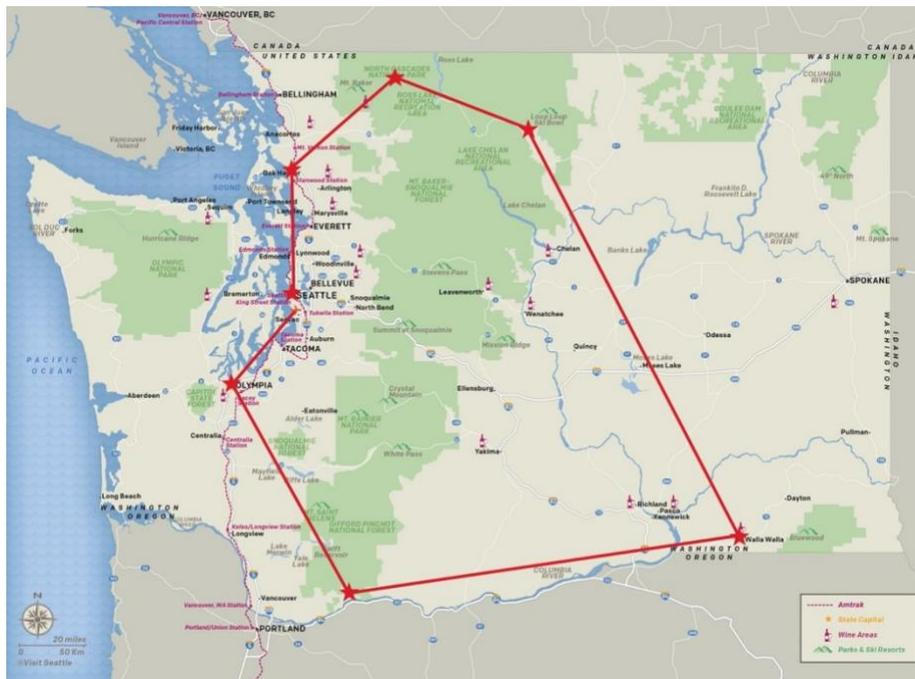




Natural Wonders of Washington State

This fully escorted tour, with a professional tour director and transportation, will captivate your heart with the natural beauty of Washington state. Explore the wonders of the Salish Sea, wilderness of the Cascade Mountains plus the dramatic story of the eruption and incredible regrowth of Mt. St. Helens. From a cowboy town to sophisticated wine tasting to the state's stunning capital in Olympia, you'll simply be amazed at the true, authenticity of this American destination.



Day 1 – Seattle to La Conner

After disembarking your cruise ship, spend the morning discovering Seattle's iconic attractions.

Space Needle
400 Broad Street
Seattle, WA 98109
www.spaceneedle.com

Built in 1962, the Space Needle served as the symbol for the World's Fair. It stands a towering 605 feet (nearly 185 meters) above ground, with spectacular views in every direction. From the snow-capped Cascade Mountains to the east, to the majestic Olympic Mountains in the west, there is inspiration aplenty from this perch.

Walk next door to see the **Chihuly Garden and Glass** with its giant glass creations by internationally acclaimed artist, Dale Chihuly.

Chihuly Gardens & Glass

305 Harrison Street
Seattle, WA 98109
www.chihulygardenandglass.com

Head north to Mukilteo (driving distance: 32 miles / 52 kilometers; driving time: 40 mins.)

Enjoy a group lunch at the Paper Plane Café before the tour.

Boeing Factory Tour

8415 Paine Field Boulevard
Mukilteo, WA 98275
www.futureofflight.org

The center offers the only publicly available opportunity to tour a commercial jet assembly plant in North America. Here you can see the 787 Dreamliner in production, explore the dynamics of flight and experience new aviation innovations.

Drive to the Skagit Valley (driving distance: 50 miles / 80 kilometers; driving time: 1 hr.), known for its tulips and then on to La Conner.

Arrive in **La Conner**, a picturesque town nestled along the water with lovely views of boats docked at marinas, mountains in the distance and an array of fun shops and delicious eateries.

Check in at:

La Conner Channel Lodge

205 N. 1st Street
La Conner, WA 98257
www.laconnerchannellodge.com

The town's waterfront hotel boasts Northwest style with stunning views.

Welcome Reception

Toast to the first night of the trip with fellow travelers at **Nell Thorn Waterfront Bistro & Bar**. With locally sourced American fare served in a cozy waterfront restaurant, enjoy a cocktail of your choice and appetizers of fried oysters, calamari and crispy polenta.

