traffic on these highways and byways that curve gently across the vast, open landscape. Near the end of the trip, the itinerary cuts back west through Walla Walla to Tri-Cities, once again entering some of the most prolific and exciting winemaking terrain in North America.

**DAY 1: 127 miles**

After brunching at White Salmon's (p. 77) wonderful White Salmon Baking Co., drive east past the Gorge's dramatic basalt cliffs, stopping to visit some of the renowned wineries in Lyle—such as COR and Syncline—and continuing out to Maryhill to see the fascinating collections at Maryhill Museum of Art. Follow scenic U.S. 97 north through Brooks Memorial State Park—breaking for a short hike through the evergreen groves—keeping an eye out for a glimpse of Mount Adams to the west. View the colorful historic murals in the small town of Toppenish (p. 91), before making your way to the commercial and agriculture hub of Yakima for the night. Enjoy dinner in the Old North Yakima Historic District at Cowiche Canyon Kitchen or the trendy pan-Asian restaurant, E.Z. Tiger.
**START:** White Salmon  
**END:** Kennewick  
(Tri-Cities)

**DAY 1: 108 miles**  
After brightening your morning with a tasty breakfast at Maple Counter Cafe or Convivi Street Patisserie in Walla Walla, stop to learn more about the region’s heritage at Whitman Mission National Historic Site before making your way west via U.S. 12 toward Tri-Cities (p. 91). En route, you could stop to sample some more superb vino in L’Ecole No. 41 and Woodward Canyon wineries. Follow the road up the east side of the Columbia River to Pasco, and take a break to watch for migratory birds at McNary National Wildlife Refuge. Next head to Benton City to visit some of the wineries of the famous Red Mountain AVA, such as Hedges Family Estate and Kiona, and return to Tri-Cities. Great options for a romantic dinner overlooking the Columbia River include Drumheller’s in Richland and Cedars at Pier One in Kennewick.

**DAY 2: 232 miles**  
Drop by a tasting room—perhaps Naches Heights Vineyard or Wilridge Winery, or the noted craft brewer Baie Breaker—before driving up Highway 821 through beautiful Yakima Canyon for a feast of caramelized-banana pancakes. Drive U.S. 195 south through the Palouse (p. 103), detouring briefly for a picturesque drive to the top of Steptoe Butte, and then stop for lunch in Pullman on the patio at Foundry Kitchen before checking out the excellent museums at Washington State University. Continue south to Clarkston, which straddles the Snake River and is the gateway to Hells Canyon. Have dinner at Roosters Waterfront Restaurant before retiring for the night.

**DAY 3: 389 miles**  
Walk through historic downtown Spokane and lively Riverfront Park, crossing the water to reach Yards Brunchon for a feast of caramelized-banana pancakes. Drive U.S. 195 south through the Palouse (p. 103), detouring briefly for a picturesque drive to the top of Steptoe Butte, and then stop for lunch in Pullman on the patio at Foundry Kitchen before checking out the excellent museums at Washington State University. Continue south to Clarkston, which straddles the Snake River and is the gateway to Hells Canyon. Have dinner at Roosters Waterfront Restaurant before retiring for the night.

**DAY 4: 98 miles**  
Follow U.S. 12 through the golden hills of the Palouse, pausing for a light bite at one of the downtown eateries in friendly Dayton or Waitsburg, perhaps the Weinhard Cafe & Bakery or Ton Ton Coffee. Continue to Walla Walla (p. 91) and visit some of the 120 wineries that thrive in this cool little collegiate community, including the downtown tasting rooms of Bergevin Lane, House of Smith, and Forgeron.
Happy Campers

The great outdoors is calling. Here’s how to prepare before you answer.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST boasts alluring wilderness and scenic panoramas—sleeping under the stars among the flora and fauna is practically the state sport. Here’s everything you need to know to plan your adventure.

—Allison Williams

What

Camping means different things to different people. Backpacking? Boondocking? Yep, it’s all available in Washington. Glamping canvas tents at Millersylvania State Park near Olympia have memory-foam mattresses and chandeliers, while remote backcountry zones in the North Cascades can take days to reach on foot. RV overnights—be it in a camper, trailer, or van—are widely popular, while others prefer a pup tent near a parking space.

When

Though summer is prime time, shoulder seasons and even winter see hardy spirits warming up around a campfire. Alpine regions, like Mount Rainier or the Cascades, may hold snow into June—the same areas can erupt with wildflowers by August. Whatever the season, cold overnights are common year-round—warm clothes are always a good idea. Popular campsites can fill up in any season, so try to reserve in advance, and call ranger stations if you need advice.

Where

The region’s best campsites often sit among old-growth forest or beneath toothy peaks; such photo-ready locales are common around Mount Rainier and in the Cascades. Many campgrounds line the state’s rivers, especially the Columbia. Some coastal beaches, notably within Olympic National Park, will let you pitch a tent on the sand, and historic state parks—such as Fort Worden, Fort Townsend, and Fort Flagler—sometimes have sites situated beside century-old military relics.

How

At recreation.gov you can book sites in national parks (where backpacking usually also requires an advance permit), while washingtongoingtocamp.com provides the same service in state parks. Many counties and towns also operate local campgrounds, which can be a savior during busy periods. And you can see preview pics of many sites at camptophotos.com. Dozens of campgrounds are first-come, first-served, especially on national forest or BLM (Bureau of Land Management) terrain, while sites like hipcamp.com rent private tracts to vacationers.

And then, finally, what to pack? Most major towns have some kind of outdoor gear store (REI was born in Seattle, after all), and the biggest cities may have shops that rent tents, stoves, and sleeping bags. Don’t forget the 10 Essentials on any hike—a list created by Seattle’s Mountaineers organization outlining major safety pieces like headlamps and rain gear that every person should carry in the wilderness. Oh, and most importantly: don’t forget the s’mores.
Metro Puget Sound
Seattle, Tacoma, Bellevue, Woodinville, Everett, and beyond
Charming Small Towns

STANWOOD
In this quiet village on the Stillaguamish River, catch Dungeness crab for dinner at Kayak Point Park, where a pier juts out 300 feet into Port Susan Bay, across from Camano Island. Inland, 20-acre Bonhoeffter Botanical Gardens is the only public exhibition garden in the Northwest seeded with native plants.

EDMONDS
Browse or buy from the many antique shops, art galleries, and stylish retailers in the pedestrian-friendly downtown of this upbeat town north of Seattle, with several scenic beach parks. Right by the terminal for ferries to the Kitsap Peninsula, stop by the excellent Cascadia Art Museum, which is set inside a striking mid-century modern building that once housed a grocery.

RENTON
In this leafy Seattle suburb, hike or bike along the 17-mile Cedar River Trail or take in the Lake Washington views from Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. Fans of classic rock can make the pilgrimage to the Jimi Hendrix grave site in Greenwood Memorial Park cemetery.

SNOHOMISH
The "Antique Capital of the Pacific Northwest," this charming town filled with Victorian buildings contains some 300 vintage dealers in a five-block area by the Snohomish River. Start the day with Belgian-style waffles or biscuits and gravy at the 50s-style diner, Jake's Cafe.

PUYALLUP
Famous for its Daffodil Festival and Washington State Fair, this historic community that's pronounced pew-ALL-up has a superb farmers market with craft artisans, fragrant flowers, and every imaginable kind of local produce.

ASHFORD
In this wooded western gateway to Mount Rainier National Park, you might catch artist Jason Booth's honing his craft at the Ex-Nihilo Sculpture Park. After exploring town or hiking the area's many trails, treat yourself to blackberry pie at the old-fashioned Copper Creek Inn. - Heather Larson

Splendid Seattle

Experience the city's iconic sites and hidden gems on this eclectic one-day itinerary.

START THE DAY EARLY AT Pike Place Market, watching fishmongers and farmers set up for the day. Stop at Ellenos for a cup of thick, rich yogurt made with local milk and berries or grab a cross-cultural beef curry bun from Mee Sum Pastry. Enjoy your breakfast on the Market's goat plaza for a view of Mount Rainier on a clear day, or of the fog rolling over the ferries on Elliott Bay if it's overcast.

Just north, get a taste for Seattle's modern coffee culture at Cedar & Spokes. Continue along the waterfront to the Olympic Sculpture Park, a free open-air exhibit of the Seattle Art Museum with works by world-famous and local artists set along a scenic path.

Heading east, check out the renovated Space Needle with its not-to-be-missed revolving glass floors, before continuing to the Center for Wooden Boats, a living museum on Lake Union that rents boats, kayaks, and canoes. Eat lunch on the next pier over. White Swan Public House serves seafood sandwiches, bowls of steamers, and potluck-inspired chowder fries.

Head south 4 miles to the Northwest African American Museum, whose founders made history when they occupied a former school for eight years until awarded use of the building. Inside, exhibits speak to the city's rich African American experience, including those of artist Jacob Lawrence and musician Jimi Hendrix, for whom the adjacent park is named. Detour east via the park's path along the I-90 “lid” to the East Portal Viewpoint panorama of Lake Washington.

Cap off your day by hearing the next Hendrix at the historic Royal Esquire Club in Columbia City. Inside the Comfort Zone, feast on tasty soul food—fried catfish, chicken and waffles—while watching live jazz, soul, and other musicians take the stage. —Naomi Tomky

Explore Locally
Make use of Washington's extensive network of local parks, trails, and public spaces. Enjoy your exploring, but be mindful of your impact on the places you visit.
International Eats

TO TRULY EAT like a local in Washington—and especially along the I-5 corridor—look for the nearest Vietnamese pho shop, Filipino lumpia cart, or Ethiopian coffee shop. Immigrants bring the flavors and techniques from their home countries and share their cuisines, and around the region Chinese noodle shops share the street with Somali cafes, giving everyone the opportunity to discover new favorite dishes.

In Tukwila, the Spice Bridge food hall showcases Congolese, Argentinian, and Cambodian food, among others, at its rotating stands. It shares the aptly named International Boulevard with Somali restaurants Juba and Sahara Cafe; just east, Kent offers some great finds like the Mexican steakhouse Asadero Sinaloa and Mexican sushi restaurant Sushinola. Up the hill from these spots you’ll find the region’s best Iraqi food at Shanasheel and remarkable Filipino food at FilCuisine. The northern suburbs hold their own, too, with Edmonds’ impressive selection of regional Chinese fare—Hunan at Sizzling Pot King, Yunnan at Shi Gu, and Xinjiang at Qin—and Korean food, like local classic Hosoooyi and desert cafe Milkie Milkie, with its decadent bingsu shaved ice.

In Seattle, the University District offers a similarly impressive selection, with Xinjiang Noodles leading the way and Little Duck serving up excellent Northeastern Chinese specialties, Wann Yen turns out Thai drinks and desserts that explode with color and flavor, while Sip House shows off Vietnamese coffee culture. Bellevue has a vibrant international dining scene, too. Here you might sample Indian snacks at Chaat House before popping next door to Little Garden for flavorful human fare. All over the region, for example in Federal Way and in Tacoma’s Lakewood District, be on the lookout for strip malls filled with notable global eateries. –NT

Mobile Munchies

Some of Seattle’s most eclectic eats are dished out by the city’s 179 food trucks. Visit seattlefoodtruck.com for some delicious ideas.
MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO, HUGE boats docked in Seattle on their way to seeking gold in Alaska and exploring uncharted oceans. The prime ports of Puget Sound eventually gave birth to the innovative aerospace industry. Several superb museums now showcase the myriad ways the Northwest keeps people moving all around the world.

Tukwila’s Museum of Flight offers immersive experiences, from simulators to climb-in cockpits, through its enormous collection of air and spacecraft that span aviation history. In Multhpleo, learn about both the history and future of aeronautics on a Boeing Future of Flight tour, which brings visitors to viewing decks located high above the massive airplane-assembly floors of this legendary company.

