

LODGING & DINING | ACTIVITIES | TRIP TIPS & MAP

VISIT RAINIER

Fall 2021 FAMILY

TOP
Fall Attractions
for Families

Kid-Friendly Adventures





A MESSAGE FROM THE Visit Rainier President



Fall at Mt. Rainier is such a special time. Most visitors don't fully know what they're in for when it comes to our fall colors. They really are like no other. You will see Alder and Maple trees turn colors just as expected, but perhaps more notable is the low bushes and ground vegetation in the mountains that put on an unexpectedly remarkable display of color. You will see an amazing variety of fall colors highlighted by our evergreen trees, which is always a pleasant surprise. Trails in the fall tend to be less crowded and the hot and dusty summer is gone, so it's a great time to take

advantage of some of our most comfortable hiking conditions. It's no wonder the fall is many people's favorite time of year to be out exploring in the Pacific Northwest.

Mt. Rainier National Park is one of the crown jewels of the National Park System and a true treasure of the nation. At Visit Rainier, we're here to help you get the most out of your visit to the Mt. Rainier region, whether you're visiting for the first time or the 50th. We're your go-to resource for experiencing this incredibly diverse region—from snow-capped mountains and glaciers to deep river valleys, rain forests, ski resorts, scenic drives, trails, meadows, waterfalls, vistas, gateway communities and much more. Lodging options. Recreational activities. Area events. Restaurants. Trails. And beyond. We keep tabs on it all for you.

I'll be out enjoying the fall foliage, and I hope you will too. If you have any questions or comments, we'd love to hear from you at info@visitrainier.com.

Dee Patterson is the President of the Board and a founding board member of the nonprofit tourism organization, Visit Rainier. He is the General Manager for Crystal Mountain Hotels and enjoys living and working in the Pacific Northwest.

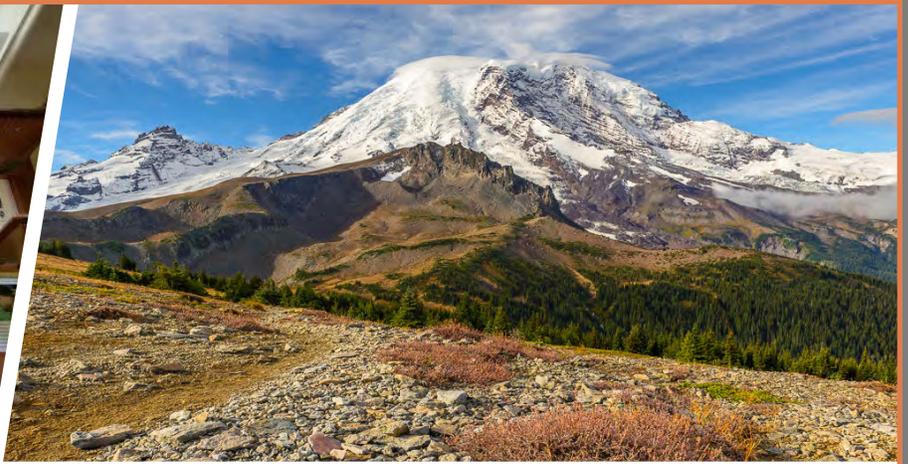


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TOP FAMILY-FRIENDLY FALL EXPERIENCES

Fall + Families = Fun!

We. Love. Fall! And fall at the mountain is a pretty magical time, especially for families. From pumpkin patches and hayrides to hikes with the season's signature colors, Mt. Rainier does fall right. Fall proves to be the most hikeable season of all, and there are plenty of easy hikes that are perfect for families. The trail dust settles, the summer crowds dissipate, the temps are ideal for a hike, and you're rewarded with a spectacular display of color as the trees and bushes transition to their fall wardrobe. The following pages are filled with attractions not to miss this year. You'll want to stay on or around the mountain to get the full experience, so be sure to take a look at page 24 for help locating the latest travel deals to make your stay as affordable and enjoyable as possible. After all, your family deserves more than a day trip. Every season is Rainier season, and if you love the fall, this is one time of year not to miss. So come on up and make a family memory or two. We can already taste the cider.



1

Fun ways for families to play in Mount Rainier National Park

Become a Junior Ranger!

