



# SPRING BREAK SPLURGE

From mountains to waterfalls, to horse trails, to delicious dining, this self-drive springtime experience has something for everyone. Wildlife, history, lake-life, and one of the most majestic national parks in the nation, beckon your family to join them. So much to do and a spring break to take advantage of – don't wait! Grab the kids or your special someone or friends and enjoy this trip guaranteed to make memories for a lifetime.





## Day One:

**Stop # 1:** Dinner at the famous **Copper Creek Restaurant** in Ashford. The restaurant offers indoor or outdoor seating, as well as to-go options. All bread products are made in-house, so buns, rolls, bread – area all amazing. Local favorites will make your mouth



water as you explore their menu. Also, save room for dessert as they're known for their legendary blackberry pie ala mode. Before you go – for the next morning - you might also want to ask if they have any Copper Toppers – these are killer cinnamon rolls. Early evening arrival at your hotel, motel, cabin, or lodge – in the Elbe / Ashford area of Mount Rainier National Park. There are over **50 lodging options** in this area – you'll find what you're looking for here.

*Rainier Tip:* Don't wait too late to go to dinner, the Copper Creek Inn Restaurant closes at 8:00 pm.

*Suggested Time for Dinner:* 1 Hour

*Check into your lodging establishment for your overnight.*



## Day Two:

### Stop # 1: Cottage Bakery and Cafe

If you weren't able to get any Copper Toppers last night, or just need a great espresso – this is your stop. Although currently dining in is not possible, you can still grab a homemade donut or pastry to go along with your awesome espresso to get the morning started right. If you call ahead, they can tell you what pastries are available and have your coffee and order ready for your arrival.

*NOTE: You won't want to miss anything today, so we recommend grabbing some sandwiches or paninis here - for a fun picnic lunch after your next stop. Our favorite is the Cottage Turkey Cranberry.*

*Rainier Tip: They can run your order out to your vehicle too, however, be patient as their staff is limited.*

*Suggested Time at Bakery:  
20 to 30 minutes*

**DIRECTIONS:** From the Elbe / Ashford area; drive west on Hwy. 706, that becomes Hwy 7. Then turn right on Alder Cutoff Road East and continue – this will turn into Center Street E. At the stoplight, you'll take a right onto Washington Avenue and the bakery is a cute yellow house on the left side of the street. Approximately 20.1 miles from Ashford.



## Stop # 2: Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

Spring is the perfect time to visit Northwest Trek Wildlife Park! Dedicated to education and conservation, through native Northwest wildlife, Northwest Trek Wildlife Park offers a chance to meet moose, bison, and caribou on a guided Wild Drives (self-drive tours) through a free-roaming area through a 435-acre free roaming area and then stroll down forested pathways to see river otters, beavers, wolves, and more in a naturalistic environment.

Want to get even closer and off the beaten path? Hop on a [Premier Keeper Tours](#), a 90-minute animal adventure you'll never forget. These special tours are offered at 10:30 AM and 1:00 pm for up to five members of your household and must be reserved in advance.

Open April 2-11 Daily: 9am – 4pm, April 12 – May 27 Wed-Sun: 9am – 4pm,  
Closed Mon-Tue

May 28 – Sept. 7 Daily: 9am – 5pm

*NOTE: All tickets are timed and available online for your driving tour, please be sure to arrange this before you arrive at the park.*

*Rainier Tip: The animals are usually more active in the mornings – so stopping here first is a great idea!*

*Suggested Time at the Park: 3 to 4 hours*



**DIRECTIONS:** Continue north out of Eatonville on Washington Avenue that will turn into WA 161. In approximately 6.5 miles or about 10 minutes, you'll turn right onto Trek Drive East. Follow the signs to the parking area.





**DIRECTIONS:** Return out of the park to the main road of Hwy 161. Turn left and head south. At Ohop Valley Road East take a right and begin looking for the Museum signs. Museum parking will be on your left which is approximately 6 miles from Northwest Trek.