Before planes landed here, trains dominated the transportation landscape. The Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie shows the pivotal role railroads played in the state’s development. Visit the restored 19th-century depot and take a leisurely ride to the top of Snoqualmie Falls on the historic Snoqualmie Valley Railroad.

The earliest automobiles at Tacoma’s impressive LeMay–America’s Car Museum date back to the industry’s turn-of-the-20th-century infancy, but this gorgeous building also features fabulous early-’60s autos with flashy fins, ornate luxury Cadillacs and Rolls from the ’20s, and prototypes of futuristic vehicles. Beyond this 250-car gallery, the nearby LeMay Collection at Marymount has hundreds more autos (along with collections devoted to a slew of oddities, from antique radios to farm equipment) and offers visitors the opportunity to drive a Model T. —NT
SEATTLE GLASSBLOWING STUDIO

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Live Glassblowing

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SEATTLE AQUARIUM
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Hip Sips

LAUREN ASHTON CELLARS, WOODINVILLE
Begun as a dentist's passion project and named for the owner's children, this elegant winery in Woodinville's Hollywood District crafts consistently incredible, meticulous wines—including a knockout roussanne with fragrant stone-fruit notes.

ELSON CELLARS, SEATTLE
One of Seattle's urban winery pioneers, Elsom produces full-flavored Northwest reds, specializing in winemaker Jody Elsom's personal favorite, malbec. Located in the hip SoDo neighborhood, the tasting room serves tasty tapas as well as delectable treats from the Pie Lady bakery, such as chocolate-bourbon pies and savory chicken pot pies.

METIER BREWING, WOODINVILLE
This sweet brewery in the trendy Artisan Hill neighborhood makes such unique beers as an acclaimed American wheat that its brewers describe as having "aromas of Honey Nut Cheerios"—a comment that hints at the cozy taproom's playful, family-friendly vibe.

STOUP BREWING, SEATTLE
This lively multi-level space usually hosts a food truck and has games for the kids, but it's the bright, balanced IPAs that set it apart among Ballard taprooms, which include notables like Peddler Brewing and Urban Family.
BOON BOONA, RENTON Drawing on his Eritrean heritage, Efrem Fesaha created this cafe that marries the East African coffee experience to Seattle’s roastery culture. Fesaha uses beans exclusively from Africa at his community-oriented cafe near Renton’s Liberty and Cedar River parks.

HELLO EM, SEATTLE Inside the new Little Saigon Creative Space in the International District’s Vietnamese community, this friendly newcomer specializes in Viet coffee beans. In a sleek, art-filled space, Hello Em uses the traditional phin roasting method to brew rich espresso in its velvety cafe sîtâ dà (iced coffee).

DRAGON’S HEAD CIDER, YASHON ISLAND Sample crisp, complex ciders while relaxing at a picnic table beside orchards that produce several types of heirloom apples. Dragon’s Head is at the end of a quiet road that accesses 10 miles of hiking trails in 430-acre Island Center Forest.

HERITAGE DISTILLING, GIG HARBOR Heritage is one of the state’s top distillers, with locations in Roslyn and Seattle, too. This cask-lined tasting room, with water views and patio fire pits, is ideal for enjoying these fine spirits, like Brown Sugar Bourbon and Elk Rider Crisp Gin. —NT

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Surround yourself in history, Husky pride and stunning views at Graduate Seattle. We’re just a short stroll from the UW campus and close to downtown.

Get the best views in town at Mountaineering Club, our new rooftop bar.

It’s a natural fit for you
CITY OF

Maple Valley
WASHINGTON

All trails lead to Maple Valley with Mt. Rainier as a fitting backdrop to our endless natural beauty, parks, trails and outdoor recreation opportunities.

MAJOR EVENTS:
• Maple Valley Days
• Fishing Derby
• Hometown Holidays
• Farmers’ Market
• Music in the Park
• Taste of Maple Valley
• Ironman® 70.3
• Oktoberfest

Home to Washington’s only Ironman® 70.3 Triathlon Sunday, September 19, 2021.

For tourism information call (425) 432-0222 or visit www.maplevalleychamber.org/visit

BOON Boona boonboonacoffee.com • Dragon’s Head Cider dragonshcider.com • Efrem Cellars efremcellars.com • Hello Em helloemcoffee.com • Heritage Distilling heritagedistilling.com • Lauren Ashton Cellars laurenashtoncellars.com • Métier Brewing metierbrewing.com • Stoup Brewing stoupbrewing.com
Best of Tacoma

HEAD TO THE LIVELY 6TH AVENUE CORRIDOR TO
wake up your palate with biscuits and gravy at Dirty
Oscar’s Annex, before venturing downtown to see
the Tacoma Art Museum’s astounding collection
of art glass, and to watch artisans working in
the hot shop at the Museum of Glass. Cross the
radiant Bridge of Glass to reach the Washington
State History Museum, whose exceptional exhibits shed light on region’s Native
American culture and logging, fishing, and conservation heritage.

Cross the city to Boathouse 19 to marvel at the ships passing beneath
the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and lunch on local seafood, decadent Southern fare,
and boozy milkshakes. Now feeling fortified, you might channel your inner daredevil
and swim with the sharks at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. Or for a milder thrill,
view the exquisite marine life exhibits in this recently renovated aquarium. Then
check out Point Defiance Park’s 22-acre rhododendron garden, Fort Nisqually
Living History Museum, and picturesque Owen Beach, before strolling over the
new Wilson Way pedestrian bridge to the waterfront Ruston Way Trail. Walk,
jog, or bike along the path while admiring magical vistas of Puget Sound, Mount
Rainier, and the Olympic Mountains. Stroll through lively Old Town and the
Stadium District, with their intriguing shops and impressive Victorian architecture.

As evening approaches, explore the five atmospheric bars in the McMenamins
Elks Temple, a fascinating hotel and music venue installed within a stately 1916
lodge beside Tacoma’s famed Spanish Steps staircase. Inviting options for dinner
in Tacoma’s neighboring Theater District include Wooden City for creative thin-
crust pizzas and Over The Moon for freshly flavored Pacific Northwest fare. Post-
dinner, see what shows and concerts are playing at any of the several venues that
make up the Tacoma Arts Live performing arts complex. –HL

Bustling Bellevue

HERE IN ONE
of the
Northwest’s
most
contemporary
and fast-grow-
ing
cities, challenge yourself with innovative
puzzles and sports-themed board games
while noshing on fish and chips and other
comfort fare at Max’s Boarding House, which
also features a retail store with an incredibly
knowledgeable staff.

Even seasoned shoppers are often
astonished by the city’s vast, sophisticated
retail offerings. See for yourself at the
Bellevue Collection, three shopping
centers connected by sky bridges and
containing more than 200 stores. You can
find everything from high fashion to high-
tech gadgetry, global brands, and one-of-
kind items. Depart from the ground level
and explore the latest traveling exhibit
at the Bellevue Art Museum, in a building
designed by renowned contemporary
architect Steven Holl. A short drive away,
get acquainted with the city’s natural
surroundings at Kelsey Creek Farm, where
you can walk the woodland trails and feed
the animals in the barnyard.

Catch up with friends or meet new ones
over a negroni during happy hour at Civility
& Unrest. Stocked with a diverse selection
of spirits, the front room—Civility—has
a lively speakeasy vibe, while Unrest is
a better venue for a quiet conversation.
Then head next door for dinner at the sister
restaurant, The Lakehouse, to experience
the culinary prowess of James Beard award-
winning chef Jason Wilson. –HL

Boathouse 19 • Belvilla Restaurant • Dirty Oscar’s Annex • McMenamins Elks Temple
• Museum of Glass • Over The Moon • Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium • Tacoma Art Museum
• Tacoma Arts Live • Wooden City

Bellevue Art Museum • Civility & Unrest • Kelsey Creek Farm
• The Lakehouse • Max’s Boarding House

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<td>The Edgewater</td>
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<td>206-726-7100</td>
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# ACCOMMODATIONS

**Listings are sorted alphabetically by region and city.**

| City       | Hotel Name                        | Address                        | Phone   | Website                                                                 | Rating | reviewer | horseback | spa    | golf    | pool     | restaurant  | indoor_swimming | outdoor_swimming | fitness_center | meeting_rooms | parking     |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|----------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| Seattle    | The Grove West Seattle Inn       | 3012 SW Alaska Street, Seattle  | 206-634-8800 | www.grovenwseattle.com                                                  | 48     |           |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Hilton Garden Inn Downtown      | 1631 4th Avenue, Seattle       | 206-447-7770 | www.seattledowntown.hgi.com                                            | 129    | 3.29     |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Inn at Virginia Mason           | 1005 Spring Street, Seattle    | 800-283-6553 | www.innatvirginiamason.com                                             | -      | 7.9      |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Sheraton Grand Seattle           | 1400 3rd Avenue, Seattle       | 206-328-9000 | www.marriott.com/seattle                                              | 179    | 4.89     |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Silver Cloud Hotel - Seattle Broadway | 1100 5th Avenue S, Seattle    | 206-326-1400 | www.silvercloudhotels.com/seattlebroadway                              | 149    | 3.49     |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Silver Cloud Hotel - UW District | 5040 24th Avenue N, Seattle    | 206-326-5200 | www.silvercloudhotels.com/university                                   | 129    | 2.59     |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | Silver Cloud Hotel - Seattle Lake Union | 1550 Fairview Avenue N, Seattle | 206-447-9500 | www.silvercloudhotels.com/seattlemunion                               | 129    | 2.85     |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |
| Seattle    | The Westin Seattle                | 1500 5th Avenue, Seattle       | 206-326-3000 | www.westinseattle.com                                                   | 895    |           |           |        |         |          |             |                |                |                |              |             |           |

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## ACCOMMODATIONS

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Willows Lodge
14750 NE 34th Street, Woodinville
425-424-3100 • www.willowslodge.com

Willows Lodge is an 84-room upscale modern lodge located in the heart of Woodinville Wine Country, with two highly acclaimed restaurants and an award-winning spa. Just 30 minutes from Seattle and surrounded by more than 110 tasting rooms, it’s a favorite getaway in the Pacific Northwest.
FROM THE NORTH CASCADES,
FOLLOW THE SKAGIT RIVER
THROUGH THE SKAGIT VALLEY
TO THE SALISH SEA

Find Your Flow

Marblemount • Concrete • Sedro-Woolley
Burlington • Mount Vernon • Bow-Edison
La Conner • Anacortes • Guemes Island

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Unwind.

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Mount Baker Scenic Byway

Sightsee.

Chuckanut Drive Scenic Byway

Savor.
Salish Sea
Bellingham, Mount Baker, North Cascades, and Skagit Valley

Tulip fields, Mount Vernon
Charming Small Towns

FERNDALE
On the Nooksack River, Howender Homestead Park offers the chance to explore several pioneer buildings and visit with cute farm animals. Nearby at Tennant Lake Park, an interpretive center displays local flora and fauna, and a wetlands boardwalk leads to a 50-foot observation tower.

MOUNT VERNON
Stroll the 1,200-acre grounds of RoozenGaarde estate, the centerpiece of April’s Skagit Valley Tulip Festival, to admire tulips, irises, and daffodils. Then borrow binoculars and a birding guide from the Breazeale Interpretive Center, at Padilla Bay National Estuarine Reserve, to get up close with the abundant wildlife.

LUMMI ISLAND
This tiny isle’s appeal comes partly from its lack of development. You’ll find little more than seafood, solitude, and a single world-class restaurant, at the Willows Inn. It’s popular, so book a table well in advance.

LYNDEN
Take an art class or see an exhibit at the Jansen Art Center in this community with a strong Dutch heritage, before dropping by Village Books in handsomely renovated, historic Waples Mercantile Building and breaking for a bite to eat in the adjacent Avenue Bread bakery.