The Junior Ranger program is designed to help families connect with the natural world in a fun, educational and engaging way. It's free to become a Junior Ranger, and you can do so by attending a program or completing the Junior Ranger Activity Book. Once you're in, there are programs designed for Junior Rangers throughout the year. You can also become a WebRanger online. Go here to learn more: visitrainier.com/junior-rangers-at-mount-rainier-national-park



2

Take the fam on an easy hike

With so many beautiful trails, deciding which ones to take can be overwhelming. That's why we've forged ahead for you, narrowing down our favorite fall hikes that are easy enough for families with little ones. We recommend booking somewhere cozy and conquering them all. For more details on each of these hikes, visit [visitrainier.com/top-10-fall-hikes](https://www.visitrainier.com/top-10-fall-hikes) and look for the hikes marked "easy."

The Moraine Trail

Paradise Area: If you're looking for tranquility, you'll find it here. This trail offers a more desolate setting and a better chance of encountering wildlife.

Grove of the Patriarchs

Ohanapecosh Area: Ah, there's something special about old-growth forest. This easy hike leads you to an ancient grove of trees, where benches invite quiet contemplation. It's a special place that really should be on your list. Trust us on this one.

Sheep Lake/Sourdough Gap

Chinook Pass Area: While your legs won't be working hard on this hike, your eyes will be busy taking in all the scenery. Lakes. Forests. Far-flung views of Adams, Hood and Helens. It's all here.

Alta Vista Trail

Paradise Area: Last on our list but by no means least, Alta Vista is a 1.5 mile loop that's suitable for all ages and abilities. Keep an eye out for marmots as they prepare for winter, and enjoy views of meadows burning with fall color.



3 Take a Wild Walk at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

Northwest Trek is a 725-acre wildlife park tucked away in the forest near Mt. Rainier. Unlike any play area in the Puget Sound region, it is designed to stimulate imaginations, encourage exploration, connect folks with wildlife and immerse kids in nature.

There are two ways to explore the park, newly reopened after Covid-19 closures.

The Wild Walk experience gives entry to the core habitat area of the park. A one-way walking route takes you around beautiful, winding paved paths to see grizzly and black bears foraging under trees, wolverines running over logs, gray wolves, cougar, lynx and more, plus the new immersive bald eagle exhibit.

The Wild Drive premier tour is the brand-new way to experience the park's 435-acre Free-Roaming Area. Drive past lakes, meadows and forests to see moose, bison, elk, mountain goats and more from the comfort and safety of your own car. A friendly naturalist narrates each tour, and in spring you might even spot a newborn calf!

Tram tours are temporarily unavailable, as are indoor areas, the Kids' Trek playground, gift shop and café, to keep everyone safe and healthy. The Zip Wild zipline will reopen soon.

Get eye-to-eye with inquisitive otters. Spot elusive fishers snuggling in their dens. Stare out a lynx or cougar, seldom seen in the wild, and learn how to protect all these species.

How much does Northwest Trek cost?

Everyone needs timed online tickets to enter the park for Wild Walk (\$10-\$12) or take a Wild Drive tour (\$70-\$80). To purchase timed online tickets, [click here](#).

The Northwest Trek experience gives you a peek into the lives of native Northwest animals. Bison cluster in the flat areas, eyeballing cars as they drive by. The caribou and the elk seem close enough to touch. The mix of animals that can be seen from the comfort of your own car is remarkable and the chance to see them in this way is a one-of-a-kind experience. On the Wild Walk path, you get even closer. Excited children will retell their journey for weeks to follow, while adults too will have a story to share.



4

Visit a Pioneer Village in Eatonville

Ever wonder what it was like to homestead in Washington back in the 1880s? Come find out at the hands-on Pioneer Farm homestead. Built in 1887, this live history lesson will make you and your kids thankful for modern conveniences. See what it was like to live before smartphones. Grind grains. Churn cream. Scrub laundry. Card wool. You can even dress up like pioneers, curl your hair with an antique curling iron, shave with an old-fashioned dulled straight razor, and more. Use your newfangled computer or smartphone to learn more.

Plan your adventure!

Pioneer Farm and Ohop Indian Village

7716 Ohop Valley Road E., Eatonville, WA 98328

(360) 832.6300

visitrainier.com/pioneer-farm-museum-ohop-indian-village



5

Visit a Farm & Pumpkin Patch

Maris Farms in Buckley

(opens to the public September 29 thru October 31)

Fall means family fun on the farm. And Maris Farms in Buckley offers everything you'd hope for—pumpkin patches, hayrides, a corn maze, farm animals, and even spooky attractions after dark. Come get your fall on.