### Stop # 3: Pioneer Farm Museum and Ohop Indian Village

Enjoy your picnic lunch here and then explore this historic experience. Start with the Native American Seasons tour (1.25 hrs) and learn what life was like for the Coastal Salish tribes of the Northwest. On this outdoor hands-on tour you will follow a wooded trail and visit replicas of three seasonal homes and do the activities Native American children would have. Add an hour to your visit to hear Pioneer Folklore and do a daily Pioneer Craft, while checking out actual homestead cabins built in the 1880s. The last tour begins at 2:00 pm and in the spring, the museum experience is only open on the weekends, so plan accordingly.

*Rainier Tip: You must have a scheduled time in advance, so you'll want to call 48 hours ahead to reserve your tour time and purchase your tickets.*

*Suggested Time at Museum: 2.5 Hours total stop*

*\*Must bring your own picnic lunch there is no restaurant at the museum.*



#### Stop # 4: **Henley's Silver Lake Resort**

Enjoy your picnic lunch here and then explore this historic experience. On your tour, you could see two homestead cabins built in the 1880s and learn about the families who built and lived in them. You'll have the opportunity to do the chores that pioneer children would have done in our log activity cabin such as grinding grains, churning cream, scrubbing laundry, and carding wool. There are three tours available and one daily craft option. The last tour begins at 2:00 pm and in the spring, the museum experience is only open on the weekends, so plan accordingly.

*Rainier Tip: Spring weather can be unpredictable, bring rain gear for your comfort just in case.*

*Suggested Ride Times: 1 to 2 hours*

**DIRECTIONS:** Take a left from the Museum parking and continue on Ohop Valley Road East. At Hwy 7 you'll take a right and continue. At Silver Lake Road East, you'll take a hard left and at the T in the road, take a left and then follow the signs to the resort which is approximately 3.4 miles from NW Trek.



DIRECTIONS: Return to Hwy. 7 and continue south back to Elbe. Drive time is approximately 16 miles or 25 minutes to the parking area.