BLAINE
Have a picnic, admire the gardens, and lounge on the lawn at Peace Arch Historical State Park, on the boundary between the United States and Canada. Then drive around Drayton Harbor to Semiahmoo Spit and watch the sunset from the scenic paths and beaches.

BURLINGTON
Admire the Skagit Valley and Cascade Mountains while playing one of the three picturesque 9-hole layouts at Avalon Golf Links. Afterward, stop by historic downtown’s lovably offbeat Train Wreck Bar for creative cocktails and juicy cheesburgers.

-Heather Larson

Bellingham Delights

KICK OFF YOUR ADVENTURE AT ONE OF this youthful university town’s vibrant cafés, such as Camber, with its delicious rösti potatoes with eggs, or Lettered Streets Coffeehouse for an artfully prepared latte. Next head outside to partake of Bellingham’s abundant natural scenery by driving along twisting and turning Chuckanut Drive, which hugs high bluffs for 24 miles, offering views of San Juan Bay and the San Juan Islands. At milepost 14, stop at Larrabee State Park, which is ideal for both whale watching and train spotting.

Amid the neatly preserved historic Fairhaven District, lose yourself among the stacks at Village Books, which has both a restaurant downstairs and chocolate shop upstairs. Peruse the stylish threads at Adored Boutique, and the paintings, jewelry, and other creative wares by more than 40 local talents at Whatcom Art Market—there’s more gallery-hopping along Harris Avenue at Good Earth Pottery and others.

Back downtown, spend any time left in your afternoon with three buildings’ worth of history and art exhibits at the engaging Whatcom Museum. Then make your way to dinner in this foodie-friendly city, perhaps to Bantam 46 for spicy buttermilk fried chicken and other Southern-influenced classics, or Black Sheep for hand-pressed-tortilla tacos filled with rockfish and chorizo.

After dinner, sample craft beer at one of the many commendable breweries, such as long-admired Boundary Bay or hip Kulshan. Just save room for a final treat: a scoop or two at Mallard Ice Cream, where the favored flavors include mint Oreo and local strawberry. —Emily Boylan

Adored Boutique
shop adoredboutique.com • Bantam 46 bantamkitchen.com • Black Sheep backstreetbellsham.com • Camber cambercoffeecafe.com • Good Earth Pottery goodearthpottery.com • Larrabee State Park parks.state.wa.us/535/ • Lettered Streets letteredstreetscoffee.com • Mallard Ice Cream mallardicecream.com • Village Books villagebooks.com • Whatcom Art Market whatcomartmarket.org • Whatcom Museum whatcommuseum.org

BELLWOOD FARMS & DISTILLERY, LYNDEN
At the state’s first apple spirits distillery, drop by to taste the flagship Honeycrisp Vodka, barrel-aged gin, and calvados-inspired Apple Brandy Eau. The farm store is famous for Bellwood’s house-made honey-roasted peanut butter, a cheerful café that’s popular for brunch, and U-pick apple harvesting in the fall.

RAGGED AND RIGHT, MOUNT VERNON
Cider maker Jacob Mitchell created quite a hit with his Blackberry Tango, a mix of blackberry and Tango apples. At the site of the similarly stellar Farmstrong Brewing beer company, this sister operation eschews added sugars in creating its dry, complex small-batch ciders.—HL
Eat Your Way Through Bow-Edison

Whether you prefer a restaurant setting or procuring goodies to assemble a fantastic picnic, the Bow-Edison Food Trail has everything to satisfy your cravings. Although the combined population of these twin towns on Samish Bay, at the southern end of famed Chuckanut Drive, is just under 5,000, the community enjoys a deservedly outsized reputation for its considerable culinary riches and prolific farms.

The Old Edison serves up oysters—panfried or raw—fresh from nearby Blau Oyster Company, along with house-buttered-cod fish and chips and tzatziki-topped lamb burgers. Across the street, Tweets Cafe sources local produce for its weekly changing menu of delicious brunch fare that might include buckwheat soba noodles with sea vegetables and peanut sauce, or corned-beef hash with an egg on a biscuit.

Blanchard Mountain Farm grows organic vegetables and herbs including kale, cucumbers, and winter squash. For all-things blueberry, visit Bow Hill Blueberries farm shop, where these tiny heirloom fruits appear in marinades, dressings, juices, ice cream, and more. Pair the bright and fresh cow’s-milk cheeses from Samish Bay Cheese with black-olive mezza ciabatta from the Breadfarm, where you can also pick up decadent treats like the heavenly cranberry-pistachio shortbread. —HL

Have you witnessed the awe-inspiring power of nature? Washington State is full of memory-making adventures. So whether you’re a first-time visitor or resident expert, start your adventures at ExperienceWA.com

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Washington Tourism Alliance

Bow Hill Blueberries

Blanchard Mountain Farm

Blanchard Mountain Farms on Samish Bay

Bow Hill Blueberries on Bowhillblueberries.com

Breadfarm on Breadfarm.com

The Old Edison on TheOldEdison.com

Samish Bay Cheese on samishbay.com

Tweets Cafe on tweetscafe.com

Washington State Visitors’ Guide 2021

ExperienceWA.com
## Accommodations

*Entries are sorted alphabetically, by region and city.*

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EXPERIENCEWA.COM   WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021   53
## San Juan Islands

**INSPIRATION FOR THE SENSES**

Explore the spectacular

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### ACCOMMODATIONS

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**Charming Small Towns**

**COUPEVILLE**  Washington’s second-oldest town boasts a historic waterfront, newly preserved Victorian homes, lovely Fort Casey and Fort Ebey state parks, and scenic Peres Cove, famous for its mussels. Overlooking the Strait of San Juan de Fuca, a stunning coastal trail traverses Ebey’s Landing National Historic Reserve.

**OLGA**  Utterly tranquil and spread out along Buck Bay, this tiny hamlet hides artists’ studios and self-serve farmstands around every curve of the road. The highlight is outstanding Orcas Island Artworks Gallery, which adjoins the inviting Catkin Cafe. It’s a lovely stop before visiting the lakes and mountain trails of nearby Moran State Park.

**ANACORTES**  Although well-known as the ferry departure point for the San Juan Islands, this pretty town on Fidalgo Bay has many other charms. You can hike through more than 65 miles of trails, some of them through coastal old-growth forests. Or admire the boats in picturesque Cap Santa Marina while savoring clam chowder or panfried oysters on the deck of Anthony’s seafood restaurant.

**LOPEZ VILLAGE**  The laid-back commercial hub of one of the most relaxing and bike-friendly San Juan Islands bustles with appealing diversions, including galleries and small-batch food purveyors, a winery tasting room, and the informative Little Lopez Island Historical Museum.

**ROCHE HARBOR**  Set at the quiet northern end of San Juan Island and built around a Victorian lime quarry, this charming seaside resort community boasts remarkable views, brick-lined pathways, and breezy waterfront eateries. The 20-acre San Juan Islands Sculpture Park is an art lovers’ and bird watchers’ paradise.

—Waeem Tumky
Fantastic Fauna

**WHALE WATCHING** The region’s peak season for seeing these magnificent creatures is April to October, but the chance of spotting whales exists all year-round, especially from the many parks with water views, including Lime Kiln Point State Park on San Juan Island, the trails of Fort Ebey State Park on Whidbey Island, and the shores of Cama Beach Historical State Park on Camano Island. Better your chances by booking a boat tour led by one of the region’s many expert guides, or set out by sea kayak in search of them yourself.

**BIRD WATCHING** Avid birders often start their search right from ferry, especially during the fall–spring migrations, but this avian haven offers other hot spots, too. Watch for bald eagles that live at the Cattle Point Lighthouse—part of San Juan Islands National Monument—on San Juan Island, the osprey and loons who reside around Deception Pass State Park, and the woodpeckers and owls that you’re likely to hear as see in the dense forests in Puget Sound’s islands.

**OTHER SEA CREATURES** The most exciting way to see animals is by chance, like glimpsing a family of dolphins while you’re sipping cocktails on the deck of the Madrona Bar & Grill on Orcas Island. The entire region offers plenty of prime wildlife-spotting perches, such as Shark Reef Sanctuary on Lopez Island, a favorite seal-watching spot that attracts sea lions and playful sea otters, too. —NT

---

**Hip Sips**

**THE ORCAS PROJECT, EASTSOUND** At the small, sommelier-run Doe Bay Wine Company, folks stock up on sparkling wines, syrah, albariño, and more. But the shop has its own oenological ode to Orcas bright and complex small-batch wines crafted from vineyards around the Northwest, with clever labels created by Orcas Island artists.

**ALE SPIKE, CAMANO ISLAND** This tiny garage-like space with just a few tables really puts the “micro” in microbrewery. Brewing on a three-barrel system, this beloved operation creates an impressive range excelling particularly with darker beers like an imperial coffee stout.

**MUKILTEO COFFEE, LANDLEY** An all-star cast of old hands from the original wave of Seattle roasters who had decamped to Whidbey Island operates this vintage roaster at the aptly named “Cafe in the Woods,” a cross between a log cabin and a roadside diner tucked into the woods next to Whidbey Airpark.

**MUTINY BAY DISTILLERY, FREE LAND** Created by two Whidbey Island pharmacists, this artisan whiskey company turns local wheats into grain-to-glass expressions of the island’s terroir, working out of a converted horse barn. Mutiny Bay’s Blueberry Liqueur is made with fruit grown by a neighboring farm.

**WESTCOTT BAY CIDER,FRIDAY HARBOR** Using apples from their own ancient orchard, Westcott Bay blends crisp, traditional English-style ciders at the rural north end of San Juan Island. The cidery shares the delightful red tasting room with San Juan Distillery. —NT
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Forks Timber Museum

Olympic National Park:
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Hot Springs Road
Hole in the Wall @ Rialto Beach
Tree of Life @ Kalaloch Beach
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Olympic National Park, Port Angeles, Port Townsend, and the Kitsap Peninsula
Olympic Feats

Remarkable in its geodiversity, Olympic National Park contains wilderness landscapes to delight every taste.

**Lake Crescent** A crisp, deep lake—it’s more than 600 feet to the bottom—sits among thick forests and is popular for paddling and mellow boat rides. A 1913 lodge sits on the southern shore, and a strenuous hike up to the 4,500-foot summit of Mount Storm King offers memorable lake views.

**Sol Duc Hot Springs** Tucked deep into the park’s forested interior, Sol Duc offers a wide, mossy waterfall and naturally hot spring waters that feed the swimming pools of a rustic resort.

**Hoh Rain Forest** Perhaps the Olympics’ most famous acres, the old-growth rainforest along the Hoh River is one of the calmest places on the continent. A flat trail traces the river into its tranquil depths.

**Rialto Beach** Access one of the park’s most spectacular beaches from the mouth of the Quillayute River; where Pacific waves crash between rocky offshore islands and onto the sand, with the spectacular Hole-in-the-Wall sea arch a 1½-mile ramble up the coast.

**Kalaloch** One of the peninsula’s longest stretches of accessible sand runs along a bluff dotted with cabins that make up Kalaloch Lodge. Trees hang precariously over the beach as ocean and wind erodes their roots.

**Hurricane Ridge** This lofty perch with the park’s best visitor center looks out toward the glaciers of the Olympic peaks—the wildflower meadows here become a popular ski area in winter. Look for the Roosevelt elk on the scenic drive up from Port Angeles.

**Lake Quinault Lodge** A rain gauge on the side of this 1926 hotel shows that precipitation here is measured in feet, not inches. President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited the idyllic lakeside spot shortly before establishing Olympic National Park.

For more information on the park’s features and regions, visit nps.gov/olympic. —Allison Williams
Park Yourself Here

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National Park & Forest

OlympicNationalParks.com
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Life on the Edge

EVEN THOUGH people have lived in the shadows of the Olympic peaks for eons, its mountains, beaches, and forests offer remote and relaxing escapes from the crowds. The Makah reservation lands, including access to Cape Flattery and Shi Shi Beach, remained closed to visitors at the time of publication. Check on access before you go.

