



# Tahoma News | Summer-Fall Visitor Guide 2022



## Welcome to Mount Rainier National Park!

### Travel Alerts

#### Grove of the Patriarchs Closure

**Grove of the Patriarchs is CLOSED for the season at the junction with Eastside Trail.** The closure is due to flood damage to the suspension bridge.

#### Stevens Canyon Road Closures and Delays

Expect delays or closures on Stevens Canyon Road this summer and fall. Information on the current status is available at entrance stations and visitor centers.

#### Carbon River Road Repair Work

Expect construction activity, limited parking, and complete road closures in July and August during interim repairs to the road washout outside the entrance.

#### Paving Delays on SR 410

WSDOT is resurfacing SR 410 between Enumclaw and the north boundary of the park. Plan for delays.

#### Hazard Trees and Campgrounds

Hazard tree mitigation operations are ongoing, requiring closure of campground sites and loops throughout the park. Treatment of hazard trees is for the safety of all who enter these areas.

At 14,410 feet high, Mount Rainier is the tallest peak in the Cascade Range and an icon of the Pacific Northwest. While the mountain's well-known profile is visible for many miles in every direction, its alpine, glacier-clad slopes occupy only a third of Mount Rainier National Park. There are as many different experiences here as there are views of Mount Rainier. Take time to explore the other two-thirds of the park and discover what lies within the shadow of this great mountain that local Native Americans call "Tahoma."

Summer wildflowers, fall colors, spectacular scenery, and recreational opportunities draw people to Mount Rainier from around the world. This often creates crowded trails, and traffic and parking congestion.

For a more enjoyable visit, follow these tips to help avoid the crowds:

- Visit on weekdays, and arrive in the early morning or late afternoon, to help avoid crowds, long entrance station lines, and difficulty finding a place to park.
- Have an alternate plan and destination in mind if long lines and waits are encountered when entering the park.
- Experience the sights and activities of gateway communities during peak hours and weekends. U.S. Forest Service lands outside the park offer trails and other opportunities for recreation.
- Consider carpooling to help reduce traffic congestion.

Finally, explore less-visited areas to escape the crowds. By taking the extra time to seek out these special places, you can immerse yourself in an old-growth forest, reflect next to a waterfall, hike in virtual solitude, or take in the view and reconnect with nature. No matter where you go in the park you will find spectacular scenery and a multitude of recreational opportunities!



**No Pets on Trails**  
Leashed pets are permitted only in parking lots, campgrounds, and along roads open to public vehicles.



**No Drone Zone!**  
Drones are not allowed anywhere in Mount Rainier National Park. This includes launching, landing, and operating drones.



**Mask Requirements**  
Mask requirements are based on county COVID case levels. Check bulletin boards and signs for status.

### Please Drive Safely!

Park roads are winding, road shoulders are narrow, and the speed limit is 35 mph in most areas. Watch for pedestrians, sightseers, bicyclists, and wildlife.

Please be courteous and use pullouts to allow faster drivers to pass safely.

### What's Inside?

Visiting Mount Rainier .....	2-3	Exploring Paradise .....	6-7
Campgrounds .....	3	Ohanapecosh .....	8
Carbon River and Mowich .....	4	Sunrise and White River .....	9
Exploring Longmire .....	5	Safety and Hiking .....	10-11

### Keep in Touch!

Mount Rainier National Park  
[www.nps.gov/mora](http://www.nps.gov/mora)



@MountRainierNPS



**Carbon River near Chenuis Falls**  
JD Hascup photo

## Get the Most Out of Your Visit

Visiting for a few hours or a day? Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your visit. You can help to protect meadows and forest vegetation by staying on trails.

### Half Day in the Park?

- Drive to Sunrise for a picnic, a short hike to Emmons Vista, and outstanding mountain and glacier views. Download the National Park Service App (NPS APP) and listen to the Sunrise Road Geology Audio tour along the way. Stop at the parking area inside the White River Entrance for data service to download.
- Visit Chinook Pass and Tipsoo Lake for a hike around the lake through subalpine meadows.
- Hike two miles round-trip along the Ohanapecosh River from the Ohanapecosh Campground to view Silver Falls.
- Explore Longmire's historic district and hike the Trail of the Shadows.
- Hike Nisqually Vista or Myrtle Falls trails at Paradise and enjoy a picnic with a view!
- Take a drive through the park stopping at overlooks of mountains, waterfalls, and geologic features.
- Some great hikes for young families are the Trail of the Shadows at Longmire, Nisqually Vista at Paradise, Box Canyon loop trail in Stevens Canyon (check for road construction status on Stevens Canyon Road), Hot Springs Trail at Ohanapecosh, and Sunrise Rim at Sunrise.

### One Day in the Park?

- Hike into the Tatoosh Range for excellent views of the mountain. Hardy hikers can try the Eagle Peak or Pinnacle Peak trails.
- Visit Reflection Lakes for amazing views of the mountain that may be reflecting in the lake's surface. Then hike up to Bench and Snow lakes for a moderate hike.
- Take a geology tour along the south side of the park. Stops include (west to east) Westside Road, Kautz Creek, Glacier Bridge, Ricksecker Point, Inspiration Point, Box Canyon, and viewpoints along the way.
- Spend the day hiking the trails through subalpine meadows at Sunrise or Paradise.
- Hike a section of the 93-mile Wonderland Trail that encircles the mountain. Many people hike this trail in sections. Try hiking from Sunrise to White River, or Longmire to Narada Falls or on to Reflection Lakes. All require a vehicle at each trailhead.
- Take a drive up the dirt road to Mowich Lake to see the park's deepest lake surrounded by wildflowers in summer, followed by a hike to Spray Park for mountain views.
- Hike to a historic fire lookout for great views of the mountain and surrounding area.

*The land administered as Mount Rainier National Park has been since time immemorial the Ancestral homeland of the Cowlitz, Muckleshoot, Nisqually, Puyallup, Squaxin Island, Yakama, and Coast Salish people. By following Elders' instructions passed through generations, these Indigenous Peoples remain dedicated caretakers of this landscape. Their Traditional Knowledge and Management of this Sacred Land will endure in perpetuity, and we honor each nation's traditions of landscape stewardship in our endeavors to care for, protect, and preserve the features and values of the mountain.*

### Food & Lodging Inside Mount Rainier National Park

For in-park lodging reservations, contact Rainier Guest Services at (360) 569-2275 or visit their website, [mtrainierguestservices.com](http://mtrainierguestservices.com).

### Services Outside Mount Rainier National Park

Gas, lodging, dining, recreation equipment rentals, and other services are available in local communities.



Cellular service is not available in most of the park. Help preserve

opportunities for solitude, especially at busy locations. Try turning off your cell phone, or speaking quietly so as not to disturb others.



Gas is not available inside the park. Gas stations are located in local communities.



Electric vehicle charging is not available inside the park.

Road	One Way Driving Times & Distances	
	Distance	Time
Longmire to Paradise	12 miles	25 min
**Stevens Canyon Rd: Paradise to Ohanapecosh	23 miles	45 min
Ohanapecosh to White River Entrance	18 miles	30 min
White River Entrance to Sunrise	13 miles	45 min
White River Entrance to Carbon River via Enumclaw	61 miles	2 hrs
Longmire to Carbon River via Eatonville/Orting	80 miles	2.5 hrs
Longmire to Mowich Lake via Eatonville/Orting	89 miles	3 hrs

**\*\*Expect delays or closures on Stevens Canyon Road.**

### Mount Rainier National Park

**Superintendent**  
Greg Dudgeon

**E-mail**  
[MORAInfo@nps.gov](mailto:MORAInfo@nps.gov)

**Park Headquarters**  
(360) 569-2211

**Lost and Found**  
[MORA\\_Lost@nps.gov](mailto:MORA_Lost@nps.gov)



# What You Need to Know

Mount Rainier National Park was established in 1899 to preserve the natural and cultural resources in this area and to provide for public benefit and enjoyment. This information will help you learn more about the park, and protect yourself and the park.

## Accessibility

Most restrooms, visitor centers, picnic areas, amphitheaters, and designated campsites are accessible or accessible with help by wheelchair. Accessible lodging is available inside the park and in local communities. The park brochure is available in Braille at visitor centers and entrance stations.

The Kautz Creek Boardwalk Nature Trail is accessible with assistance when snow-free. An accessible trail leads to the base of Paradise Meadows; a portion of the trails at Paradise are accessible with help.