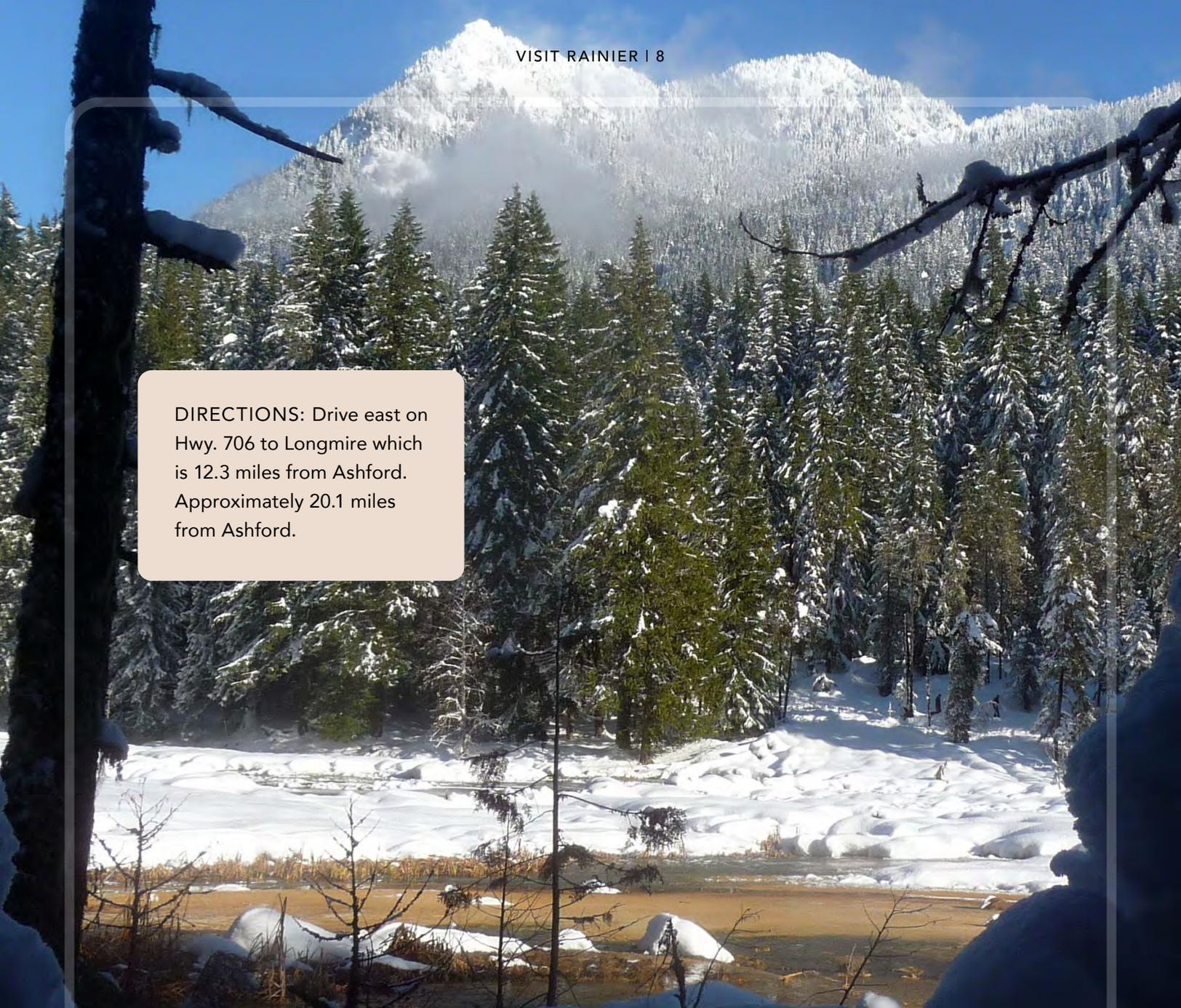
### Stop # 5: **Pizza Express in Elbe**

Enjoy dinner in a 1910 refurbished train car! Local owned and operated Pizza Express offers handmade pizza guaranteed to satisfy the hungriest appetite. Visitors can enjoy their pizza in the open-air outdoor covered seating area also.

*Rainier Tip: Operates seasonally, please be sure of hours and days of the week for their service.*

*Suggested Time for Dinner: 1 hour*

*Return to your lodging establishment overnight.*



**DIRECTIONS:** Drive east on Hwy. 706 to Longmire which is 12.3 miles from Ashford. Approximately 20.1 miles from Ashford.

*Day Three:* Breakfast at your hotel, motel, cabin, or lodge – then depart for day three.

### **Stop # 1: Mount Rainier National Park**

Just across the street the National Park Inn at Longmire, is the Trail of the Shadows, a flat 3/4-mile loop that highlights marshes, forests, a historic masonry wall with bubbling mineral springs, and the Longmire Cabin, the oldest standing structure in the park. Typically snow-free mid-March through October, it's a lovely way to envision what life might have been like in another time.

*Rainier Tip:* Please note that all vehicles are required to carry chains when entering the national park during April. You may also want to check for road closures before starting this morning to ensure access is open in the park.