CAPE FLATTERY The peninsula’s— and indeed the lower 48s—extreme northwestern tip comprises a collection of sharp cliffs buffeted by thundering waves. Located on part of the indigenous Makah Reservation, the cape is accessed by a 1.3-mile trail through pristine woodlands.

LAKE OZETTE A calm, crystal lake sits just inland from the wild coast, a circuitous drive from any town, populated only by those overnighting in the area’s small campgrounds. Easy, level trails lead out to breathtaking beaches, where sea stacks soar above the sands of Cape Alava.

DUNGENESS SPIT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE During storms you can’t even see the tip of the spindly 6-mile sand finger that curls from the peninsula’s north shore, but there’s a lighthouse at the end, which you can reach on foot via a flat though lengthy 5-mile trail or by boat or kayak. You can launch at Cline Spit, which is on Sequim’s northern shoreline and is itself a lovely, quiet park for enjoying the scenery. This 772-acre wildlife refuge is a haven for shorebirds and raptors. —AW

ACCOMMODATIONS

Listings are sorted alphabetically, by region and city

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<td>7 Cedars</td>
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<td>Nested amongst dense landscape of sun-dappled pine forests, deep canyons, and mountain sites, 7 Cedars Hotel offers an experience unlike any other. With hand-picked elements in every room and authentic pieces from native artisans throughout, 7 Cedars offers unparalleled comfort and service.</td>
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North Head Lighthouse in Cape Disappointment State Park, Ilwaco, WA


**Charming Small Towns**

**HOQUIAM**

On the northeast shore of Grays Harbor, this small river city once famous for logging and shipping boasts an attractive downtown of historic warehouses and storefronts. A massive 1920s mansion now houses the Polson Museum, with excellent history exhibits, manicured gardens, and a vintage locomotive display.

**COPALIS BEACH**

A favorite destination of beachcombers in search of quiet coastal beauty, this small hamlet north of bustling Ocean Shores is home to Griffiths-Friday State Park, with its undulating dunes accessed via a boardwalk and an enormous population of snowy plovers and other migratory birds.

**SOUTH BEND**

The tiny seat of Pacific County enjoys a picturesque setting on the estuarial Willapa River and makes a pleasant stop on the drive from Aberdeen to the Long Beach Peninsula. See old photos and memorabilia at the Pacific County Historical Society & Museum, and savor an espresso on the riverside deck at Elixir Coffee Shop.

**ILWACO**

On the Columbia River at the base of Long Beach Peninsula, this vibrant little fishing port offers easy access to Cape Disappointment State Park and Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. The engaging exhibits at Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum shed light on the area's rich Indigenous, fur-trading, and seaport history.

**OYSTERVILLE**

Home to the state's oldest post office still in operation, this friendly village on the northern end of the Long Beach Peninsula is filled with restored Victorian buildings. Nature lovers can explore the 7 miles of trails that course through breezy dune forests along the shore of Willapa Bay.

---

Washington's Lighthouses

The hardest working buildings on the coast stand guard.

WITH FIERCE PACIFIC OCEAN STORMS occasionally battering its coast, especially in winter, Washington has long used lighthouses to help seafarers navigate the rugged border between water and land. Their need was never so evident as in 1853, when a vessel carrying materials for the state's first such structure ran aground.

Three beacons sit on the Washington coastline, with the northernmost and tallest in Westport. Visitors can climb the 107-foot Grays Harbor Lighthouse and see its original 19th-century lens. The nearby Westport Maritime Museum displays seagoing history, nature exhibits, and the lens from the now-decommissioned Destruction Island Lighthouse that stands offshore.

Farther south at Cape Disappointment State Park, whose treacherous surrounding waters are nicknamed the Graveyard of the Pacific, two sentries guard the mouth of the Columbia River. Erected in 1856, the squat Cape Disappointment Lighthouse is known for its distinctive fog bell, which used to ring nine times per minute to alert ships. A lighthouse, or floating lighthouse, served as a second marker before the nearby North Head Lighthouse became operational in 1898; its lens is now on display in the park's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. ~Allison Williams

Westport Winery, Westport

Wine tasting is but one of several features of this sprawling, family-friendly property: there's a landscaped sculpture garden, a restaurant with acclaimed contemporary Northwest cuisine, a craft distillery, and the International Memelk Museum, which opened in spring 2021. Wines range from crisp, dry, old-world varieties to sweeter vinos produced with local berries.

North Jetty Brewing, Seaview

You'll find friendly service, chewy soft pretzels with stone-ground mustard, and 18 beer taps at this stellar beer maker. The Graveyard of the Pacific imperial red ale—produced with Vancouver’s Heathen Brewing—packs a delicious wallop.

Ocean Beach Roasters, Ocean Shores

This airy beach-town bistro serves fine espresso drinks, but it’s also a go-to for Northwest beers and wines, duck pot pie, and Dungeness mac and cheese.

Adrift Distillers, Long Beach

Steps from the ocean in Long Beach, sample the slightly sweet but pleasantly tart cranberry liqueur as well as a gin with Northwest botanicals. The owners also run the terrific Pickled Fish restaurant a block away, which serves innovative cocktails.

Hoquiam Brewing, Hoquiam

Stop by this cheerful craft brewery in a 1920s downtown building for a pint of flavorful, well-balanced ale, from classic IPAs to All-Guard French-style strong ale. The kitchen turns out delish pulled-pork sandwiches and spicy-chicken pizzas, too. ~AC
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Long Beach Lore

EXTENDING 28 miles north from the mouth of the Columbia River, the narrow Long Beach Peninsula offers pristine, dune-backed beaches on one side and access to tranquil Willapa Bay on the other. Easygoing, family-friendly shore towns offer fun amusements and outdoor recreation. Here are the spots you shouldn’t miss.

WORLD KITE MUSEUM A few blocks from the beach, you can tour galleries displaying artful kites and attend a summer festival that salutes the spirited wind off the Pacific.

CRANBERRY MUSEUM A learning center tells the story of the bog-grown berries that have been farmed here since well before the arrival of Europeans.

LONG BEACH Sandcastles and kite-flyers take center stage on the peninsula’s stretch of oceanfront sand, the self-proclaimed “World’s Longest Beach,” at almost 30 miles. Cars can drive on it—it’s technically a state highway—and razor clam hunters flock here during seasonal harvests.

MYCOVIO’S This intimate mid-peninsula restaurant run by a talented Dutch chef dishes out tantalizingly fresh Italian cuisine, such as slow-cooked pork shoulder with penne and chanterelles.

LEADBETTER POINT STATE PARK Walking trails wind through the protected north end of the peninsula and dip into the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, home to eagles, falcons, and endangered snowy plovers.

DISCOVERY TRAIL More than 8 miles of walking and biking trails, mostly paved, wind north from the beloved condor statue in Ilwaco through the peninsula’s dunes and wind-swept beach towns.

MARSH’S FREE MUSEUM The real highlight of this century-old, kid-approved curio and souvenir shop is “Jake the Alligator Man,” a P.T. Barnum-style “mummy” on display. —AW

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Volcanoes
Mount Rainier, Mount St. Helens, Olympia, and Centralia

Paradise, Mount Rainier National Park
CHEHALIS
Access 3 miles of old-growth forest trails and gaze at the rainbow-refracted cascade at Rainbow Falls State Park in this historic town with mostly preserved buildings, among them the nifty train depot that’s now home to the Chehalis Centralia Railroad & Museum.

COUGAR
This tiny hamlet along picturesque Highway 503 makes a tranquil base for boating, fishing, and swimming in scenic Yale Lake, and hiking though rugged Gifford Pinchot National Forest near the southern slopes of Mount St. Helens. Follow the fascinating Ape Cave Trail to explore a 2-mile-long lava tube, or the Trail of Two Forests for a boardwalk stroll through old-growth stands of Douglas fir and western cedar.

CASTLE ROCK
Get your java hit and literary fix at Vault Books & Brew, housed in an old bank building, in this quiet town on a pretty stretch of the Cowlitz River. Then head east to the end of Sprit Lake Memorial Highway to view the blast zone of Mount St. Helens.

YELM
Book a personalized tour of theTahoma Vista Fiber Mill and La Vida Alpaca, then shop for fiber art at their boutique. The 14½-mile Yelm-Tenino Trail follows a former railroad line and provides a picturesque way to bike or jog through the lush countryside.

MOSSYROCK
A popular stop on the scenic drive along U.S. 12 from Mount Rainier to Mount St. Helens, DeGoede Bulb Farm & Gardens delights horticulturists with its colorful greenhouses and outdoor floral displays. Afterward, drop by family-run Nacho’s Mexican Restaurant for platters of avocado tostadas and chorizo burritos—or bring your meal to one of the lakeside picnic tables at Mossyrock Park or Ike Kinswa State Park. —Heather Larson
Volcanic Wonder

ONE OF THE WEST’S ICONIC GEOLOGICAL SITES, Mount St. Helens erupted—famously and tragically—on May 18, 1980. Here are three memorable ways to view and learn about this still-active volcano.

IN AN HOUR: Close to I-5 in Castle Rock, the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center at Silver Lake features exhibits on the region’s geological history and a scale model of the volcano that you can actually step inside. Outside, observe birds and aquatic plants on the half-mile wetlands trail around Silver Lake, from which you can glimpse the mountain’s western slope—30 miles away.

IN A HALF-DAY: Marvel at the lush sweeping forests that have grown over the blast zone as you drive along Highway 504, Spirit Lake Memorial Highway. The road’s last section, which is closed to snow latefall to mid-spring, leads to Johnston Ridge Observatory, which offers dramatic views of the mountain’s crater and lava dome.

IN A FULL DAY: Hike to the mountain’s summit via the Monitor Ridge route, starting at the Climbers Bivouac trailhead (which also accesses the amazing Ape Cave hike), near the town of Cougar. Give yourself 8 to 12 hours to complete this arduous 10-mile round-trip that requires a climbing permit from the Mount St. Helens Institute. At the crater rim, you’ll be rewarded with eye-popping views of the rugged mountainside and crystalline lakes below. —NG

Christine Falls

Mount Rainier for Every Season

AT 14,411 FEET, WASHINGTON’S HIGHEST mountain is the centerpiece of an incredible 369-square-mile national park. From hiking through wildflower meadows to trekking along pristine snowy trails, Mount Rainier offers memorable outdoor—and even some notable indoor—diversions throughout the year. Visit nps.gov/olymp for more information about the park’s diverse and historic attractions.

SPRING: Take in dazzling views of Rainier’s waterfalls as they swell with the runoff of melted snow. Make the easy 1½-mile hike through a second-growth forest to view stunning 400-foot Snoquara Falls or visit picture-perfect Christine Falls, a 69-foot waterfall that you can drive to.

SUMMER: Enjoy scenic roads through Paradise and Sunrise where you can see wildflowers in peak bloom—typically mid-July to August. Have lunch in the handsome dining room of the grand, steep-roofed Paradise Inn, which was built in 1916 in the shadow of snowcapped Mount Rainier.

FALL: Hiking trails showcase the park at its most photogenic, when the leaves of aspens, tamaracks, and cottonwoods explode with color. Gaze at towering ancient red cedars and Douglas firs along a wooden boardwalk on the 1½-mile Grove of the Patriarchs Loop, or catch a breathtaking lakeside view of the mountain along the 5-mile round-trip jaunt from Narada Falls to Reflection Lakes.