## Pets and Service Animals

*During hot weather do not leave pets in vehicles.*

Pets are not allowed in buildings, on trails (except the Pacific Crest Trail), or in off-trail or backcountry areas. Leashed pets and emotional support animals are permitted only in picnic areas, campgrounds, and parking lots and on roads currently open to public vehicles. They must be on leashes no longer than six feet.

Service animals are allowed on trails and in park facilities only if they are providing a service for a person with a disability. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

## Mercury in Park Lakes

Research studies have shown mercury is present in some trout in a few park lakes. Check the Washington Department of Health website <http://www.doh.wa.gov/> for information on fish consumption.

## Tree Hazards

Healthy trees with no defects can present a danger under certain conditions. Stay alert for falling limbs and cones on windy days, and avoid forested areas during storms when possible. Sudden gusts can do great damage to trees—as well as anything in range of falling debris.

## Firearms

The use of firearms is prohibited within Mount Rainier National Park. People who can legally possess firearms under federal, Washington State, and local laws may possess them in the park. However federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park; those places are posted with signs at public entrances.

**Protect the Meadows:** Stay on trails. Leave all wildflowers for everyone to enjoy.

## Bikes in the Park

Bicycle only on roads, not on trails. Mountain bikes are permitted on Westside Road and Carbon River Road, but not on trails.

## Don't Be A Victim!

Burglaries have occurred at numerous trailheads and parking areas in the park. Those responsible for the crimes were investigated, arrested by Mount Rainier rangers and National Park Service special agents, and convicted in court. However, these convictions will not necessarily end the problem of car burglaries in the park.

Follow these simple guidelines to avoid becoming a victim of future break-ins:

- Do not leave any valuables in your vehicle, even for a short time.
- Do not leave bags, packs, or purses that look like they could contain valuables visible in your vehicle.
- If storing items in the trunk of your car, do so before arriving at your destination. You could be watched at trailheads and parking lots.
- Immediately report all suspicious activity you observe at or around parking lots or along roads to a park ranger.

## Camping

Camp in designated campsites only. **Sleeping in vehicles outside of campgrounds is not permitted.**

## Campfires

Campfires are only permitted in established grills in campgrounds and picnic areas. Campfires are not permitted in Mount Rainier's backcountry. Collecting firewood is prohibited.

Firewood sales are available in the park at the Longmire General Store and at Cougar Rock, Ohanapecosh, and White River campgrounds.

## Firewood: Buy It Where You Burn It

Washington forests are in jeopardy from the transportation of invasive insects and diseases in firewood. New infestations of tree-killing insects and diseases are often first found in campgrounds and parks.

Buy firewood near where you will burn it—that means the wood was cut within 50 miles of where you will have your fire. Never bring wood from home, even if you think the firewood looks fine. Aged or seasoned wood is still not safe.

## Permits

Permits are required for all overnight stays in the wilderness, and for traveling on glaciers and above 10,000 feet in elevation.

## Wilderness Camping Permits

A permit is required for all overnight camping in the park's wilderness. Reservations are encouraged but not required. Approximately two thirds of summer season backpacking and climbing permits are made available for advance reservation. Reservations must be made at least two days in advance of the trip start. The remaining one third of permits are issued on-site on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance reservations are available for peak season (June-September) on [Recreation.gov](http://Recreation.gov).

## Climbing

Each year, approximately 10,000 people attempt to climb Mount Rainier. Nearly half reach the 14,410-foot summit. Climbing permits are required for travel above 10,000 feet and/or on glaciers. Climbing information including fees, routes, and conditions, as well as wilderness permits required for overnight stays, are available on the park website.

Please Note: Those wishing to climb above 10,000 feet or on glaciers must pay the annual climbing fee AND get a climbing permit. This includes skiers or "single push climbers". Climbers who wish to camp overnight must also get a wilderness permit in order to acquire a campsite.

Pay your annual climbing fee through [pay.gov](http://pay.gov); keep your receipt and print or save it on your phone to serve as proof of payment; and bring a picture ID.

Guided climbs and seminars are available through:

- Alpine Ascents International (206) 378-1927
- International Mountain Guides (360) 569-2609
- Rainier Mountaineering (888) 892-5462

## Wildlife Safety

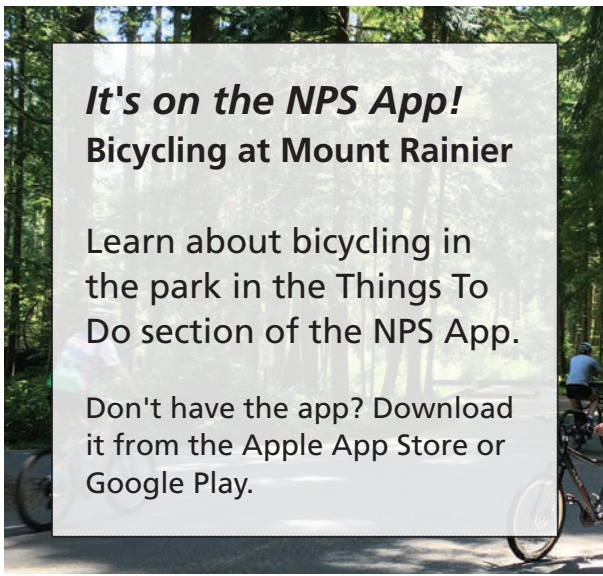
Give animals room. The best way to stay safe when watching wildlife is to give animals room to move. Stay a minimum distance of 25 yards from most wildlife and 100 yards from predators like bears.

## Drive-in Campgrounds Open/Close dates subject to change.

Campground	Open Dates	Elev.	Sites	Group Sites	Toilets	Dump Station	Maximum RV/Trailer Length
Cougar Rock*	May 28 - Oct. 9	3,180'	175	5	Flush	CLOSED	RV 35'/Trailer 27'
Ohanapecosh*	May 28 - Oct. 9	1,914'	138	2	Flush	No	RV 32'/Trailer 27'
White River	June 24 - Sept. 25	4,232'	88	0	Flush	No	RV 27'/Trailer 18'
Mowich Lake	Primitive walk-in campground, tents only. 10 sites. No fee (must self-register at campground kiosk). Vault toilets, <i>no potable water</i> . No fires allowed. Elevation 4,929'; generally open July through early October, depending on road and weather conditions. Call 360-829-9639 for information.						

**\*Advance reservations are recommended for individual sites at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh Campgrounds from June 17 through the night of September 4. These can be made up to six months in advance. Reservations for group sites are recommended and are available throughout the season. These can be made up to one year in advance. To make a reservation online, go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call 877-444-6777.**

# Northwest: Carbon River and Mowich Lake



## It's on the NPS App! Bicycling at Mount Rainier

Learn about bicycling in the park in the Things To Do section of the NPS App.

Don't have the app? Download it from the Apple App Store or Google Play.



## Carbon River and Mowich Lake Services and

**Be Aware: Facility status may change. Check locally or at [nps.gov/mora](https://www.nps.gov/mora) for facility status.**

### Carbon River Ranger Station Information and Wilderness Permits

**Camping** There is a walk-in campground at Mowich Lake. A backcountry camping permit is required for the Ipsut Creek Campground at Carbon River. Campground information is available on page 3.

### Carbon River Road Repair Work

Expect construction activity, limited parking, and complete road closures in July and August during interim repairs to the road washout outside the entrance.



Located on the “quiet side” of the park, the Carbon River valley showcases ancient forests, deep valleys, waterfalls, and a dynamic, flood-prone river that flows from the Carbon Glacier, the lowest-elevation glacier in the contiguous United States. Or follow State Route 165 to Mowich Lake, the park’s largest and deepest lake. Look for colorful subalpine wildflowers along its shores. From the picnic area at road’s end, trails lead to subalpine lakes and flower-strewn meadows. Amazing views of the park’s wilderness are your reward for hiking to Tolmie Peak fire lookout.

**Carbon River Area** *Roadwork to repair the washed out section of the Carbon River Road outside the entrance will affect access to the area in July and August. Expect construction activity, limited parking, and complete road closures during this time. The Carbon River Trail (former road) is open to foot and bicycle traffic only. Be prepared to navigate around trail washouts.*

**Picnic** Picnic tables are located at the Carbon River Ranger Station and Entrance, and along Mowich Lake Road at Paul Peak and Mowich Lake.

**Carbon River** The dynamic, glacier-fed Carbon River continues to braid and change channels as glacial sediment deposits shape its path.

**Carbon River Entrance** The entrance area is not currently accessible by vehicles. Restrooms, picnic tables, and an interpretive trail are available. Stretch your legs on the short 0.3-mile interpretive trail and discover a unique inland rainforest among Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western red cedar. Note that the bridge is out so this is not currently a loop trail.

