

LODGING & DINING | ACTIVITIES | TRIP TIPS & MAP

VISIT RAINIER

Fall 2021

Fall colors ahead:

7 Fall Hikes not to miss!

Think beyond the day trip

Top Fall Season Hikes



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 7 FALL EXPERIENCES

Color discovered.

Summer may be over, but that's no reason to hang up your hiking boots. In fact, fall proves to be a surprisingly hikeable season. 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 fall hikes and other attractions not to miss this year. You'll want to stay on or around the mountain to get the full experience. You deserve more than a day trip. Every season is Rainier season, and if you love colorful hikes, fall's one season not to miss.



1

Scenic Drives

Enjoy a drive on a scenic byway

You don't have to leave the car to see the fall colors around Mt. Rainier. The Chinook Byway and the White Pass Scenic Byway promise sweeping views of lush forests, shining lakes, rumbling rivers, cascading waterfalls and, yes, magical fall colors. With several turnouts and overlooks, you can stop to take a photo and a longer look at some of nature's finest work. The Chinook byway typically closes in mid-November, so be sure to check its status before you hop in your car.

Take a closer look at the Chinook and White Pass byways:

visitrainier.com/chinook-scenic-byway

visitrainier.com/white-pass-scenic-byway



Copyright © Michael Brunk / nrlens.com

2

Take a hike

Up here, “take a hike” is a compliment. 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 hikes and outlining what to expect, including how long you’ll hike, how high you’ll climb, and what you’ll see along the way. Be sure to add as many of our top 10 fall hikes to your list as you can so you’re able to enjoy the special beauty that is Mt. Rainier this time of year.

Top 7 Fall Hikes

There’s a reason they call it “fall”ing in love. If you’ve been to Rainier in the fall, you’ll know exactly what we mean. We’ve taken the guesswork out of where to hike this fall by creating our list of top hikes. We recommend booking somewhere cozy and conquering them all. For more details on each of these trails, go to visitrainier.com.

Reflection Lakes

Moderate / Paradise Area: On a clear day, intense fall light reflects from lakes bordered with gold-threaded leaves of hellebore scattered amidst grasses mingled with asters and royal-blue gentians.

The Moraine Trail

Easy / 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

Easy / 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

Easy / 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.

Crystal Peak

Moderate / Chinook Pass Area: The mountain and lake views on this hike are hard to beat. It's worth the effort you'll put in to reach the rocky ridgeline.



Naches Loop

Moderate / Chinook Pass Area: This hike rewards you with views of sparking tarns, meadows, Mt. Rainier, Naches Peak and mountain ash with red-orange berries.

Alta Vista Trail

Easy / 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.

Explore the Mt. Tahoma Trails Association

Got the hiking bug? Good news. Mount Tahoma Trails Association operates and manages the largest no-fee Hut-to-Hut Trail System in North America for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Well-equipped with solar electric lights, propane fireplaces and full kitchen facilities, you've got what you need for a comfortable stay, including water. Just bring a sleeping bag, food, and warm clothes.

Learn more: visitrainier.com/mt-tahoma-trails



3

Fall “Sips” around the mountain: Where to taste Wine, Spirits & Coffee

Nomad PNW, Wilkinson

Get caffeinated in style at the charming and delicious Nomad PNW Cafe and Coffee Shop. Sip cappuccinos, cold brew coffee and tea, and be sure to try their pastries and empanadas.

529 Church Street, Wilkeson, Washington | (360) 761-7771

visitrainier.com/nomad-pnw

Dewitt’s Elbe Junction, Elbe

Step back in time at this quaint old-time grocery store. You’ll find expertly brewed Stumptown Coffee, plus gourmet snacks and beverages, locally sourced artisan gifts, and charm to spare.

54209 State Route 7, Elbe, WA | (360) 524-7707

visitrainier.com/elbe-junction

Stringtown Cellars and Lavender Farm, Eatonville

Open year-round, this wine tasting and lavender gift shop is a locally owned gem that also sells lavender-infused items including scones, honey, tea and fudge. A 10 out of 10 on the yum scale.