WINTER: Embark on a wintry weekend outing with a ranger-guided snowshoe tour or a cross-country ski trek through Paradise Valley, which receives about 700 inches of snow annually. Afterward, warm up in the striking Henry M. Jackson Visitor Center with a hot cocoa and explore the fascinating geology and wildlife exhibits. —Nils Olffe

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Classic Olympia

Begin your day in Washington’s leafy capital in the historic heart of downtown, filling up on pastries—or buying some challah to go—at the Bread Peddler, in the 222 Market artisanal food hall. It’s a short walk north to the Olympia Farmers Market, with its fresh-food purveyors, artisans, and prepared-food stalls. Amble a short way south along the boardwalk to Percival Landing Park, an old steamship wharf with views of the marina and Puget Sound. Head inland a few blocks to find the city’s famed Artesian Well, where a pipe set within a tile mosaic pours crystal-clear water. For lunch, return to 222 Market to Chelsea Farms Oyster Bar, a sleek spot with creative contemporary seafood, and then enjoy a creamy dessert from adjacent Sofie’s Scoops Gelateria.

Kids can get their wiggles out at the excellent Hands On Children’s Museum. Then go for a stroll around the Washington State Capitol grounds. Laze on the manicured lawns, see the giant Tivoli Fountain, and admire the Capitol building, which is crowned with the nation’s tallest masonry dome.

Back downtown, pose in front of the mural at Fish Tale Brewpub before noshing away on fish tacos and organic beer, or go upscale back near the Farmers Market at the classic steak-and-martini joint, Gardner’s Restaurant. –AW

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**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Listings are sorted alphabetically by region and city

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Northwest</td>
<td></td>
<td>Best Western Plus Park Place Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>201 Ingraham Avenue</td>
<td>360-748-4040</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bestwestern.com">www.bestwestern.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Holiday Inn Express &amp; Suites Chehalis</td>
<td>720 N Liberty Place</td>
<td>360-740-1809</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hilton.com">www.hilton.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lava Fl Resort</td>
<td>14550 Lewis River Road</td>
<td>360-288-5219</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lavafiresort.com">www.lavafiresort.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alta Crystal Resort at Mt. Rainier</td>
<td>16317 State Route 410 E</td>
<td>360-371-8478</td>
<td><a href="http://www.altacrystalresort.com">www.altacrystalresort.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Crystal Mountain Hotel</td>
<td>17173 Crystal Mountain Blvd</td>
<td>360-663-2282</td>
<td><a href="http://www.crystalhotel.com">www.crystalhotel.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>National Park Inn</td>
<td>47000 Paradise Road</td>
<td>888-759-2275</td>
<td><a href="http://www.npsrvrguideservices.com">www.npsrvrguideservices.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Enjoy flavors of the Pacific Northwest in the rustic, casual dining room with selections to please the entire family. After your meal, take your favorite beverage and enjoy spectacular views of Mount Rainier from comfortable chairs on the front porch.

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**VOLCANOES**

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Vancouver, USA and the Columbia River Gorge

Silver Star Scenic Area, Gifford Pinchot National Forest
Charming Small Towns

TROUT LAKE
This quiet, rural jumping-off point for everything from hikes to nearby Mount Adams to whitewater rafting trips along the White Salmon River is surrounded on three sides by Gifford Pinchot National Forest. It's also the gateway to Guler Ice Caves, ancient lava tubes accessed via a wooden staircase.

CARSON
In this picturesque hamlet in the heart of the Columbia Gorge, you can soak in a hot spring or shoot a round golf at Carson Hot Springs resort, or hike to one of the prettiest waterfalls in the state at Falls Creek Falls. Celebrate afterward with a pint of Logyard IPA and a pizza at Backwoods Brewing Company.

RIDGFIELD
In 1805, Lewis and Clark passed through this wooded area along the Columbia River. That's now a suburb of Vancouver. Here at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge you can explore 5,200 acres of pristine marshes and grasslands that drew migrating birds, or enjoy a tasting at several excellent boutique wineries, including Bethany Vineyard and Gougé Cellars Winery.

WASHOUGAL
A western gateway to the scenic Columbia Gorge corridor, this small riverfront city has a lively downtown with craft breweries and cafes, leafy Steamboat Landing Park, and the Two Rivers Heritage Museum, with its old photos and exhibits documenting the region's heritage. After a day of exploring, settle in for first-rate beer and pizza topped with garlic marinara sauce and smoked mozzarella at Doomsday Brewing.

GOLDFIELD
Attend a sky-watching program at Goldendale Observatory State Park, which has one of the largest public telescopes in the country, in this sunny farming town in the eastern reaches of the Gorge. It's also convenient for visiting the nearby Maryhill Museum of Art and Stonehenge war memorial. —Andrew Collins

Backwoods Brewing Company backwoodsbrewingcompany.com • Bethany Vineyard bethanyvineyard.com • Carson Hot Springs Resort carsonhotsprings.com • Doomsday Brewing doomsdaybrewing.com • Gifford Pinchot National Forest fs.usda.gov/giffordpinchot • Goldendale Observatory State Park goldendaleobservatory.com • Gougé Cellars Winery gougecellars.com • Maryhill Museum of Art maryhillmuseum.org • Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge fws.gov/refuge/ridgefield • Steamboat Landing Park washougal.com/1077steamboat-landing-park • Two Rivers Heritage Museum twrhm.com

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River Renaissance

JUST A 10-MINUTE STROLL FROM inviting Esther Short Park, which hosts a famous weekend art and farmers market, is Vancouver’s captivating and fast-growing new waterfront development. Formerly an industrial riverport, this 32-acre mixed-use development with offices, hotels, condos, and beautiful parks along the Columbia River is perfect for sunset strolls, photo ops on the cantilevered Grand Street Pier, and eating and drinking at lively restaurants and winery tasting rooms.

Ample seating and well-manicured lawns make the Vancouver Waterfront a favorite picnic destination, and imaginative public art installations pique the curiosity of kids and adults. Sample superb vino at Amavi Cellars, Airfield Estates, Barnard Griffin Winery, and Evoke Winery. Then sup on Southern-style comfort fare at Barlow’s Public House or authentic Spanish paella at DosAls Latin Kitchen & Tequila Bar. The development connects with the Columbia River Renaissance Trail, which you can jog, bike, or walk along to reach other parks and beaches. —AC

Airfield Estates airfieldwines.com  •  Amavi Cellars amavicellars.com  •  Barlow’s Public House barlowspubhouse.com  •  Barnard Griffin Winery barnardgriffin.com  •  Columbia River Renaissance Trail cityofvancouver.us/parksrec  •  DosAls Latin Kitchen & Tequila Bar dosalslatinkitchen.com  •  Esther Short Park cityofvancouver.us  •  Evoke Winery evokewine.com  •  Vancouver Waterfront thewaterfrontvancouverusa.com

Hip Sips

SAVAGE GRACE WINES, UNDERWOOD Set high on a cool bluff with panoramic views of the Columbia Gorge, the winery of acclaimed vintner Michael Savage overlooks acres of riesling, pinot gris, gruner veltliner, and pinot noir vines. Sample the expressive wines, including Savage’s highly regarded malbec and cabernet franc, which he sources from eastern Washington.

54°40’ BREWING, WASHOUgL A convivial stop along scenic Highway 14 in the western Gorge, this German-style craft brewer offers tasty pub fare and has a spacious patio. The nicely balanced Kascadia Kolsch is a pleasing summer sipper, but also ask about seasonal brews like the heady Shark Destroyer Murky IPA.

RELEVANT COFFEE, VANCOUVER This airy roaster and cafe with sidewalk seating is in the hip and central Uptown Village district. Using sustainably sourced beans, the knowledgeable baristas turn out delicious sips, from classic cortados to fragrant turmeric lattes.

MOULTON FALLS WINERY & CIDER HOUSE, YACOLT After hiking the verdant trails of nearby Moulton Falls Regional Park, drop by this rustic barn and patio for a crisp dry-fermented cider produced from local apples. This family-owned operation produces tasty wood-fired pizzas and excellent wines, too.

SKUNK BROTHERS SPIRITS, STEVENSON Operated by a family of military veterans that uses a moonshine corn whiskey recipe perfected by their grandfather during Prohibition, this cheerful distillery and tasting room in the heart of the Gorge is steps from East Point Kite Beach and several good restaurants. —AC

54°40’ Brewing 5440beer.com  •  Moulton Falls Winery & Cider House moultonfallswinery.com  •  Relevant Coffee relevantcoffeecom  •  Savage Grace Wine savagegracewines.com  •  Skunk Brothers Spirits skunkbrothersspirits.com

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Winthrop
**Charming Small Towns**

**MANSON**
This idyllic lakeside hub of Chelan wine tasting is popular for boating and swimming, too. Stroll among the wineries on Wapato Way, or check out the tasting rooms in the surrounding foothills, such as Hard Row to Hoe Vineyards and Rootwood Cider, with its gorgeous orchards.

**CASHMERE**
Known for its pear orchards, this friendly town is named for India’s Kashmir region, which an early resident thought it resembled. Local fruit features on many local menus, including Anjou Bakery, which serves luscious European-style pastries and sandwiches out of a renovated barn. Treasure hunters should check out the 200 vendors at Apple Annie Antique Gallery.

**QUINCY**
Be sure to check out the artisan vendors at the Quincy Public Market, such as Cleo Town Bakery and Jones of Washington winery. To view firsthand the terrain that has made this area renowned for winemaking, hike the dramatic canyons and waterfalls of the Ancient Lakes Trail.

**OMAK**
The Omak Stampede, one of the largest rodeos in the Northwest, has been going strong since 1953. Held in August, it features fun-filled rodeo events as well as a carnival, artisan vendors, rodeo dances, and Western and Native American art.

**ROSLYN**
If you’ve watched the quirky 1990s TV hit *Northern Exposure*, you’ve seen a bit of Roslyn, whose frontier-style brick and wood storefronts hark back to the town’s 1880s coal mining history. Stroll the historic district, take a photo of the iconic Roslyn Cafe mural, and visit Carek’s Meat Market, famous for its beef jerky.

**MOSES LAKE**
Grab a kayak and paddle out along the Water Trails of Moses Lake, or go fishing at Potholes State Park’s reservoir, where you can also spot birds and other wildlife foraging and nesting in the wetlands. Take a ride on the wild side behind the wheel of an ATV at the Moses Lake Sand Dunes. —Niki Stojnic
Beer, Brats, and Cowboy Hats

Meet alpine Leavenworth and Old West Winthrop.

A FORMER LOGGING TOWN, LEAVENWORTH
had nearly become a ghost town by the 1960s, when local leaders came up with
the novel idea to promote its splendid Cascades setting that's reminiscent
of Germany's alps. The town's buildings were
updated with scalloped edges, wooden
balconies, and other Bavarian-style architectural elements. And popular
events were added, like the beer tent-laden Oktoberfest and festively
twirling Christkindlmartk.

There's much to see and do all year, though. The Nutcracker Museum
showcases more than 7,000 nutcrackers of every style. You'll find
house-made wurst at the Leavenworth Sausage Garten and pretzels
and schnitzel at Andreas Keller Restaurant, and craft ales at the Rhein Haus,
which has a beer garden with a bocce court. Other favorites
include the Leavenworth Cider House, Bushel & Bee Taproom, and a
growing number of winery tasting rooms.

North on the eastern flanks of the Cascades, Winthrop is known
for wooden boardwalks and building facades that recall America's
Wild West, thanks to the makeover it received in 1972 by the same
architect behind Leavenworth's charming remake. Robert Jorgenson.
Hit up Sheri's Sweet Shoppe for old-fashioned candies and a round of
minigolf. Skip a walk on a deck overlooking the Chewuch River at Old
Schoolhouse Brewery Pub, or enjoy a glass of crisp pinot gris at Lost
River Winery. And don't miss the colorful Shafer Historical Museum,
which occupies several late 19th-century buildings that tell the story of
Winthrop's engaging mining and ranching history. ~NS

FROM LEFT: COURTESY CITY OF LEAVENWORTH; ALF SLAUGHTER/SHUTTERSTOCK

North by Northeast

The quiet approach to North Cascades National Park

THERE'S NO WRONG WAY TO ENTER THE TRACT
of magnificent soaring peaks and glacial
valleys that is North Cascades National
Park, but it's easiest by way of Highway 20
(North Cascades Highway). Driving into the
park from the east is appealing for its lack of
crowds and less morning fog. Just note that
this road closes due to snow in winter.