**Carbon River Trail** This former road is now a trail due to repeated flood damage. Hike or bike the trail through this rainforest environment as the forest reveals views of glacier-fed Carbon River and surrounding mountains. Be prepared to navigate around trail washouts caused by flooding. From the parking lot, the trail gains 600 feet in elevation along its 5-mile length; some sections are rough and rocky. *Bicycles are not permitted on any*

*other trails in the area or in any off-trail areas.* Bicyclists are subject to the same laws as motor vehicles. Travel safely, and always wear a helmet.

**Old Mine Trail** (Moderate, 3 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Take a trip to the past by peering into the shaft of an open mine at the trail’s end. Hike or bike 1.2 miles from the parking lot to the trailhead.

**Chenuis Falls** (Moderate, 7.8 miles, 4.5 hours round-trip) Enjoy this trail that leads across the Carbon River on a footlog to the gently cascading Chenuis Falls. From the parking lot, hike or bike 3.7 miles to the trailhead. Check trail conditions at the ranger station. The footlog is subject to wash out.

**Green Lake** (Moderate, 10 miles, 5 hours round-trip) This trail ascends through old-growth forests to a beautiful, clear lake. Follow the short side trail to Ranger Falls. From the parking lot hike or bike 3.2 miles to the trailhead.

**Mowich Lake** Canoes glide across this subalpine lake with the wakes ruffling the mountain’s reflections. Enjoy the serenity while fishing the deep waters or hiking the nearby trails. The road to Mowich is unpaved after the first three miles and may be rough. Mowich is reached via State Route 165.

**Tolmie Peak Fire Lookout** (Moderate, 5.6 miles, 3 hours round-trip) The historic fire lookout offers spectacular panoramic views of Mount Rainier and surrounding areas. Follow the Mowich Lake shore to Ipsut Pass for views of Carbon River Valley, Eunice Lake, and the final ascent up Tolmie Peak. The trail begins at the last bend in the road on the Mowich Lake Road, 5.5 miles from the park boundary. Please stay on the main trail near Eunice Lake to protect the fragile environment.

**Spray Park Trail** (Moderate, 6 miles, 4 hours round-trip) Beautiful subalpine meadows with views of Mount Rainier are some of the rewards along this trail. The trail begins on the west side of the Mowich Lake Campground. Take the 0.25-mile spur to Spray Falls, a 300 foot cascading waterfall.

## Park Partners



Washington's National Park Fund  
[wnpf.org](https://www.wnpf.org)



Mount Rainier National Park Volunteers  
[www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm](https://www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm)



Washington Trails Association  
[www.wta.org](https://www.wta.org)



Discover Your Northwest  
[www.discovernw.org](https://www.discovernw.org)



Visit Rainier  
[visitrainier.com](https://www.visitrainier.com)



Mount Rainier National Park Associates  
[www.mrnpa.org](https://www.mrnpa.org)



Mount Rainier Institute  
[www.packforest.org/mtrainierinstitute/](https://www.packforest.org/mtrainierinstitute/)

# Southwest: Visit Historic Longmire

Deep in the valley of the Nisqually River, the village of Longmire preserves the history of the park's first settlement and headquarters. The Longmire Museum is the starting point for the self-guided walking tour of the Longmire Historic District, where you can get a taste of early National Park Service rustic architecture. Follow the Trail of the Shadows to learn about the park's first homestead and resort, next to Longmire Meadow's mineral springs. Between Longmire and Nisqually Entrance, walk the Twin Firs Trail to view lowland old-growth forest; picnic at Kautz Creek and view the aftermath of the 1947 mudflow; or drive to Westside Road to see the dramatic results of flooding and rockfall. For great views of lava layers, glaciers, and deep glacial canyons, stop at the viewpoints along Ricksecker Road, between Longmire and Paradise.

**Bicycle or Hike Westside Road** A popular mountain bike route, this gravel road is 13 miles one-way with an elevation gain of approximately 1,120 feet. *Bicycles are not permitted on any park trails, or in any off-trail areas.* Bicyclists are subject to the same laws as motor vehicles. Travel safely, and always wear a helmet.

**Twin Firs** (Moderate, 0.4 miles, 30 minutes round-trip) Look for the Twin Firs trail on the north side of the road one mile east of Kautz Creek or two miles west of Longmire. This short loop trail climbs through some of the best examples of the immense Douglas-firs that line much of the road between the Nisqually Entrance and Longmire.

**Picnic** Picnic tables and restrooms can be found at Kautz Creek, Longmire, and three miles up the road at Cougar Rock Picnic Area.

**Cougar Rock Campground** Situated in the southwest area of the park, this campground provides easy access to Longmire and Paradise. Campers can quickly jump on the 93-mile Wonderland Trail for a short 2.2-mile round-trip hike to Carter Falls or for longer day hikes try hiking northeast to Narada Falls or southwest to Longmire. The number of campsites available may be reduced due to hazard trees and mitigation efforts.

**Trail of the Shadows** (Easy, 0.7 miles, 30 minutes round-trip) Across the road from the Longmire Museum and National Park Inn, This easy loop trail takes you through the forested edge of a meadow passing mineral springs, a beaver

pond, a historic cabin, and massive Douglas-fir and western red cedar trees. Perfect for families and nature lovers. Across the road, stop by the Longmire Museum to view the exhibits and ask for Junior Ranger Activity Book, or grab lunch at the National Park Inn.

**Rampart Ridge** (Strenuous, 4.6 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip) The Rampart Ridge Trail branches off from the west side of the Trail of the Shadows, climbs steeply to the ridge-top, then circles back to Longmire by way of the Wonderland Trail. The lower portions of this trail climb through stands of ancient trees of various ages. Some Douglas-firs on the east side of the loop are around 1,000 years old.

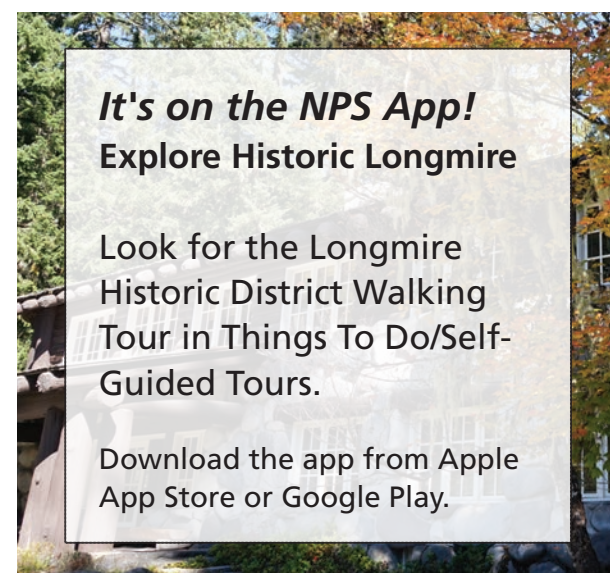
**Eagle Peak** (Strenuous, 7.2 miles, 5 hours round-trip) Cross the Nisqually River on the historic automobile suspension bridge at Longmire to access the trailhead. Eagle Peak offers panoramic views of the Nisqually Valley and Mount Rainier. The lower portions of the trail climb steeply through stands of ancient Douglas-fir and younger mountain hemlock trees.

**Carter Falls** (Moderate, 2.2 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Stroll along the Paradise River from Cougar Rock Campground to Carter Falls. Forest ages vary from very young to very old, with some stands less than a century old and some more than 700 years old.

**Christine Falls** A viewpoint just off the road gives you a beautiful view of Christine Falls beneath the stone arch of the road bridge. Please pull completely off the road to park in a designated pullout. Walking on the road to view the waterfall can be hazardous.

**Comet Falls and Van Trump Park** (Strenuous, 3.6 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip to Comet Falls) Look for a diversity of wildflowers in the forest and rocky canyon environments along this rugged trail, or climb another steep mile beyond the falls to a beautiful subalpine meadow.

**Narada Falls** A short but moderately steep walk takes you to a breathtaking view of Narada Falls, on the Paradise River. On a sunny day, you can often see a rainbow refracted in the cool spray of the falls.



## Longmire Services and Facilities

**Be Aware: Facility status may change. Check locally or at [nps.gov/mora](https://nps.gov/mora) for facility status.**

Longmire Museum Exhibits and Information

Restrooms Located between the Museum and historic gas station.

Picnic Area Located next to the gift shop.