39610 Eatonville Cutoff Rd Eatonville, WA 98328 | (360) 832-4743

visitrainier.com/stringtown-cellars-lavender-farm



Pursuit Distilling Company, Enumclaw

This is the only place you can buy the exclusive, limited edition Pursuit Distilling Company spirits. Everything about this place is an art, from the one-of-a-kind stainless steel and copper still to the spirits that are carefully crafted here. Taste, shop, and enjoy a cocktail in the tasting room.

2321 Cole St. Suite 102, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 226-3966

visitrainier.com/pursuit-distilling-company

Plateau Wine And Tapas, Enumclaw

This is more than a boutique wine store. Here you'll find great wine, tasty tapas, and a friendly staff with excellent taste in wine and humor.

1533 Cole Street Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 825-2734

visitrainier.com/plateau-wine

Leony's Cellars, Enumclaw

Delicious wine without pretense. That's what you'll find at this family-owned boutique winery located in Enumclaw.

626 Railroad St, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 500-9942

visitrainier.com/leony

Cole Street Brewery, Enumclaw

Pull your palette on up to the bar at Enumclaw's craft brewery, offering a selection of small-batch, handcrafted deliciousness.

2551 Cole Street Suite R, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (425) 275-7396

visitrainier.com/cole-street-brewery



4 Northwest Trek

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.

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.



5

See Nature Via Horseback!

Love riding horses or always wanted to ride one? Make it happen this fall. 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. Call EZ Times Outfitters at 253.350.1141 or Echo River Ranch at 360.367.1201 for more details, or click one of these links for more details:

Plan your adventure!