*Suggested Time in Longmire: Approx. 1 hour*

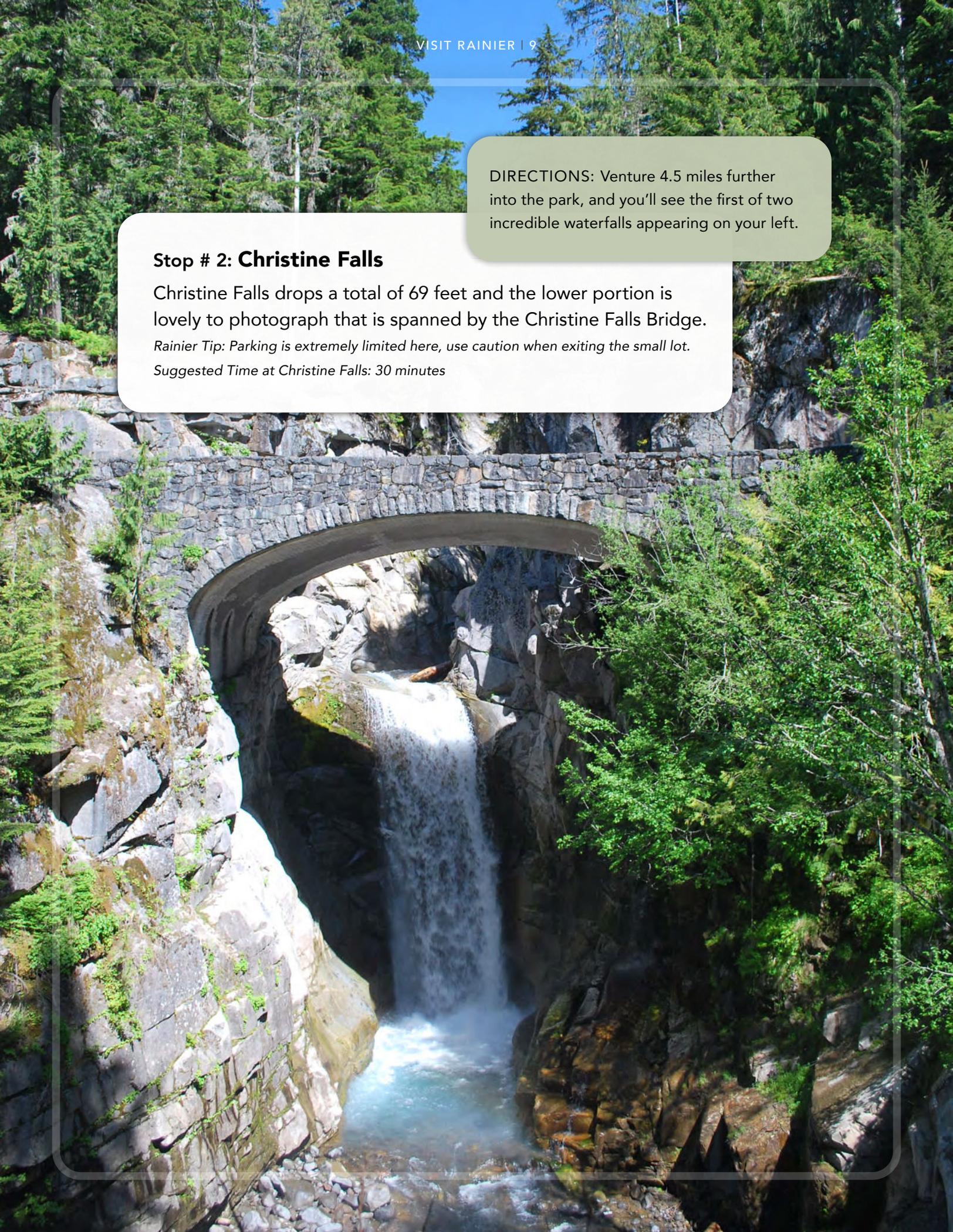
**DIRECTIONS:** Venture 4.5 miles further into the park, and you'll see the first of two incredible waterfalls appearing on your left.