25001 Sumner-Buckley Hwy, Buckley, WA 98321

(253) 862-2848

visitrainier.com/maris-farms-in-buckley

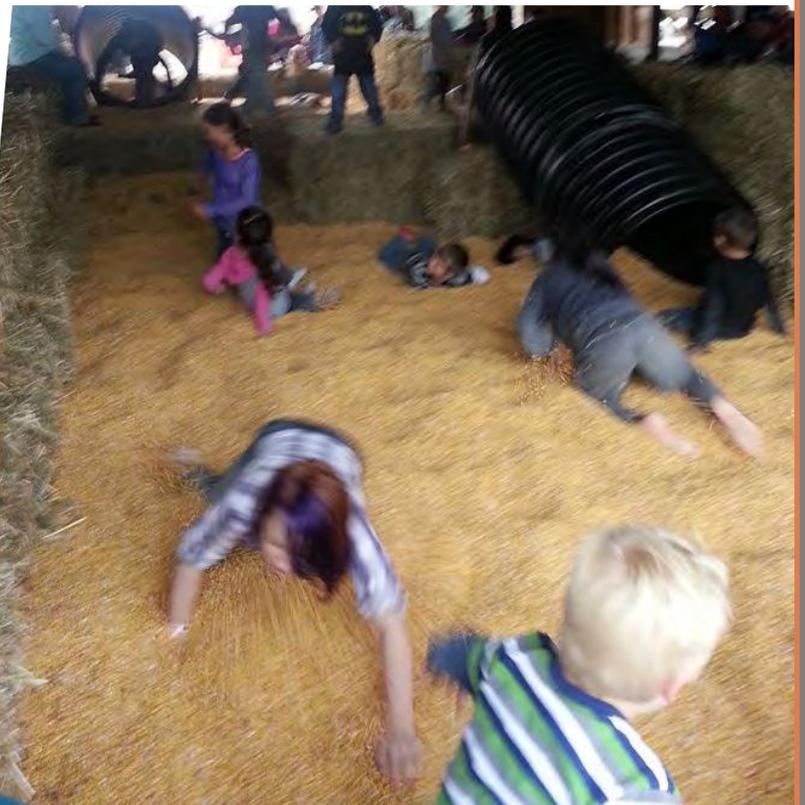
Thomasson Family Farm in Enumclaw

The Thomasson Family Farm offers fall fun on a working dairy farm. Corn maze. Hay barn. Pumpkin patch. Laser tag. Tractor train rides and hay wagon rides. Fudge. Caramels. Candies. Pepper Jellies. It's all here and then some. Come experience the best part of fall farm fun. The farm is open for families and the young at heart in October.

38223 236th Avenue SE, Enumclaw.

(360) 802-0503

visitrainier.com/pumpkin-patch



6

Go horseback riding in Elbe or Enumclaw

Love riding horses or always wanted to ride one? Make it happen this summer. EZ Times Outfitters and Echo River both offer guided trail rides and trained horses for experienced riders and even those that have never sat on a horse. You can ride year-round, and it's a perfect way to connect with nature while making a new four-legged friend. You can even ride on a horse with your child if you're under the weight limit.

For more details, click one of the links below.

Elbe

visitrainier.com/ez-times-outfitters

Enumclaw

visitrainier.com/echo-river-ranch



7

Ashford County Park, Mud Mountain Recreation Area, & Disc Golf in Enumclaw

Several great parks offer a gateway to the Mt. Rainier Region, as well as a host of fun family activities. Stop and stretch your legs at the beautiful Ashford County Park (features a giant play area for kids), see the sites at the Chinook Pass, Mud Mt. Dam Recreational Area, or try your luck at Enumclaw's Disc Golf Course.



MT. RAINIER AREA LODGING

From Enumclaw to Crystal Mountain and the Nisqually Valley, you've got options.

At Mt. Rainier, where you stay is half the fun. Choose from family-friendly rustic cabins or comfy yurts, posh resorts and lodges, traditional hotels and motels, vacation rentals, cozy bed and breakfasts, or RV and campgrounds. Your trip your call. We've even created an online lodging planner to help narrow your search. You can hunt by price, location, lodging type, and must-have or nice-to-have amenities like fireplaces and hot tubs. Check it out at [visitrainier.com/lodging](https://www.visitrainier.com/lodging) to get started.



MT. RAINIER AREA DINING

Great dining options for even the pickiest eaters.

There's no shortage of fun, family-friendly dining experience at Mt. Rainier. Whether you want to try something new or satisfy a picky appetite, we've got you covered. For a complete list of restaurants in the region, go to [visitrainier.com/food-and-drink](https://www.visitrainier.com/food-and-drink).