EZ Times Outfitters

18703 WA-706, Elbe, WA 98330

(253) 350-1141

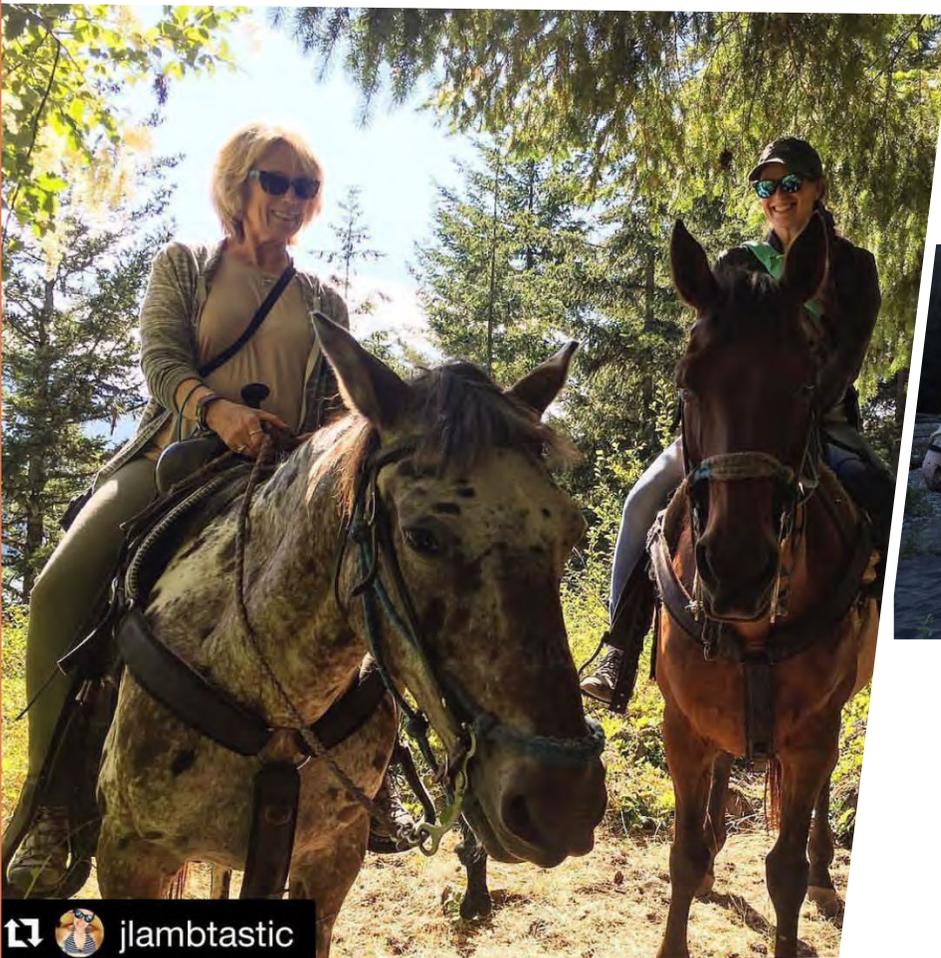
visitrainier.com/ez-times-outfitters

Echo River Ranch

37901 304th Way SE, Enumclaw, WA 98022

(360) 367-1201

visitrainier.com/echo-river-ranch



6

See wildlife at Mt. Rainier National Park and Northwest Trek.

Fall is the best season to spot elk and deer in the park. As summer turns into fall, marmots, pikas, golden-mantled ground squirrels and chipmunks are their most visible. Cuteness overload! And mountain goats can be seen most of the year, but stay at higher altitudes in the winter. Overall, there are 63 species of mammals, 16 species of amphibians and five species of reptiles waiting to be seen at Mt. Rainier. Seeing wildlife will likely be one of your most memorable experiences at Mt. Rainier. Of course, we ask you to keep the wildlife wild by not touching, feeding or approaching any animals. For more tips, including how to see animals – and the best times to see them – go to visitrainier.com/wildlife-viewing.

See the Grizzly Bears at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

If you haven't checked in on Northwest Trek's rescued grizzly bears, this dynamic fur-covered duo is growing up fast. You can say hello to Huckleberry and Hawthorne and many other animals native to the Pacific Northwest during the "Wild Walk" experience.

Come see the new goat kids at Northwest Trek! Fairchild, Baily, Klahhane and Elwha would love to be in your next vacation photo album. Learn more and see pictures of them here: nwtrek.org/connect/newsroom/press-releases/mountain-goat-kids-from-olympics-introduced-to-new-home



See the grizzly boys at Northwest Trek

Go Off-Road at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park to see wildlife without the hike

You've probably heard of the massive 725-acre wildlife park that is Northwest Trek, but did you know they've got a new off-road adventure tour? Hop aboard a custom off-road vehicle and prepare to see moose, bison and beyond—without taking a hike. And be sure to plan enough time to try your skill at a ropes course, zip-line, and 30-foot climbing wall.

Learn more about the off-road adventure tours here:

[visitrainier.com/keeper-adventure-tours](https://www.visitrainier.com/keeper-adventure-tours)

Learn more about other fun at Northwest Trek here:

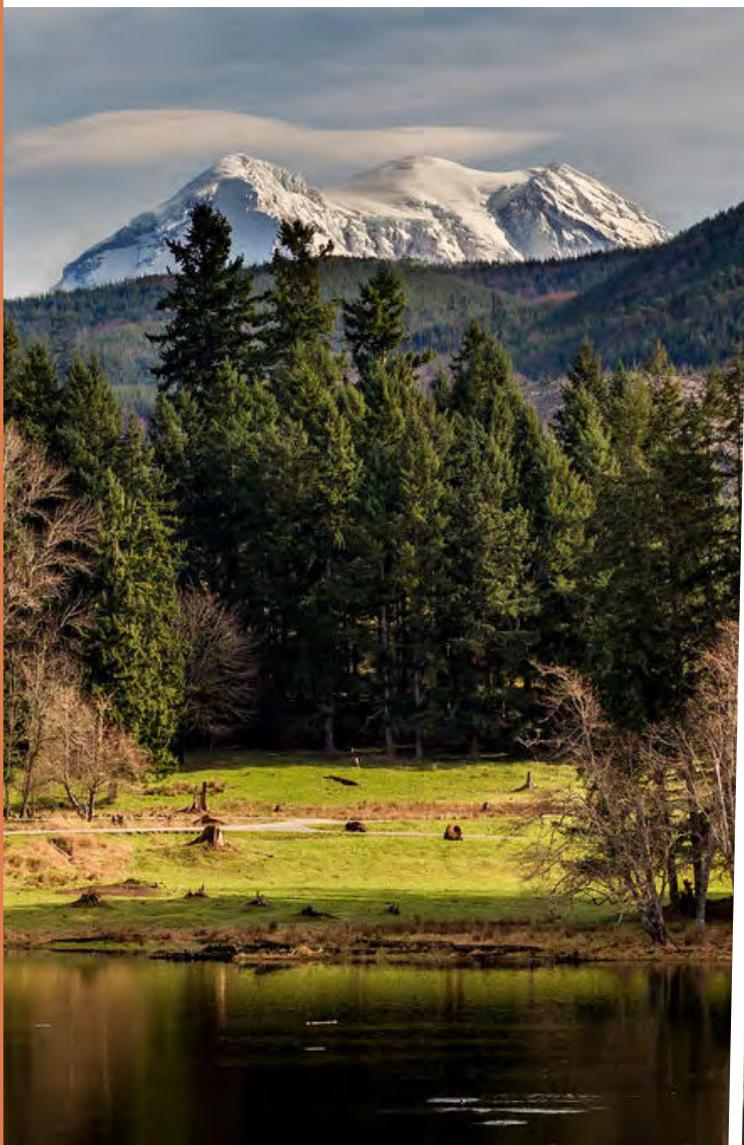
[visitrainier.com/zip-wild-at-northwest-trek-wildlife-park](https://www.visitrainier.com/zip-wild-at-northwest-trek-wildlife-park)

Plan your adventure!

Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

11610 Trek Dr E, Eatonville, WA 98328

(360) 832-6117



7

Visit an Area Farm

Maris Farms in Buckley

(opens to the public September 29 thru October 31)

Fall means farm fun. 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

Pioneer Farm and Ohop Indian 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



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 rustic cabins or comfy yurts, posh resorts and lodges, traditional hotels and motels, vacation rentals, cozy bed and breakfasts, or RV and campgrounds. Whatever best suits your mood. We've even created an online lodging planner to help narrow your search. You can hunt by location, lodging type, and must-have or nice-to-have amenities like fireplaces, hot tubs, spas, pools, on-site restaurants and beyond. Check it out at visitrainier.com/lodging to get started.



MT. RAINIER AREA DINING

Plan an adventure in food!

Visitors are often surprised by the diversity and quality of dining options in the Mt. Rainier region. From cheery pubs to classic cafes with legendary homemade pies and fresh steak and seafood, traditional dishes from Nepal, vegetarian options, fine dining at 6,872 feet, and fancy restaurants with meals you won't soon forget, food may be as big a part of your discovery as the nature itself. For a complete list of restaurants in the region, go to 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 is famous for its salmon, trout, steaks and homemade blackberry pie, syrup and vinaigrette. Copper Creek Inn has been a tradition for visitors to Mount Rainier National Park since 1945.



35707 State Route 706 E., Ashford, Washington 98304 | (360) 569-2326
visitrainier.com/copper-creek-restaurant

Wildberry Restaurant

The Taste of Two Worlds - traditional American mountain menu with authentic Sherpa Himalayan cuisine of Nepal. Wildberry Restaurant is owned and operated by Lhakpa Gelu Sherpa who holds the world speed record on Mount Everest! Lhakpa climbed from the base camp to the summit in just 10 hours, 56 minutes and 46 seconds, on May 26, 2003. Lhakpa's achievements in mountaineering also include reaching the summit of Everest fifteen times and scaling many other high peaks in America and abroad. He also summited Mt. McKinley/Denali, Aconcagua, Mt. Vinson, Ama Dablam, Cho Oyu, and more. If you get the chance to stop by this restaurant for a delicious meal be sure to say hello to the owners. “Typically open September and October.”