Wilderness Information Center Information and Wilderness Permits

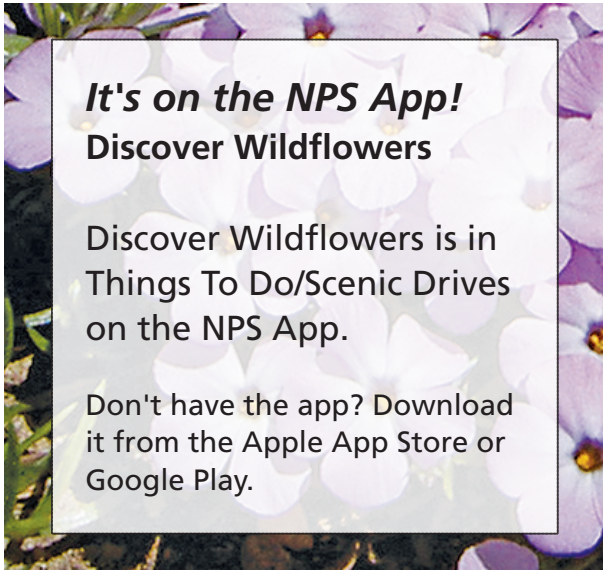
National Park Inn Gift Shop, Food, Lodging

Camping The Cougar Rock Campground is located northwest of Longmire on Nisqually Road. Campground information is available on page 3. The number of campsites available may be reduced due to hazard trees and mitigation efforts.



Emergency: Dial 911

# South: Explore Paradise



## Paradise Services and Facilities

**Be Aware: Facility status may change. Check locally or at [nps.gov/mora](https://nps.gov/mora) for facility status.**

### Visitor Center

Exhibits, Information, Programs, Restrooms, Water Fountain, Grab and Go Food

### Paradise Inn

Gift Shop, Food, Lodging

### Plaza Restrooms

Located off the upper parking lot, adjacent to the main plaza.

### Picnic Area

Located below and across the road from the lower parking lot.

### Paradise Wilderness Information Center (Guide House)

Information, Climbing History Exhibits, and Wilderness Permits

Besides glaciers, rivers, and forests, this area is rich in history, offers plenty of hiking, and has breathtaking vistas and a stunning profusion of wildflowers. Avoid crowds and traffic by visiting early or late in the day, or by visiting mid-week. Enjoy the meadows, take in a view of the mountain, or hike the trails.

A network of hiking trails provides access to outstanding wildflower meadows, broad views of Mount Rainier and its glaciers, and routes for skilled climbers attempting to reach the mountain's summit. Photographers appreciate the high-country scenery at Inspiration Point and Reflection Lakes. Hikers looking for less-crowded trails might try the Lakes Trail, Mazama Ridge, and Snow Lake Trail, located just east of Paradise. Consider Nisqually Vista or Myrtle Falls for young hikers, or Alta Vista or Glacier Vista for the more ambitious. Take lots of water and sunscreen!

**Picnic** Enjoy your picnic at the main picnic area, located below the lower parking lot. There are also picnic tables in the plaza outside the visitor center.

**Information Boards** Stop at one of the information boards set up around Paradise for trip planning information and maps.

**Deadhorse Creek** (Moderate, 2.5 miles, 1.75 hours round-trip) The flowers in this sheltered canyon bloom later but often more luxuriantly than anywhere else. Loop back on the Skyline Trail or continue on to Glacier Vista.

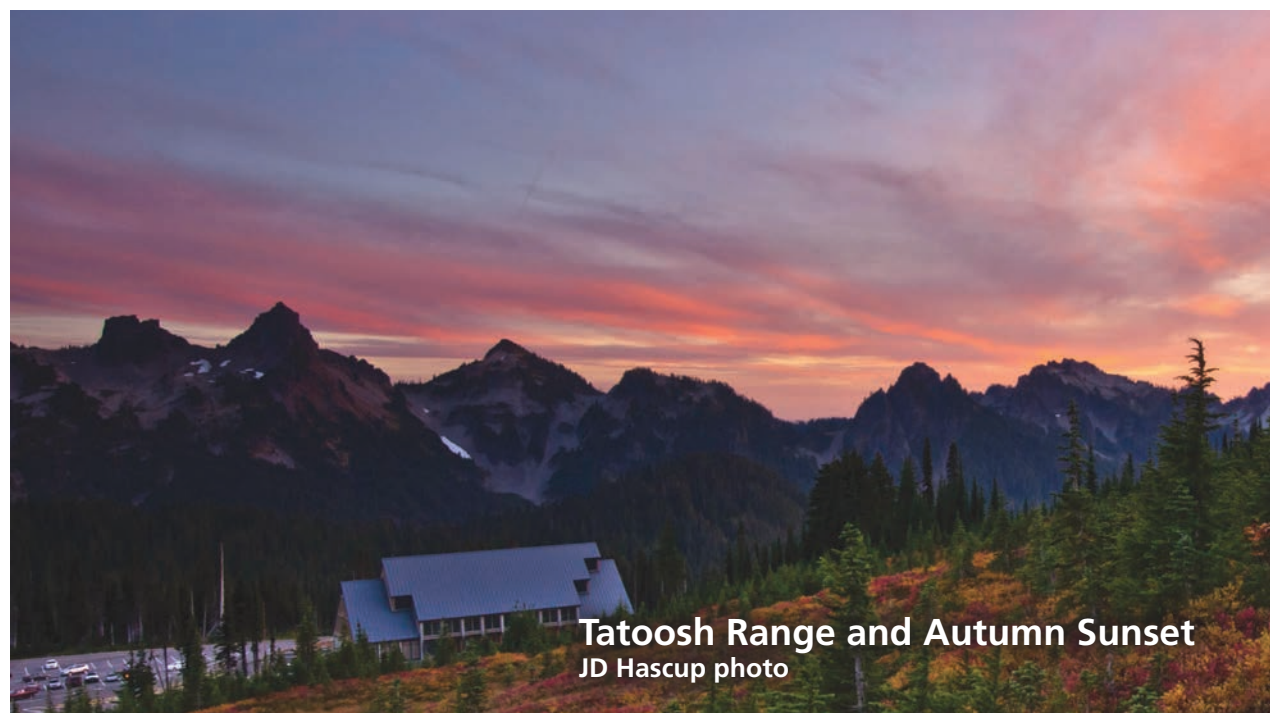
**Nisqually Vista** (Easy, 1.2 miles, 45 minutes round-trip) Not as steep as most trails at Paradise, this route loops through flower-filled meadows and subalpine firs to a view of the Nisqually Glacier.

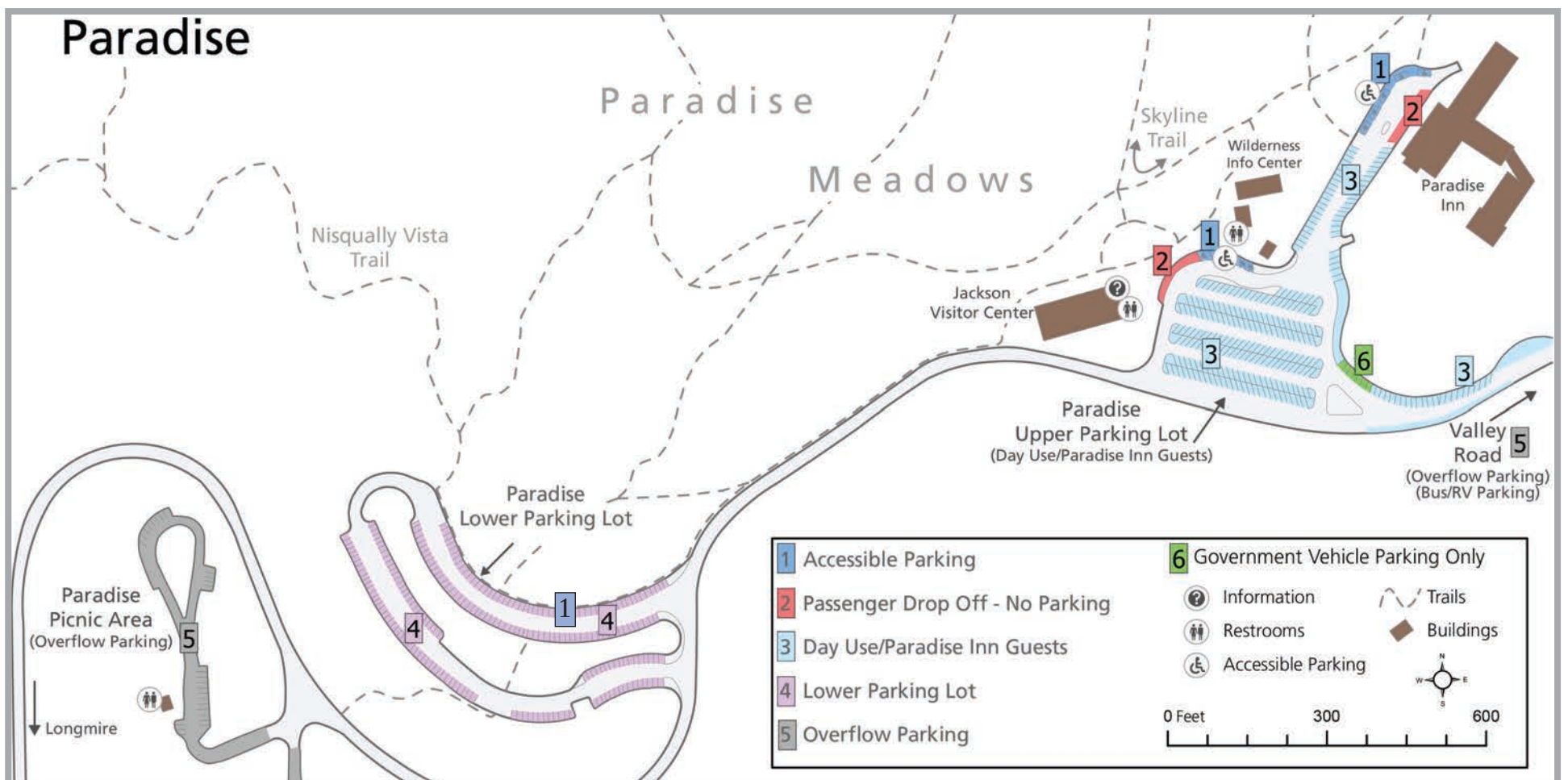
**Myrtle Falls** (Easy, 1 mile, 35 minutes round-trip) The trail to Myrtle Falls gradually climbs through lush meadows to 60-foot Myrtle Falls. You can't beat this walk for wildflowers or for the drama of cascading water. Keep your eyes and ears open for hoary marmots; they often sunbathe on the rocks above the creek.