Day 2 – La Conner to Winthrop via North Cascades National Park

- Breakfast at the hotel
- 09:00 Depart for North Cascades National Park where you'll see dramatic landscapes and discover areas 'off the beaten path.' (driving distance: 75 miles / 120 kilometers; driving time: 1 hr. 45 mins.)
- 10:45 Arrive at:
- North Cascades Visitor Center**
www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm
- Chat with park rangers, check out maps of the area, exhibits and audio-visual displays.
- 11:15 Depart for **Diablo Lake**, fed by the surrounding glaciers, it shimmers with a unique, intense teal blue.
- Take a trail walk through **Happy Creek Forest** and enjoy the fresh, mountain air while strolling among cedar, fir and hemlock trees.
- Stop at **Lake Ross** for another photo opportunity. This lake stretches north into Canada and is picture perfect.
- Lunch Picnic at **Washington Pass** overlook. Over a mile high, but still beneath the massive bulk of Liberty Bell and Early Winters spires, the area offers dramatic vistas of the mountains and Methow Valley.
- 16:00 Arrive in the **Methow Valley**, Washington's eclectic mix of wild scenery with a thriving arts culture. **Winthrop** is its 'Wild West' heart. As an old mining town, you can step back into America's Old West and stroll the boardwalks, visit galleries and enjoy Washington's oldest saloon—**Three Fingered Jacks**. Winthrop epitomizes the rugged, pioneering spirit of the Pacific Northwest.
- Check in at:
- Hotel Rio Vista**
285 Riverside Avenue
Winthrop, WA 98862
www.hotelriovista.com
- Located in the heart of Winthrop and family owned, you'll enjoy spectacular riverside views and rooms with private decks overlooking the confluence of the Methow and Chewuch rivers.
- Stroll the Ol'West boardwalk for dinner. Choices include everything from wine cellars and four-star dining rooms to mouth-watering bakeries.
- Evening entertainment:
- Meet local cowgirl, Lauralee Northcott, an award-winning musician, a fiber artist and author of *A Cowgirl's Life in the Mountains*. Lauralee plays guitar and sings,

offering both original and classic Western songs. And, if you're lucky, she may show you how to weave baskets and let you give it a try.

Day 3 – Winthrop to Walla Walla

- 08:00 Breakfast will be at the **Rocking Horse Bakery**, where you will order off the menu.
- The **Columbia River**, known as the 'Great River of the West,' is over 1,300 miles (2,092 kilometers) long and is considered the backbone of the Northwest and indigenous cultures. It's also nicknamed the 'Mighty Columbia' because of its massive volume of water. The day's route will follow the river down the mountains to Walla Walla (driving distance from Winthrop to Walla Walla: 240 miles / 387 kilometers; driving time: 4 ½ hrs).
- 09:00 Depart for **Wenatchee**, known as 'apple country' where you'll be able to do apple tastings and take in the farm country's bounty at:
- Pybus Public Market**
3 North Worthen Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801
www.pybuspublicmarket.org
- This open and airy market is bursting with high quality selections of artisan and ethnic products, locally grown fruits and vegetables, Washington wines, meats, flowers, oils, nuts, pastries and freshly-made, prepared foods from some of the best restaurants in Washington state.
- Driving distance from Wenatchee to Vantage: 55 miles / 88 kilometers; driving time: 1 hr.
- The scenic river drive continues toward the southeast to **Vantage**, where you'll marvel at the elevated view of the Columbia River. Look for the **Wild Horse Monument** called 'Grandfather Cuts Loose the Ponies,' consisting of 15 life-size steel horses that appear to be galloping across the ridge.
- Lunch Further down the river, enjoy a picnic lunch from the Pybus Market's Café featuring fresh salads, sandwiches and wraps at **Sand Hollow Recreation Area**.
- The drive continues through **The Hanford Reach National Monument** with views of the wild Columbia River.
- 16:00 Arrive in **Walla Walla**, a charming small town filled with world-class wine and the pastoral scenery of the Palouse region. Set in the foothills of the Blue Mountains, the Walla Walla Valley is known for the Oregon Trail and Native American history. The delightful main street downtown will entice you with shops, galleries, and the ever-present wine tasting rooms.
- Check in at:
- Marcus Whitman Hotel**
6 West Rose Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
www.marcuswhitmanhotel.com

Built in 1927, the Marcus Whitman Hotel is a fully restored, privately owned luxury hotel in the heart of downtown Walla Walla.

Evening reception at:

Browne Family Vineyards

31 East Main Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
www.brownefamilyvineyards.com

Enjoy a glass of premium Walla Walla wine from the Browne family, paired with charcuterie, on their patio offering one of the best views of downtown.

Day 4 – Walla Walla

Breakfast is at The Marc's breakfast buffet.

09:00

Whitman Mission | National Historic Site

328 Whitman Mission Rd,
Walla Walla, WA 99362
www.nps.gov/whmi/index.htm

This is a national historic site where Marcus and Narcissa Whitman settled in the Walla Walla Valley. The Whitmans, for whom the Marcus Whitman Hotel and Whitman College are named, were missionaries who arrived via the Oregon Trail in the 1830s. They created an outpost where they became refuge for other weary travelers making their way along the **Oregon Trail**. You will be standing on the Oregon Trail!

The Whitman College Outdoor Sculpture Walk

www.wallawalla.org/outdoor-sculpture-walk/

With a world-class foundry located in Walla Walla, public art, galleries and sculptures are prominently displayed downtown and on the nearby Whitman College campus. The tour is led by a prominent, local artist, Augusta Sparks Farnum.