37718 State Route 706 E., Ashford, Washington 98304 | (360) 569-2277
visitrainier.com/wildberry-restaurant-2

DINING *continued*

ELBE DINING

Elbe Bar and Grill

A popular local watering hole and restaurant located at the junction of Hwy 7 and SR 706 in Elbe. The Elbe Bar and Grill is known for their beer, burgers and fries.

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

visitrainier.com/elbe-bar-and-grill

Mt. Rainier Railroad Dining Co. and Sidetrack Room

Enjoy (a stationary!) full-service meal in an authentic railroad dining car, right next door to the Mt. Rainier Railroad train station. Steaks and fried seafood are staples of the dinner menu along with homemade soups and pie. This is classic American diner cuisine. Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

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. The Pizza Express offers visitors pizza by the slice or by the pie during lunch or dinner. They also offer catered group options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner at off-site venues near the Elbe, Washington area. Additionally, they offer packages, platters, and boxed lunches. On-site seating is limited to seasonal options in outdoor covered areas for up to 40. Great for weddings, retreats and family reunions.

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)



DINING *continued*

ENUMCLAW SIPS & BITES

The City of Enumclaw has a thriving food and beverage scene. The restaurants are open year-round. The list below features some of the most popular places to eat and drink. For a complete list of restaurants visit visitrainier.com/food-and-drink

Cole Street Brewery

Offers a selection of approachable, small-batch, handcrafted beers. The brewery is a 2 Barrel direct fired brewhouse with 4-barrel fermentation tanks. Enjoy their pretzels and peanuts or bring your own snacks. If the weather is nice enjoy outdoor seating with a view of Mt. Rainier.

2551 Cole Street Suite R, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 425-275-7396

visitrainier.com/cole-street-brewery

Griffin and Wells

Griffin & Wells Cafe' is a neighborhood gathering place serving fresh and local fare with a gourmet touch. Their thoughtful menu features seasonal ingredients. Enjoy lunch and dinner and live music every Wednesday. Save room for dessert, Griffin and Wells Cafe is famous for their buttermilk ice cream made fresh in-house.

1239 Griffin Ave. Enumclaw, WA 98022 | (360) 226-3084

visitrainier.com/griffin-and-wells-cafe

Historic Mint

Gastro-pub food + 28 Beers on Tap! Enjoy fantastic food and a family-friendly atmosphere. Share gameday with friends or a quiet evening with your bestie. Appetizers, desserts or the whole meal deal.

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

visitrainier.com/historic-mint



DINING *continued*

Il Sciliano

Locally owned and operated, the Brancato family invites you to experience a true ‘Italian’ culinary cuisine. In 1995 Dario Brancato came from Sicily to America with his parents and two brothers for a better opportunity. Growing up in the small town of Floridia in Sicily, he spent most of his days at by the side of his grandmother and mother learning about cooking true Italian traditional food. La nostra casa e la tua casa. (Their home, is your home)

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



DINING *continued*

Leony's Cellars

Delicious wine without pretense. That's what you'll find at this woman veteran and family-owned boutique winery located in Enumclaw.

1626 Railroad St, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 360-500-9942

visitrainier.com/leonys

Pursuit Distilling Company

This is the only place you can buy the exclusive, limited edition Pursuit Distilling Company spirits. Everything about this place is an art, from the one-of-a-kind stainless steel and copper still to the spirits that are carefully crafted here. Taste, shop, and enjoy a cocktail in the tasting room.

2321 Cole St. Suite 102, Enumclaw, WA 98022 | 360-226-3966

visitrainier.com/pursuit-distilling-company

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—
including one for your four-legged friends!**

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 you plan your seasonal adventures. From fall colors to winter snow play, spring waterfalls, and summer wildflowers, 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 best friend.





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.