**Alta Vista via the Alta Vista & Skyline Trails** (Moderate, 1.75 miles, 1.25 hours round-trip) This short hike climbs to the top of Alta Peak for outstanding views of Mount Rainier, the Tatoosh Range, and, in the distance, Mount Adams. Watch for marmots as you pass through the colorful meadows.

**Skyline Trail** (Strenuous, 5.5 miles, 4.5 hours round-trip) This trail offers a grand tour of Paradise Meadows, passing Alta Vista, Glacier Vista, Panorama Point, Pebble Creek, and Sluiskin and Myrtle falls. The elevation ranges from 5,400 to 7,000 feet, with wet and dry, exposed and sheltered habitats. Shorter sections of the trail can be done, too.

**Great Mountain Views** Mount Rainier can be seen from many locations at Paradise. You may need to move a short distance or wait for some clouds to move, but the parking lots, plazas, and trails all offer views of the mountain when skies are clear. There is no one best spot to see the mountain, but we recommend the Nisqually Vista, Myrtle Falls, Glacier Vista, or Alta Vista.





**Best Trails for Waterfall Views** Follow one of these hikes to view waterfalls in or near Paradise. Stay safe by not walking or climbing on rocks near waterfalls. Please stay on designated trails.

**Skyline Trail to Myrtle Falls and view of Sluiskin Falls** View Sluiskin Falls northeast of Myrtle Falls from the Skyline Trail just past Myrtle Falls.

**Paradise to Ruby Falls and Narada Falls** (2.2 miles round-trip, 800' elevation gain, average hiking time: 1.5 hours.) From the southeast corner of the upper parking lot, take the Lakes Trail down. Follow signs for Narada Falls. Enjoy the cascading Ruby Falls before reaching the Narada Falls parking area and viewpoint. Return the same route.

**Historic Buildings** Paradise has long been a destination for people attracted to Mount Rainier. In 1886, early entrepreneurs began providing visitor services at Paradise. Since then, the need for visitor facilities has grown and changed. Much of the 1920's village-like development has been removed throughout the years. Even so, in 1990, the roads, buildings, and trails that remained were

designated a National Historic Landmark District. Notice the massive timbers and local stone blending the buildings with the natural settings and the steeply pitched roofs that shed heavy snow loads.

**Paradise Inn**, one of the oldest inns in the National Park system, opened in 1917. The natural log architecture and handmade furniture makes a visit here feel like stepping into the past. Former President Harry Truman played the piano in 1945.

**Historic Paradise Ranger Station** was built in 1921. It is the small building at the top of the parking area. It is not open to the public and is now used for emergency service employees.

**Guide House** was built in 1920. For many years climbers began their climbs to Mount Rainier's summit from its threshold.

**Paradise Camp Lodge** was constructed in 1931 and demolished in the mid-1950s. The current visitor center stands on the original footprint of this building. Explore the signs and displays on the south side of the visitor center.



For online Paradise information scan the QR code or go to <https://www.nps.gov/moral/planyourvisit/paradise-basic-info.htm>

**Emergency: Dial 911**

## Discover Reflection Lakes and Nearby Trails

A short drive down the scenic Paradise Valley Road and along the top of Stevens Canyon Road leads to picturesque Reflection Lakes. Often, the reflection of Mount Rainier is mirrored in the lakes. The Lakes Trail from Paradise is an excellent alternative for those interested in getting in a hike. **The lakes are closed to fishing, boating, and swimming.**

### Along the Way

As you pass through Paradise Valley enjoy the wildflowers in summer or fall colors later in the year, watch for marmots and scan the valley and hillsides for black bear. After turning onto Stevens Canyon Road, stop at Inspiration Point for views of Mount Rainier and the Tatoosh Range.



**Lakes Loop** (Moderate, 5 miles, 4 hours round-trip) The trail winds through picturesque subalpine meadows and forests and along subalpine lakes. This loop passes through Paradise, circling along Mazama Ridge down to Reflection Lakes. Consider hiking this trail to Paradise from Reflection Lakes.

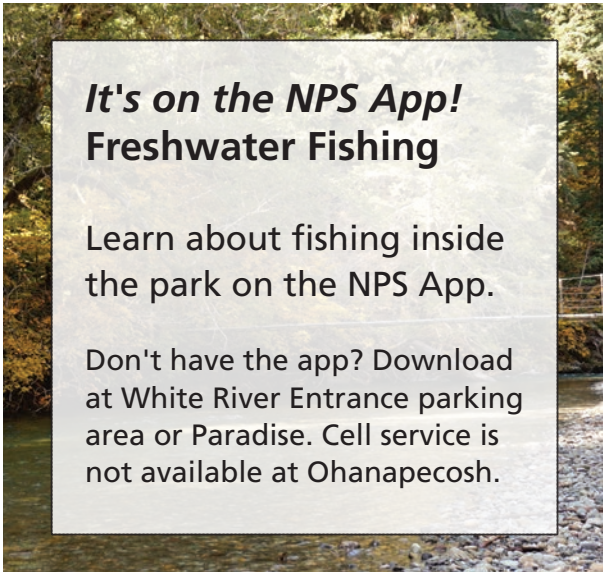


**Snow Lake** (Moderate, 2.5 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Watch for views of Mount Rainier and the Tatoosh Range, wildflowers in the spring, huckleberries in the fall, and wildlife year-round on your way to this subalpine lake. This trail is east of Reflection Lakes.



**Pinnacle Peak** (Moderate, 3.0 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Enjoy abundant wildflowers and spectacular panoramic views including Mounts Rainier, Adams, St. Helens, and Hood. This trail winds high onto the rocky slopes of the Tatoosh Mountain Range to Pinnacle Saddle. The trail starts across the road from Reflection Lakes.

# Southeast: Stevens Canyon and Ohanapecosh



## It's on the NPS App! Freshwater Fishing

Learn about fishing inside the park on the NPS App.

Don't have the app? Download at White River Entrance parking area or Paradise. Cell service is not available at Ohanapecosh.

## Ohanapecosh Services and Facilities

**Be Aware: Facility status may change. Check locally or at [nps.gov/mora](https://www.nps.gov/mora) for facility status.**

### Visitor Center

Exhibits, Information, Books, Programs

### Restrooms

Located adjacent to the visitor center and in campground loops.

### Picnic Area

Located across from the visitor center.

### Camping

The Ohanapecosh Campground is located in the southwest corner of the park on SR 123. Campground information is available on page 3. The number of campsites available may be reduced due to hazard trees and mitigation efforts.