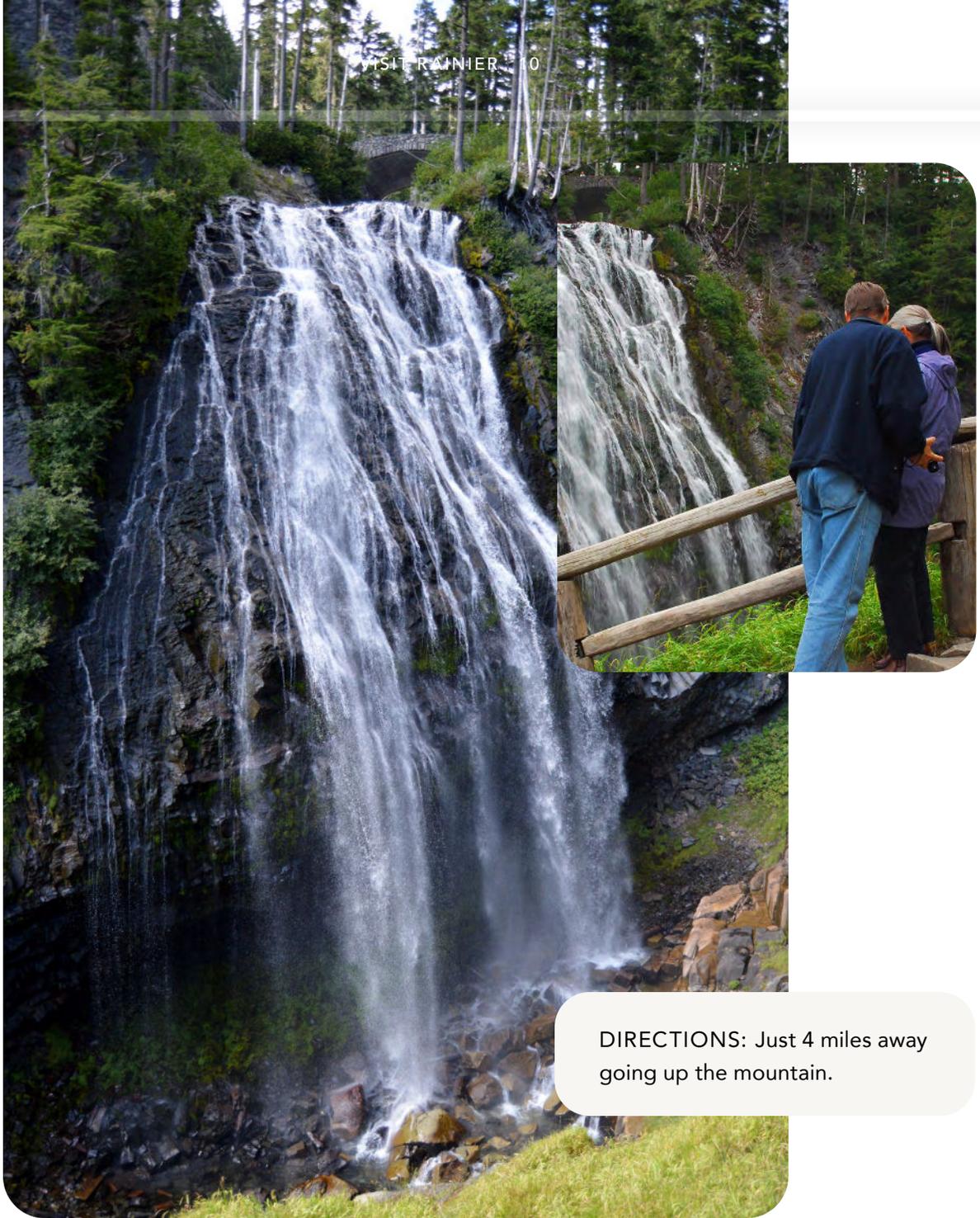
## Stop # 2: Christine Falls

Christine Falls drops a total of 69 feet and the lower portion is lovely to photograph that is spanned by the Christine Falls Bridge.

*Rainier Tip: Parking is extremely limited here, use caution when exiting the small lot.*

*Suggested Time at Christine Falls: 30 minutes*





**DIRECTIONS:** Just 4 miles away going up the mountain.

### Stop # 3: **Narada Falls**

A rustic stone footbridge offers a stunning viewpoint of the 188-foot waterfall which also has two tiers. This trail is well-defined and usually damp, so dress appropriately for a longer excursion into the park.