Free time to meander along Main Street for some 'retail therapy' and possibly more wine-tasting. Grab lunch on your own,

Afternoon

Wine tasting, wine blending and production tour at a local winery.

Learn how the winemakers have mastered the art of blending vintages and try it for yourself! You'll get to take the bottle you blend home for bragging rights with your friends with your own label!

Dinner

Relish a multi-course winemaker's dinner set amongst the vineyards where some of Walla Walla's best vintners pair their wines with the city's talented chefs' culinary creations, all locally and seasonally sourced.

Day 5 – Walla Walla to Stevenson

Breakfast is at The Marc's breakfast buffet.

09:00

Depart Walla Walla (driving distance from Walla Walla to Stevenson: 200 miles / 320 kilometers; driving time: 3 hrs. 20 mins.)

The backdrop of vineyards and stunning scenery continues as you travel through the beautiful **Columbia River Gorge**. It's designated as a National Scenic Area—the largest in America—and for good reason.

Traveling past **Wallula Gap** and the **Twin Sisters**, the dramatic basalt formation at the narrowing of the Columbia River tells the story of the Ice Age floods and the heroics of the **Lewis & Clark Expedition**.

Lunch

Maryhill Winery

9774 Highway 14
Goldendale, WA 98620
www.maryhillwinery.com

Set high above the river, delight in stunning views, complemented by their award-winning wines paired with small plates of antipasto, bruschetta, charcuterie boards, salads and pizzas.

Check in at:

Skamania Lodge

1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way
Stevenson, WA 98648
www.skamania.com

Inspired by the rich history and breathtaking natural beauty of the area, the Great Room in the lobby offers spectacular views of the river and nearby state of Oregon. The property has three hiking trails that meander through the forest and flank the golf course as well as a zipline course where you can soar between tall Douglas firs.

The hotel offers several dining options, from their elegant dining room to a casual lounge or their outdoor patio, for dinner on your own.

Day 6 – Stevenson to Olympia via Mount St. Helens National Monument

Full breakfast at hotel.

09:00

Depart for Mount St. Helens (driving distance: 58 miles / 94 kilometers; driving time: 1 hr. 43 mins.)

Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument

3029 Spirit Lake Highway
Castle Rock, WA 98611

www.usgs.gov/volcanoes/mount-st-helens/mount-st-helens-national-volcanic-monument?qt-science_support_page_related_con=2#qt-science_support_page_related_con

Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument is a U.S. National Monument that includes the area around Mount St. Helens. It was established on August 27, 1982 by President Ronald Reagan following the 1980 eruption. The 110,000-acre monument was set aside for research, recreation and education.

Lunch

Enjoy a picnic prepared by Skamania Lodge at Mount St. Helens.

Depart for Olympia (driving distance: 125 miles / 202 kilometers; driving time: 2 hrs. 15 mins.).

Olympia is the capital of Washington state located at the southern end of Puget Sound. The sprawling Washington State Capitol Campus includes the stately Legislative Building and the 1909 Governor's Mansion.

Check in at:

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Olympia

415 Capitol Way North

Olympia, WA 98501

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/olmcwdt-doubletree-olympia/>

The hotel is steps from the waterfront and walking distance from the capitol.

Dinner at:

Anthony's Homeport, a waterfront Northwest classic serving fresh seafood specialties. Select from a pre-fixe menu served with wine and beer.

Day 7 – Olympia to SEA International Airport

Full breakfast at hotel

Tour the **Washington State Capitol**. Completed in 1928, feel the prestige of the largest free-standing masonry dome in the United States. This guided tour of the legislative building offers a view of its unique architecture and a lively discussion of Washington state's history.

Batdorf & Bronson Coffeehouse

200 Market Street NE

Olympia, WA 98501

www.batdorfcoffee.com

Enjoy a tasting (cupping) and tour of the renowned Batdorf & Bronson Coffee Roastery to see how coffee is roasted. Headquartered in Olympia, this coffee roaster specializes in organic, fair-trade coffee selections based on the legend of the Dancing Goats.

Arrive **SEA** for flight home (driving distance: 55 miles / 88 kilometers; driving time: 1 hr.)

Washington-based receptive tour operator, **InquisiTours**, can provide quotes for customized Natural Wonders of Washington State escorted, group tours (sizes 6 to 44 people/vans to motor coaches).
Contact: Guy Glaeser, Managing Director, InquisiTours, Tel. +1 503.358.9462, guy@inquisitours.com.

There are numerous options in the region for FIT packages, Fly-Drives and Groups. Get the insider knowledge and expertise that will differentiate your product and provide the ultimate memorable experiences today's travelers are seeking.

For additional customized itinerary planning and development for Seattle, Washington state and the Pacific Northwest, please contact the **Port of Seattle** Australia and New Zealand representative, Amanda McCoy, amanda@linkdtourism.com