ASHFORD DINING

Copper Creek Inn

Copper Creek Inn has been rated as a #1 restaurant at Mt. Rainier on Trip Advisor and "one of the state's greatest rural restaurants" by Lonely Planet tour guide. Open every day year-round including holidays, it's famous for its salmon, trout, steaks, homemade blackberry pie, syrup and vinaigrette. Copper Creek Inn has been a tradition for visitors at Mount Rainier National Park since 1945.

35707 State Route 706 E., Ashford, Washington 98304 | (360) 569-2326

[visitrainier.com/copper-creek-restaurant](https://www.visitrainier.com/copper-creek-restaurant)

Wildberry Restaurant

The Taste of Two Worlds - traditional American mountain menu with authentic Sherpa Himalayan cuisine of Nepal. This restaurant offers indoor and outdoor seating in a casual atmosphere with both American cuisine and Nepalese food on the menu.

37718 State Route 706 E., Ashford, Washington 98304 | (360) 569-2277

[visitrainier.com/wildberry-restaurant-2](https://www.visitrainier.com/wildberry-restaurant-2)



DINING *continued*

ELBE DINING

Elbe Bar and Grill

Families are welcome at the Elbe Bar and Grill, but go for a lunch or an early dinner because this popular local watering hole and restaurant can get colorful in the evenings. Large portions, reasonable prices, and known for their burgers and fries. Located at the junction of Hwy 7 and SR 706 near the train depot in Elbe.

54312 182nd Ave Ct E., Elbe, Washington 98330 | (360) 569-2545

visitrainier.com/elbe-bar-and-grill

Mt. Rainier Railroad Dining Co.

Enjoy (a stationary!) meal in an authentic railroad dining car right next door to the Mt. Rainier Railroad train station. Families can expect classic American diner style cuisine for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Kids menu and coloring pages.

54106 Mountain Hwy E., Elbe, Washington 98330 | (360) 569-2505

visitrainier.com/mt-rainier-railroad-dining-co

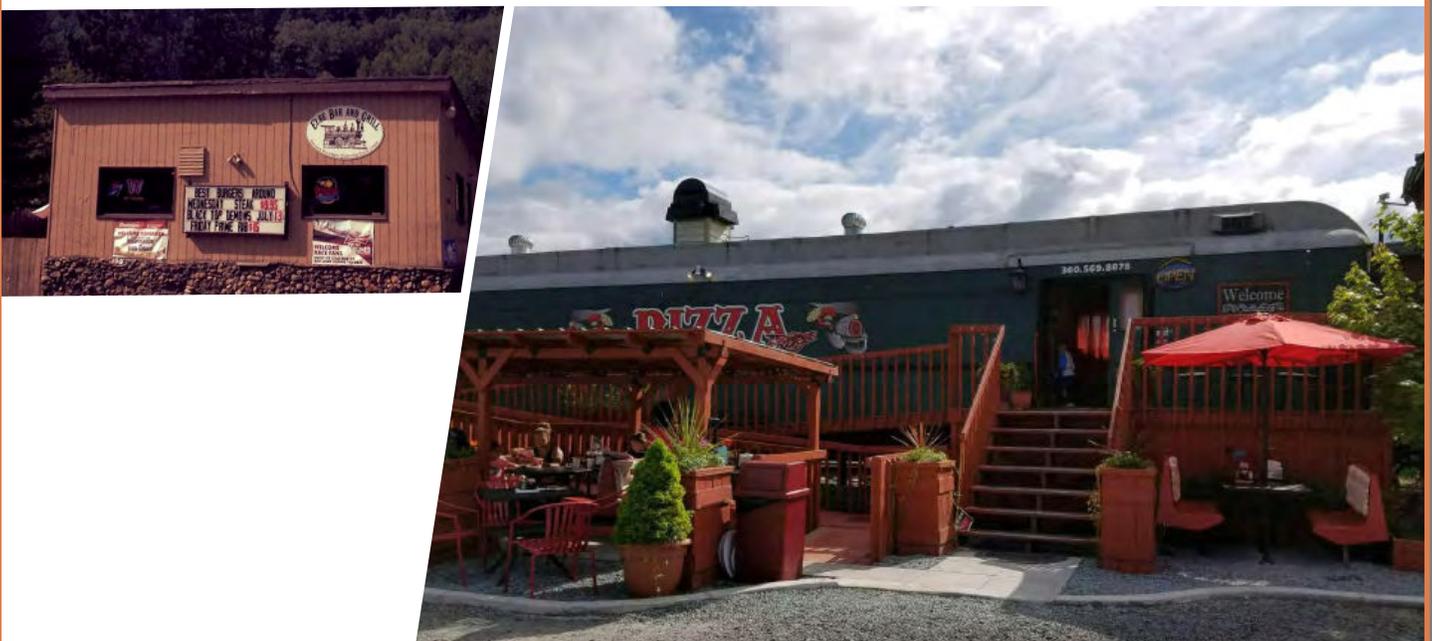
Pizza Express

Located in a 1910 refurbished train car, Pizza Express is family-friendly and offers visitors pizza by the slice or by the pie during lunch or dinner. There is no indoor seating. Seating is outdoors and covered.