## Stevens Canyon Road Delays and Closures

*Expect delays and closures on Stevens Canyon Road this summer and fall.*

Information on the current status is available at entrance stations and visitor centers.



Ohanapecosh, in the park's southeast corner, lies deep in the realm of the old-growth forest. From the visitor center and campground, trails follow the Ohanapecosh River past hot springs and shaded streams to the roaring cascade of Silver Falls. Walk the trail to the Grove of the Patriarchs, just past the Stevens Canyon Entrance, to view ancient trees—some over 1,000 years old. Strong hikers will enjoy the incredible view from the Shriner Peak fire lookout, east of State Route 123, and the string of waterfalls along the East Side Trail. On Stevens Canyon Road between Ohanapecosh and Paradise, dramatic viewpoints and a picnic area are found at Box Canyon, where the Cowlitz River cuts a deep slot into glacially-scoured bedrock.

**Picnic** Picnic among the big trees at the Ohanapecosh Picnic Area, or stop at the picnic area west of Box Canyon.

**Stevens Canyon** West of Ohanapecosh, the park road traverses spectacular Stevens Canyon. During the summer, watch for wildflowers along the road. Later in the year, enjoy magnificent fall colors as huckleberries, vine maples, and mountain ash turn scarlet and purple.

**Box Canyon Access Affected by Roadwork** Access to Box Canyon will be affected by roadwork on Stevens Canyon Road. Information on the current status is available at entrance stations and visitor centers.

### Box Canyon Trail

(Easy, 0.5 mile, 30 minutes round-trip) Follow the path of a glacier that has receded revealing evidence of polished slabs of rock. These rocks also show evidence of glacial movement with striations or scratch marks caused by ice-embedded rocks scraping their surfaces. A half-mile loop trail takes you to a viewpoint of two volcanoes and the steep, narrow box canyon of the Cowlitz River. Restrooms are just off the parking lot. A nearby picnic area is a great place to have lunch. Trail work is currently underway in this area, but access to the overlook and footbridge will be maintained.

**Grove of the Patriarchs is CLOSED** at the Eastside Trail junction, due to flooding that caused significant damage to the suspension bridge. The bridge provides the only safe access to the Grove which is on an island surrounded by the swift, cold waters of the Ohanapecosh River. The parking area and restrooms are open.

**Eastside Trail** (Moderate, 11.5 miles, 6 hours one-way) Hike south from Deer Creek to the Grove of the Patriarchs past 700 - 1,000 year old trees along Chinook Creek and the Ohanapecosh River. This trail is best done with two vehicles, one parked at each end of the trail.

**Silver Falls Trail** (Moderate, 3 miles, 2 hours round-trip) This loop trail winds among 500 year old trees along both sides of the Ohanapecosh River. It is one of the best places to look for forest wildflowers and mushrooms, including many species uniquely found in the old-growth forest environment.

**Ohanapecosh Campground** Spend the night among the big trees in the Ohanapecosh Campground or hike one of the many trails through old-growth forest. The most family-friendly campground in the park features big trees, creeks, and the Ohanapecosh River. Take a short stroll through the Ohanapecosh Hot Springs or hike a 2.5 mile loop along the river to Silver Falls. The number of campsites available may be reduced due to hazard trees and mitigation efforts.

**Shriner Peak** (Strenuous, 8.4 miles, 6 hours round-trip) One of the steepest trails in the park climbs through the forest to an old burn, where dry meadow flowers like bear grass and paintbrush are abundant in the summer. A backcountry campsite is located at the top, near the historic fire lookout. There is no water along this trail during most of the season, and little shade.

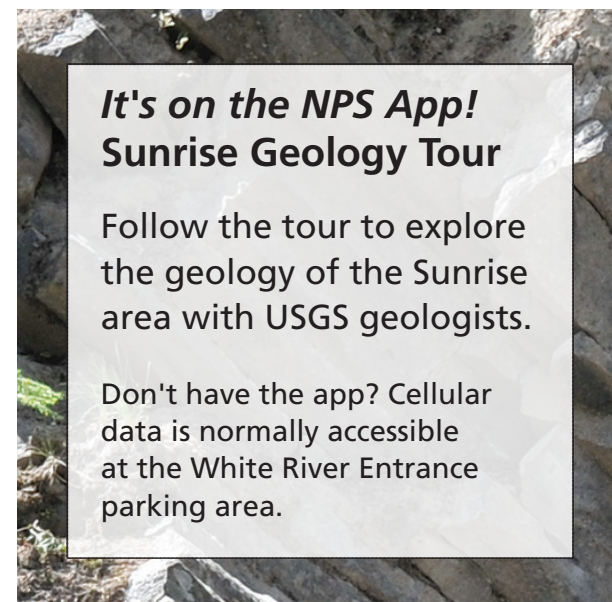
The Grove of the Patriarchs Trail is **CLOSED** at the junction with Eastside Trail. The closure is due to flood damage to the suspension bridge.



Silver Falls  
NPS photo



# Northeast: Experience Sunrise and White River



## It's on the NPS App! Sunrise Geology Tour

Follow the tour to explore the geology of the Sunrise area with USGS geologists.

Don't have the app? Cellular data is normally accessible at the White River Entrance parking area.

The White River/Sunrise Road leads from State Route 410 toward the White River Campground and high-country trailheads. From here, trails lead hikers to subalpine wilderness or to the moraine of the Emmons Glacier, the largest American glacier outside of Alaska. Continuing up the road toward Sunrise, look for outcrops of columnar lava, hillsides of wildflowers, and a breathtaking vista at Sunrise Point. Washington's highest paved highway ends at Sunrise (6,400 feet), where summertime crowds come to enjoy the area's open meadows and expansive scenery, considered by some to be the grandest views in the park. Along State Route 410, a trail leads strong hikers up to the scenic Crystal Lakes basin, and the Tipsoo Lake area near Chinook Pass provides a picnic area next to the lake and its lush meadows.

**Picnic** Enjoy lunch with a view at picnic areas located at Sunrise, White River Campground, and Tipsoo Lake.

**Owyhigh Lakes Trail** (Moderate, 7 miles, 3.5 hours round-trip) This hike offers solitude amongst old-growth forests to subalpine meadows and lakes. From the White River Road, climb steadily up the side of Tamanos Mountain through a 700 year old forest to Owyhigh Lakes.

**White River Patrol Cabin** Take a stroll back in time and discover the important role these cabins played in protecting the park. Located in the White River Campground.

**Glacier Basin Trail** (Moderate, 6.5 miles, 6 hours round-trip) Following in the footsteps of climbers, this trail leads to subalpine meadows, surrounded by mountains, and a backcountry camp.

**Emmons Moraine Trail** (Easy, 3 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Turn off on the spur trail from the Glacier Basin Trail to view the massive Emmons Glacier, the largest by area in the lower 48 states, with Mount Rainier towering above. The first part of this trail offers cascading waterfalls and cool forests.

**Sunrise** Hiking, gift shop, grab and go food, and restrooms are available. Numerous trails, of various lengths and degrees of difficulty, begin from the parking lot and wander through meadows filled with wildflowers during the peak bloom.

**Silver Forest Trail** (Easy, 2 miles, 1 hour round-trip) This lovely stroll includes abundant wildflowers and breathtaking views of the White River Valley, Emmons Glacier, and Mount Rainier.

**Berkeley Park** (Strenuous, 7 miles, 5 hours round-trip) Hiking into Berkeley Park provides an opportunity to experience a sampling of the park's wilderness. Towering mountains, subalpine meadows, multiple cascading streams, and wildlife excite the senses as you descend into this valley.

**Mount Fremont** (Strenuous, 5.6 miles, 3.5 hours round-trip) This historic fire lookout provides expansive panoramic views of the northeast side of the park. The trail passes through subalpine meadows to rocky slopes with low-growing plants adapted to the harsh alpine environment.

**Sourdough Ridge Trail to Dege Peak** (Moderate, 4.2 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip) Experience ridgeline hiking along the Sourdough Mountains with spectacular views of the Sunrise area, Mount Rainier, glaciers, subalpine meadows, wildlife, and the Cascade Mountain range.

**First Burroughs Mountain Trail** (Strenuous, 4.8 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Ascending high onto First Burroughs Mountain, this trail leads into alpine tundra-like environment with unobscured views of Mount Rainier. Following the top of this old lava flow, you feel as if you could almost touch the mountain.

**Tipsoo Lake and Naches Peak** (Moderate, 3.5 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Wildflowers grow thick around this beautiful subalpine lake. Take a short stroll around the lake or branch off on the longer and more diverse Naches Peak Loop, which features different flowers on the wetter west side and drier east side of the peak. This trail is located east of White River near Chinook Pass on SR 410.