*Rainier Tip: Bring water, snacks, and warm clothing to be out in the unpredictable mountain weather.*

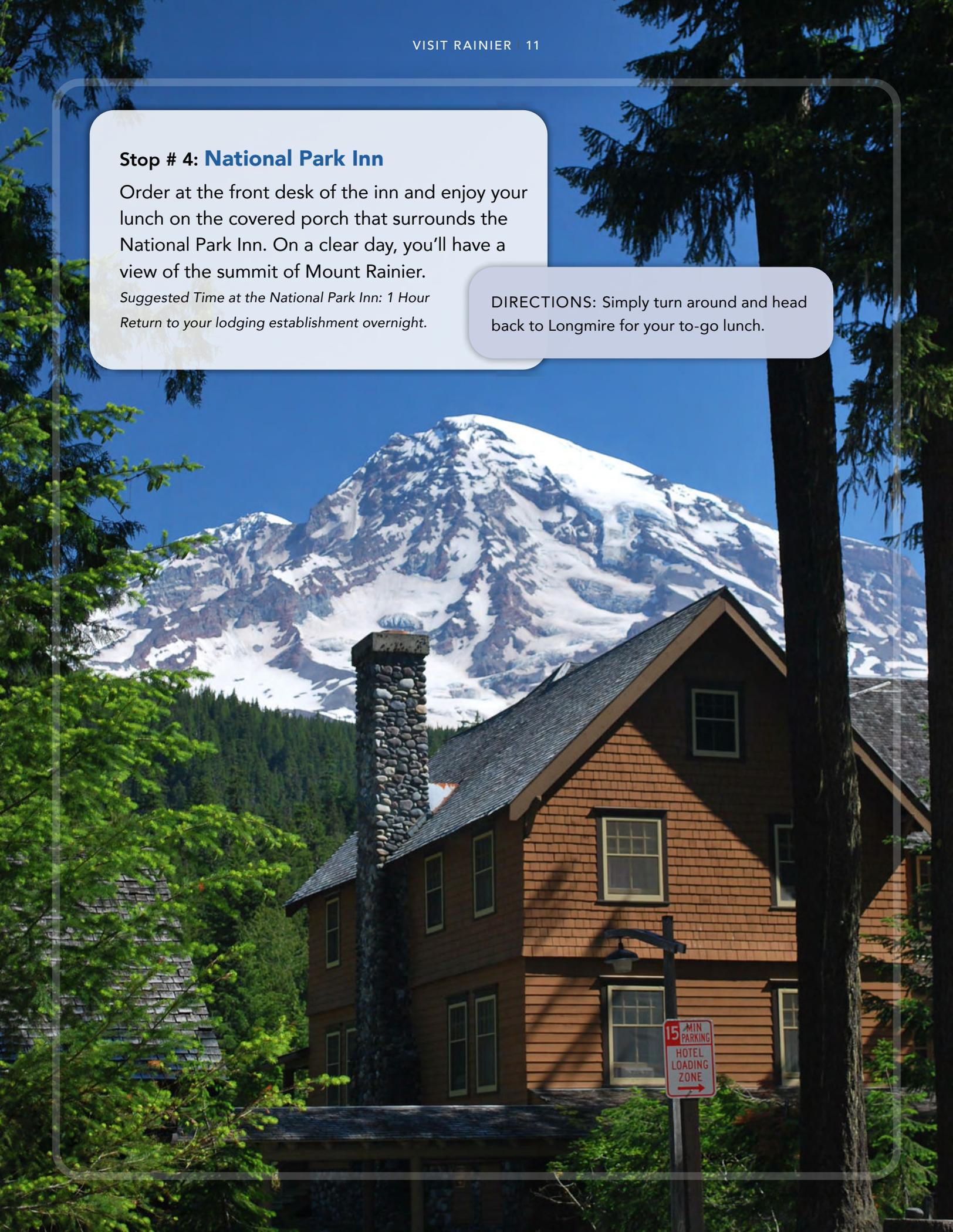
*Suggested Time at Narada Falls with loop hike: 1.5 Hours*

**Stop # 4: National Park Inn**

Order at the front desk of the inn and enjoy your lunch on the covered porch that surrounds the National Park Inn. On a clear day, you'll have a view of the summit of Mount Rainier.

*Suggested Time at the National Park Inn: 1 Hour*  
*Return to your lodging establishment overnight.*

**DIRECTIONS:** Simply turn around and head back to Longmire for your to-go lunch.





**DIRECTIONS:** From Longmire, return to the main park entrance and you'll find yourself in Ashford, just 17.3 miles away.

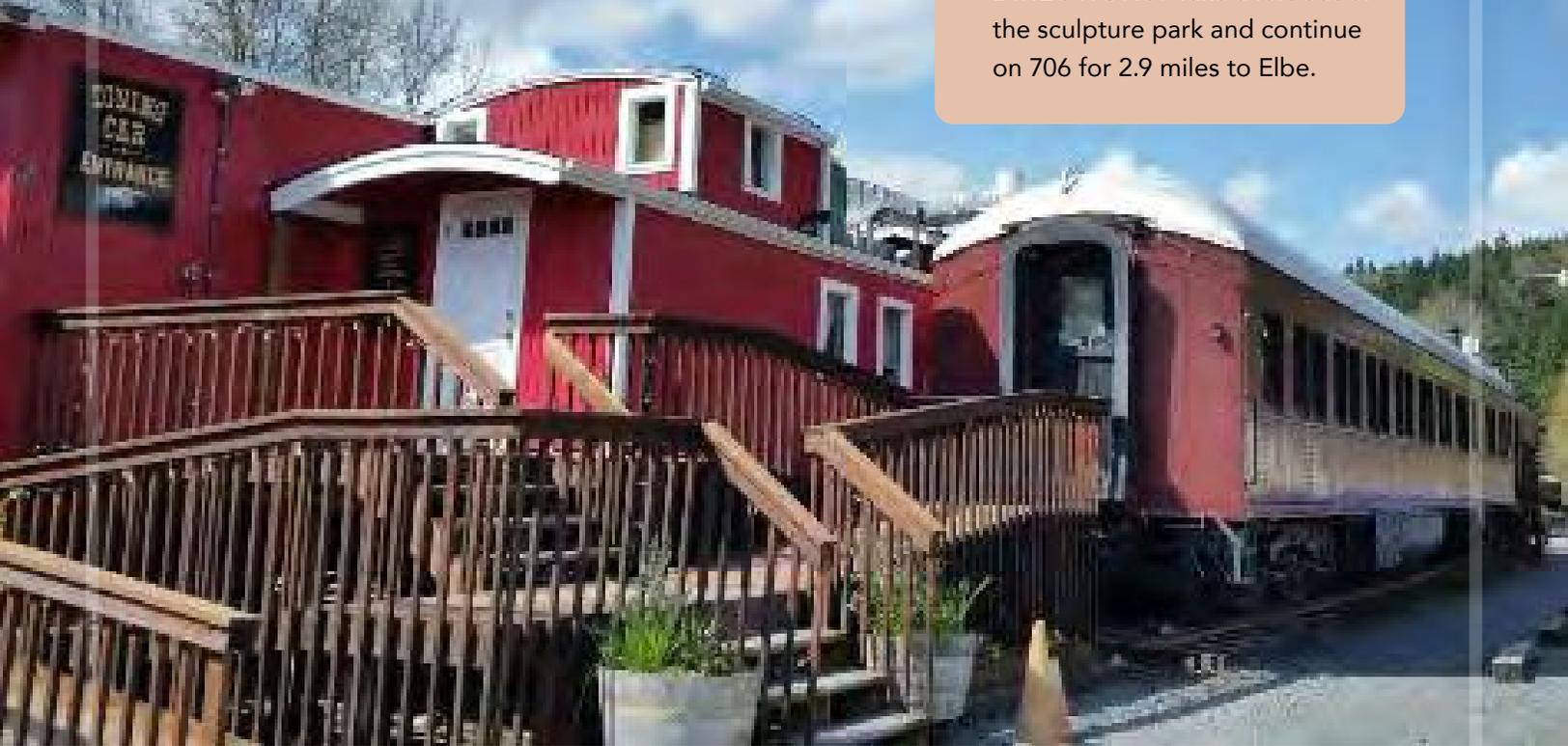
### Stop # 5: **Ex-Nihilo Sculpture Park**

A true treasure in Ashford, founding artist Dan Klennert's creations come to life here. The new resident artist, Jay Bechtold has been hard at work and has completed several pieces now on display. You'll see dinosaurs, seahorses, giant spiders, a heavy metal band (made of iron) and so much more. Dan and Jay hope to collaborate on a future piece together, a 60-foot seahorse. No admission fee is required and Dan's work has been displayed throughout the United States including Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, and Canada.

*Rainier Tip:* Check out the restrooms and FYI, the hand sink is attached to the main building.

*Suggested Time at the Sculpture Park:* 1.5 Hours

**DIRECTIONS:** Take a left out of the sculpture park and continue on 706 for 2.9 miles to Elbe.



### **Stop # 6: Mt. Rainier Railroad Dining Company**

Dine-in this unique converted stationary train car! Enjoy mouth-watering house-smoked tastes including Alder Smoked Prime Rib, Smoked Poultry, and Pork and Fish; truly a delicious family secret.

*Rainier Tip: Winter / Spring hours vary – please contact them for your dining reservations.*

*Suggested Time for Dinner: 1.5 Hours*

*Return to your lodging establishment overnight.*



**DIRECTIONS:** From the Elbe / Ashford area – travel west on Hwy 706 for approximately 13 miles. This will turn into Hwy 7... Turn right onto Alder Cutoff Road East and continue north for 6.7 miles – this will turn into Center Street and the Bud Blanchard Trail Head is on your left. Park in the gravel lot designated.

**Day Four:** Breakfast at your hotel, motel, cabin, or lodge – then depart for day four.

### **Stop # 1: Little Mashel Falls Hike**

This is where your journey to Little Mashel Falls begins. Three waterfalls, multiple viewing points, and well-marked trails are easy to follow and well worth the time to get there by foot. The highest waterfall is approximately 90 feet!

*Rainier Tip:* Be sure to wear waterproof shoes as the trails can get muddy any time of year. Some steep inclines may be a challenge for little ones and using walking poles may be useful for extra support. Dogs are welcome as long as they remain on their leash.

*Suggested Time at the Falls:* 4.5 to 5.5 hours



## Stop # 2: **Cruiser Café**

Enjoy lunch on the patio deck with specialty burgers, combo meals, and hand-dipped shakes and malts. This small restaurant is popular with locals and visitors alike.

*Rainier Tip: Arrive by 11:30 am to avoid the lunch rush.*

**DIRECTIONS:** Turn left onto Center Street and then take a left at the stoplight. Cruiser Café is on your right.



**DIRECTIONS:**

Retrace your steps back to Elbe from Eatonville and your outfitters will be on your left side just after you pass the bridge.

**Stop # 3: EZ Times Outfitters and Elbe**

Giddy-up partner! Take a lovely and relaxing trail ride through forests, mountain trails, along the Nisqually River or experience a romantic sunset ride. Trusted horses and veteran wranglers will guide you along. After your ride, browse [DeWitt's Elbe Junction](#), a quaint old-time grocery store, for great souvenirs from local artisans and snacks for later. Parents can enjoy the delicious affogatos and then stroll down the street to the [Old Calico Workshop](#) and if Dave the up-and-coming chainsaw artist is there, be fascinated as you watch a work of art be carved out of fallen timber.

*Rainier Tip: Cash or check only and a weight limit is in place of 250 pounds per person. Parents with small children can ride double on one horse.*

*Suggested Time: 2.5 Hours*

#### Stop # 4: **Paradise Village Restaurant**

Dinner here will create memories. Try the dumplings and the perogies are delicious. The restaurant specializes in Ukrainian cuisine however, they also feature popular American entrees on the menu. You can find soups, salads, pasta, and steaks on the dinner menu. The selection of dessert crepes will entice you for a sweet treat to top off your meal

*Rainier Tip: Currently the menu is offered as a to-go option only.  
Monday – Sunday: 9 am to 7 pm.*

*Return to your lodging establishment overnight.*

**DIRECTIONS:** Return to Ashford and the Paradise Village Hotel and Restaurant will be on your left.



*Day Five:* Breakfast at your hotel, motel, cabin, or lodge – before departure