From the Methow Valley, start in Lively
Winthrop or closer to the park border in
tiny Mazama, a popular base for everything
from mountain-biking to heliskiing.
Fuel up at the Mazama Store, which carries gourmet
snacks and distinctive local gifts. Or grab a
tasty meal nearby at Woodstone Pizzeria or
Sandy Butte Bistro.

Enter the park by driving over the North
Cascades Highway's highest point, 5,477-
foot Washington Pass. This route accesses
the stunning Rainy Lake trail and continues
to more trailheads and scenic overlooks
at spectacular Ross Lake and Diablo
Lake, which are popular for kayaking and
Canoeing. Stop at North Cascades Institute
Environmental Learning Center for tips on
the park's outdoor activities, or sign up for a
guided mountain climb or Diablo Dam tour.

You'll find distinctive lodgings around
Winthrop and 60 miles south in Chelan,
where you can explore one of the park's
most storied sections, the remote village
of Stehekin, which you
reach via an awe-
inspiring 50-mile Lake
Chelan cruise on the
Lady Express catamaran.

~Andrew Collins

Lake Break

About 2 miles from
the boat ramp, Stehekin Pastry
Co. does out
delicious biscuits
and hearty
sandwiches.

Lady of the Lake ladyofthelake.com • Mazama
Store themazamastore.com • North Cascades
Institute nrcascades.org • North Cascades
National Park npis.gov/koa • Sandy Butte Bistro
freelunchinn.com • Stehekin Pastry Co. stehekinpastry.com
• Woodstone Pizzeria woodstonepizzeria.com

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Hip Sips

MALAGA SPRINGS WINERY, WENATCHEE At the base of the Malaga Hills’ basalt cliffs, scenic orchards surround this lovely winery. Pull up to the circular bar in the airy tasting room and chat with winemaker Al Mathews as he pours sips of chenin blanc, rose, malbec, and others. He and his wife, Kathy, planted their 5½ acres of grapes, and Al’s beautiful pottery is for sale in the tasting room.

WHIPSAW BREWING, ELLENSBURG Notable beers on rotation in this laid-back taproom include the session-friendly Woodland amber lager and the Heavy Duty, a wee heavy Scotch ale (at a whopping 9.8% ABV), along with seasonals like a mango sour. While in town, drop by popular Iron Horse Brewery, a mainstay that plans to relaunch in a redesigned pub later in 2021.

BLUE STAR COFFEE ROASTERS, TWISP Grab a cup of this Methow Valley roaster’s brew or a bag of beans, like the well-rounded Hwy 20 house blend, and take a peek at owner Meg and Dan Donohue’s roasting operation, which distributes exceptional coffee to some of the state’s best restaurants.
BLUE SPIRITS DISTILLING, LEAVENWORTH Sample this esteemed distillery’s specialty gin, whiskey, vodka, rum, and tequila at its 1340 bar and tasting room, which also offers specialty cocktails—like the Thin Ice, with gin, Campari, sweet vermouth, and orange. Pair your drink with tasty appetizers, such as barbecue-glazed meatballs and grilled-chicken flatbread.

METHOW VALLEY CIDERHOUSE, WINTHROP Sit and sip inside the rustic restaurant, or outside on the heated deck overlooking the Apple Amphitheater, where you can listen to live music or play games. The cidery serves up six varieties (we’re fond of the dry-hopped Howling Wolf) made from fruits grown just west of downtown.

NEFARIOUS CELLARS, CHELAN From the patio of this exceptional winery you’re treated to sweeping views of Lake Chelan and the mountains. Nefarious offers an eclectic wine lineup that features a first-rate cabernet franc and floral viognier that’s perfect with seafood. —NS
Into the Great Wide Open

The best way to experience this region’s unparalleled natural beauty is to venture outside.

FROZEN IN TIME A gorgeous 7.124-acre landscape beside the Columbia River in Vantage. Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park offers an easy 1 ¼-mile ramble along the Trees of Stone Interpretive Trail. There’s scenic camping next door at Wanapum Recreation Area.

SAIL AWAY Get to know 50-mile-long Lake Chelan by getting out onto the water. Rent jet skis, stand-up paddleboards, and boats, or take a cruise to the village of Stehekin, the gateway to North Cascades National Park.

GARDEN PARTY With their own hands, Herman and Ruth Ohme transformed a craggy 40-acre bluff in Wenatchee overlooking the Columbia River Valley into Ohme Gardens, a wooded dreamscape of lush conifers and meadows, brilliant pools and hideaway spots with hidden benches.

WINDY CITY You can’t miss the wind turbines and solar panels when you’re driving along I-90 east of Ellensburg. Take a free tour of the Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility and Renewable Energy Center to see how these amazing sources of alternative energy work.

TEA TIME Take a swing at things at Cline Elum’s Suncedia Resort, which offers 36 holes of world-class golf in a splendid alpine setting—the Rope Rider course has been creatively designed around remnants of old coal mines. Afterward, soak in the resort’s mineral baths, relax in the spa, or dine in the fine restaurants. –NS
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THIS IS THE YAKIMA VALLEY

COME TASTE WHERE WASHINGTON WINE WAS BORN

PLAY OUTSIDE UNDER SUNNY SKIES

HIT THE HOP COUNTRY CRAFT BEER TRAIL

SAVOR FARM FRESH FLAVORS FROM THE SOURCE

Find your adventure year-round under four seasons of sunny skies.

GO TO VISITYAKIMA.COM TO PLAN YOUR WEEKEND ADVENTURE
Charming Small Towns

UNION GAP
In this welcoming town just south of Yakima, the Central Washington Agricultural Museum features rows of retro farm equipment (including more than 150 tractors), plus pioneer exhibits, a railroad boxcar, a farmstead and much, much more. Adjacent Feltbright Park is laced with hiking trails.

ZILLAH
Stop to take an Instagram pic at the quirky 1920s Teapot Dome Gas Station before exploring the vineyard and orchards amid the sunny, southerly slopes of the surrounding Rattlesnake Hills AVA. Drop by Silver Lake Winery, with its gorgeous deck and landscaped grounds popular for picnicking.

CONNELL
This friendly farming hamlet is a gateway to both the Tri-Cities wine country and the Palouse. It's worth stopping here just to have lunch at the Burger Factory II, a classic retro eatery known for the Eagle Burger, which is packed with both a burger patty and sliced ham. Save room for one of the luscious fresh-berry milkshakes.

SUNNYSIDE
Another key town in the celebrated Rattlesnake Hills wine region, Sunnyside has some great little downtown tasting rooms—Côte Bonneville and Co Dinn Cellars among them—and is home to popular Snipes Mountain Brewery & Restaurant, which showcases craft beer, mouth-watering burgers, and creative pizzas with house-made crusts.

GRANDVIEW
At Bill's Berry Farm, U-pickers can stock up on juicy apples, cherries, peaches, and strawberries that thrive in Yakima Valley. This scenic homestead also offers hay rides, a meet-and-greet animal farm and barnyard train, and programs for learning about bees and pollination.

Waitsburg
Bronze sculptures of the founding fathers and other Waitsburg historical figures beautify the picturesque Main Street of this historic community near Walla Walla. View the historic exhibits at the Wilson-Phillips House Museum, before strolling over to Ten Ton Coffee or Lant Neppur Brewing for a craft refreshment.

---

Heather Larson
Grape Clusters

Spend more time tasting wine and less time in the car in these walkable winery districts with great dining and retail, too.

PROSSER MAY BE THE BIRTHPLACE OF Washington’s wine industry, but the town remains accessible and small-town friendly. While there are many well-known vineyards in the surrounding countryside, Vintner’s Village is an inviting, compact area where you can visit a dozen wineries, including Airfield Estates, Gamache, Martinez & Martinez, Thurston Wolfe, and Wautoma Springs. A few miles east in the Prosser Wine & Food Park, you can drop by a few other stellar outfits, including Alexandria Nicole, Kestrel, Mercer Wine Estate, and Wit Cellars.

In Walla Walla, which in 2020 was voted America’s Best Wine Region in the USA Today 10 Best Readers’ Choice Awards, the lively downtown is a feast of walkable shops and restaurants woven among 35-plus tasting rooms—standouts include Bergevin Lane, Mark Ryan, House of Smith, Seven Hills, and El Corazon. But you can also tour on foot among the nearly 20 wineries beside Walla Walla Regional Airport. Buty focuses on low-intervention winemaking techniques, CAVU features rotating local artists, and at SMAR Wines, owner Fiona Mak produces rosés exclusively.

Smaller but still mighty among these winery-hopping hubs, Tulip Lane in Richland is worth a stroll to visit its handful of terrific tasting rooms, including Barnard Griffin and J. Bookwalter. And in the lively Old North Yakima Historic District, you’ll find AntioLin, Kana Winery, and Southard Winery. —Niki Stojnic

Hip Sips

FRICHTETTE, BENETON CITY In the renowned Red Mountain AVA, Frichtette specializes in Bordeaux wines. Its more recent label, Sashay, is named for co-owner Shae Frichtette—she’s refining softer, more approachable wines, like a seafood-friendly rose and a smooth, low-acid syrah.

VARIETAL BEER, SUNNYSIDE Launched with a mission to take advantage of Yakima Valley’s prolific hops farming, this cool little craft taproom with classic arcade games produces such unusual creations as a Norwegian-style farmhouse ale and a wet-hop IPA brewed with frozen hops.

COLLABORATION COFFEE, YAKIMA Single-origin, sustainably sourced beans make for great brews—find them at this sister café to Yakima’s vaunted Basil Roasters, where you can also check out local artwork. Try the café de olla—coffee, piloncillo (raw pure cane sugar). Nearby, check out Essencia Artisan Bakery, which turns out scrumptious breads and pastries.

SOLAR SPIRITS, RICHLAND This Tri-Cities distillery harnesses all of that central Washington sun to power its mash and distilling process. The farm-to-bottle small-batch offerings include whiskey, gin, vodka, and brandy made with local fruits and grains.

TIETON CIDER WORKS, YAKIMA This third-generation organic farm crafts regular-rotation and seasonal ciders from its 55 acres of apple and pear orchards. The cidery also experiments with other flavor combinations such as cherry, cranberry, apricot, and even lavender honey.—NS
BE MORE COOL

Seeking an immersive vineyard experience blended with farm-to-table dining and outdoor recreation? Yeah, we’ve got that.

We’ve got more cool.

Visit TRI-CITIES WASHINGTON
VisitTri-Cities.com
Outside Art
Murals are flourishing in Toppenish and other Wine Country towns. Here’s where to see them.

TO COMMEMORATE WASHINGTON’S CENTENNIAL IN 1989, Toppenish commissioned an outdoor wall mural titled Clearing the Land, depicting a horse harnessed to a plow with a man holding the reins. From that point forward, wall art projects have continued at a rapid clip, and more than 80 murals now adorn the sides of downtown’s many historic buildings, featuring everything from a Native American winter encampment to a 19th-century cowboy chuckwagon.

Other towns have followed suit. Uptown Richland boasts mid-century modern murals that honor this 1950s retail district. And in Tieton, seven reproductions of Yakima fruit labels have been painted on local building exteriors as a nod to the area’s abundant agriculture.

Walla Walla is another hotbed of public art. At the library one exterior wall portrays children’s book characters like Harry Potter. At the end of an alley on 2nd Avenue behind the Quinn Building, another mural displays onions, hot-air balloons, and wine bottles—all symbols of what this small city is famous for. —HL

Say Cheese
Stock up on artisanal meats and cheese as you tour wine country.