## Sunrise and White River Services and Facilities

**Be Aware: Facility status may change. Check locally or at [nps.gov/mora](https://nps.gov/mora) for facility status.**

**White River Wilderness Information Center**  
Information and Wilderness Permits

**Restrooms**  
Located at White River Entrance Area, White River Campground Picnic Area, Sunrise, and Tipsoo

**White River Picnic Area**  
Located in the campground.

**Sunrise Visitor Center**  
Exhibits, Information, Books, Programs

**Sunrise Picnic Area**  
Located north of the visitor center.

**Sunrise Day Lodge**  
Grab and Go Food, Gifts. Day use only, no overnight lodging.

**Camping**  
The White River Campground is located at the intersection of White River Road and Sunrise Road. Campground information is available on page 3.

### SR 410 Traffic Delays

Expect construction delays related to paving operations on SR410 between Enumclaw and the north entrance of the park.



**Emergency: Dial 911**

# Protect the Park, Protect Yourself

## Love the Meadows?

### Protect Them by Staying on Trails!

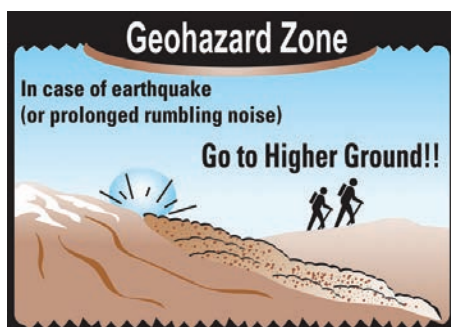
Many visitors come to Mount Rainier National Park because of its world-famous subalpine meadows. In summer, meadows are filled with colorful displays of wildflowers, which bloom profusely during the short growing season. These subalpine plants live by thin margins, facing fierce competition for resources and enduring long winters and harsh conditions. After surviving all this, their greatest threat may be the millions of visitors coming to appreciate them.

Subalpine areas, such as Paradise and Sunrise, receive the pressure and impact of up to four million human feet per year (the park has approximately two million visitors annually), much of it concentrated within the same visitation corridors. It is not just your feet, but the cumulative daily effect of yours and many others that takes a serious toll on subalpine plants.

While we all might like a "Sound of Music" meadow moment or the opportunity to capture the "perfect" selfie, these popular areas cannot accommodate the desires of the many who wish to wander off the trail. When you see something you want to capture on your camera remember to use your zoom function instead of stepping closer. The iconic views, the wildlife, and wildflowers can usually be seen from on-trail too, perhaps a little further up or a little further on. Travel off-trail is not necessary to make great memories here.

Join Mount Rainier National Park in its mission to preserve and protect these precious subalpine meadows by staying on trail during your visit. Your actions will keep Mount Rainier's meadows healthy and scenic into the future.

## Mount Rainier: An Active Volcano



Active steam vents, periodic earth tremors, and historic eruptions provide evidence that Mount Rainier is sleeping, not dead. Seismic monitoring stations around the mountain should provide days or weeks of advance warning of impending eruptions. Other geologic hazards, however, can occur with little warning. These include debris flows and rockfalls.

The more time you spend in an area with geologic hazards, the greater the chance that you could be involved in an emergency event. While most people consider the danger to be relatively low, you must decide if you will assume the risk of visiting these potentially dangerous locations.

*If you are near a river and notice a rapid rise in water level, feel a prolonged shaking of the ground, and/or hear a roaring sound coming from upvalley—often described as the sound made by a fast-moving freight train—move quickly to higher ground! A location 200 feet or more above river level should be safe.*

Detailed information is available at park visitor centers or from scientists at the USGS Cascades Volcano Observatory [vulcan.wr.usgs.gov](http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov).

## Snow? In July? Hiking Safety on Late-Season Snow

The deep mantle of snow covering the slopes of Mount Rainier will take longer than usual to melt this year due to this spring's heavier than normal snowfall. Some hiking trails will remain snow-covered well into the summer. Hikers expecting dry trails may encounter challenging conditions and other hazards due to lingering patches of snow. Trails that would otherwise be considered easy may be too difficult or unsafe to navigate.



The following information will help you prepare for a safe and enjoyable experience:

- Choose to turn around instead of crossing steep, snow-covered slopes. A fall could be disastrous. **Comet Falls and Pinnacle Peak trails often have hazardous slopes.** Take an ice axe if you know how to use it.
- Falling through thin snow bridges is a hazard anywhere streams remain snow-covered. Listen for the muffled sound of running water under the snow. Assume that low areas have water flowing under them.
- Avoid the Myrtle Falls area until snow-free. **Several hazards exist at Myrtle Fall including punching through snow, snow cornices, and steep, icy slopes.**
- Avoid stepping onto snow cornices (ledges of snow that overhang an edge, ridgeline, etc.) as they may collapse under your weight.
- You may need a reliable map and compass to traverse snow-covered trails, which can be difficult to follow, particularly in backcountry areas. **Panhandle Gap, Spray Park, and Seattle Park are frequent problem areas.**
- Beware of avalanches! Unstable snow may slide at any time...not just in winter!

*Understand the dangers and signs of thinning snow bridges, tree wells, steep snow slopes, snow cornices, and melt holes.*

- Falling into snow moats around trees (tree wells), and adjacent to logs and rocks, can cause injury. Avoid getting too close.
- Avoid stepping on wet, slippery rocks, especially near rivers and waterfalls. **Common hazard areas are Narada Falls and Silver Falls.**
- Prepare to be self-reliant and have your own contingency plan in place in case of a mishap or injury.
- Before starting your hike, stop by a Wilderness Information Center or visitor center for the latest trail conditions.

## Recreate Responsibly

at

## Mount Rainier National Park

### Know Before You Go

Check the weather, make a plan, leave your itinerary with someone at home, and pack accordingly. Don't forget the 10 Essentials. If you do not have the right gear — don't go.

### Play It Safe

Know your limits, only attempt activities that are within your skill level, and be prepared to turn back if necessary to reduce the risk of injury. The mountain will always be here for you to explore.

### Finding Your Way

Carry and know how to use a good map and compass, and actively use them. For best coverage beneath a forest canopy, supplement your map and compass with an external-antenna GPS.

### Pet Pals

Your leashed pets are welcome in campgrounds, parking lots, and on roads open to the public. Pets are not allowed on trails (service animals excepted).

### Leave No Trace

No matter how you recreate at Mount Rainier, whether in the park's backcountry or on a day trip, pack out trash, do not feed or approach wildlife, and leave natural and cultural objects where you found them.

### Preserve Meadows

Meadows are delicate and see increased visitation every year. Please stay on the trail to protect these unique ecosystems.

## Hazards of the Season

*A beautiful day on the mountain can turn into dangerous whiteout conditions in a matter of minutes, even in summer. Knowing what to do and making the right decision can be the difference between life and death.*

Winter snowpack may linger late into summer on the mountain with snow potentially covering portions of trails into August. However, keep in mind that snow is not the only issue when it comes to safe backcountry travel.

### Route-finding Challenges

Trails may be snow-free at lower elevations but anticipate and prepare for snow at higher elevations. Conditions change rapidly during the day and footprints in the snow quickly disappear. This has left many day hikers disoriented upon their return trip, expecting to simply follow their own tracks back to the snow-free trail. This results in many lost individuals, injuries, and fatalities. When route-finding, note important landmarks. If the trail becomes difficult to follow, stop and find where you are on the map before continuing.

### Be Prepared

If at any point you feel uncomfortable or unprepared, turn around. If you plan on retracing your route back to the trailhead consider using wands on snow-covered trails. Always carry a good map and compass, and actively use them. For best coverage beneath a forest canopy supplement your map and compass with an external-antenna GPS.

Consider the steep snow slopes, melt holes, thinning snow bridges, and other early season hazards that you may encounter, and be honest with yourself in assessing your skills and experience.

### Plan Ahead

- Protect yourself by wearing appropriate outdoor clothing including footwear.
- Be prepared for rapidly changing weather.
- Carry the Ten Essentials even on a short sightseeing hike.
- Always tell someone of your travel plans so they can notify the park if you fail to return.
- If visibility is poor, do not travel at all.
- Plan your route ahead of time, have a backup plan, and never travel alone.

### Snow Avalanches

The greatest danger is an avalanche that you trigger by skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, or climbing. Be prepared for travel in avalanche terrain. Carry a transceiver, probe, and shovel and know how to use them. Determine if the location you are traveling is avalanche prone. If in doubt, ask questions or don't go. Unstable snow may slide at any time, not just in winter! Even small avalanches can be deadly.