54106 Mountain Hwy E. Elbe, Washington 98330 | (360) 569-8878

(closed in March, opens in April)

visitrainier.com/pizza-express



DINING *continued*

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK DINING

National Park Inn Dining Room

Enjoy the flavors of the Pacific Northwest with casual dining on the covered porch at the historic National Park Inn. The dining room is closed but the inn offers a limited menu with “to-go” items. There’s also a fridge in the lobby with convenient grab and go items for sale. Place to-go orders at the front desk.

Longmire 52807 Paradise Road East, Ashford, WA 98304 | (360) 569-2411

visitrainier.com/national-park-inn-restaurant

(open year-round)

Tatoosh Café

Located inside Paradise Inn, the Tatoosh Cafe is a cozy and casual coffee shop-style spot offering a variety of grab-and-go sandwiches on artisan bread, ice cream, snacks, beverages and delectable fresh pastries. With wine and beer on tap, it’s a wonderful spot to relax on the patio in the evening while listening to a fascinating talk from a Park Ranger.

Paradise, Mount Rainier National Park, Ashford, WA 98304 | (360) 569-2275

Tatoosh Cafe is closing for the season on October 5, 2021.

visitrainier.com/tatoosh-cafe



DINING *continued*

ENUMCLAW DINING

The City of Enumclaw offers a thriving restaurant scene, with restaurants that are open year-round. The list below features some of the most popular places for families. For a complete list of restaurants go to visitrainier.com/food-and-drink

Historic Mint

This gastro-pub is family friendly. Offers lunch and dinner, appetizers and desserts.

1608 Cole St Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 360-284-2517

visitrainier.com/historic-mint

Il Sciliano

Cooking true Italian traditional food. Expect wood-fired pizzas, pastas, and fresh cannoli.

1118 Myrtle Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 360-825-9463

visitrainier.com/il-sciliano

Jackson's

A truly “local” place making gourmet artisan pizzas, pasta, and mouthwatering specialty sandwiches, served with style, warmth and a commitment to great service. Try their “Grinders”, specialty sandwiches that are designed to be filling and flavorful. Gluten-free menu items available.

1537 Cole Street, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 284-2424

visitrainier.com/jacksons-pizza



DINING *continued*

Rainier Bar & Grill

If you're looking for good food, charming atmosphere and some history of the Mountain this establishment was named after, you'll find it here. Historic photos adorn the walls, offering authenticity and nostalgia. Wide variety of BBQ, sandwiches, and salads.

1623 Cole St. Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 825-6363

visitrainier.com/rainier-bar-and-grill-2

Sweet Necessities

To indulge a sweet tooth, visit the chocolatier and ice cream shop.

1215 Griffin Ave., Enumclaw, Washington 98022 | (360) 802-5475

visitrainier.com/sweet-necessities

The Local

The Local is a modern-day general store and coffeehouse serving Stumptown Coffee in Enumclaw, Washington. Owned and operated by Amy Lundeen and Beckie Kahne.

1616 Cole St. Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 360-625-0600

visitrainier.com/the-local



VACATION PLANNERS FOR EVERY SEASON

**A Vacation Planner for Every Season—
and even your four-legged family members!**

Rainier is always in season. No matter the time of year, you can count on the Mt. Rainier area to deliver new adventure opportunities. And you can count on Visit Rainier to provide Free Vacation Planners to help your family plan your seasonal adventures. From summer hikes to fall colors and winter snow play, keep an eye out for our next vacation planner. We even have a new dog-friendly vacation guide, so you can plan a vacation with your four-legged family member.





GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR FALL TRIP:

- Seasonal areas will begin to close (Sunrise, White River, Ohanapecosh, Box Canyon) in October. Check the Park's Twitter account for gate opening updates.
- Check road status. State Routes 123 and 410 remain open and provide great opportunities for visitors to see the fall colors.
- Weather conditions can change rapidly in the mountains during this time of the year. Wear layers and prepare for inclement weather or possible ice and snow on park roads.
- Conditions on the trail can change. Pack the "Essential 10" when hiking the trails.



Let's connect.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to read stories and receive more travel tips, and be sure to share your own stories by tagging us in your posts using #VisitRainier.