ORDER AN ASSEMBLED PLATTER FROM A restaurant, pair one with a glass of riesling or syrah at a winery, or buy the ingredients at a market and build your own. There are plenty of places to find delectable, shareable spreads that also often feature crusty bread or herbal crackers, olives, nuts, honey, dried fruit, and relishes or pickled veggies. At the Bradley restaurant in Richland, choose three cheeses and seven meats, including duck prosciutto, jamon serrano, and speck. The Mediterranean-inspired Culture Shock Bistro food truck in Kennewick offers charcuterie as well as meatball subs and banh-mi to go.

Prosper’s Mibrandt Vineyards suggests wines to enjoy with their meat-cheese combo plate, which may include pork fennel salami and smoked provolone. Waterbrook Winery in Walla Walla serves a rich pâté with its charcuterie board. Nearby at Cugini Italian Imports & Deli, you can choose from more than 100 cheeses plus salamis and tapenades. With a mix of Northwest and Latin American gourmet goods, Country Mercantile—in Richland and Pasco—is another great place to stock up on supplies for your own meat-and-cheese picnic. —HL

ACCOMMODATIONS
Listings are sorted alphabetically, by region and city

Clover Island Inn
435 Oak Island Drive
Kennewick
866-586-0542
www.cloverislandinn.com
79
114
151

The Lodge at Columbia Point
530 Columbia Point Drive
Richland
509-715-7438
www.lodgeatcolumbiapoint.com
140
350

WINE COUNTRY

EXPERIENCEWA.COM WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021 95
With so many affordable and extraordinary courses in Spokane, you’ll have a hard time deciding which one to start with.

RoomToRoamSpokane.com
Charming Small Towns

METALINE FALLS
Situated on a picturesque bend of the Pend Oreille River and surrounded by Colville National Forest, this tiny hamlet offers lovely hikes along the pristine shore of Sullivan Lake and through the leafy forests of Crawford State Park, where you can view the dazzling stalactites and stalagmites of 500-million-year-old Gardner Cave.

NEWPORT
Home to the state’s second oldest continuously operating tavern, Kelly’s Bar & Grill, charming Newport sits right on the Washington-Idaho border. Board the Scenic Pend Oreille River Train for a 90-minute round-trip excursion through a gorgeous river valley dappled with maples and birches.

CHENEY
Home to the historic campus of Eastern Washington University, this friendly little community has a bustling, walkable downtown filled with indie shops and eateries, including the beloved breakfast spot Ben’s, where you’ll find about a dozen varieties of eggs Benedict. A favorite time to visit is during July’s Cheney Rodeo.

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ODESSA
One of the West’s top German cultural gatherings, Deutschfest takes place here each September and features a biergarten, hearty Bavarian cuisine, and live bands. In April, head to Odessa for the Stumpjumpers Desert 100, the largest off-road motorcycle rally in the Pacific Northwest.

CHEWELAH
One of northeastern Washington’s hubs of year-round recreation, this rugged village on the edge of Colville draws skiers and snowboarders in search of fresh powder to 49° North Mountain Resort, and duffers to the manicured fairways of Chewelah Golf & Country Club. –Emily Baynton

49° North Mountain Resort skilifts.com • Ben’s bonasamfs.com • CheneyRodeo chenyrodeo.com • Chewelah Golf & Country Club chewelahgolf.com • Colville National Forest tanaud.gov/colville • Crawford State Park parks.state.wa.us/492/crawford • Deutschfest deutschfest.net • Eastern Washington University ewu.edu • Kelly’s Bar & Grill kevinsst94.com • Scenic Pend Oreille River Train scenicrootrains.com • Stumpjumpers Desert 100 facebook.com/stjmdesert100

WASHINGTON STATE VISITORS’ GUIDE 2021 EXPERIENCEWA.COM
Perfectly Spokane

START YOUR MORNING AT FRANK’S DINER, A
down-home breakfast spot inside a
converted railcar that serves up stick-to-
your-ribs grill classics, like eggs and
hash browns and stacks of silver dollar
hot cakes. Or for a lighter beginning, grab
a cup of joe and a pastry from Atticus, a
cafe and bookshop with a great selection of tomes and trinkets.

Stroll over to 100-acre Riverfront Park, downtown Spokane’s
green heart and host of the 1974 international expo, to take in views
of dramatic Upper Spokane Falls from the SkyRide aerial tram, glide
(on wheels in summer, or on ice skates in winter) along the Numinia
Skate Ribbon, and ride the old-fashioned Looff carousel. Then check
out the family-friendly exhibits at the Mobius Discovery Center, before
stopping by the famous dell, Domini Sandwiches.

Oenophiles can pass the afternoon in downtown’s Cork District,
a walkable cluster of 15 wineries. Or make the 20-minute drive east
to Arbor Crest Wine Cellars, a grand estate overlooking the Spokane
Valley, featuring live music and curated tasting menus paired with lush
wines. Alternatively, spend the afternoon strolling amid the 90 acres of
roses, Japanese and Renaissance-style plantings, and topiaries at lovely
Manito Park botanical gardens.

Once you’ve worked up your appetite, partake of Spokane’s
impressive culinary offerings. Favorites include Luna, a locavore-
mined modern American bistro with a leafy terrace in the relaxing
Latah Valley, and Wandering Table, a sleek spot in the trendy Kendoll
Yards district with an impressive craft cocktail list. End the night
enjoying a brilliant concert performance of the Spokane Symphony,
gut-busting jokes from improv Blue Door Theatre, or a touring
Broadway show at First Interstate Center for the Arts. ~EB

Hip Sips

BARRISTER WINERY, SPOKANE
Known for its fruit-forward reds with
soft tannins, this winery is by the railway in a
1908 brick auto warehouse and has a second
tasting room by the Davenport Grand
Hotel. The expansive, art-filled venue hosts
musicians during First Friday art walks.

REPUBLIC BREWING, REPUBLIC
Housed in a colorful 1917 fire hall, this Main Street taproom celebrates its
hometown heritage with mugs hanging from the ceiling and bottle caps embedded in the bar. Sip the balanced Republic Pale
Ale or try a rotating tap, from a light Czech-
style pilsner to a dark, full-bodied porter.

MASON JAR, CHENey
Bikers cruising the scenic Fish Lake Trail stop by this
convivial spot for rich espresso drinks. Popular elixirs include the Eastern Washington University-inspired Inferno, a white chocolate mocha with a kick of earl grey and cinnamon, and the signature Mason Jar Latte, infused with honey and lavender.

TRAILBREAKER CIDER, LIBERTY LAKE
Enjoy a day exploring the Liberty Lake Loop before settling in at this three-
level cidery, with an outdoor patio and lawn. Produced from Washington apples, the
iders come in diverse flavors—from citrus-
cucumber to spicy-sweet cinnamon plum—and are best paired with tasty pub snacks.

HIEROPHANT MEADERY, MEAD After
tasting produce from purveyors on the historic Green Bluff Growers loop, break for refreshments at this meadery
tasting room that crafts sustainably sourced, fermented honey beverages. Try the
Chrysopoeia, a traditional off-dry mead. ~EB

ExperienceWA.com  Washington State Visitors’ Guide 2021

101/116
All-Weather Adventures

SPRING Adrenaline junkies can whitenight raft on the Spokane River or fly through the trees at Liberty Lake’s Mica Moon Zip Tours. For a milder romp, hike through brilliant wildflower meadows along the Sherman Peak Loop west of Kettle Falls or Indian Painted Rock Trail just outside Spokane.

SUMMER Sunny days bring camping under the stars at any of the more than 35 campgrounds in Colville National Forest, which stretches across more than a million acres and three mountain ranges. Favorite sites for pitching a tent include South Skookum Lake Campground—where you can hike, bike, swim, and kayak—and Mill Pond Campground, perfect for fishing.

FALL When the leaves begin to change, explore the autumnal backcountry beauty of the Kettle River Range on horseback with a guided tour from True West Trail Rides. Or head to Green Bluff’s cluster of U-pick farms, like Beck’s Harvest House and Eleven Acres Farm, to savor the season’s harvest.

WINTER The brisk weather means snowshoeing through Sherman Pass, and skiing at Chewelah Peak’s 49° North Mountain Resort. And there’s snow-day fun just an hour outside of Spokane at Mount Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park, with its tubing hill and 32 ski runs, many of them open at night. –EB

Accommodations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation</th>
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<th>Amenities</th>
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<td>1201 N Highway 20</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Back Cover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirabeau Park Hotel &amp; Convention Center</td>
<td>1100 N Sullivan Rd, Spokane Valley</td>
<td>95  135  180  235  310</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Beck’s Harvest House greenblufffarms.com | Colville National Forest fs.usda.gov/colville | Eleven Acres Farm elevenacresfarm.com | 49° North Mountain Resort skidr.com | Mica Moon Zip Tours micaloon.com | Mount Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park mtspokane.com | True West Trail Rides truewesttrailride.com

Mirabeau Park Hotel

Defining Style, Comfort and Service in Guest Hospitality

235 rooms • Fully equipped Kitchen Suites • 17,000 square feet of meeting space • Free Parking • Airport Shuttle • Pet Friendly • Dog Park • Business Center • Fitness Center • Free Wifi • Outdoor Heated Pool & Hot Tub • Complimentary PASS to Fitness Award Winning “MAX at Mirabeau” Restaurant & Lounge

1100 N. Sullivan Rd., Spokane Valley, WA | 1-866-584-6874 | www.mirabeauparkhotel.com
WASHINGTON TOURS & ATTRACTIONS

BLOEDEL RESERVE
Bainbridge | 206-842-7431 | bloedelreserve.org

SCENIC TRAIN RIDES
Enjoy summer river view excursions, murder mystery dinners, seasonal events & charters. Climb aboard our vintage 1920's coaches. Exit 77, just off I-5.
SteamTrainRide.com

NORTHWEST WINE & RAIL TOURS
Travel again! Custom and private tours for you and your travel pod. Including Wine Country, Cascade Mountains, Walla Walla, Bellingham, Columbia River Gorge, and more!
888-477-4787 | inquisitours.com

LEMAY COLLECTIONS AT MARYMOUNT
A vast collection of vintage autos & memorabilia amassed by Harold E. LeMay and housed in historic Marymount Academy.
Tacoma | 253-272-2336 | lemaymarymount.org

NORTHWEST CARRIAGE MUSEUM
Raymond | 360-942-4150 | nwcarragemuseum.org

SEATTLE CHOCOLATE
Experience the joy of chocolate at the Seattle Chocolate factory & flagship store with the Taste. Explore & Discover tour.
425-264-2705 | seattlechocolate.com

USS TURNER JOY MUSEUM SHIP
A scenic ferry ride or short drive from Seattle. Explore the USS Turner Joy. 2020 TripAdvisor TRAVELERS CHOICE AWARD
Bremerton | 360-792-2457 | ussturnerjoy.org

THE WHALE MUSEUM
Located in Friday Harbor on San Juan Island, our focus is to educate about whales and the ecosystem in which they live.
360-378-4710 #30 | whalemuseum.org
Visit Pullman

Plan your trip today!

visit-pullman.com • 1-800-365-6948

Endless Discoveries.

© Francisco B. Aguilera
Charming Small Towns

UNIONTOWN
Providing a unique way for artists and shoppers to connect with one another, Dahmen Barn is the centerpiece of a beautiful 1930s dairy farmstead. Artisans display and sell their wares, from ceramics and jewelry to paintings and photography. Take an art or culinary class, or attend one of the delightful musical performances.

COLFAX
For a panoramic vista of the golden Palouse hills, drive or hike to the summit at Steptoe Butte State Park, a triloblit-shaped rock formation whose 3,612-foot elevation summit has interpretative displays about the region’s unusual geology.

RITZVILLE
The preserved buildings in historic downtown Ritzville house everything from train displays at the Railroad Depot Museum to antiques and artifacts at the grand 1889 Frank R. Burroughs Home. Just outside town, the Lasting Legacy Wildlife Museum, you can view more than 100 taxidermied animals from around the world.

OThELLO
This small but fast-growing town is the jumping off point for visiting the steep bluffs and sagebrush grasslands of Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, which attracts upwards of 35,000 sandhill cranes each winter. The town’s Sandhill Crane Festival in late March is a favorite time to visit and learn about these large birds with their distinctive mating calls.

ASOTIN
Soak up the awe-inspiring views of Hell’s Canyon—North America’s deepest river gorge—from Chief Looking Glass Park in this scenic community on the west bank of the Snake River, downstream from the area’s largest town, Clarkston. Drive, or take a boat 15 miles south to reach Buffalo Eddy, a unit of Nez Perce National Historical Park with a trail that leads to rock outcroppings with petroglyphs that date back as far as 4,000 years. -Andrew Collins

Buffalo Eddy, Nez Perce National Historical Park npsh.gov/nepe • Chief Looking Glass Park visitclarkston.com • Columbia National Wildlife Refuge fis.ho.gov/refuge/columbia • Dahmen Barn artisontarn.org • Frank R. Burroughs Home ritzlemuseums.com • Lasting Legacy Wildlife Museum thelastinglegacywildlifemuseum.com • Railroadd Depot Museum ritzlemuseums.com • Sandhill Crane Festival thefossanhillcraneestival.org • Steptoe Butte State Park parks.state.wa.us/580/steptoe-butte

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**Experience Pullman**

**START YOUR DAY WITH BREAKFAST AT ZOE**
Coffee & Kitchen, a cozy, welcoming café where you can pair expertly crafted coffee with delicious crepes, an omelet, or a breakfast burrito. Afterward, make the 20-minute drive south to Kamiak Butte County Park to hike along sunny trails and catch magnificent views of the rolling Palouse hills from the butte's 3,641-foot summit. Having built up an appetite, enjoy a decadent buttermilk-fried chicken sandwich with carne asada fries at The Land, a student favorite north of Pullman’s College Hill.

Next, head to Abelson Hall on Washington State University campus to visit the Conner Museum, which houses the Pacific Northwest's largest public collection of birds and mammals, more than 65,000 wildlife specimens in all. Be sure to stop by WSU's beloved Ferdinand's, a 50s-style parlor that serves gourmet ice cream as well as the university's beloved Cougar Gold and other cheeses. Conclude your campus visit at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, where you can admire works by regional artists as well as world-class talents like Andy Warhol inside the architecturally dazzling “Crimson Cube” building.

Treat yourself to a memorable dinner at downtown's Black Cypress, an Italian-Greek-American restaurant that serves contemporary pastas and salads in an inviting, industrial-chic space. If the night is still young, savor a cocktail next door at Etsi Bravo nightclub, a fun place to cut loose on the dance floor. —Nils Golserud

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**Hip Sips**

**BASALT CELLARS, CLARKSTON** Set against the golden hills of Clarkston, near the Snake River, this boutique winery in the Lewis-Clark Valley AVA specializes in full-bodied reds, especially Rhône- and Bordeaux-style blends. Next door, check out Riverport Brewing Company.

**PARADISE CREEK BREWERY, PULLMAN** With a downtown restaurant inside an historic former post office and a taproom on Pullman’s urban trail network, Paradise Creek produces balanced, flavorful brews, from the sweet and tart Huckleberry Pucker Berliner Weiße to the rich and roasty Mooloo Coffee Milk Stout.

**IRONWORKS CAFE, OTHÉLLO** Great coffee—try one of the rich lattes—is but one of the many charms of this friendly cafe set inside a 1910 former welding shop with an airy plant-filled dining room and a lush backyard garden. There’s delicious food, too, from gooey cinnamon rolls to spicy turkey panini with pepper jack cheese.

**CHIEF SPRING’S, DAYTON** Drop by this lively downtown taproom for a frothy pint of dark and smoky Bagpipe Scottish Ale, or make a full meal of the experience next door at the brewery’s popular pizza joint.

**ROOST COFFEE, PULLMAN** This stylishly designed coffeehouse on the east side of downtown Pullman has cultivated a loyal following for its rich lattes with house-made syrups, such as blackberry and brown sugar-cinnamon. There’s tasty food, too—try the fresh-baked croissants and pressed-focaccia sandwiches. —AC
VISIT RITZVILLE

WE ARE SPIRITED
We are a child smiling in a water park built for fun. We enjoy a round of golf right here in town. We install sculptures by local artists reflecting on our past. We gather each year for a homegrown fair. We reunite with loved ones each year for a party. We welcome newcomers and visitors who cherish life in a small town.

www.ritzvillechamber.com

REACH US AT!
509-659-1936
ritzchamber@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATIONS
Listings are sorted alphabetically by region and city.

PALOUSE

Coast Hilltop Inn
526 NW Olsen Street
Pullman
509-332-0928
www.coasthilltopinn.com

| Hotel          | Pets | Breakfast | Handicapped Access | Pool | Wi-Fi | Price
|----------------|------|-----------|--------------------|------|-------|-------
| Coast Hilltop  | Yes  | Yes       | Yes                | Yes  | Yes   | $99   |
| Inn            |      |           |                    |      |       | $115  |

Palouse Falls
<table>
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<tr>
<th>RV PARKS &amp; CAMPGROUNDS</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Specials</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sand Point RV Park</td>
<td>3700 E State Highway 2-43</td>
<td>509-754-5085</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sites</td>
<td>Tent Only</td>
<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<td>Banks Lake Lodge</td>
<td>109 N Backbone Rd</td>
<td>509-667-5994</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Lake Resort</td>
<td>31199 Highway 17 N</td>
<td>509-822-5384</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Coulee City Community Park</td>
<td>800 N Fourth</td>
<td>509-832-5351</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coulee Lodge Resort</td>
<td>3501 N Park Lane Road</td>
<td>509-832-5585</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laconner’s Sea Village Resort</td>
<td>33570 Park Lake Road NE</td>
<td>509-832-5664</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Tent Only</td>
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<td>Sun Lakes Park Resort</td>
<td>34225 Park Lake Road NE</td>
<td>509-832-5291</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Lakes-Eye of the State Park</td>
<td>34875 Park Lake Road NE</td>
<td>509-832-5583</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Canyon Campground</td>
<td>1008 West Drive</td>
<td>509-832-5399</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Sites</td>
<td>Tent Only</td>
<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desert Aire Golf Course &amp; RV Park</td>
<td>1054 Cliffhouse Way N</td>
<td>509-832-5399</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coulee Playland Resort</td>
<td>402 Coulee Blvd E</td>
<td>509-832-2071</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Tent Only</td>
<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones Bay Campground</td>
<td>Jones Bay Road off State Highway 155 N</td>
<td>509-833-1394</td>
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<td>Osborne Bay Campground</td>
<td>Off State Highway 155 N</td>
<td>509-833-1394</td>
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<td>Steamboat Rock State Park</td>
<td>51062 Highway 155 N</td>
<td>509-833-1394</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<td>Sunbowl Lake Resort</td>
<td>51062 Highway 155 N</td>
<td>509-833-1394</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eating RV Park and Campground</td>
<td>9701 Highway 26 W</td>
<td>509-832-1002</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Full Hookups</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oasis RV Park and Golf Course</td>
<td>25141 Oasis Dr</td>
<td>509-754-5092</td>
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<td>Sun Basin RV Park LLC</td>
<td>5422 N Frontage Road W</td>
<td>509-787-0165</td>
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<td>Grand Coulee RV Park</td>
<td>Highway 174</td>
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<td>Kings Court RV Park</td>
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<td>Jackalope Creek Fish Camp</td>
<td>30999 Highway 2-43 S</td>
<td>509-754-5588</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>Priest Rapids Recreation Area Campground</td>
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### RV Parks & Campgrounds

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<td>Cascade Park Campground</td>
<td>2001 1st Avenue</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-764-3805</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mikes.com">www.mikes.com</a></td>
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<td>Desert Oasis RV Park</td>
<td>2001 1st Avenue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>509-764-3219</td>
<td><a href="http://www.desertasis.com">www.desertasis.com</a></td>
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<td>36</td>
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<td>Grant County Fairgrounds</td>
<td>3535 1st Avenue</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-765-3541</td>
<td><a href="http://www.grantfairgrounds.com">www.grantfairgrounds.com</a></td>
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<td>Lakeview RV Park</td>
<td>2306 W/Marian Dr</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
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<td>509-765-6594</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lakeviewresort.com">www.lakeviewresort.com</a></td>
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<td>McElhaney Resort</td>
<td>1081 Highway 262 E</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-346-2651</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mcelhaneyresort.com">www.mcelhaneyresort.com</a></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>O'Sullivan Sportman Resort</td>
<td>6881 Highway 262 E</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-346-2447</td>
<td><a href="http://www.osullivanresort.com">www.osullivanresort.com</a></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potholes State Park</td>
<td>6975 Highway 262 E</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>888-226-7588</td>
<td><a href="http://www.potholesstatepark.com">www.potholesstatepark.com</a></td>
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<td>Sandy Point RV Park</td>
<td>5403 Road JI</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-765-4863</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sandinnc.com">www.sandinnc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun Desert RV Park</td>
<td>1472 Road SE</td>
<td>Moses Lake</td>
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<td>800-288-4012</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sundayserv.com">www.sundayserv.com</a></td>
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<td>Suncrest RV Park</td>
<td>303 Road JI</td>
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<td>509-765-0355</td>
<td><a href="http://www.suncrestresort.com">www.suncrestresort.com</a></td>
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<td>SunRiver Resort &amp; RV Campground</td>
<td>3408 Sage Road</td>
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<td>509-765-6883</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sunriverresort.com">www.sunriverresort.com</a></td>
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<td>Willows Trailer Village</td>
<td>1347 RSE JI</td>
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<td>509-765-7511</td>
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<td>Columbia Ridge Golf Course</td>
<td>17060 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>Quincy</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-787-6256</td>
<td><a href="http://www.columbiahillgolf.com">www.columbiahillgolf.com</a></td>
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<td>County Cabin Motel &amp; RV</td>
<td>2111 2nd Avenue</td>
<td>Quincy</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-787-6139</td>
<td><a href="http://www.countrycabinresort.com">www.countrycabinresort.com</a></td>
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<td>Crescent Golf &amp; Recreation Area</td>
<td>6884 Crescent Rd NW</td>
<td>Quincy</td>
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<td>509-785-6019</td>
<td><a href="http://www.crescentgolfandaccommodation.com">www.crescentgolfandaccommodation.com</a></td>
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<td>Gorge Amphitheater Campground</td>
<td>705 4th Ave</td>
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<td>509-785-6019</td>
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<td>The Park at Cave B</td>
<td>348 5th Ave</td>
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<td>509-339-5050</td>
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<td>Sage Creek Campground</td>
<td>459 4th Ave</td>
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<td>509-779-3634</td>
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<td>Shady Tree RV Park</td>
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<td>925-208-7317</td>
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<td>Wild Horse Campground</td>
<td>23500 W Baseline Road</td>
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<td>509-346-0743</td>
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<td>Smokey Mountain Resort</td>
<td>22181 Highway 11 S</td>
<td>Soap Lake</td>
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<td>509-248-0413</td>
<td><a href="http://www.smokymountainresort.com">www.smokymountainresort.com</a></td>
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<td>Soup Lake RV Park</td>
<td>330 W Main Street</td>
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<td>509-248-0111</td>
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<td>Sage Mills Golf &amp; RV Resort</td>
<td>10406 Sage Rd</td>
<td>Watertown</td>
<td></td>
<td>509-349-2603</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sagehillgolf.com">www.sagehillgolf.com</a></td>
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