### Mountain Weather Changes Rapidly

A pleasant outing can quickly transform into a survival ordeal. Proper gear (adequate boots,

ice axe, the ten essentials, etc.) is a must. Navigation in storms and whiteouts can be extremely difficult. If you're ascending and clouds or fog start rolling in, turn around and head back to the trailhead. If that's not possible, stop, dig in, and wait for better weather.

### Cross Streams Safely

Many hikers underestimate the power of moving water and some assume that safely crossing a stream on the way in means it will be equally safe on the way out. This may not be true. Use these pointers in making wise decisions when crossing streams.

- Attending training in safe stream crossings is recommended.
- Early morning when river levels are generally at their lowest is the best time to cross.
- Look for an area with a smooth bottom and slow-moving water below knee height.
- Before crossing, scout downstream for log jams, waterfalls, and other hazards that could trap you. Locate a point where you can exit if you fall in.
- Use a sturdy stick to maintain two points of contact with the ground at all times.
- Unfasten the belt of your pack so you can easily discard it if necessary.
- Staring down at moving water can make you dizzy. Look forward as much as possible.

## Before Stepping off the Trail...



... consider this: each step into a meadow crushes an average of 17 plants!

When exploring Mount Rainier's fragile meadows, hike only on maintained trails or thick patches of snow.



## Keep Wildlife Wild

Mount Rainier provides habitat for many species of animals. When you visit the park, you are visiting their home. The choices you make have a direct effect on the wild animals that live here.

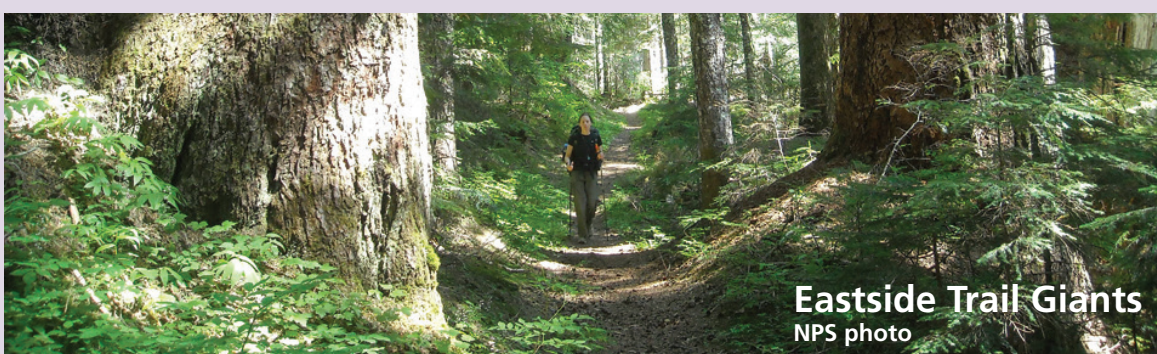
### Feeding wildlife harms animals

- Nest predators like jays and ravens will be attracted to the area and therefore may decrease populations of songbirds inhabiting that area.
- Wildlife will be drawn to areas with high vehicle traffic, causing animals to get struck by cars.
- Many animals have specialized diets and the wrong foods can negatively affect their health.

### Help keep park wildlife wild

- Do not feed animals, including birds.
- Store your food in an animal-proof container, or inside your car.
- Do not leave food, beverages, pet food, or toiletries unattended for any length of time.
- Clean up picnic areas after you eat.

## Classic Backcountry Practices



### Carry the 10 Essentials *and know how to use them!*

1. Map and compass
2. Sunglasses, sunscreen, and hat
3. Extra clothing (warm!) and rain gear
4. Flashlight or head lamp (extra batteries)
5. First aid supplies *including hand sanitizer and masks as appropriate*
6. Waterproof matches or lighter
7. Repair kit and tools (for gear)
8. Extra food
9. Extra water
10. Emergency shelter

### Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead & be prepared
- Travel & camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts\*
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of others

\*Fires are for emergency use only; they are not allowed in Mount Rainier's Wilderness.

Learn more at [Int.org](http://Int.org).

# Take the Mount Rainier Pledge

## Ranger-led Programs



Since the earliest days of the National Park Service, rangers have shared their knowledge through the presentation of interpretive programs—guided walks, talks, and campfire programs for visitors of all ages. That long-standing tradition continues at Mount Rainier.

Today, our interpretive staff consists of rangers, teachers, student interns, and volunteers from a wide array of backgrounds and expertise. Please join us for a variety of free programs, ranging from informal talks at park visitor centers to junior ranger programs for kids to guided hikes, and evening campfire programs. Find out who else has come to Mount Rainier and why. Discover what this mountain really is and what it may become. Meet some other users of the park's resources—from owls to elk—and learn why they are here. Topics vary daily, and may include geology, wildlife, ecology, mountaineering, or park history.

Program schedules and locations are posted at visitor centers and other locations throughout the park.

## Citizen Ranger Quests

Has your inner Junior Ranger never really gone away? Try out a Quest! They are designed for older children (12 and up) and adults. Quest topics are diverse and vary from history to science to stewardship. Some Quests take place indoors while others help you explore outdoors. Completion times for the different Quests vary from about thirty minutes to two hours. Complete four quests and you get a patch! Information on Quests is available at visitor centers.

## Junior Ranger Books

Junior Ranger Books are available in the Longmire Museum and visitor centers around the park. Complete one to learn about the park and receive a Junior Ranger Badge.



## Mount Rainier Pledge

You can help safeguard this place, and these resources and intrinsic values by taking the Mount Rainier Pledge.

Mount Rainier National Park was created to protect and preserve unimpaired iconic Mount Rainier, along with its natural and cultural resources, values, and dynamic processes.

The park provides opportunities for people to experience, understand, and care for the park environment, and provides for wilderness experiences while sustaining wilderness values.

Be a Mount Rainier Champion by learning more about park resources and supporting park efforts by sharing #RainierPledge <https://www.nps.gov/mora/planyourvisit/mount-rainier-pledge>.

### I Pledge to:

**"Protect Mount Rainier's meadows and lakes** by staying on trails while hiking in meadows and around lakes. One step onto a meadow damages an average of 17 plants that will take years to recover!

**Never take my pets on trails or meadows.** Pets are not permitted on trails. They are only permitted in campgrounds, parking lots, and on roads open for travel and must be on leashes no longer than six feet.

**Respect the land and all that is connected to it** as the original stewards of this land did and their descendants continue to do today.

**Welcome all people** I encounter during my visit regardless of their identities or abilities.

**Leave No Trace of my visit.** Planning ahead and being prepared, disposing of waste properly, and leaving what you find, are just a few ways you can Leave No Trace.

**Keep Wildlife Wild** by not feeding or approaching animals. Feeding wildlife can be as direct as offering a bit of your lunch, or as indirect as leaving your food or garbage for animals to find.

**Stay safe during my visit** by keeping safety in mind. Watch for changes in weather and conditions. Know your limits when exploring Mount Rainier's trails and backcountry."

## Show Some Love for Washington's National Parks

Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF) makes it easy for people who love Mount Rainier National Park to give back to this special place.



WNPF is the only partner providing philanthropic support exclusively to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks. Your support helps fund priority projects that advance science and research, improve visitors' experiences, expand volunteerism and stewardship, and provide for youth and family programs. Here at Mount Rainier, WNPF provides support for over 2,000 volunteers, whose efforts are valued at \$1.8 million!

There are lots of ways to give. Whether you purchase a Washington National Parks license plate for your vehicle, participate in a WNPF event, include WNPF in your estate plans, or give monthly, it all adds up and makes a difference.

Learn more by visiting WNPF's website at [WNPF.org](http://WNPF.org), emailing [fund@wnpf.org](mailto:fund@wnpf.org), or following WNPF on social media @WANatlParkFund.



## Experience Mount Rainier as a Volunteer Ranger

As you visit Mount Rainier, keep your eyes open for people wearing hats, shirts, and jackets with a "volunteer" logo. You'll see volunteers working in the visitor centers and assisting visitors in the meadows. Even more are busy behind the scenes, organizing the park's collection of historic photos and taking care of plants in our greenhouse.

Last year, more than 1,600 people worked in partnership with the National Park Service to protect the natural and cultural resources of Mount Rainier and serve its visitors. These invaluable partners help us accomplish far more than we could have alone.

Have you ever dreamed of being a park ranger? You still can—for a day, for a summer, or on winter weekends as your schedule permits. Opportunities abound. Ask how you can become part of our team! [www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm)