

# Alaska<sup>®</sup> Beyond Magazine

June  
2016

Horizon Edition

## Evergreen State Experiences

**KING OF ROADS:** Historic highway celebrates centennial, *p. 9.*

**MAJESTIC MAMMOTH:** Summer in the Eastern Sierra, *p. 16.*

**GLOBAL TRADE:** Portland-area products are popular, *p. 26.*

**EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD:** Taking care of business, *p. 94.*

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Contents  
June 2016



The Little Lakes Valley Trail in the Mammoth Lakes area, pg. 16.

ROB DUNTON

## FEATURES

- 16 MAJESTIC MAMMOTH**  
Summer explorations in the scenic Eastern Sierra.
- 26 A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY**  
Portland-area companies achieve notable global-trade success.
- 33 DESTINATION: WASHINGTON**  
Attractions, activities, adventures and grand vistas in the extraordinary Evergreen State.
- 94 TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS**  
Companies are flourishing in the Eugene–Springfield area.



Thriving companies,  
pg. 94.

## DEPARTMENTS

- 5 SPIRIT OF ALASKA**  
A message from Chief Executive Officer Brad Tilden.
- 9 THE REGION**
  - King of Roads.
  - Cool Exhibit.
  - Outdoor Shakespeare.
  - News & Notes.
  - Celebrating Artown.
  - Rise and Shine.
  - Talked About.
  - Glacier National Park Art.
- 101 FLYER GUIDE**  
Flight information, Mileage Plan frequent-flyer program, vacation packages, route maps and more.
- 111 CROSSWORD**
- 112 AIR TIME**  
Life lessons.

FALL CREEK FARM AND NURSERY

**Cover:** Second Beach, in Olympic National Park, is one of the many spectacular attractions in Washington. Photo: Justin Prenton / Alamy.



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## Lifting up the best



**Brad Tilden,**  
Chief Executive  
Officer

Alaska has its Legends, and Horizon has its Pathfinders. Both recognize the best of the best of our employees at Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air, and salute team members who go above and beyond to create memorable customer experiences. I will have the honor of recognizing Horizon's Pathfinder Award winners at an event in Portland in early August. Below, enjoy Brad Tilden's remarks about Alaska Flight Attendant Lynn Millard. —*Dave Campbell, President, Horizon Air*

Lynn Millard was born to be a flight attendant. When she was 5 years old, she used to sneak downstairs in her pj's during her parents' dinner parties to have conversations with guests. Chatting among the adults, she was in her element. Today, Lynn's still delighting her guests, even after 23 years with Alaska Airlines.

Flying out of Los Angeles, she's met some famous folks (actress Gwyneth Paltrow tweeted about Lynn's fantastic onboard service on a recent trip to Manzanillo). She's built strong bonds with our



**Lynn Millard is one of the dozen Alaska employees recognized as Legends of Customer Service this year.**

most loyal customers, as well. Two of her regular customers from Los Angeles to Vancouver, B.C., are Linda and Cornelius Houweling, of tomato- and cucumber-growing Houweling's Nurseries. Some of our customers saw her welcoming the couple as they boarded, and they whispered to her, "Who are those people—are they famous?" She said, "Oh, no, they are farmers—they grow cucumbers!" Everyone howled. That's Lynn.

She grew up in a large Portuguese family in Sacramento—so large, in fact, that at Thanksgiving they have to rent the church hall to seat all the aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. Random people walking by are drawn in by the noise, to which Lynn says, "Come on in, the more the merrier!" Everyone she knows is a friend.

Beyond the incredibly high quality of service she

extends to all of her passengers, she has worked hard to make sure Alaska remains a great place to work. She's a key recruiter, helping the company identify future flight attendants who are going to enable us to uphold our very high standard for customer service. Just as our aircraft get major structural inspections called "D Checks," which refresh the airplanes to ensure they can fly safely and reliably, Lynn and her colleagues decided that flight attendants needed something similar to refresh and revive them. Thus, the Flight Attendant "D Check" program was born. Lynn and seven fellow flight attendants led the creation of this program, ensuring its quality and that flight attendants knew how much we valued and appreciated what they did for our airline. She was also a key leader in "Flight Path," a recent workshop that all employees attended and which was designed to bring people together, hear concerns and build alignment around achieving our goals as a company.

These are just a few small examples of the generosity, caring and warmth that Lynn brings to everything she does here at Alaska. When you give Lynn a compliment, she will instinctively say, "It's nothing. You would have done the same thing." But it is something. And that's why Lynn and 11 other employees were recognized as Customer Service Legends this year. This is the highest honor we have at Alaska. Well under 1 percent of our employees have received this honor. In fact, the total number of awardees is 274, and that covers the last 25 years.

I think lifting up the best of the best at Alaska is one of the things our company does right. We recognize a Legend each month in *Alaska Beyond Magazine*, the sister publication of the *Horizon Edition* you are currently reading. I thought you might like to hear more about the program, so in the June issue we have a special feature article on the Alaska Airlines Legends awards. Visit [alaskaairlinesmagazine.com](http://alaskaairlinesmagazine.com) to see the story, starting on page 18. I hope you enjoy learning about this unique and important part of our culture.

Thank you for flying with us today.



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“At 54, I lost 14 pounds and my body age is now 10 years younger than my biological age.”

Photo: Arlene Chambers Photography



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When I was younger, I was quite active. I enjoyed running, waterskiing and snow skiing. After my second child was born, my life changed with the demands of working full time and being a mother. At one point in my career, I was traveling extensively, up to 100,000 miles a year. I had little time left for myself and stopped exercising completely. After a while, I felt horrible – lethargic and out of shape. I blamed it on age.

During my travels, I would read the My Best 10 success stories in Alaska Airlines Magazine. While I was intrigued, I always had the excuse that my life was too busy with kids and work. However, once my travel subsided, I decided to look into the program. To be honest, at first, I was a bit hesitant because I thought it might be a marketing gimmick. However, I decided to just do it. My goal was to lose at least 10

pounds and, more importantly, to simply feel better.

In the initial evaluation, I learned that my body’s age was older than my biological age, I didn’t have the strength or flexibility of most women my age, and my cholesterol levels were elevated.

As I continued to work with my personal trainer and dietitian, I began to feel stronger. My trainer was exceptional. I continued to train with him even after the program ended. My dietitian alerted me to the fact that I’m sensitive to wheat and dairy. As soon as I cut out the dairy, the weight came off. More importantly, I just feel healthier by not consuming any wheat or dairy products. Prior to My Best 10, I didn’t take any vitamins. During the program, I found out that I was Vitamin D deficient and began a vitamin regimen, which has also helped tremendously.

The whole experience was terrific. It was much more than I had expected. I now realize that the stories in the magazine are not a marketing gimmick. These are real women who have experienced real results – just like I did.

I lost 14 pounds and my body age is now 10 years younger than my biological age. I absolutely love continuing to improve my fitness level. In fact, I completed my first Tough Mudder event last year, a 10.1-mile obstacle course. I never thought I could ever accomplish something like that – and I did!

I would absolutely do it all over again. I recommend My Best 10 to any woman who needs to get a good kick start to feeling like her younger self again!

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COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE, OR

# King of Roads



**B**reathtaking views of the mighty Columbia River and magnificent waterfalls, along with history related to the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the Oregon Trail, have prompted the nickname “King of Roads” for the **Historic Columbia River Highway** in Oregon.

Dedicated in 1916 as one of the country’s first scenic highways, the 73-mile route along the river, from Troutdale to The Dalles, was patterned after the Axenstrasse in Switzerland, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Centennial celebrations include the “**King of Roads**” exhibit at the Troutdale Historical Society’s Barn Exhibit Hall; the “**Sam Hill and the Columbia**

**River Highway**” exhibit at the Maryhill Museum of Art (which dates back to 1923), through Nov. 15; a **rededication ceremony at 600-plus-foot Multnomah Falls**, June 7 (the highway was dedicated on June 7, 1916, during events at both Multnomah Falls and Crown Point); the **10th Annual Gorge Ride**, June 18; **Centennial Celebration Antique Car Tour**, July 23; and **Bridge of the Gods Half Marathon and 10K**, Aug. 7.

For more information on these and numerous other events, along with information on viewpoints, recreation sites and history related to the route, see [historichighway.org](http://historichighway.org); [kingofroads.org](http://kingofroads.org); [lewisandclark-trail.com](http://lewisandclark-trail.com); [traveloregon.com](http://traveloregon.com); and [travelportland.com](http://travelportland.com).



**Top and above:** Vista House at Crown Point, along the Historic Columbia River Highway. Vista House, completed in 1918, sits 733 feet above the river. **Left:** A bicyclist travels the scenic historic highway.



TOP: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM; CENTER: OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; BOTTOM: TRAVEL OREGON

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Rich



Denise



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VICTORIA, BC

## Cool exhibit

**L**yuba, an approximately 40,000-year-old baby mammoth found by a reindeer herder on a Siberian river sandbar in 2007, will be among the 100 items on display in the exhibit **"Mammoths: Giants of the Ice Age,"** June 3 to Dec. 31 at the **Royal BC Museum.**

Scientists believe Lyuba, shown in the photo below, was essentially pickled by microbes in the river, which kept her body well-preserved even after it somehow broke out of permafrost that had been encasing it. The exhibit details how scientists excavate sites,



An artist's depiction of Lyuba.

ILLUSTRATION BY VELIZAR SIMEDNOVSKI © THE FIELD MUSEUM

and what they can learn about mammoths, which typically reached about 13 feet tall, and their shorter, stockier cousins, the mastodons, which typically reached about 8 feet tall, according to the museum.

Mammoths and mastodons are part of the Proboscidea order (as are elephants), whose members have trunks and tusks. Both species

walked the earth an estimated 1.8 million to 10,000 years ago. Mammoths lived in northern, colder climates, while mastodons lived farther south in more moderate climates, according to a museum curator.

Artifacts in the exhibit also include real mammoth skulls, jaws, tusks and teeth, along with a replica saber-toothed tiger and a replica great short-faced bear. Some of the items on display were part of Thomas Jefferson's private collection. Hands-on activities include the opportunity to lift objects with a mammoth-size mechanical trunk and play mammoth-themed foosball.

The exhibit, created in partnership with The Field Museum in Chicago, coincides with the opening of the **Royal BC Museum's updated Natural History Gallery** showcasing the ice age. Items to be on permanent display in the gallery include an arm bone from a short-faced bear and the skull of an ice age musk ox. Contact: 250-356-7226; royalbcmuseum.bc.ca.

—Emily Fourcroy Smith



© RIA NOVOSTI



The 2016 **Britt Music & Arts Festival**, various dates through late September in Jacksonville, OR, features stars such as Diana Ross, Lyle Lovett and Pat Benatar (brittfest.org).



COURTESY BILLY RAY HUNTER

▲ Billy Ray Hunter, principal trumpet with New York's Metropolitan Opera, will be one of the acclaimed performers at the **Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival**, June 2-25 (wwcmf.org).

Performances by professional Native American dancers and Montana musicians, along with history-related presentations and a cruise on the Missouri River to the Gates of the Mountains,

will be among the activities at the **Lewis and Clark Festival**, June 17-19 in Great Falls (lewisandclarkfoundation.org).

Summer ports of call in the Puget Sound region for the historic **Lady Washington** and **Hawaiian Chieftain tall ships** include Bellingham, July 19-Aug. 3; Port Orchard, Aug. 12-17; Tacoma, Aug. 18-23; and Kirkland, Aug. 25-Sept. 5 (historicalseaport.org).



LARA STONE

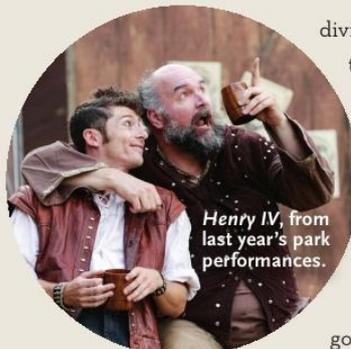
▲ Car enthusiasts from all over the world will be in the Sun Valley area, July 22-23, for the **Ketchum Cruise & Car Show** and the **Sun Valley Road Rally**, both featuring fast and exotic vehicles (sunvalleyroadrally.com).

PUGET SOUND AREA, WA

## Outdoor Shakespeare

**I**mmortal lines such as "This above all: to thine own self be true," from **Hamlet**, and "They have been at a great feast of languages, and stolen the scraps," from **Love's Labour's Lost**, will be delivered amid trees and grass at Puget Sound-area parks this summer.

**Seattle Shakespeare Company's Wooden O**



division (Shakespeare's London Theatre was referred to as a wooden O) will present free park performances of the tragedy and the romantic comedy, July 7-Aug. 7. Playgoers should bring their own blankets or chairs for seating, and are also invited to bring picnics to enjoy before the show. For a schedule of performances and venues—such as Seattle Center, and parks on Mercer Island, the Eastside and in Tacoma—go to [seattleshakespeare.org/woodeno](http://seattleshakespeare.org/woodeno). —M. Dill

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RENO, NV

## Celebrating Artown



ROSALIE O'CONNOR

In her last summer concert before starting a European tour, Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash will perform on July 14 with her husband and collaborator, John Leventhal, at Reno's **Artown festival**. The arts-and-cultural extravaganza, June 30–July 31, showcases international and local performers and artists.

Artown attracts more than 300,000 festivalgoers to more than 500 events and workshops in almost 100 venues. Visitors can enjoy visual and performance art, dance, theater, stand-up comedy, poetry readings, open-mic nights, guided local-history and public-art tours, art classes and demonstrations, children's workshops, and nearly 150 concerts.

For instance, the African Children's Choir will sing on July 6; the all-female mariachi band Mariachi Flor de Toloache, from New York, will play on July 13; and New Mexico's Juan Siddi Flamenco Santa Fe, shown above, will dance on July 27. Festival highlights will also include a concert by **Neko Case, k.d. lang and Laura Veirs**, who will perform together on July 7 to help introduce their new collaborative album "case/lang/veirs."

The festival will kick off with a downtown block party featuring local bands, fire dancers, aerial performers and exhibits from local artists.

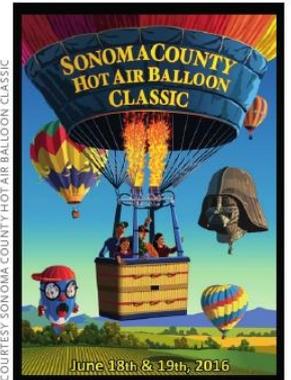
Contact: 775-322-1538; renoisartown.com.

—Emily Fourcroy Smith

WINDSOR, CA

## Rise and shine

Is it the early Tweety Bird that gets the worm? A balloon named and shaped like the big-eyed canary will be among the approximately 30 balloons being piloted during 5 A.M. launches at the **Sonoma County Hot Air Balloon Classic**, June



COURTESY SONOMA COUNTY HOT AIR BALLOON CLASSIC

18–19. The event will feature many balloons themed for animated and film characters. For instance, Darth Vader and Yoda will be "forceful" additions this year.

Visitors can see the balloons taking flight from Keiser Park in the town of Windsor each morning. Between 6 A.M. and 10:30 or 11 A.M. each day, weather permitting, many balloon pilots will offer 5- to 10-minute **tethered rides** for a \$10 fee, or visitors can purchase a full ride through instant \$250 sponsorship of a balloon.

Contact: schabc.org.

—Andrew Waite



VINEYARD TOUR LUNCH: CAROLYN WELLS KRAMER; SAFECO FIELD URBAN GARDEN: BEN VANHOJUTEN, SEATTLE MARINERS

MCMINNVILLE, OR

The **International Pinot Noir Celebration** will mark its 30th year, July 29–31, with seminars, winery tours, tastings and meals spotlighting Pinot Noirs from Oregon and around the world (ipnc.org).

SEATTLE, WA

Greater Seattle is the **third-best metro area for STEM professionals**, based on metrics such as percent of all workers in

STEM positions and quality of engineering universities, according to WalletHub (wallethub.com/edu/best-worst-metro-areas-for-stem-professionals/9200).

MONTEREY, CA

Bacon margaritas will be a highlight of **Monterey BaconFest 2016**, taking place June 25–26. In addition to bacon-themed dishes, the event will include live music from performers such as up-and-coming country-music singer/songwriter Aubrie Sellers (montereybaconfest.com).

SEATTLE, WA

A new **Safeco Field Urban Garden** has been planted behind the center field wall at



the Seattle Mariners' ballpark. Fresh produce from the garden will be incorporated into various menu items at Safeco Field, and food scraps collected from ballpark food-service operations will, in turn, be used for garden compost (mariners.com).





wsu.edu

# INSPIRING BOLDNESS

Washington State University scientist Jen McIntyre is pioneering new ways to protect the beautiful Puget Sound ecosystem.

An aquatic ecotoxicologist, McIntyre leads research at the WSU Puyallup Research and Extension Center designed to use soil to mitigate toxic stormwater runoff. Right now, the runoff is full of pollutants that can kill coho salmon in just a few hours.

McIntyre's research efforts are not only addressing local challenges, **they're changing the way our leaders think about preserving our environment for future generations.**

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## Glacier National Park art



**M**ountain Landscape by Carl Rungius and Storm on Lake McDonald by Charles M. Russell are among the more than 140 items on display in the exhibit **“Going to the Sun: Artists in Glacier National Park,”** through Sept. 11 at the **C.M. Russell Museum** in Great Falls.

The park was established in 1910, and the exhibit showcases the work of artists who captured the spectacular landscape from 1910 to the 1930s, helping to introduce the country to the area's beauty.

**Fun Fact**

**Charles M. Russell had a cabin, built in 1906 at Lake McDonald in what became the national park, from which he not only painted but gathered natural materials such as twigs, moss and bark to fashion into sculptures, also on display in the exhibit.**

In addition to Russell and Rungius, “Going to the Sun” features artists such as **Maynard Dixon, Joe Scheuerle, Joe De Yong, John Fery, Winold Reiss, John Clarke, Julius Seyler and Philip Goodwin.**

Various works, such as Russell’s *Land of the Kootenai*, also demonstrate the connection the artists felt with



American Indian tribes in the area.

Paintings and sculptures in the exhibit are complemented by photos, memorabilia, and geological and historical information.

Contact: 406-727-8787; [cmrussell.org](http://cmrussell.org).

The exhibit coincides with the celebration of the **National Park Service centennial** this year ([nps.gov/subjects/centennial/index.htm](http://nps.gov/subjects/centennial/index.htm)). —*M. Dill*

**Top:** *Storm on Lake McDonald*, by Charles M. Russell, shown center.  
**Bottom:** The C.M. Russell Museum spans the famous Western artist’s entire life, and includes his home and studio.



TOP: CHARLES M. RUSSELL (1864-1926), STORM ON LAKE McDONALD, 1906. COLLECTION OF THE C.M. RUSSELL MUSEUM; CENTER AND BELOW RIGHT: COURTESY C.M. RUSSELL MUSEUM

# Majestic Mammoth

## Summer Explorations in the Scenic Eastern Sierra

by Rob Dunton



PETER MORNING

**Just a half-mile hike** from the Mosquito Flat trailhead, along a creek lined with aspens, lodgepole pines and rugged granite boulders, we crest a small hill, and the vista expands before us. Below lies glacier-carved Little Lakes Valley, dotted with pools of shimmering blue, framed by evergreens and flanked by the snowcapped peaks of Mount Mills, Mount Dade, Mount Abbot and Bear Creek Spire, all towering more than 13,000 feet.

Our 2- and 5-year-old boys walk alongside us, distracted every few yards by wildflowers, rocks and the melting remnants of a rare summer snow. My wife and I move at the kids' pace, which means slow, and which allows us—forces us—to absorb the majesty of this place. The stream babbles. A breeze rustles aspen leaves. An occasional bird or marmot chirps.

We pass a small meadow and stop to float leaves down Rock Creek as it

makes its way from the John Muir Wilderness to the Owens River to the south. Our boys do their best to skip stones, then head off to climb the branches of a young whitebark pine as we recline on a cool slab of granite to admire the view in this dramatic, pristine landscape.

The striking **Little Lakes Valley** displays its glacial origins: The U-shaped and lateral moraines, formed by ancient glaciers, provide rocky nests for a chain of nearly a

dozen shining lakes, which are easy to access and a delight to fish—anglers can cast for rainbow, brook and brown trout. Continuing on the trail, we see a new lake almost every half mile.

By afternoon, our family has covered less than 3 miles roundtrip of the 7.7-mile Little Lakes Valley Trail, yet the journey has provided bountiful pleasures along the way. Back at our car, we drive down the tree-lined road to Rock Creek Lakes Resort to treat ourselves at the **Pie in the Sky Cafe**. We order up slices of boysenberry and Dutch apple pie à la mode and enjoy them on the cafe's deck in

**Clockwise from top: Bikers explore Mammoth Bike Park; Carson Peak is visible to horseback riders above June Lake Basin; an 1882 church remains in Bodie ghost town.**



the shade of aromatic pines.

The Mammoth Lakes area offers numerous opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts during the summer months: hiking, horseback riding and biking, to name a few of my favorites after decades of exploring the Eastern Sierra. The **Mammoth Lakes Trail System**, accessible close to the town of Mammoth Lakes, has 300 miles of maintained hiking routes that connect to both the John Muir and Pacific Crest trails. These in turn provide access to the **Inyo National Forest's** vast **Ansel Adams and John Muir wildernesses**, and to **Yosemite National Park**. And within an hour's drive of town, visitors can wander the dusty streets of a fascinating ghost town, ride a selection of bike trails or take a day or multiday horseback excursion.



ROB DUNTON X2



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### Bodie Ghost Town

Ennio Morricone's haunting theme to *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* loops through my head as I stride down the deserted Main Street of **Bodie**, a mining ghost town in the barren hills north of Mono Lake. Tilted, weathered buildings made of wood with rusting hinges and doorknobs dot the sides of the street, fronted in places with buckling boardwalks.

I pass a vacant barbershop and imagine the banter, gossip and unbathed characters enjoying a shave in the late 1800s. Next door sit the remains of Fulton's Stable, then the humble home of the town's butcher, followed by structures such as the Miners Union Hall and the post office.

I envision a band of outlaws sauntering toward a lone sheriff on the street, while deputies on the rooftops await a showdown over ill-gotten gold from the local mine. At its peak in 1879, this remote mining town was one of California's largest, with more than 2,000 buildings and a population approaching 10,000 (Los Angeles, the fifth-largest at the time, had a population of just over 11,000, according to an 1880 federal census).

With gold came miners and the restaurateurs, hoteliers and tradesmen to serve them. Business was good, work was hard, living conditions rough and the location remote. Bodie developed a reputation for being one of the wildest towns in the Wild West, replete with stagecoach holdups and general lawlessness.

But the heyday faded fast. As the gold and silver was depleted, the miners and supporting businesses began to leave. In 1962, Bodie was designated a National Historic Site and a State Historic Park. Today, the remaining structures of Bodie are preserved in a state of "arrested decay."

I mosey the deserted dirt streets and peer into the windows, some with supplies still on the shelves. I take a tour inside the historic **Stamp Mill**, the largest surviving building in town. The informative guide at the Stamp Mill tells stories of Bodie's rollicking years, of the hardships of a miner's life, and how gold was extracted and stamped into bullion.

Following a Park Service map, I peruse the surviving 75 buildings: a Methodist church, a machine shop, a schoolhouse, hotels, a saddle room, an ice house, a jail, and expanses of dirt that once comprised a bustling Chinatown. After more than four hours of leisurely exploration, I feel a renewed sense of gratitude for the comforts of modern living.



## Horseback Riding

Frontier Pack Station sits on the **June Lake Loop** (State Route 158) near the base of 10,909-foot Carson Peak where Alger Creek spills into Silver Lake. I park next to a corral and a weathered cabin adorned with a hand-painted sign that reads: “If you enjoyed your ride, kiss your horse [and] tip your guide.”

This horse-and-mule base station for Frontier Pack Train is the summer home of Kent Dohnel, who has been guiding riders and pack-animal-supported trips for 34 years in the high Sierra. His wranglers lead horse trips, ranging from short one-hour rides to multiday journeys to herd the pack station’s mustangs north from Bishop to June Lake or to travel into the interior of Yosemite National Park.

Mules have a long and distinguished history in the Eastern Sierra and were critical to the early settlement of the area; today, they carry supplies for horseback groups.

I’m here for a short ride into the highlands above June Lake basin. The sturdy, half-draft horses are already saddled. The wranglers pull bales of hay off a flatbed, assign riders based on size and experience, and adjust saddles and stirrups as needed.

Our guide gives a safety briefing, then we mount up and saunter single file onto a trail that winds

**I park next to a corral and a weathered cabin adorned with a hand-painted sign that reads: “If you enjoyed your ride, kiss your horse [and] tip your guide.”**



through low sagebrush and groves of aspens as it meanders up from Alger Creek toward Gem Pass.

Carson Peak and June Mountain grow ever more visible and stunning as we climb. Even in summer, traces of snow hug the peaks, while Silver Lake glimmers below, visible to the east. As my horse ambles along, I feel relaxed and rewarded by this time spent in nature.

## Biking

My favorite bike ride in the Eastern Sierra starts by catching the Lakes Basin Trolley at **The Village at Mammoth**. For those like me who’d rather



ROB DUNTON X3

coast than pedal, bikes can be stowed on the trolley’s 16-bike trailer, and 15 minutes and 1,000 vertical feet later, you arrive at scenic Horseshoe Lake. From here, it is a 5.3-mile paved descent on the **Lakes Basin Bike Path** back to the Village.

Following the bike path, I weave in and out of shaded pine forest past the Twin Falls overlook and the shores of Lake Mamie, then on to **Lake Mary**. I like to stop here to soak up the extraordinary views of the Crystal Crag monolith and the granite expanse of Mammoth Crest. I spread out a blanket and enjoy a picnic along the shaded shoreline, while other visitors drop a line and angle

**Top: The streets of Bodie ghost town offer insight into the past. Above: Hikers enjoy the view of Bear Creek Spire from the Little Lakes Valley Trail.**



PETER MORNING

**Mammoth Bike Park offers paved and mountain-bike trails for riders of all skill levels.**

for trout, or paddle the lake in a boat or aboard a SUP rented at Pokonobe Marina.

With numerous lakes, streams, sandy shorelines, and places to eat, fish, kayak or standup paddle along the way, this downhill cruise can be filled with enough such detours to warrant a day of exploration.

After Lake Mary, the coasting continues through the forests above Twin Lakes and Tamarack Lodge, alongside Lake Mary Road and through a tunnel under the Eagle Express ski run, before reaching the Village at Mammoth.

West of the village, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area transforms into **Mammoth Bike Park** each summer for mountain-bike riders seeking dirt, gravel and adrenaline. Approximately 40 of the ski runs convert to bike trails, and with 3,500 acres and more than 80 miles of single track, the park offers terrain for every skill level.

There are beginner dirt trails such as Pioneer Practice Loop, intermediate rides such as Beach Cruiser, and advanced and expert runs such as Pipeline and Twilight Zone.

Visitors can pedal up their choice of the 11 trails that go two ways, or

they can take chairlifts up for thrilling rides down.

Biking, horseback riding and hiking are only a few of the possible summer adventures in the high Sierra. I can also play 18 holes on California's highest courses, visit world-famous Yosemite, fish, rock climb, kayak and standup paddle—the multitude of activities in the Mammoth Lakes area inspires me to visit again and again. ■

*Rob Dunton lives in Southern California.*

*Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; alaskaair.com) offers convenient service to Mammoth Lakes, which is also a summer gateway to Yosemite National Park. For more information on visiting the Mammoth Lakes area, see mammothmountain.com and visitmammoth.com.*

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## Additional Activities

**Fishing:** Rainbow and Oregonian trout are stocked in Mammoth Lakes area waters, and brook and brown trout can be found here. Fishing licenses, supplies and boats can be obtained at places such as Convict Lake Marina and Lake Mary's Pokonobe Marina, and in town at Kittredge Sports. Find a guide at mammothfishing.com. Mono County fishing season typically starts the last Saturday

in April and ends on November 15 each year. Those 16 years and older must have a fishing license (wildlife.ca.gov/fishing).

**Kayaking, canoeing or SUPing:** No matter what you paddle, getting out on the water provides unique and expansive views of the

Eastern Sierra. Explore Lake Mary, June Lake, Crowley Lake or Mono Lake. Take a guided natural-history kayak tour of Mono Lake to experience one of North America's oldest living lakes, estimated to be at least 760,000



Mono Lake kayaking.

years old (calderakayak.com). Paddling through the tufa towers—limestone formations—is a rare and wonderful experience (mammothkayaks.com and monobasinkayakrental.com).

**Golfing:** Mammoth Lakes has two golf courses that will give you bragging rights for playing the highest-elevation courses in California. Sierra Star is a challenging 18-hole, par-71 course with tree-lined fairways, picturesque mountain views, and tranquil lakes and streams (mammothmountain.com/summer/golf/sierra-star-golf). Snowcreek is a par-35, nine-hole course surrounded by Mammoth Meadow, with great mountain views throughout (snowcreekresort.com).

**Rock climbing:** From short climbs in the Owens River Gorge

(25 miles south of Mammoth Lakes) to Yosemite's big walls and towering peaks, rock climbers can scale thousands of exhilarating pitches (sierrarockclimbingschool.com).

**Bowling and bocce:** When the sun sets or the weather turns, head to Rock 'n' Bowl, for 12 lanes of bowling, an outdoor bocce court with stunning views of the Sherwin Range, three golf simulators, table tennis, board games and some great food at the Mammoth Rock Brasserie (mammothrocknbowl.com).

**Hiking/backpacking:** People from all over the world come to hike the trails of the Eastern Sierra, thanks to the accessibility, scenery and pristine condition of the wilderness areas that surround Mammoth Lakes. There are hikes to suit every skill level,

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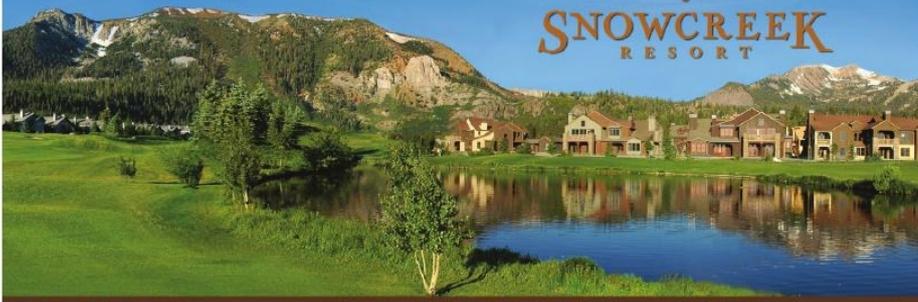
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from easy strolls around a lake to trekking the entire 2,650 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail. Two good resources: *Best Short Hikes in California's South Sierra* by Jr. Paul Richins, Karen Whitehill and Terry Whitehill, and [everytrail.com/best/hiking-mammoth-lakes-california](http://everytrail.com/best/hiking-mammoth-lakes-california). For information about Inyo National Forest backpacking and hiking permits, visit [www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/passes-permits/recreation](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/passes-permits/recreation).

**Horseback riding:** Short rides depart regularly around June Lake ([frontierpackstation.com](http://frontierpackstation.com)), Rock Creek ([rockcreekpackstation.com](http://rockcreekpackstation.com)) and Convict Lake ([convictlake.com/activities/horseback-rides](http://convictlake.com/activities/horseback-rides)). Call ahead to confirm times, availability and overnight options.

**Biking:** Along with easy paved paths and the epic mountain-biking trails down the slopes of Mammoth Mountain, there are routes ranging from the Town Loop to the Shady Rest Path. You can rent bikes and cycling gear throughout Mammoth Lakes. Options include Footloose Sports ([footloosesports.com](http://footloosesports.com)) and Mammoth Outdoor Sports ([mammothoutdoorsports.com](http://mammothoutdoorsports.com)). To rent electric bikes, which make inclines on paved bike trails easy, visit Sierra Engines ([bishopmotosports.com](http://bishopmotosports.com)), where you can also rent pedal bikes and ATVs. For an overview of cycling trails and bike paths, see [mammothtrails.org](http://mammothtrails.org). —R.D.

## Mammoth Lakes-Area Lodging

The many options include notable properties such as the following:

### Mammoth Mountain Inn

800-MAMMOTH  
[themammothmountaininn.com](http://themammothmountaininn.com).

### Sierra Nevada Resort & Spa

760-934-2515  
[thesierranevadaresort.com](http://thesierranevadaresort.com).

### Snowcreek Resort

800-544-6007  
[snowcreekresort.com](http://snowcreekresort.com).



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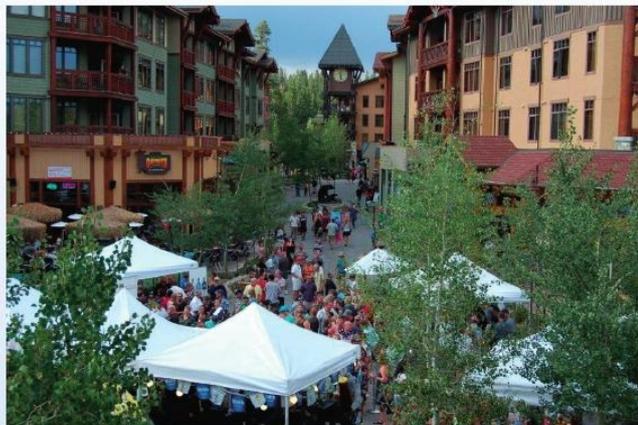
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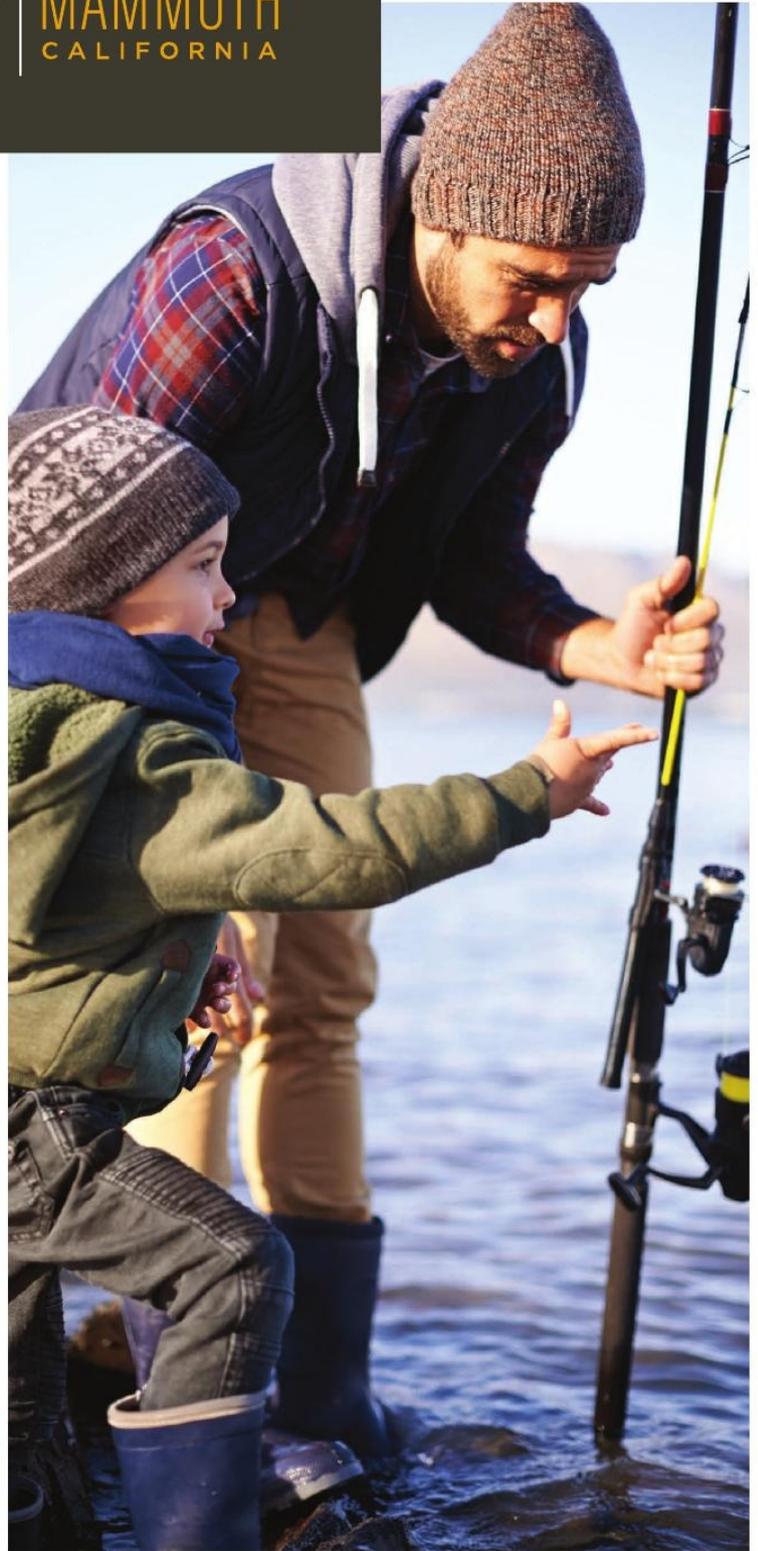
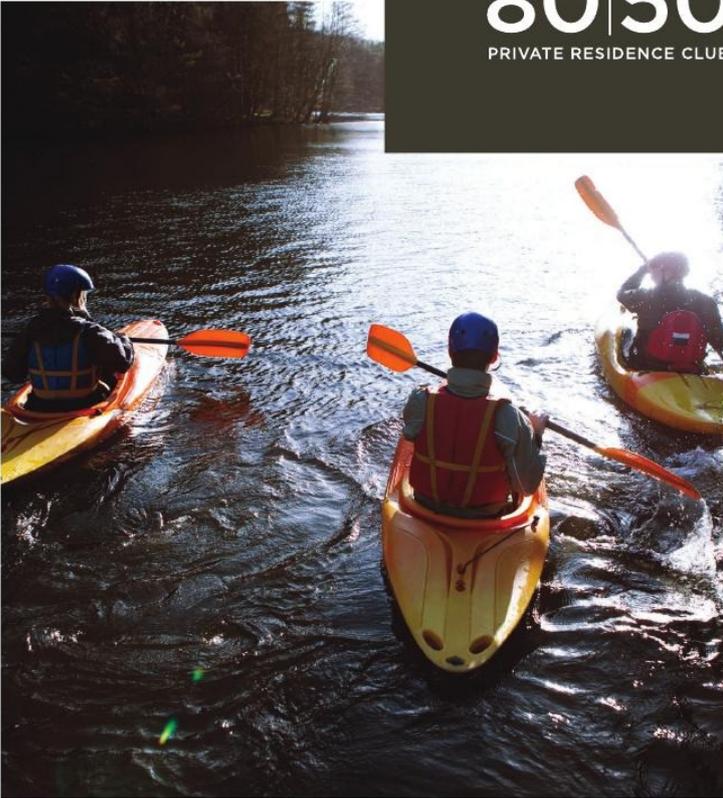
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## Yosemite National Park

**T**he less-known eastern part of Yosemite National Park is a spectacular area, boasting meadows painted with wildflowers, springs bubbling from the ground, high Sierra lakes, 9,450-foot-elevation Lembert Dome, and Olmsted Point, which provides a view of the rugged Clouds Rest granite formation and a unique perspective on Half Dome.

Mammoth Lakes is only about 45 miles from the park's Tioga Pass eastern entrance, which is typically open from late May or early June into November, depending on weather conditions along Tioga Road.

You can drive the road to access attractions and trailheads, or take a seasonal park shuttle between Tioga Pass and Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, from which you can connect to additional shuttle service for sites such as Lembert Dome, Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center, Cathedral Lakes Trailhead, Pothole Dome, the east end of Tenaya Lake, the Sunrise Lakes Trailhead, the May Lake Trailhead and Olmsted Point.

One of the most popular hikes is the easy 1.5-mile roundtrip route on the Tuolumne Meadows Trail, featur-

ing seasonal wildflowers, the carbonated cold-water Soda Springs, and the 1915 Parsons Memorial Lodge, where the 2016 Summer Series includes poetry readings, photo-illustrated talks (including one by Pulitzer Prize-winner Elizabeth Kolbert), musical performances, and even plain air writing and yoga.

Glacier-carved Elizabeth Lake, at the base of wonderfully named Unicorn Peak, can be reached via a moderate 4.8-mile roundtrip hike, with about a 1,000-foot elevation gain. And right alongside Tioga Road lies another glacier-carved lake, Tenaya, which is framed by granite domes and lodgepole pines, and has sandy beaches.

Hike 2.8 miles roundtrip on the Dog Lake and Lembert Dome Trail to reach the dome—named after a 19th century homesteader—for a great view of Tuolumne Meadows and area mountains. A junction along the trail also provides an option to visit small but scenic Dog Lake.

Travel west and south about 60 miles from the eastern part of the park to Yosemite Valley to see sights such as El Capitan and Yosemite Falls, and get a closer view of Half Dome. You can self-drive, or take a seasonal bus, operated by park concessionaire

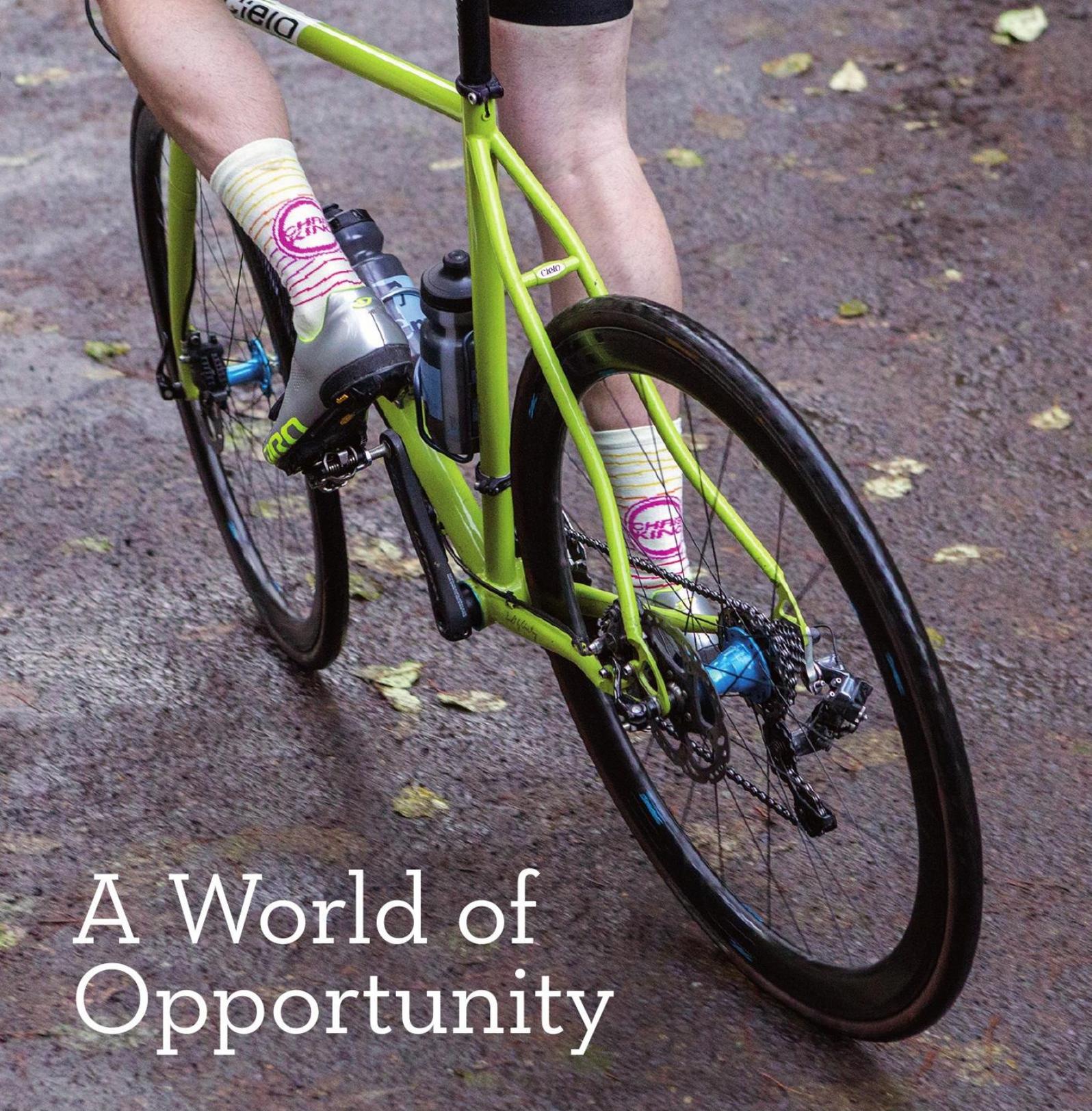


Yosemite Hospitality, from the Tuolumne Meadows area.

Want to leave all of the driving to someone else? Take the seasonal Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS) bus from the Mammoth Lakes area to the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center to connect with park shuttles. The bus also continues on to the Crane Flat Gas Station in the park, about 20 miles before the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

Yosemite and other national parks are celebrating the centennial of the National Park Service this year. For more information: [nps.gov/yose](http://nps.gov/yose), [travelyosemite.com](http://travelyosemite.com), [monocounty.org/yosemite](http://monocounty.org/yosemite), [visitmammoth.com/trip-ideas/yosemite-national-park](http://visitmammoth.com/trip-ideas/yosemite-national-park) and [yarts.com](http://yarts.com). —M.D.

**Top:** The Merced River in Yosemite National Park.  
**Bottom:** The view from the park's Olmsted Point, including Half Dome in the background.



# A World of Opportunity

Portland-area companies achieve notable global-trade success

By Susan Goracke



CHRIS MUELLER

**PORTLAND'S HIP BICYCLING CULTURE** was one of the reasons entrepreneur Chris King moved his bike-components-manufacturing company to Portland in 2003. But it wasn't the main reason.

King valued Portland's business friendliness, including "access to raw materials like steel, aluminum, packaging and skilled workers," says Jeff Menand, global business development manager for King Cycle Group, the umbrella company that includes Chris King Precision Components ([chrisking.com](http://chrisking.com)). "Chris also loves Portland's climate, food culture, great music scene and green ethos," Menand says.

King, an avid bicyclist and talented machinist, was a 20-year-old working for a medical-instruments company in Santa Barbara in the 1970s when he figured out how to improve bicycle headsets, the part that connects the frame to the front fork and controls the steering.

The entrepreneur developed headsets that were stronger, lighter and longer lasting, Menand says. They are made of durable stainless steel bearings inside aluminum housings that are anodized in a selection of jewel-like colors.

King founded his company in 1976 and started out selling his headsets in sandwich bags, with photocopied instructions. Demand grew steadily, and he began full-time production in 1988. He also added other types of lightweight, high-performance components in sizes and styles to fit various types of bikes, including road bikes, mountain bikes, enduro-racing bikes, adventure bikes and BMX bikes.

The company also began to gain an international following, and now has "really strong distribution in Europe, Japan and Southeast Asia," Menand says,

Chris King, above, founded a company whose quality bicycle components are renowned around the world. The company got its start when King determined how to improve bicycle headsets, such as those below. The company also makes wheelsets, such as the ones on the facing page.

noting that today exports make up about 45 percent of total sales.

He says that a Chris King headset may cost more than other options, but it should last much longer. "We use material that is stronger than it needs to be; we machine to tolerances tighter than those of competitors; we honor warranty years beyond the market expectation; we reduce, recycle and reuse our materials in each of the daily manufacturing steps," he says.

"World-champion riders in all disciplines have used Chris King components in their pursuit of winning. Many World Cup, Olympic and professional champions have procured our products because of their reliability, durability and performance."

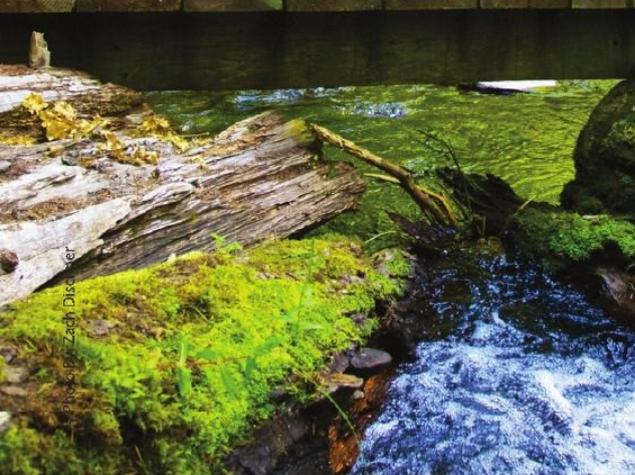
The company's 100-plus employees produce the parts, from U.S.-sourced materials, in a 65,000-square-foot facility in Northwest Portland. Employees who commute to work by bike earn extra vacation time, and credit toward meals in the company cafeteria.

Operating from the large Portland factory has allowed the company to manufacture more inventory, Menand says, adding that being in Portland also "provides established networks with complementary cycling brands that are also developing and evolving their international portfolios."

Menand says that Chris King himself remains at the helm, and the company has never deviated from King's mission to create the highest-quality bike components.

"I knew from the very beginning that top quality was the way I wanted to go with the products I produced," King says. "Over the years, I've learned in great depth the meaning and value of great quality and how it is unquestionably linked with success."





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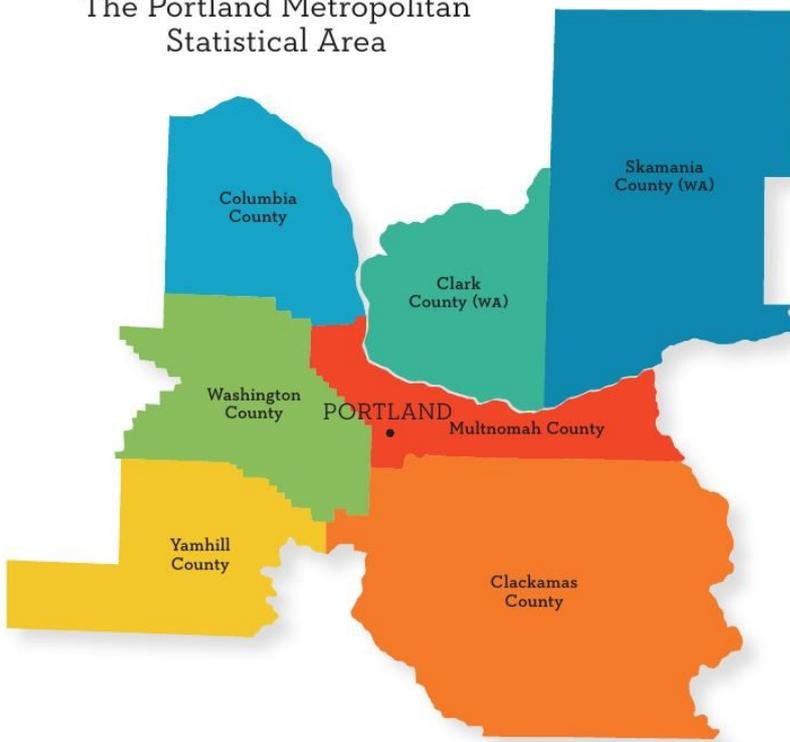
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## The Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area



Through booms and busts in the economy we've remained in unwavering demand. As I said to myself years ago and still through today, 'There's always a market for the best.'"

The company's consistency has earned a lot of respect, Menand says, "and that passes from generation to generation. Riders who bought their first Chris King component in the '70s or '80s are now in their 50s and 60s. And their kids are riding bikes with Chris King components."

The company's reputation for quality was key to growing demand in international cycling communities, especially when mountain bikes entered the global marketplace, Menand says.

The company has also benefited from exhibiting its products at the Eurobike global trade show in Germany each year since 2012. Business Oregon, the state's economic-development agency, helped the company obtain export grants for the first three years to assist with financing the trade-show attendance.

The state agency has a Global Trade team dedicated to fostering global-trade success by providing consulting expertise; export counseling; market research; evaluation of international partners; financial assistance, including export grants; business and trade missions; and other programs. It even has state trade representatives in China, Japan and Korea to provide overseas assistance.

Export grants, and help with business planning,

**The Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) comprises five Oregon counties and two Washington counties. The MSA is one of the nation's top areas for global trade, and one of only six U.S. metro areas with a dedicated global trade-and-investment plan, according to Greater Portland Inc.**

marketing strategies, logistics and documentation "can make a big difference for Oregon companies," says Amanda Welker, Business Oregon's global-strategies officer.

Business Oregon has been working with Chris King Precision Components for more than five years to support its international growth, she notes. In addition to the grants, the agency has supported the company with export-finance assistance and coordination with the U.S. Department of Commerce for technical training to expand international sales, she says. "It's a good example of how we don't just make one-time transactions with our business partners, but stay with them to help in different ways as they have different needs as they grow in new markets."

## The Value of Global Trade

Goods and services valued at \$28.5 billion were exported from the Portland metropolitan statistical area (MSA) in 2014, the most recent year for which statistics are available, ranking the area 12th in global trade among U.S. metro areas, according to Greater Portland Inc. GPI is a partnership of more than 80 entities—public-sector organizations and private investors—that works to advance economic development in the five northwest Oregon counties and two southwest Washington counties that make up the Portland MSA (called the Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA Metropolitan Statistical Area by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget).

Based solely on merchandise exports, the Portland MSA is the nation's 20th-largest export market, according to a 2014 report by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Companies in the Portland MSA exported \$18.7 billion in electronics, agricultural and other products, mostly to Asian countries and to Canada, up 6 percent from 2013.

More than 160,000 Portland MSA jobs were export-supported in 2014, according to Greater Portland Inc., and exports made up nearly 18 percent of the area's GDP. The Portland MSA is one of only six U.S. metros with a dedicated global trade-and-investment plan, according to Janet LaBar, president and CEO of Greater Portland Inc. "The viability of our economy greatly depends on the continued strengths of our trade-sector industries and a climate of innovation that draws foreign direct-investment interest," she says. "With global brands, a highly productive workforce and proximity to the Pacific Rim, it's no surprise that Greater Portland was one of only four metros in the country that doubled the real value of their exports between 2003 and 2008."

The Portland Business Alliance also stresses that



international trade is vital to the local and state economies, and reports that about 90 percent of Oregon exporters are small- to medium-size companies, and companies in that size range employ more than half of Oregon's private-sector workforce.

Attending international trade shows and participating in trade missions are among the most effective ways for U.S. companies to enter new international markets or expand their visibility in existing markets, she says. For instance, last October Oregon Governor Kate Brown led a trade mission to Japan, China and Vietnam to promote Oregon products and businesses.

Oregon Governor Kate Brown prepared spring rolls with Oregon pears during a cooking show in Vietnam as part of a trade mission to Japan, China and Vietnam to promote Oregon products and companies.

"Asia is Oregon's largest trade partner by far," Brown says. "On my first mission there in 2015, I had a chance to promote Oregon agriculture and food products in particular."

The governor prepared spring rolls with Oregon pears during a popular cooking show in Vietnam, and the next day, she met with the country's prime minister to discuss importing ingredients from Oregon.

"It's not only goods that create economic opportunities between Asia and Oregon," Brown says. "We know how education and cultural connections can create friendships today, to lay the groundwork for economic opportunities tomorrow."

## DePaul Industries Packaged Products

One of the businesspeople participating in the 2015 trade mission to Asia was Travis Pearson, president and CEO of Portland-based DePaul Industries (depaulindustries.com). Pearson was promoting the company's Juniper Naturals brand of packaged dried fruits, nuts and trail mix. Pearson visited mostly large retail chains and distributors, and received four orders, totaling \$100,000, from customers in Vietnam, Taiwan and Hong Kong as a result of that single trip.





DePaul Industries was founded in 1971 as a small nonprofit to provide jobs for people with developmental disabilities, taking its name from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul charitable organization, which provided seed money, although no relationship between the charity and the company exists today, Pearson says.

DePaul Industries now employs about 3,200 people, most with some type of disability, and generates about \$38 million in annual revenue. Approximately \$10 million of that revenue is earned by its packaging division, which began in the early 2000s.

DePaul Industries' packaging division began exploring foreign sales in 2014. It now sells its Juniper Naturals and Lost Coast Snacks brands of packaged dried fruits, nuts and trail mix to many Asian markets.



COURTESY DEPAUL INDUSTRIES X2

The division—which employs about 100 people and operates a 100,000-square-foot Portland-area plant—manufactures and/or packs products for other companies, but in 2012, it also created its own brands, Juniper Naturals and Lost Coast Snacks, of dried fruits, nuts and trail mix. Hazelnuts, cranberries and blueberries for its products are grown in Oregon; almonds and walnuts come from California.

To grow its revenue stream, the division began exploring foreign sales in 2014. “We decided to start with China, which has thousands of major retailers,”

*Continued on pg. 82*



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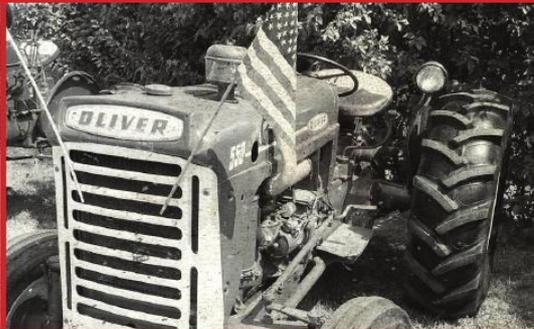
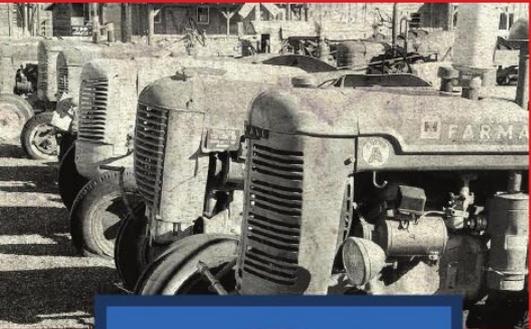
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# Washington

## WA4 SOUND PERSPECTIVES

Experiencing the charms of Seattle and the Puget Sound region. By Evelyn Spence

## WA17 FROM SEA TO SKY

Exploring the greater Bellingham area. By Lauren Kramer

## WA22 GRAND VISTAS

Eight Washington locations offer unique views of the state. By Terry W. Sheely

## WA27 A BOUNTIFUL LAND

Eastern Washington is a rich agricultural region. By Cheryl-Anne Millsap

## WA37 A BIRDING STATE OF MIND

By Kathryn True

## WA41 VIBRANT VANCOUVER

Natural beauty and economic vitality in Southwest Washington. By Lora Shinn



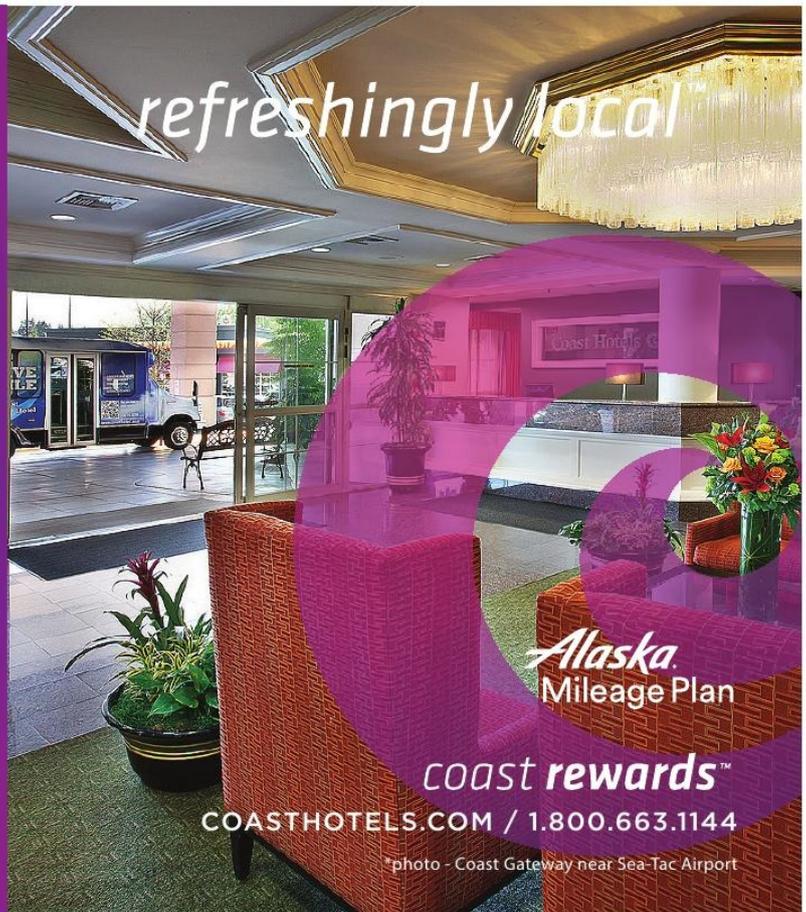
**Cover:** Eldorado Peak and meadows of pink mountain heather, in North Cascades National Park, Washington.  
**Photo:** Alan Majchrowicz

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# Sound Perspectives

Experiencing the charms of Seattle and the Puget Sound region **By Evelyn Spence**



## THE MORNING WAS BECOMING A PERFECT ENCAPSULATION OF SUMMER IN SEATTLE.

As I jogged along a sandy bluff in the expansive forest-shore-and-field space of Discovery Park, I spotted a bald eagle winging its way up in the cloudless sky. When I turned to watch the raptor, I saw the jagged jawline of the Olympic Mountains to the west and ice-cool Mount Rainier to the south. I bounded down a steep trail through the forest to the driftwood-jumbled beach and then passed the West Point Light Station. Nearby, a red spinnaker billowed out in the wind.

On my drive home, I bought fresh-off-the-boat salmon at a **Fishermen's Terminal** dock before stopping for an espresso at one of the 20-plus coffee shops in my new North Seattle neighborhood, **Ballard** (yes, 20-plus; that's not a typo).

For my first weekend of living in the city, I did a pretty respectable job of enjoying some of Seattle's best.

Of course, I had a head start. I was born here. Even so, home isn't really home until you move away and then return—that's what I realized

when I left Seattle for an East Coast college, spent almost 20 years living everywhere from Boulder to Brooklyn, then made my way back to the Northwest.

The summer sparkle of Puget Sound, the scent of the sea at **Pike Place Market**, the backdrop of downtown behind the Sound, as viewed from a rumbling state ferry—I grew up with all of this, but only my long hiatus made me see the city with the wide-eyed love of a first-time visitor.

I had no idea that there are more than 450 parks in Seattle,



AUROBA PHOTOS / ALAMY STOCK

**Above left:** A biker rides the trails of Discovery Park, which overlooks Puget Sound. **Above right:** Exploring Ballard and other Seattle neighborhoods is a favorite pastime for residents and visitors. **Right:** Pike Place Market is a Seattle landmark.

adding up to some 11 percent of the city's land area. One of the crown jewels is 534-acre **Discovery Park**, home to nearly 12 miles of woody trails, along with a wide beach and an environmental learning center.

In first grade, I won an award from the **Woodland Park Zoo** for an essay about what this Seattle landmark might look like in the year 2000; although I can't remember my predictions, I hope they included something like today's "Banyan Wilds" space, dedicated to tigers, sloth bears and conservation.

Until I returned to town, I'd never climbed the water tower in Capitol Hill's **Volunteer Park** for a panorama almost as good as the Space Needle's, and I'd never been inside the more-than-a-century-old **Volunteer Park Conservatory** nearby.

Another cool place I'd never visited: **Seward Park**, a thumb-like, 300-acre peninsula jutting into the south end of Lake Washington, with some of the oldest trees in the city—it's not called the Magnificent Forest for nothing. It took me decades before I saw it in person.

When my parents took me downtown as a kid, there was no **Seattle Great Wheel**, a 175-foot-tall waterfront ride that's the tallest Ferris wheel on the West Coast. There was no **Olympic Sculpture Park**, with the art of Richard Serra and Alexander Calder sharing the limelight with views of the outdoor museum's namesake range. There was no **EMP Museum**, a colorful Frank



CORIN / SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

O. Gehry shrine to rock and roll that has displayed items ranging from Lady Gaga's infamous meat dress to Jimi Hendrix's handwritten lyrics.

At **Seattle Center**, the even-then- quaint rides at the amusement park under the **Space Needle** have given way to the innovative **Artists at Play** play-

ground (opened in May 2015), designed by Northwest artists, with features such as a 30-foot climbing tower and rope web, giant slides, and play equipment that allows kids to make music. Also occupying part of the old amusement-park site is **Chihuly Garden and Glass**, an indoor/outdoor gallery populated by the



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distinctive glass works—which evoke sea anemones, flowers and other vivid forms—of Washington native Dale Chihuly.

In Seattle, even the libraries are destinations: The **Central Library branch building**, designed by Rem Koolhaas and Joshua Prince-Ramus, opened in 2004, and has won raves for both its steel-matrix shell and its innovative layout.

Then there is **Pike Place Market**—always a draw for locals as well as visitors. On childhood trips with my father, I used to eat sackfuls of mini doughnuts from the **Daily Dozen Doughnut Company** stall, grab pizza ingredients at the specialty-food-and-wine

**Top:** The Center for Wooden Boats, at the southern end of Lake Union, has been offering boat rentals and classes for many years. **Left:** With its bold shapes, shining outer surfaces and angular interior spaces, the Central Library branch building is an architectural gem of Seattle's downtown.

shop **DeLaurenti** and pick out massive \$10 bouquets (at one of several stalls) for my mom. And I still can. Now, though, I can also sip a grown-up drink at the restaurant **Radiator Whiskey** and nibble the *nigiri* of local legend Shiro Kashiba at **Sushi Kashiba**, which opened at the market in December 2015.

If the heart of Seattle has changed incrementally, its surrounding neighborhoods have almost completely metamorphosed. Back in my high school days, **Ballard** still felt like a

Scandinavian fishing village, and **Capitol Hill** was more gritty than glam. And **South Lake Union**? This emergent neighborhood—which is home to world-class biotech facilities, an enormous Amazon campus, its own streetcar line and dozens of new restaurants—used to be a patchwork of parking lots and warehouses.

South Lake Union might win for Seattle's fastest-changing neighborhood—look around anywhere in this neighborhood and you'll see construction; turn right or left and you'll find a brand-new celebri-chef restaurant. The **Museum of History & Industry** relocated to a historic armory on the banks of the lake in 2012, and it's a love letter to local culture, from Boeing to Nirvana. Nearby, **The Center for Wooden Boats** and its predecessor, The Old Boathouse, have been lending out small craft and running boating classes for 50 years. Don't want to row your own boat? Book a 20-minute **aerial tour** of the city on a seaplane with Kenmore Air, taking off from a dock nearby.

Another community that has to be in the running for "Most Changed Neighborhood" is Ballard. Stroll **Ballard Avenue NW** on a Sunday and you'll get a sense of the new Seattle vibe: People-watch at the year-round **Ballard Farmers Market**, considered by many to be the best weekend market in the city (although there is competition). Look for sweet red-and-gold Rainier cherries (usually in season in June, July and August), artisanal apple ciders and Jonboy caramels, made a few blocks away. Then get an organic coffee to go from **Caffè Fiore**

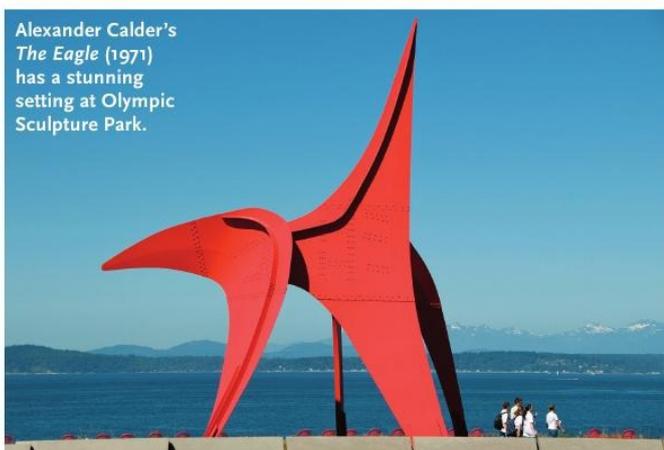
## On Deck ...

**Seattle gets into** the maritime spirit with **Seafair** (which runs events June 15–Aug. 21 and features Seafair Weekend, Aug. 5–7), a smorgasbord of hydroplane races, air shows, beer gardens, Fleet Week ship tours, pirates and parades (including the **Alaska Airlines Seafair Torchlight Parade** on July 30). • For a taste



Enjoy the Washington State Fair in September.

of artsy culture, peruse Tacoma's **Art on the Avenue** (July 10), an annual, nearly-10,000-person-strong block party. • Since 1971, the end-of-summer **Bumbershoot** music-and-arts spectacular at Seattle Center (Sept. 2–4) is one of the Northwest's biggest fests. Acts such as Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, Death Cab for Cutie and Billy Idol are scheduled this year. • The event that's now called the **Washington State Fair** (Sept. 2–25, closed Tuesdays) will still have longtime locals planning to "Do the Puyallup" (say "pyoo-AL-up" to pronounce the host town's name) based on popular past marketing. Carnival rides, deep-fried foods, live concerts and animal shows will be found here in September. • And about 12 miles northeast of Puyallup, in Auburn, is the **Muckleshoot Casino**, which recently set the Guinness World Record for the Largest Slot Tournament. The casino will continue to host exciting events, gaming and entertainment throughout the year.



Alexander Calder's *The Eagle* (1971) has a stunning setting at Olympic Sculpture Park.



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(on Leary Avenue) and browse nearby shops such as the gift boutique **Lucca** or **Jax Joon**, with its bright, funky accessories, before walking west to boat-watch or fish-watch at **Hiram M. Chittenden Locks**, the busiest locks complex in the country.

Peer through the underwater windows of the locks' 21-step fish ladder, which helps sockeye salmon (easiest to see in July), chinook (late August) and coho (September) journey back into Seattle's lake system and eventually up streams to spawn. And if you still have the legs for it, walk about 2 miles north to the sandy beach of **Golden Gardens**

**Above:** The west entry of Sound Transit's Capitol Hill Station, opened in March, features Ellen Forney's art *Walking Fingers* (2015).

**Below:** Boats tie up in the Ballard Locks to make water-level shifts between Lake Union and Puget Sound.

**Park** and dip your toes into the chilly Sound while you watch thick-skinned—and dry-suited—kite surfers at play in the waves.

During stretches of cooler weather, Seattleites and visitors have plenty to do indoors, too. A movement is afoot to make Seattle a UNESCO Creative

City—and it could be the second UNESCO City of Literature in the United States (after Iowa City). If this effort is to succeed, it will rely on the clout of local institutions such as the libraries and the **Elliott Bay Book Company**, which relocated from Pioneer Square in 2010, is now at the cultural heart of Capitol Hill, an area east of downtown that's transformed from blue collar to artistic to trendy. But Cap Hill is still eclectic at heart: You can watch bike polo games at **Cal Anderson Park**, lick a waffle cone of salted caramel or balsamic strawberry ice cream from **Molly Moon's**, watch independent films at the **Egyptian Theater**, and admire century-old mansions on residential blocks.

In March, the **Capitol Hill Station** of Seattle's light-rail system opened, linking Capitol Hill, downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport to the south, while also connecting all these to the **University of Washington Station** (also new) to the north. A bonus of the underground Capitol Hill Station: Its Broadway Avenue escalators deliver you to within a few steps of the summertime buzz at **Dick's Drive-In**, a Seattle institution that started serving "Deluxe" burgers in 1954, before McDonald's even existed.

Then again, the dependable, hand-cut fries and old-school milkshakes at Dick's are juxtaposed by the offerings of more than 100 restaurants and bars that have opened in Capitol Hill in the last three years. The mix of past and present around the Sound is dynamic, and for a reinvented local like me, this makes the possibilities for adventure close to endless.

## Outdoor Dining

**I used to joke** that summer in Seattle begins on July 4. But whenever it starts, it's a beauty—and it signals the happy launch of patio—and sunglasses!—season at area restaurants. Lean back into an Adirondack chair and order an oyster roll at **Westward**, on the



SARAH FLOTTARD

Westward restaurant.

shores of north Lake Union, with a front-row seat to downtown lights. Across the way, **100-Pound Clam**, due to open in June, will soon sit dockside and dish out fish-and-chips (and deliver by dinghy to near-shore locations). • The upper deck of the classic **Ray's Boathouse**, in Ballard, which juts out into the Sound, makes for Instagram-inducing sunset experiences. • The water taxi from downtown conveniently disembarks by the West Seattle back deck of **Marination Ma Kai**, where Hawaiian meets Korean in the form of kimchi fried rice, spam sliders and real-deal shave ice. **Beach Cafe**, in Kirkland, has a wraparound patio on Lake Washington's Carillon Point—and burgers you can top with guac and bacon. • In **Tacoma**, whether you want a date night (**Harbor Lights**) or a happy-hour nosh (**Lobster Shop**), the waterfront Ruston Way has a set of places to get your seascape on. —E.S.



Of course, the Capitol Hill food scene is just one instance of how the old is holding its own with the new around the region—in Seattle, and also in Tacoma and on the Eastside, where refurbished industrial areas meet innovative museums, and where culture and food attractions are also flourishing.

## Tacoma

Legend has it that American explorer Charles Wilkes, who mapped many of the inlets and bays of Puget Sound in the 1840s, made note of a promontory—with high cliffs above a narrows—that could “bid defiance to any attack.” It was never used for military operations, and **Point Defiance**

**Park** became public land back in 1888. And what a park it is. Here you’ll find **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium**, the only combination zoo-aquarium in the Northwest, where you can ride camels and dive with sharks.

The **Fort Nisqually Living History Museum** at the park is a reconstructed trading post, with people in period costumes to interpret settlement life in the 1850s. The park’s **Five Mile Drive** (which is partially closed to cars weekend mornings and early weekday mornings) offers a scenic ramble, and more than a dozen miles of trails wind through forest classified as old-growth. The **Dahlia Trial Garden** at the park is one of the largest in North America; blooms begin



DANITA DELMONT / GETTY IMAGES

bursting in July, peak in August, and sometimes grow as tall as 6 feet.

In addition to its outdoor attractions, Tacoma is well-equipped for indoor activities, thanks to its museums, such as the **Museum of Glass**—one

The Washington State History Museum, with its brick arches, is a fixture of the Tacoma museum scene. The Museum of Glass, visible through one arch, is another.

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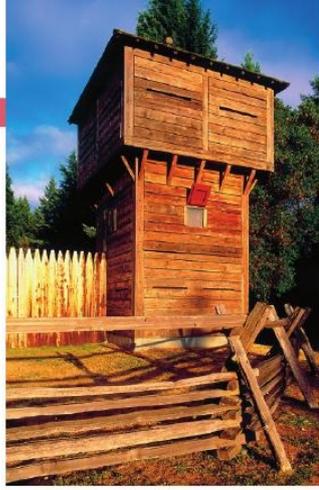
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of the nation's top institutions solely dedicated to glass arts. The area's strength in glass art owes thanks to Tacoma native Dale Chihuly.

After you enjoy the exhibits and opportunities to watch professional artists at work in the Museum of Glass hot shop, cross the **Chihuly Bridge of Glass**, a pedestrian overpass displaying thousands of Chihuly pieces on the ceiling and walls, to the **Washington State History Museum**, known for its exhibits of artifacts, maps, photos and other historical items telling the story of the state. The **Tacoma Art Museum**—also known for glass art, as well as extensive Japanese prints and American West art—is just up the street.



**Top:** Point Defiance Park has a reconstructed trading post at Fort Nisqually Living History Museum. **Above:** The park's Dahlia Trial Garden is a summer must-see.

By the harbor, amble along the revitalized **Thea Foss Waterway** and its ever-evolving ribbon of parklets and paths. For all things maritime, don't miss the **Foss Waterway Seaport**, which is scheduled to reopen on June 19 after an extensive overhaul.

Car enthusiasts will fall for **LeMay—America's Car Museum**, which is one of the largest auto museums in North America. Businessman Harold LeMay had amassed a staggering collection—some 3,500 vehicles—during his lifetime. A selection of these cars is on display at ACM, including a Ford Model T and a 1930 Duesenberg Model J Roadster. But what makes the museum unique is a dedication to all cars, not just rare and ex-

pensive ones; you'll find a 1983 Mercury station wagon, as well as a 2016 BMW i8.

## The Eastside

The old **Evergreen Point Floating Bridge** that took State Route 520 east from Seattle across Lake Washington used to be the longest floating bridge in the world—until the replacement SR 520 Floating Bridge opened in April 2016 and beat it out by 130 feet. Whether you drive, bus, or use the new bike lanes (which are expected to open in mid-2017), it's a convenient trip to the other side of the water, where towns that were once merely Seattle suburbs have become booming cities in their own right.



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To get a taste of Eastside culture, start in **Bellevue**, with the rotating exhibitions of contemporary local art inside the Tetris-evoking building of the **Bellevue Arts Museum**, known as a top-notch temple to unique and thought-provoking work. The museum—which occupied several locations before its current site opened in 2001—was spawned by an annual street fair that launched in 1947. The fair, now called the **BAM ArtsFair** (July 29–31), brings tens of thousands of people out on the streets to browse and buy from 300-plus artisans.

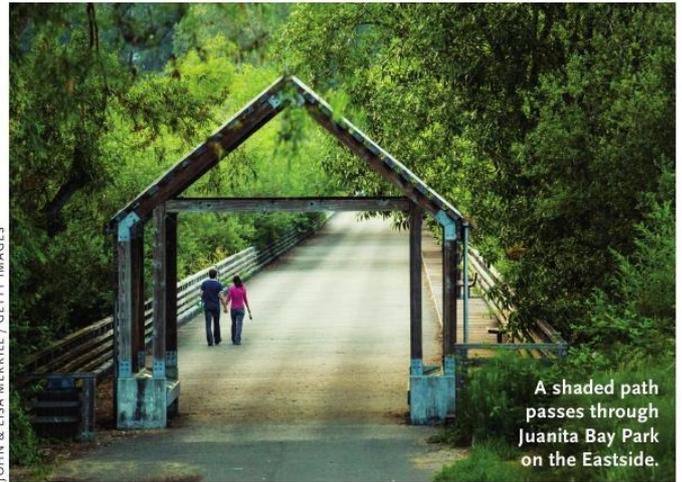
While you're downtown, put your name on the list for a table at **Din Tai Fung**, a popular Taiwanese dumpling emporium that's part of Bellevue's impressive shopping complex, **The Bellevue Collection**. (The restaurant also now has a popular location in Seattle's University Village, with a downtown location expected to open in summer.)

For a more old-school experience, browse the smaller stores—including Seattle-area chocolatier Fran's—along **Main Street in Old Bellevue**, which used to be surrounded by fields of strawberries. Then take in fresh air, and an intimate Japanese garden, along the trails of the **Bellevue Botanical Garden**, a short drive from Bellevue's downtown.

On summer evenings, the waterfront in the town of **Kirkland** (north of Bellevue) feels like a true lakeside beach town: picnic blankets in **Marina Park**, ice cream, music booming from cars—and stellar views of the Olympic Mountains across Lake Washington. Particularly in July and August, the water is

warm enough for a dip in the sheltered swim area at **Juanita Beach Park**. And a swim will whet your appetite for an haute Italian meal at **Cafe Juanita**, a high-end restaurant that was converted from a home more than 35 years ago.

Just a half-hour drive from downtown Seattle, and about 8 miles northeast of Kirkland, is **Woodinville**, one of the Puget Sound area's most enjoyable day



A shaded path passes through Juanita Bay Park on the Eastside.

JOHN & LISA MERRILL / GETTY IMAGES

## SEATOWN BY BOAT

→ Water, water everywhere: It's what makes the Sound the Sound. And there's no shortage of ways to get your sea legs around Seattle. You can take a 35-minute ferry ride from downtown's Colman Dock to **Bainbridge Island** to grab a sticky bun at **Blackbird Bakery** or a frozen treat at **Mora Iced Creamery**, and peruse regional art at the new **Bainbridge Island Museum of Art**. • You can also take a trip to see sights in **Bremerton**, about a one-hour ferry trip from downtown Seattle. • Or take a shorter ferry ride from West Seattle or Point Defiance, in Tacoma, to laid-back **Vashon Island**. On-island, wander a farmers market, take a lighthouse tour or enjoy the **Vashon Island Strawberry Festival** (July 15–17). • Back in Seattle, rent a kayak from **Agua Verde Paddle Club** to get up-close looks at floating homes on Lake Union and Portage Bay, and then refuel at the restaurant with margaritas and tacos. • The University of Washington's **Waterfront Activities Center** rents canoes and rowboats, and is the perfect jumping-off point to cruise through the channels of the **Washington Park Arboretum**. In West Seattle, **Alki Kayak Tours** has stand-up paddleboards, kayak rentals and guided kayak tours, plus a postcard-worthy location across Elliott Bay from downtown. And only in Seattle can you hire a water-within watercraft from **Hot Tub Boats**—yes, a hot tub, in a boat—that you can motor around Lake Union. —E.S.



Kayakers rent craft at Agua Verde Paddle Club, on Portage Bay.

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Woodinville Wine Country offers a great variety of exceptional tasting options.

trips, with more than 100 wineries and tasting rooms in the **Woodinville Wine Country**. The renowned **Chateau Ste. Michelle** opened for winemaking and visitor tours in Woodinville in 1976. The iconic winery now produces about 3 million cases a year, including some of the world's most celebrated Rieslings. CSM also has a venue for an annual picnic-friendly summer concert series featuring world-class performers.

And there's more than grape-based elixirs to be found in the Woodinville area. The **Woodinville Whiskey Company** distills award-winning spirits, and it adjoins the historic **Hollywood Tavern**, a reimagined roadhouse. At the **Redhook Brewery**, which started brewing craft beer in Washington in 1981, you can sip ales and watch movies under the stars.

If you're a cyclist, take the **Sammamish River Trail** north to Bothell, where it meets the **Burke-Gilman Trail**. The "BGT" is a roughly 21-mile-long rails-to-trails gem that can lead you—on a flat, paved path—all the way back to Seattle. **wa**

*Evelyn Spence looks forward to introducing her young children to the wonders of the Puget Sound region.*

*Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; alaskaair.com) flies daily to the Seattle area. To learn more about Seattle-area attractions, see sites such as visitseattle.org and seattlesouthside.com.*

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# From Sea to Sky

Exploring the greater Bellingham area **By Lauren Kramer**

A SUN-SOAKED COASTLINE and a high tide with nary a ripple greet me the day my husband and I sit patio-side at a beach restaurant on Birch Bay, northwest of Bellingham. As I take in the tranquil scene, a pickup truck pulls in near our table. Out clambers a young man who grabs a paddleboard from the back of his truck under one arm and a paddle in the other. Seconds later, he's on the water paddling effortlessly out into the bay, his figure receding in the afternoon sunshine. The motion of the board on the water's surface is like rhythmic poetry, and the bay's glassy water offers the ultimate conditions for stand-up paddleboarding.



**Top:** An orca surfaces in the waters near the San Juan Islands. **Above:** Kayakers tour Bellingham Bay.

**Below:** A founder of Bellingham's Fairhaven area, Dan Harris is immortalized in bronze in the neighborhood.



Activities such as paddleboarding are only the beginning of the fun available in **Whatcom County**, a playground for outdoor lovers and adventure-seekers, just 90 miles from Seattle and 54 miles from Vancouver, British Columbia. The county is a tree-shrouded haven encompassing a swath of land from **Bellingham** and other coastal communities to the peaks, lakes and valleys of the **North Cascades National Park**. There are snaking hiking trails, pristine lakes perfect for water sports and farm-to-fork restaurants warmed by the hospitality of local residents.

I bask in some of that hospitality over a double-decker ice cream cone at The C Shop



CHUCK PEPELY/ALAMY STOCK

Cyclists gather in the historic Fairhaven neighborhood of Bellingham, which offers a variety of shops, coffeehouses, brewpubs and restaurants.

in Birch Bay, a family-run candy shop since 1971. Birch Bay's C Shop is a local favorite, with families often cycling or walking over from the beach. Kids line up patiently to choose snow cone flavors and sample caramel straight from the oven.

We arrived at C Shop after a short drive from our accommodations at the luxurious

**Semiahmoo Resort, Golf and Spa**, located on Semiahmoo Bay. The resort is known for its pristine trails, excellent golf courses, recreation opportunities and wonderful spa.

Our ice cream stop complete, we travel about 20 miles south to Bellingham, passing near the Hotel Bellwether, known for its wonderful setting, views of Bellingham Bay and the Lighthouse Bar & Grill. We continue past the **Whatcom Museum**, where the Lightcatcher building is featuring the exhibit "Colorfast: Vivid Installations Make Their Mark," through September 18. Our goal is the nearby **Spark Museum of Electrical Invention**, known for the "MegaZapper Electrical

Show," which features 10-foot arcs of purple lightning that are released by the 4-million-volt zapper. The show can be loud and is not recommended for children under 5.

Following the "shocking" but entertaining show, we visit the **Saturday Bellingham Farmers Market** in full swing on Railroad Avenue. The market is open every Wednesday, from June to September and on Saturdays, June to December.

Meandering among the rows of plump vegetables from local farms and past the trays of smoked salmon samples, we explore the work of artists and culinary entrepreneurs. Buskers perform and add their music to the delight of the market crowd.



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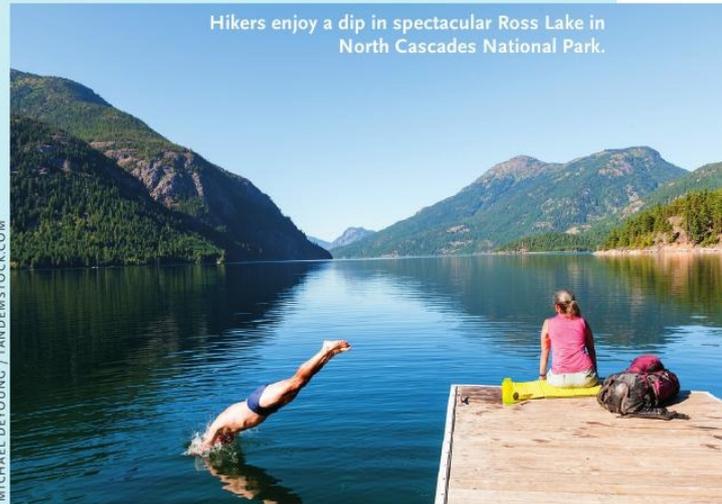
We sample our way through the market and decide it is time for some exercise. Renting bikes in the Fairhaven neighborhood of Bellingham, we take to the **South Bay Trail**, an easy route that leads from the historic town center through Boulevard Park and past the popular **Chrysalis Inn and Spa**, which is known for its elegant setting, wonderful views and excellent food at its restaurant, Keenan's at the Pier.

While we would like to linger longer on this waterfront path, the Chuckanut trails are calling. In the late afternoon, my husband and I drive a few miles south on Chuckanut Drive to the **North Chuckanut Mountain Trailhead**, where we

## Alpine Wonderland

To the east of Bellingham you'll find **North Cascades National Park**, an alpine wonderland known for its snowcapped mountain peaks, pristine lakes and deep canyons. The park offers a variety of activities, including kayaking, white-water rafting, horseback riding and mountain climbing. Those interested in hiking the northern reaches of the park can drive State Route 542, which leads from Bellingham to the Mount Baker Ski Area, located on the edge of the park. For access to more areas in the park, including Ross Lake and the North Cascades Visitor Center, travel 25 miles south of Bellingham to Burlington and head east on the scenic State Route 20, known as the North Cascades Highway. For information, visit the park's website, [nps.gov/noca/](http://nps.gov/noca/) —L.K.

MICHAEL DEYOUNG / TANDEMSTOCK.COM



Hikers enjoy a dip in spectacular Ross Lake in North Cascades National Park.



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**EXPLORING EVERETT**

→ Visitors to Everett will find this Snohomish County city, located 60 miles south of Bellingham, to be a vibrant community. It is home to Naval Station Everett and the **Future of Flight Aviation Center**, which offers tours of the Boeing Everett Factory, the largest building by volume in the world. Everett has attractions for both nature and city lovers. **Jetty Island**, a small, man-made island accessible by ferry, is a great place for a family picnic. Downtown, explore the city's beautiful waterfront, home to the **Everett Farmers Market** and the **Waterfront Concert Series**, held through the summer at **Port Gardner Landing**. Plans are also underway for **Waterfront Place**, the city's new commercial, recreational and residential community. For visitor information, visit [snohomish.org](http://snohomish.org). —L.K.

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hike among the labyrinth of trails in the area, affording us glorious views of Bellingham Bay and the Salish Sea. In the distance, we can see the San Juan Archipelago, which is dotted with 172 islands.

To get a closer look at the islands, my husband and I book an excursion with **San Juan Cruises** the next day, motoring into the Salish Sea on a 100-foot vessel in the company of naturalists who share information



COURTESY: THE PORT OF EVERETT

about the region and its wildlife. The boat cruises among the islands, which are home to resident pods of orcas that spend most of the year in this healthy ecosystem, making the area excellent for whale-watching.

For instance, on the west side of San Juan Island—the largest in the island group—visitors

gather at the **Lime Kiln State Park** to watch orcas in the deep bays off Haro Strait, a favorite nursery for the mother orcas and their calves. Our captain takes the boat past various rock outcroppings where we view sea lions lounging in the sun. We marvel at the hefty sizes of these animals. On another rock, harbor seals and their pups rest while a sharp-eyed juvenile bald eagle keeps watch from a perch.

At last, in the distance, we see the dorsal fins of a group of orcas moving swiftly through the waters west of Orcas Island, their black-and-white bodies gleaming as they catch the afternoon sun. The captain turns off the engine and we watch as the pod moves past our vessel, listening to their powerful bursts of air as they exhale through their blowholes.

With the forested hillsides of Orcas Island as a backdrop and the whales swimming by, it is a uniquely Northwest moment—one infused with exquisitely wild beauty. **wa**

*Lauren Kramer writes about Northwest Washington and British Columbia.*

*Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; alaskaair.com) flies daily to Bellingham. For more information on Bellingham area activities and attractions, go to [bellingham.org](http://bellingham.org).*

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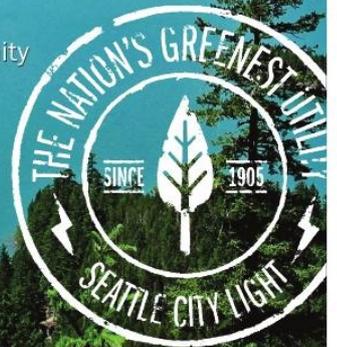
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# Grand Vistas

Eight Washington locations offer unique views of the state **By Terry W. Sheely**



VIEW THE BREATHTAKING summit of Mount Rainier while being surrounded by wildflowers. Watch as a river flows off a cliff that was created during the last ice age, or admire the way in which the ocean can carve a rocky shoreline. The following places in Washington state are stunning in their beauty and illustrative of the power of nature.

## Hurricane Ridge

→ This is where I come to feel as if I'm standing on top of the world. The road to Hurricane Ridge starts near sea level and, 17 miles later, reaches an altitude of 5,242 feet on a green heather ridge with views that can take your breath away. The glacier-covered peaks of the Olympic Mountains unfold to the south in Olympic National Park. To the north, while standing on a paved path, I can see freighters moving along the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Victoria, British Columbia, is in the distance. Wildflowers, marjams and black-tailed deer are prevalent throughout the area.

## CAPE FLATTERY

**In this most distant corner of the Olympic Peninsula**, the northwesternmost point of the contiguous 48 states, you can feel the raw energy of the Pacific Ocean as it pounds into the cathedral hush of rain forest cedars, spruce, moss and ferns. From promontories on wooden platforms hammered by Makah tribesmen, you can enjoy the dramatic beauty of sea stacks, coves whose cliff walls have been sculpted and smoothed by waves, and headlands battered by the ocean's fury. Wildlife is abundant, including sightings of gray whales and sea lions. Parrot-beaked puffins, red-billed



oystercatchers and occasionally a rare sea otter also can be seen. To the north is the immense opening of the Strait of Juan de Fuca.



## PALOUSE FALLS

In the flinty sagebrush-covered scablands of Southeast Washington, the raging Palouse River, with barely a warning, plunges into the desert air, dropping 198 feet into a circular chasm surrounded by basalt cliffs. The roaring white gush of water then continues downstream, flowing through a cliff-walled canyon hundreds of feet deep in places—all viewable from Palouse Falls State Park. The geological formations, plunge pool and dramatic drops are so striking that in March 2015, Palouse Falls was named the official falls of Washington state.



## Paradise

→ Martha Longmire—the daughter-in-law of James Longmire, who first developed a hotel on Mount Rainier—stood above the clouds in a mile-high mountain meadow saturated with bursts of wildflowers that included swatches of yellows, reds, whites and purples, and small islands of trees.

She looked at the chiseled outline of the Tatoosh Range silhouetted behind her, and the sunlight

highlighting the brilliant hard ice on the most glaciated peak in the lower 48 states, and is said to have gasped, “Oh, this place is Paradise.”

That was in 1885, 14 years before Mount Rainier became the centerpiece of the United States’ fifth national park.

Longmire’s exclamation became the name of the most visited area in the park, and it’s as apt today as it was then.



## MARYHILL

**On an isolated sun-seared ridge marked by outcroppings of volcanic columnar basalt** stands one of the most fascinating communities to be found anywhere. There, you'll find the Beaux Arts mansion known as the Maryhill Museum of Art. In 1907, businessman Samuel Hill bought 5,300 acres of land on the ridge to create a Quaker

village. His dream was never realized, and Hill decided to make his home into an art museum and name it after his daughter, Mary. Facing south toward the Columbia River, the Maryhill complex includes the museum, which contains rotating exhibits, both historic and contemporary. Hill also built a full-scale replica of England's Stonehenge three



miles to the east of the museum. A few miles to the west is the separately owned Maryhill Winery, which is known for its award-winning vintages and star-studded concerts.



Maryhill Winery (top), Stonehenge replica (middle) and a collection of classical busts stored at the museum (bottom right).



## Grand Coulee Dam

→ "Grand" defines this man-made marvel on the upper Columbia River in northeastern Washington. The dam was considered "The Eighth Wonder of the World" when it was completed in 1941. It is nearly a mile wide, 550 feet tall, holding back 151 miles of Lake Roosevelt, a source of irrigation water for the region. It sends 21 billion kilowatts of power a year to 11 states, with enough left over to power a laser show across the face of the dam each evening, from late May to September.



## CASCADE PASS

The North Cascades are a wild, glacier-streaked and amazingly beautiful section of the Cascade Range. Even the names of such peaks as Mount Triumph (shown in the distance above) speak to the dramatic views that await those who venture into this rugged land. It is a place framed by jagged rock formations dotted with glaciers, open-slope meadows, and the royal white crowns of such imposing mountains as the pyramid summit of Mount Shuksan.

TOP, ETHAN WELTY / TANDEMSTOCK.COM; BOTTOM, ETHAN WELTY / AURORA PHOTOS

## Mount Constitution

→ The highest point in the San Juan Islands, the summit of Mount Constitution, located in Orcas Island's Moran State Park, packs a lot into one viewpoint. From the top of the replica of a 12th century Russian tower, which stands on the 2,409-foot summit, you can see three

mountain ranges, two volcanoes, a calendar-perfect aerial overview of the San Juan archipelago, the Salish Sea, the southern islands of the Strait of Georgia and parts of British Columbia. Hiking trails and a winding road offer access to the summit. [wa](#)





Pictured with Ali: Elisabeth Tomere, Physical Therapist; Bente Dalby, Oncology RN; Dr. Janice Kim, Radiation Oncologist.

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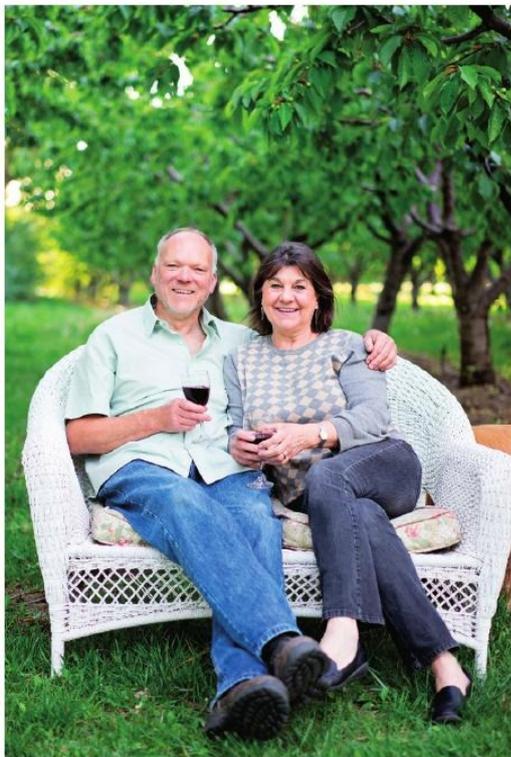
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# A Bountiful Land

Eastern Washington is a rich agricultural region **By Cheryl-Anne Millsap**

MY HUSBAND AND I ARE TRAVELING through the wide plateaus and rolling hills that make up much of the eastern half of Washington state. We are taking an ambling excursion through country that still shows the signs of epic ancient geological activity. Amid an arid landscape that is marked by basalt outcroppings, farmland and sagebrush, we can see how the land has been altered by the slow grind of glaciers and the swift flow of mighty rivers through millennia.



**Above:** Eastern Washington produces some of the finest wine grapes in the world.

**Far Left:** Ludger and Julie Szmania, owners of Wenatchee's Warm Springs Inn and Winery, offer gourmet meals such as the vegetarian breakfast at left.

One result of these prehistoric events is that the agricultural land east of the Cascade Mountains is among the most fertile and productive in the world. As many as 12 billion apples are picked here each year, and more than 110 million bushels of wheat were harvested in 2015. Eastern Washington is a top producer of such crops as onions, asparagus, dry peas, lentils, sweet cherries, raspber-

ries, grapes and hops.

On our trip, we see large fruit orchards, fields of vegetables and produce, thousands of acres of wheat, and vineyards that stretch up hillside slopes.

Farms that have been in families for generations are nurtured by the rich soil, dry climate and four distinct seasons. We're on the trail of wine and food and we intend to taste it all.

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## THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF WINE

→ While Washington is a leader in the production of many different crops, few have as much economic impact as the state's wine industry. Washington now produces 16 million cases of wine annually, ranking second in the nation in production, behind only the state of California. In

1981, there were just 19 wineries in Washington. Today, there are nearly 900. In 2015, the state harvested 222,000 tons of wine grapes from about 50,000 acres of vineyards.

Wine's impact can be felt throughout the state. One of the newest aspects of the industry has been the growth in wine tourism, with many rural communities benefiting from the influx of visitors enjoying the local vintages. The Washington Wine Commission estimates that in 2013, the state's wine industry had a total economic impact of \$4.8 billion.



## Lake Chelan

In summer, the long and narrow lake, cradled by mountains, is a busy blue oasis.

It is usually dotted with boats and other watercraft as water-skiers slice the lake surface. Once a day, the *Lady of the Lake* ferry shuttles between Chelan and the small, remote town of Stehekin.

This time of year, the town of Chelan, located at the south end of the lake, experiences a swell

**Above:** Lake Chelan is a popular destination for all types of summer fun. Many families have been coming to the area for generations to enjoy the water and local attractions.

of population as many families, some of whom have been gathering here for generations, come to enjoy the summer weather. Shops, galleries and boutiques line the main street. In the winter, the region offers

outdoor activities that include skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. The **Lake Chelan American Viticultural Area** (AVA), with its unique microclimate and sandy glacial soil, now includes more than 20 wineries. We savor a glass of Lehm Sauvignon Blanc from Vin du Lac on the balcony of our room at Campbell's Resort in Chelan as we watch the sun set on an idyllic summer day.

## Wenatchee

The next morning, we travel the short distance south to Wenatchee. The self-proclaimed "Apple Capital of the World" sits at the confluence of the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers.

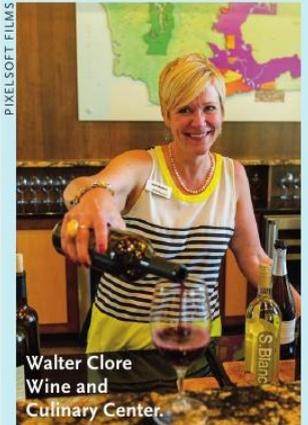
We arrive at the **Warm Springs Inn and Winery**, which is on the banks of the Wenatchee River, and meet the owners, Ludger and Julie Szmania. Ludger is an award-winning chef, and the couple owned a popular restaurant in Seattle for 25 years before moving to Wenatchee and taking over the Warm Springs property in 2014.

We walk the grounds and watch hummingbirds fly by as we taste the robust new wines the Szmanias are producing, using grapes from regional vineyards, including their own 1-acre plot at Brender Canyon Farm in the nearby town of Cashmere.

In the afternoon, we visit the annual Wine and Food Gala at **Ohme Gardens**, an unexpected green jewel atop an arid landscape. In 1920 Herman Ohme and his wife, Ruth, began transplanting evergreen trees from the Cascade Mountains and hauling water in milk cans to the top of a high bluff over-

## Wine Appreciation

The small town of Prosser is said to be one of the birthplaces of Washington's wine industry. The area around the town was



Walter Clore  
Wine and  
Culinary Center.

awarded the state's first wine appellation and was the home of Walter Clore, a pioneer of the state's wine industry. Today, there are an estimated 75 wineries within a 50-mile radius of Prosser, and the town is home to the **Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center**, which holds wine tastings, cooking classes and events. However, wine is just the beginning. Prosser also is a major supplier of the nation's crop of beer hops.

The city will start the summer celebrations with the **Bottles, Brews and Barbecues** event, June 10–11, at the Vintner's Village. The event will include a barbecue competition. —C.A.M.

looking the valley below.

Today, the lush 9-acre gardens belong to Chelan County and offer a cool, shaded respite from the summer sun. It also hosts various events throughout the summer, including the **Ohme Gardens Wine and Food Gala**, July 9.

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The next morning, after a delicious breakfast by Chef Ludger of poached eggs with Dungeness crab, we head to **Pybus Public Market** in Wenatchee. Located inside a refurbished warehouse, Pybus is a thriving market with restaurants, boutiques, produce stalls and live entertainment.

While at the market, we rent bikes from Arlberg Sports—Riverfront and ride the picturesque **Apple Capital Loop Trail**, a 10-mile paved loop path that runs along the Columbia River. We end the day back at the market with pizza and beer on the patio at the Fire restaurant.

The following day (after asking for seconds of Chef Ludger's creations, including a delectable breakfast sausage), we make another stop by Pybus Market to pick up some fresh cherries.

## Yakima

We continue south to the Yakima Valley. With farmland stretching in all directions, the valley reinforces what an agricultural powerhouse this region has become.

With a mild climate, 300 days of sunshine and an average growing season of 195 days, the Yakima Valley is one of the great food centers of the nation—producing apples, cherries, pears, a wide variety of vegetables, seeds, field crops and cereal grains.

Yakima also supplies almost half the state's total wine grapes. This vineyard bounty has helped the region to be a center for wine tourism, with six wine trails for visitors to enjoy. The trails are scattered throughout the area, running from Yakima east to Prosser and



**Top:** The picturesque farming town of Steptoe is surrounded by the rolling hills of the Palouse, near the Idaho border. **Above:** The Inland Northwest Ale Trail has compiled a map to 27 craft brewers located throughout the region, with most found between Spokane and the nearby Idaho town of Coeur d'Alene.

south to the Columbia River.

Here you'll find the Rattlesnake Hills Wine Trail (but don't worry, few rattlesnakes are seen here, just numerous excellent wineries); the Sunnyside-Grandview Wine Trail; the Prosser Wine Trail; and the Horse Heaven Hills Wine Trail.

There is a legend that in the late 1880s, James Kinney, a Yakima pioneer, stood looking out over land located southeast of Yakima. Noting the high grass that covered the hills, he declared it was "surely a horse heaven."

The name stuck, and today, the large Horse Heaven Hills area, which roughly runs from the Columbia River in the south to Goldendale in the west, Prosser in the north and near the Tri-Cities to the east, has become something Kinney

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STEPHEN SAKS PHOTOGRAPHY / ALAMY STOCK

Walla Walla's award-winning downtown offers a variety of shops, restaurants and tasting rooms in a charming setting.

could not have imagined. The fertile soil and warm and windy weather are perfect for growing wine grapes. **The Horse Heaven Hills AVA** is home to a number of wineries and 29 vineyards producing some of the finest wine grapes in the world. Other Eastern Washington AVA regions include Red Mountain, Wahluke Slope and Rattlesnake Hills. Like the wines they produce, the names of these AVAs are all a blend of geography, history and a bit of poetry.

### Tri-Cities

The Tri-Cities are composed of the three towns of Kennewick, Pasco and Richland, near one another along the shores of the Columbia River. They were originally founded to support the agricultural area, especially with the introduction of irrigation, and that heritage is still strong today.

There are literally hundreds of wineries in the land between Yakima and the Tri-Cities. The three-city complex is also home to at least 10 farmers markets. We stop at the market in downtown Kennewick and buy corn that was freshly picked that morning.

As we travel east, I think about the hard work necessary to farm here. Working the soil is a demanding, but

## The "Shopping Mall Gorilla" – Ivan Returns in Bronze to Tacoma, Washington

This iconic gorilla, raised by a family and loved by visitors to Tacoma's B&I Shopping Mall and Zoo Atlanta, will be cast, life-size bronze, by artist, **Douglas Granum**.

The sculpture, placed at the entrance to Pt. Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, in Tacoma, WA, honors Ivan's legacy of human connections by inspiring generations of families to care about gorilla conservation.

**WITH IVAN'S ASHES IN EVERY BRONZE POUR, IVAN IS TRULY RETURNING.**

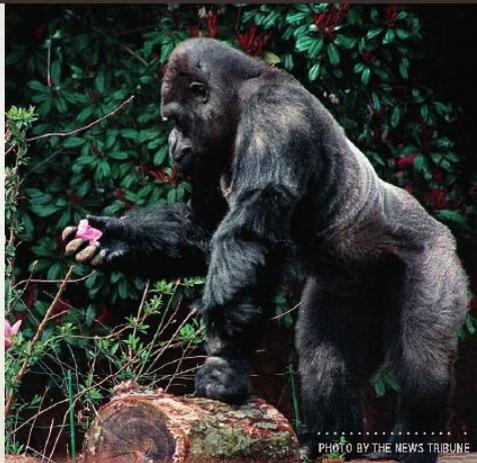


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rewarding, job. One farmer I meet, Mark Wieseler, runs the Flying W Farms near the Tri-Cities. The operation covers 2,500 acres of irrigated ground and another 2,400 acres of rangeland used for grazing. He works the land his father settled in 1957.

“My father, Leonard, grew up on a family farm in South Dakota, but he had two older brothers who were already farming, and there was not enough room for him,” Wieseler says. “Some friends of my parents had already moved out to Eastern Washington and told my father about all of the opportunities they believed the region had [with the irrigation water coming to the area] and they were right.”

Now Wieseler grows alfalfa, Timothy hay, corn and wheat—in addition to raising 350 head of cattle. He works with his two sons, Levi, 22, and Remington, 20. And it appears the family tradition of farming and caring for the land will continue.

“We are working on the third generation here in Eastern Washington,” Wieseler says. “My two sons have found a love for this land that my father and I also shared.”

## Walla Walla

Southeast of the Tri-Cities, the town of Walla Walla is steeped in state history. It is the site of the Whitman Mission, which was founded in 1836 and was an important stop on the Oregon Trail.

Known as an agricultural center and for its famous sweet onions, the town has more recently become a destination for wine lovers looking for a weekend getaway. We find it a good place to spend a day or two sampling regional wines and relaxing.

Some of the state’s most famous wineries are in the town, and at various times during the year, Walla Walla swells with visitors attending barrel tastings—when local wineries offer their latest vintages. However, we find the pace just right on our trip. We opt to spend the night at The Mar-

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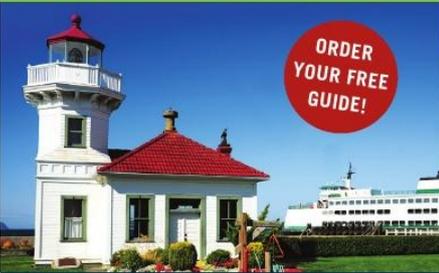
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## Active Inland Northwest

**Spokane** is the economic hub for the Inland Northwest, drawing people from Washington, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia for business, shopping, arts and culture, and transportation. • Spokane International Airport is the second largest in the state. • **WestCoast**

**Entertainment** brings top-rated touring Broadway productions to the city, and the **Spokane Symphony** performs in the beautifully renovated **Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox**. • **The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture** houses an expansive collection of art and artifacts relevant to the region's history and culture. From September 2016 to January 2017, the museum will host "Lost Egypt: Ancient Secrets, Modern Science," which examines how modern science and technology can reveal the mysteries of Egypt, its culture and its people. • Known for outdoor activities, Spokane hosts as many as 50,000 runners, joggers and walkers of all ages for the annual 12k **Lilac Bloomsday Run** in May. Every June, Spokane hosts **HoopFest**, the largest three-on-three street basketball tournament in the world with more than 450 courts and 7,000 teams taking part. This year's tournament will be held June 25-26. • September's **SpokeFest** encourages everyone to get on their bikes with routes from a 1-mile park loop to a 50-mile ride. • Spokane offers dozens of golf courses, including the award-winning **Indian Canyon Golf Course**, listed by *Golf Digest* magazine as one of the top 25 public courses in the U.S. In the winter, the city's proximity to four area resorts within a two-hour drive means there is a slope for all levels of skiing. —C.A.M.



Spokane's Lilac Bloomsday Run.

COLIN MULVANY / THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

cus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla's grand center of luxury since it was built in the 1920s. After a delicious meal at The Marc Restaurant, the hotel's premium dining experience, we catch an art film at the Gesa Power House Theatre, located in a renovated 120-year-old building that was once a Walla Walla power plant.

On the way out of town the next morning, we buy a bag of Walla Walla sweet onions, which are available at local stores, roadside stands or directly from farmers from mid-June through mid-August.

### Pullman

Home to Washington State University, the town of Pullman is located 110 miles to the northeast of Walla Walla, near the Idaho border, in the middle of the beautiful rolling fields of the Palouse.

Wheat, barley and chickpeas are important crops in the area, and 16 percent of all lentils grown in the United States come from the Palouse. The National Lentil Festival is held here each August,

with a lentil cook-off, a fun run, a parade and the crowning of the Lil' Lentil King and Queen. The town is also known for its offerings of microbrews. We enjoy the Paradise Creek Brewery and then stroll around the charming college town.

The farmers market is open spring through the fall, with an array of fresh produce reflecting the bounty of the nearby farms and fields.

### Spokane

Our home city of Spokane is the state's second largest city and the largest on the eastern side of the Cascades. It is also a great place to live. The city's food scene is innovative and expansive. The Inland Northwest Ale Trail runs through the region and Spokane's Cork District links 20 wineries and a growing number of tasting rooms, many within easy walking distance in the heart of downtown.

With plenty of sunshine, four distinct seasons and a landscape that includes mountains in the distance and a waterfall

in the center of the city, Spokane is an exceptional place to explore.

Despite its growth, the city remains deeply rooted in northwest farming. I am reminded of local farmer Dan Krause, who I met recently. He grew up on his family's farm, located an hour west of Spokane. He went to college in Spokane and planned to work in the corporate world.

However, when the time came to make a choice, he decided to carry on the family tradition. Now he's hoping that his own son will savor the same opportunities he had growing up on a farm and perhaps, one day, work the land as well. Krause says he feels a deep satisfaction in farming the fields of Eastern Washington. "There is just something about seeing the change of the seasons reflected in the fields of grain that brings great pride in the work I do," he says.

AS WE NEAR OUR HOME, a hawk soars overhead, scanning the fields. Warm, dry air sweeps through the car, and impulsively, I stretch out my arm, letting my hand surf the wind as we continue toward Spokane, caught up in the pure pleasure of the moment.

I think about what I heard at one of the farm stands we stopped at as the owner bagged my purchase. I'd asked him what kept his family farming in Eastern Washington. "Just look around," he said, gesturing at the expansive horizon. "This is a beautiful place to wake up every morning. Everything we grow here is good."

As we arrive home, I reach into a bag of fruit purchased at the farm and pop one more sweet cherry in my mouth. It is good, indeed. **wa**

*Cheryl-Anne Millsap writes from Spokane.*

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# A Birding State of Mind

By Kathryn True

BIRDS ARE READY TRAVEL COMPANIONS that, in my home state of Washington, can turn any outing into a journey of joyful discovery. I am continually amazed by avian wonders that I witness on trips around the state. When I set out years ago to hike the Wonderland Trail—a 93-mile circumnavigation of Mount Rainier—I was a beginning birder. I had just read Terry Tempest Williams' poetic book *Refuge*, and the author's indelible portraits of her airborne neighbors awakened a lifelong passion.



**Top:** Sandhill cranes congregate around the Eastern Washington town of Othello on their migration to Alaska breeding grounds. **Above:** The robinlike varied thrush has distinctive markings—and a distinctive song.

Wherever I go, birds are there, too, elevating even the most humdrum of days by offering a portal into a universe of natural wonder.

As my hiking boots imprinted the ancient volcanic dust that coats the great mountain's fluted flanks, I thanked Williams for making me aware of birds' magic. While the chiming voices of kinglets encouraged me from the treetops, the trail at my feet offered me the bright orange quill of a northern flicker—the

first of many feather portents of a good trek.

On the Wonderland Trail, I tried to identify hawks on the wing, laughed at the audacity of gray jays, and—within tent walls—entered dreams through the conversations of owls.

On one morning near Mystic Lake, I heard a strange flat, full whistle, with one tone following another—like an errant flutist performing scales. A friend hiking with me said it was the song of the varied thrush, and I followed the contemplative tune to its source. There, on a basalt stage in a glacial stream, punctuated by devil's club, performed the strikingly patterned robin relative—with a bold, black eye mask and a dark

scarf cinched at his handsome orange throat. The singing bird seemed to intuit the very soul of the mountain.

Seeing certain birds in certain places can define entire Washington seasons. On an annual winter birding weekend in the Skagit Valley, an hour north of Seattle, my friends and I migrate to the river estuary at dusk for our favorite aerial show—the mothlike dance of short-eared owls.

In another migration, every March, 35,000 sandhill cranes stop just outside of the Eastern Washington town of Othello on the way to breeding grounds in Alaska. They rise noisily each evening, their silhouettes sky-writing salutations.



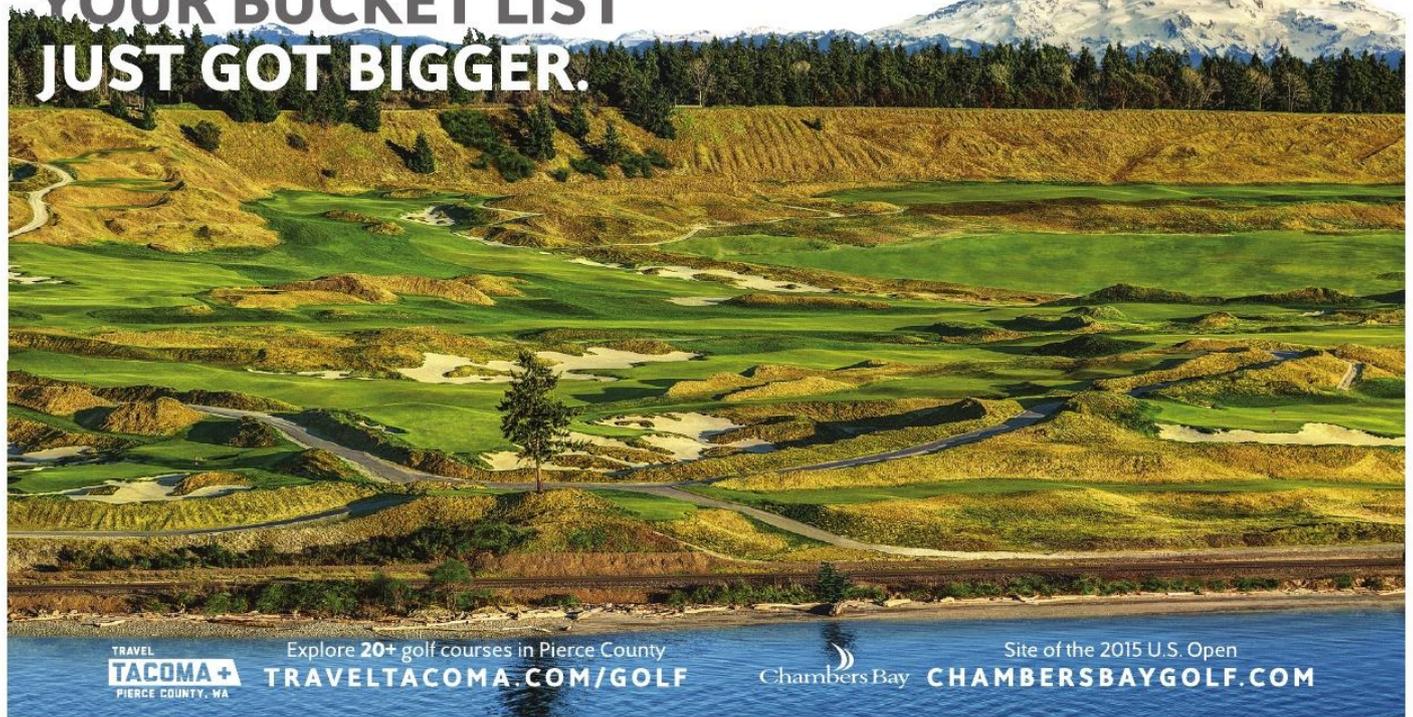
PATTY BORMAN

Writer Kathryn True makes an annual trip to the birding-rich Skagit Valley, north of Seattle.

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**Left:** The short-eared owl, which has a characteristically irregular wingbeat, is one of the many fascinating avian species found in Washington state. **Right:** The male western tanager sports beautifully bold plumage.



Bird encounters have a time-travel aspect, too—cueing memories like entries in a journal. Thanks to a group of sleek avian divers, I'll never forget a mind-clearing solo hike on the 5-mile reach of the Olympic Peninsula's Dungeness Spit, the driftwood spine of this long sand promontory to my right, a flock of penguinlike common

murrens grabbing lunch in the Strait of Juan de Fuca to my left, their heads as smooth as seals'.

Another spring, while setting up camp in Eastern Washington's Yakima River Canyon one Mother's Day, just feet from the swollen river, a male western tanager appeared, so brightly colored he seemed better dressed for the tropics from

which he'd just migrated. My then 6-year-old was so taken by the bold red-and-yellow visitor that she spent hours sketching his portrait with colored pencils.

And I remember with striking clarity a long-ago Seattle spring day at Green Lake, when a belted kingfisher broke from its helicopter hover to dive, splash and carry away flashing silver prey.

Thanks to birds and my explorations in search of them, I can travel through vivid memories of my home state whenever I wish. Watching these feathered wonders makes me feel privy to planetary secrets, and reminds me of my own wild origins. **wa**

*Kathryn True writes from Vashon Island, Washington.*

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What's buzzing in one of the Pacific Northwest's most livable cities?

- Affordable and locally sourced eats from a host of new restaurants (**try TASTES**).
- National businesses that have relocated operations to Vancouver's burgeoning Columbia Tech Center (**see NEW BIZ**).
- A growing downtown that looks to continue its expansion towards the Columbia River's edge (**explore WATERFRONT**).
- Pints of inventive new craft beers that continue to pour forth from a cadre of talented brew masters (**discover BREWCOUVER**).

Vancouver USA has all the ingredients to fuel new business ventures and satisfy wanderlust cravings. Whether you bike in for the weekend, catch an Uber for a meeting or fly in to PDX International Airport (just 10 min. away), **make Vancouver USA your next "it" destination.**

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## WHAT'S BUZZING

### TASTES



Foodies take note: Vancouver has **more than 120 restaurants**. Chef Paul Klitsie relocated from Portland's Pearl District to open Willem's on Main.

### NEW BIZ



Columbia Tech Center boasts **3.4 million sq.ft. of business space**, including the corporate headquarters of Banfield Pet Hospital and its 600 employees.

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### BREWCOUVER



More than **30 local breweries and tap-rooms** call Vancouver home. New kids on the block include Trap Door Brewing and Trusty Brewing.

# Vibrant Vancouver

Natural beauty and economic vitality in Southwest Washington **By Lora Shinn**

I THOUGHT I KNEW ALMOST everything about the city of Vancouver, Washington, which borders the northern shore of the Columbia River. After all, I grew up in the region and attended high school in this port city of 170,000 people. Still, as I visit Vancouver and other places along the Columbia with my own children, I realize there's always more to discover in and around this ever-changing community. Today, the fourth largest city in the state is a hub of activities and adventure.



About 20 miles east of Vancouver is the **Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area**, one of only nine such areas in the nation. And about 100 miles to the west is the **Washington coast**, with its vacation communities and activities.

Closer to Vancouver, one of the area's unique attractions is the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge**, located about 16 miles from the city in the wetlands

**Above:** The Salmon Run Bell Tower is located in Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver. The green space is one of Washington state's oldest public parks. **Top Right:** Beacon Rock State Park, located east of Vancouver, offers spectacular views of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.



along the edge of the Columbia. In the refuge's marshes, grasslands and woodlands, you can see bald eagles, hawks, songbirds, Canada geese and possibly even an otter or a coyote. On this visit, my children (ages 10 and 16) are busy trying to see who can find the most birds as we take the 4.2-mile auto tour of the area.

June is a spectacular month to visit the refuge, says a volunteer at the entrance point. Typically shy mother birds and their offspring are more visible as the younger generation learns how to fly. Our car acts as a moving "bird blind," giving us up-close views of herons, geese and flitting swallows.

## Historic Area

I have always been thrilled by the beauty of the river's northern shoreline. On this day, we stroll along Vancouver's **Waterfront Renaissance Trail**, a 5-mile riverfront path popular with walkers, cyclists and inline skates. The views across the Columbia are stunning. Sunrise and sunset are the best times to visit the area and watch the light illuminate impressive **Mount Hood**, looming to the southeast, and reflect off the wide-span bridges. Make sure to visit the **Vancouver Land Bridge**, designed by artist Maya Lin and commissioned as part of the Confluence Project, which is a series of outdoor art installa-

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**Top:** A park ranger talks with volunteers at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

**Below:** Attendees dance during the Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival.

**Bottom:** Kayakers paddle near Cape Disappointment on the Washington coast.



## Farmers Markets

### Visiting local farmers

**markets** is a great way to meet residents and get acquainted with the region. The following are two of the markets that can be found in the Vancouver area.



**Vancouver Market:** Located in Esther Short Park, at West Sixth Street and Esther Street, the market is open Saturdays, 9 A.M.–3 P.M., and Sundays, 10 A.M.–3 P.M., through October 30; [vancouverfarmersmarket.com](http://vancouverfarmersmarket.com).

**Salmon Creek Market:** Held on Tuesdays at the Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, 2211 N.E. 139th Street, 11 A.M.–3 P.M.; and on Thursdays on N.E. 134th Street, just west of Interstate 5, 3–7 P.M.; through September; [salmoncreekfarmersmarket.com](http://salmoncreekfarmersmarket.com).

We also explore **Officers Row**, owned by the city of Vancouver. Once used for housing U.S. officers, the area includes the **Ulysses S. Grant House**, so named to honor the president who served as quartermaster at the barracks while he was stationed in Vancouver in the 1850s. The home now contains a restaurant and an outdoor patio garden, which is a perfect place to have a meal and reflect on the past.

The **George C. Marshall House** is the past home of the man who went on to become the U.S. Army chief of staff and secretary of state and author of the famous post–World War II Marshall Plan for rebuilding Europe. Inside, we find mementos of Marshall's life and learn about his time at the barracks.

## Arts Center

After learning about the region's history, my family heads to Vancouver's **Arts District**, which includes theaters, art galleries and murals in the downtown area. We wander among the district's murals and sculptures, and visit some of the neighborhood's nu-

tions and artworks along the Columbia River system. Right off the trail, we find the **Water Resource Education Center**, a hands-on facility with many activities for kids.

The city has extensive plans to develop the waterfront. By the time all construction is completed—in about 10 years—Vancouver's waterfront will have more than 1 million square feet of office space, a luxury hotel, restaurants and housing.

The Renaissance Trail joins up with the 2-mile **Discovery Historic Loop Trail**, which connects **Fort Vancouver National Historic Site** with downtown Vancouver.

The fort's location was used by indigenous tribes to raise the camas plant for food, and then it became a fur-trading location. In 1829, the British built a fort used for fur trading and a replica of that fort stands on the site today. The U.S. took control of the Oregon territory in the 1840s and U.S. troops came to the Vancouver area in 1849 to cement American control.

Within the wooden walls of Fort Vancouver, a blacksmith shows off the items he has forged in the smoky blacksmith's shop. The fort has a fur warehouse holding about 1,000 pelts, and a lookout tower providing a two-story vantage point for views of the Columbia River.

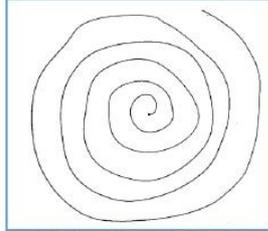
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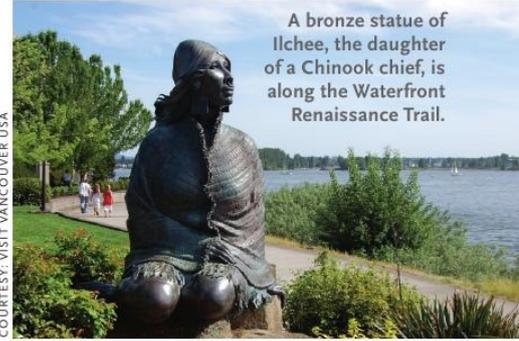
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A bronze statue of Ilchee, the daughter of a Chinook chief, is along the Waterfront Renaissance Trail.

merous art galleries. “The Vancouver Arts District was designated to amplify the creative component of our city,” says Maureen Montague, Vancouver Arts District organizer and board member at North Bank Artists.

Another cultural happening is the local festivals, including the **Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival**, being held August 26–28 at Esther Short Park. The **Sunlight Supply Amphitheater** in Ridgefield offers an eclectic lineup of musical artists this summer, ranging from the Dixie Chicks to Journey and the Doobie Brothers.

Beyond arts and music, visitors will also find Clark County's burgeoning **beer and wine scene** in Vancouver and the surrounding area. More than 30 breweries and taprooms are located throughout the region, including six in the downtown area. One of the more popular breweries is the **Loowit Brewing Company**, which offers live music with an array of its own beers.

There are also more than 10 wineries located in Vancouver and around Southwest Washington. For information on visiting the wineries and a map of their locations, you can go to [swwawine.com](http://swwawine.com). Wine-tasting can be a unique experience in the downtown area, as well. At **Burnt Bridge Cellars**, sample Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon in a converted 1930s-era auto garage. For a wine-and-dine experience, try **Niche Wine Bar**, where you can choose from a menu of 160 selections by the bottle, and more than 30 by the glass.



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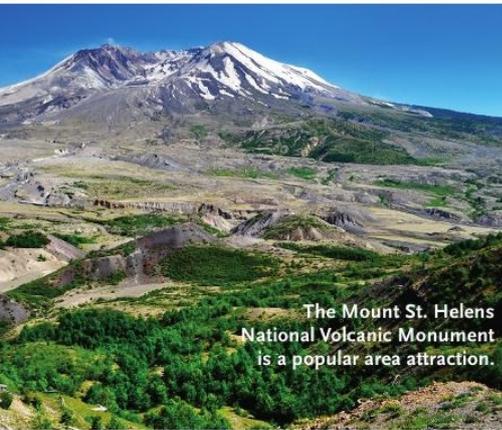
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## Mountains and Sea

Vancouver is also surrounded by outdoor adventure.

**Mount St. Helens** is located about 60 miles to the north. Best known for its 1980 eruption, Mount St. Helens draws visitors who climb to its summit and camp in the area. To grasp the sheer size and magnitude of the eruption, visit the **Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument**. Here you can learn about the eruption and its aftermath, and hike through the breathtaking landscape that is forever changed by the blast.

To the east is **Skamania County**,



The Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument is a popular area attraction.

which includes part of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. It offers world-class windsurfing, dazzling green forests, granite cliffs and hiking trails. Elegant Skamania Lodge has introduced a zipline tour that is an exciting way to view the area's scenery.

About two hours west of Vancouver is the Washington coast, where the Columbia River reaches the Pacific Ocean. Just to the north is the **Long Beach Peninsula**, which stretches for 28 miles along the Southwest Washington coast.

The area has quaint little towns that offer fun attractions, such as Marsh's Free Museum, home of the famous "Jake, the Alligator Man," and a variety of arcades and other activities, including bike riding, beachcombing, hiking, boating and horseback



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Visitors watch the many kites flying at Long Beach on the Washington coast.

ROBYN UNRUH

riding on the beach. Don't miss **Sandsations**, the 32nd-annual Long Beach sand-sculpting competition, July 20–23. Long Beach is also the location of the **World Kite Museum & Hall of Fame** and the **Washington State International Kite Festival**, August 15–21.

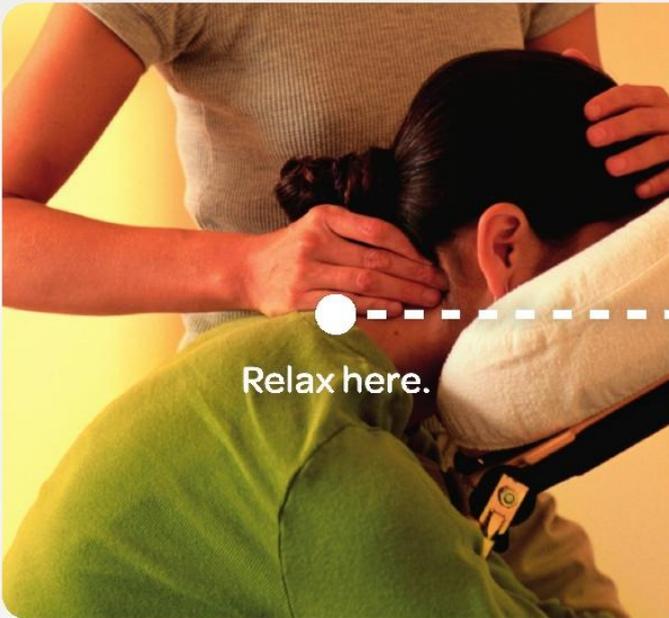
At the mouth of the Columbia is **Cape Disappointment State Park**, the site of the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, perched on a cliff 200 feet above the Columbia River, where you can find out more about the Corps of Discovery's adventures.

A favorite stop in the park is **Cape Disappointment Lighthouse**, the oldest operating lighthouse on the West Coast, according to the National

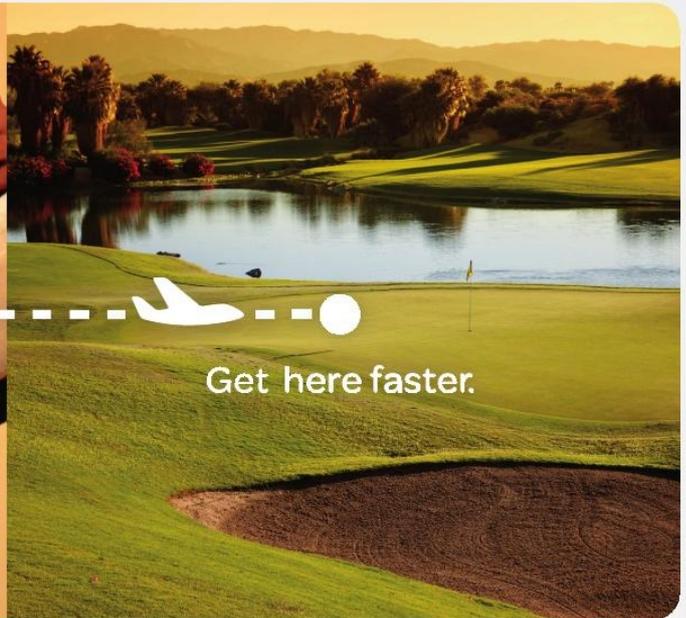
Park Service. We always take photographs here, and they're different every time—an azure sky one time and billowing clouds in a dramatic windswept scene the next. That's the magic of Southwest Washington. Whether it's the city of Vancouver, the wilderness reserves along the Columbia River, or the Pacific Coast, this land has something for everyone. **wa**

*Lora Shinn is a Skamania native and writes from Seattle.*

*Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com)) flies daily to Portland International Airport, the nearest airport to Vancouver. For more information on Vancouver, go to [visitvancouverusa.com](http://visitvancouverusa.com).*



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*Continued from pg. 31*

Pearson says. After sending smaller orders to several customers in China, DePaul exported its first full shipping container of Juniper Naturals brand cranberries to a Chinese customer last year.

Pearson attributes DePaul's success in China to spending significant time there to determine what American products Chinese consumers most desired. "Establishing relationships with people in the country who understood the culture and spoke the language was also key," he says.

The Oregon  
Consular Corps  
recognized DePaul  
Industries with the  
Corps' 2015 New  
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for the packaging  
division's global-  
trade success.

DePaul has since added markets in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Vietnam, and today nearly 35 percent of the packaging division's revenue is from exports.

The Oregon Consular Corps recognized DePaul Industries with the Corps' 2015 New Exporter Award for the packaging division's global-trade success and for helping to put Oregon on the international-trade map. The Oregon Consular Corps consists of officials who represent or have represented governments of foreign nations in Oregon.

DePaul works with Business Oregon and agencies such as the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association, which have provided the company with considerable education about international exports, as well as trade-mission support, and assis-

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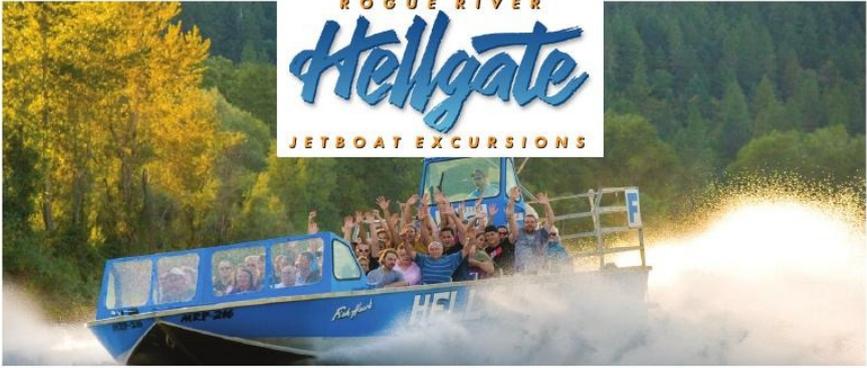
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tance with documentation and market research, Pearson says.

Business Oregon's Welker commends DePaul's "visionary leadership" for finding success in China, one of the world's toughest and most competitive markets. "It's impressive what they've been able to accomplish in such a short period of time, and they are well positioned for continued growth," she says.

## Cycle Dog Pet Products

Cycle Dog is another of Portland's global-trade success stories. Founded in 2009 by Lanette Fidrych, a former local athletics-company product manager, Cycle Dog (cycledog.com) combines elements of what many Portlanders love about their city: bicycling, recycling and dog ownership.

A cyclist and dog owner with a passion for the environment, Fidrych started out making dog collars from used bicycle inner tubes for her pets and those of family and friends. She visited bike shops to collect the used tubes, thus keeping them from the landfill. She cleaned and cut the tubes, which are made from butyl rubber, into pieces and sewed them onto the back of fabric to create earth-friendly dog collars.



She soon found that the rubber backing kept her collars from becoming "smelly." In later independent lab tests, her collars were compared with nylon collars worn by dogs over several months. The Cycle Dog collars had many times less bacteria growth than the nylon collars, she says.

After a year of enthusiastic response

## Global Trade in Vancouver, WA

ONE OF THE PORTLAND METRO AREA'S top exporters is Vancouver, Washington-based **Sigma Design Inc.**, which designs and manufactures products for client companies. Over the past decade, Sigma's workforce has grown from 10 to 151 people as other businesses have turned to the company to design products as varied as cookware, camping equipment, exercise equipment, health-monitoring items, testing-and-measuring devices, energy-efficient heating units and even autonomous robots.

Clients own the patents on designs provided by Sigma, which also offers services to support projects from concept through production, depending on a customer's needs. Sigma currently manufactures about 75 percent of the products it designs for clients.

Today, many of those clients are international. About 50 percent of Sigma's business is related to companies in places such as Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Ireland, Hungary, Spain, Brazil, Mexico and Australia.

"I used to travel a lot. Now I travel even more," quips Sigma owner and president Bill Huseby, previously an engineer and manager at the Vancouver division of an international tech company.

Sigma (sigmadzn.com) has a 12,000-square-foot world headquarters in downtown Vancouver, a 28,000-square-foot manufacturing site in East Vancouver, and a 4,000-square-foot office in Singapore.

Founded in 1997, the company entered the international-trade arena in 2005, when it was asked to assist a client manufacturing a product in Malaysia.

Huseby notes that it's helpful that **Portland International Airport** is less than 15 miles from Vancouver, and says that he and his employees are frequent flyers on Alaska Airlines for domestic business and on partner airlines for international business.

Another transportation asset for companies located both north and south of the Columbia River is the **Port of Vancouver USA**, which in 2015 celebrated a record-breaking year for revenue (\$38.2 million) and tonnage (6.95 million metric tons), including both exports and imports.

Exports were up 3.8 percent in 2015, with bulk grains such as corn, wheat and soybeans the largest cargo by volume. United Grain Corporation uses railcars to transport to the port grain grown in states such as Oregon, Washington, Montana and North Dakota. At the Vancouver port, the grain is loaded onto ships heading mainly to Asia. On the import side, windmill components such as blades and towers for wind-power generation are a significant cargo. The components are manufactured in Asia and Europe, and transported by



COURTESY PORT OF VANCOUVER

ship to Vancouver, from which they go by rail to parts of the U.S. and Canada. Steel is both imported (typically as large slabs from Russia) and exported (typically as scrap metal to Asia).

"It's really interesting how it all moves around the world, and it all comes through the Port of Vancouver," says port spokesperson Abbi Russell. "About 3,200 people come to work at the port every day, and we bring \$2.9 billion in economic value to our region annually," she says.

In recent years, the port has invested heavily in infrastructure, facilities and staff to position itself for future growth. For instance, in August, a new rail entrance to the port opened as part of a \$275 million rail-congestion-relief project.

In addition to about 850 acres of already developed land along the Columbia River, the port is looking for developers to build out two blocks of mixed-use commercial, office and residential space at a port-owned property, and for tenants to lease shovel-ready acres in the port's 108-acre Centennial Industrial Park, which is zoned for light-industrial use.

**Sunlight Supply Inc.**—which manufactures and distributes gardening supplies to countries around the globe, and which has been a port tenant since 2010—has purchased 15.5 acres in the industrial park. In January the company (sunlightsupply.com) broke ground on a 306,000-square-foot world headquarters.

This fall, the Port of Vancouver plans to begin constructing a 125,000-square-foot industrial building and is now accepting pre-leases.

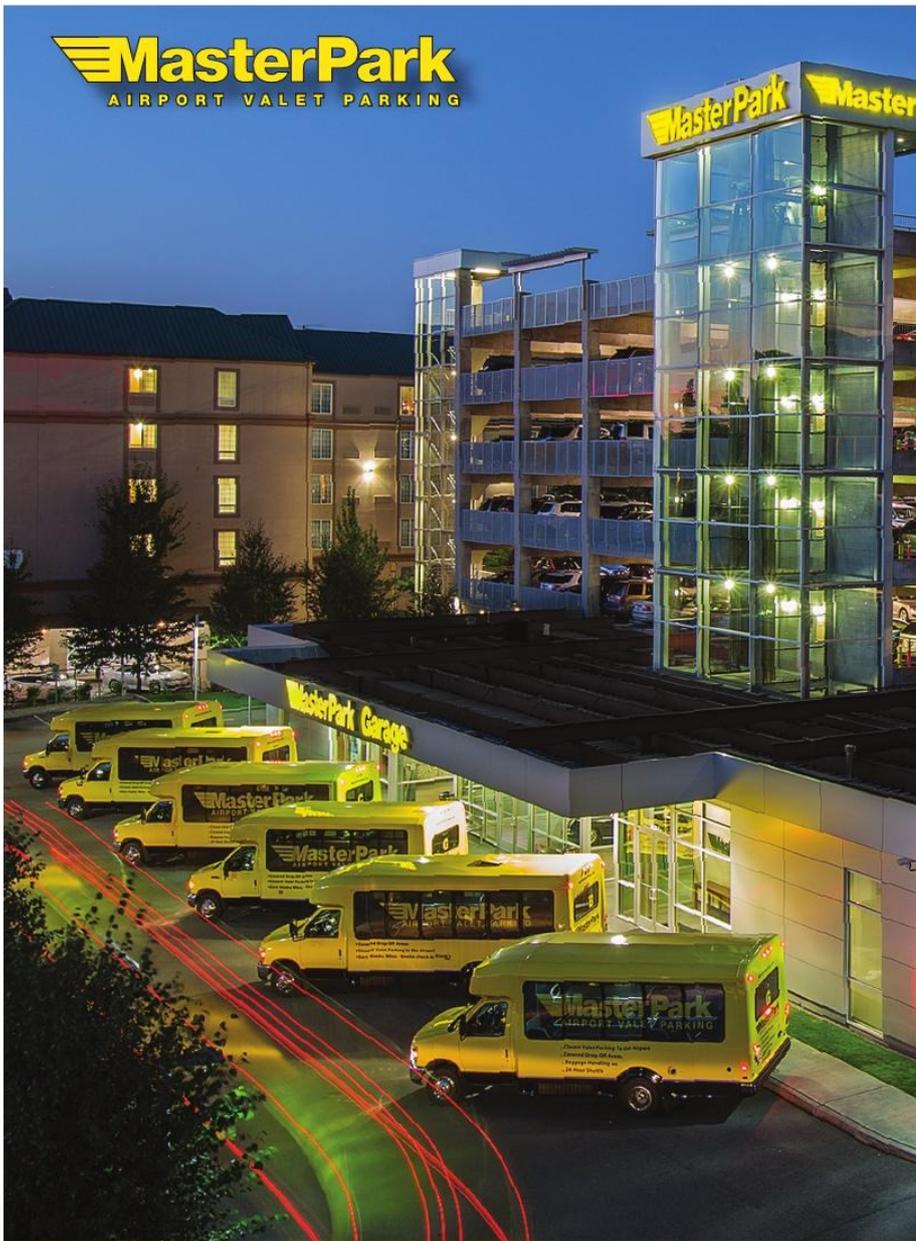
The port also owns about 450 acres zoned for heavy-industrial use. Known as Columbia Gateway, the property is next to the port's rail-served Terminal 5 and a 43-foot-deep Columbia River shipping channel. The port says the area is suitable for manufacturing, and export or import of items such as dry and liquid bulk products, automobiles, heavy equipment and wind-energy components. —S.G.

Sigma Design Inc. designs products ranging from electrotherapy devices to wall heaters, for companies across the globe.



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from friends and family, she decided to try selling the collars under the Cycle Dog label from a booth at Portland's Saturday Market. She sold out the first day. Realizing she had a viable product, she began calling retailers in the Pacific Northwest. Within six weeks she was so busy, she quit her corporate job and began making and selling dog collars full time.

"The first year was a whirlwind," says Fidrych's husband, Paul, who handles marketing for the company. "She added her first distributor for Western Canada a few

Cycle Dog now sells its products in Canada, Europe, Asia and Australia, and has hired an international representative to work with foreign trade partners.

weeks after going full time. The first thing she needed to do was scale production, which required machine investment and numerous process improvements."

In the fall of 2010, the company began adding new products, which now include pet leashes, toys, travel bowls and accessories, most made from used bicycle tubes that employees continue to collect from bike shops.

In 2014, Cycle Dog moved into a 5,000-square-foot facility in Northwest Portland. The space contains a factory, a showroom, and a demonstration area where dogs and their owners can try out items before buying.

In February 2014, the company began pursuing additional international markets

and now sells its products in Europe, Asia and Australia, as well as Canada. "As with most startups, it took some time to get our foothold in these markets," Lanette Fidyrych says.

To generate more sales in Canada, Cycle Dog, which now has 12 employees, has introduced a line of products sporting the Canadian flag. "And we are coming out with a collection of products with the British flag, and another with the American flag," Fidyrych says. "We are starting to create these collections for countries where customers have a strong sense of pride in their country."

Exports now make up 20 percent of Cycle Dog's business, and Fidyrych expects that percentage to grow now that she has hired an international representative to work with her foreign trade partners.

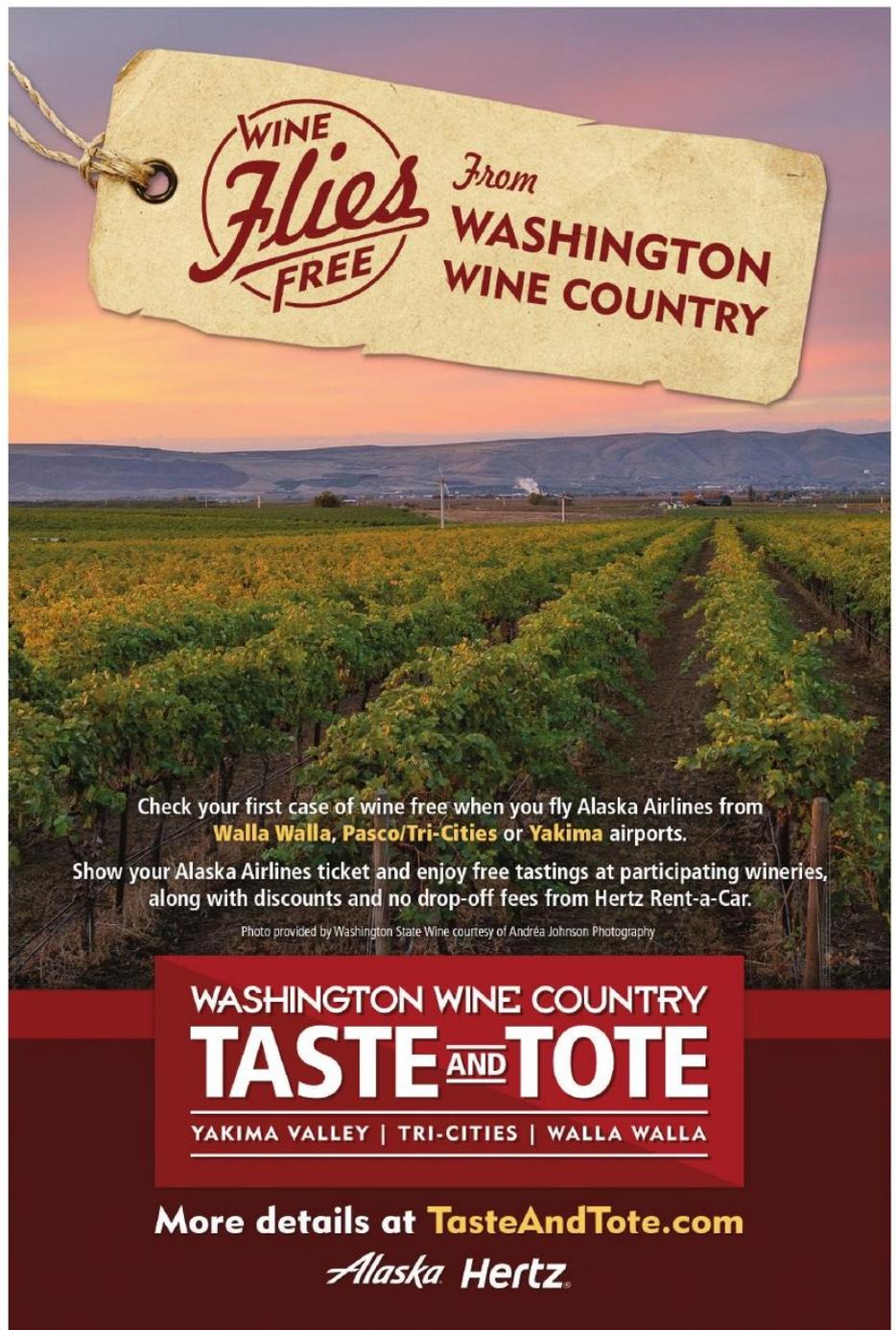
"Growing internationally takes time," she says. "We have met potential distributors at shows such as Global Pet Expo and through the Portland Athletic and Outdoor Program [a Portland Development Commission initiative that supports local companies that make athletic and outdoor products]. And then there are others who have reached out to us as we have grown in the United States."

Cycle Dog has received financial assistance, to help it attend international trade shows, from Business Oregon and the Portland Development Commission initiative, Fidyrych says. Business Oregon also provided training and assistance so Cycle Dog's website could accept foreign currency.

Fidyrych appreciates the assistance her business has received from state and local entities. "Portland has a really strong support system for companies wanting to do international business," she says. ■

Writer Susan Goracke lives in Portland.

Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; [alaskaair.com](http://alaskaair.com)) flies daily to Portland. For more information on global trade and other business opportunities in the Portland area, visit sites such as [greaterportlandinc.com](http://greaterportlandinc.com), [oregon4biz.com](http://oregon4biz.com) and [pdc.us](http://pdc.us).



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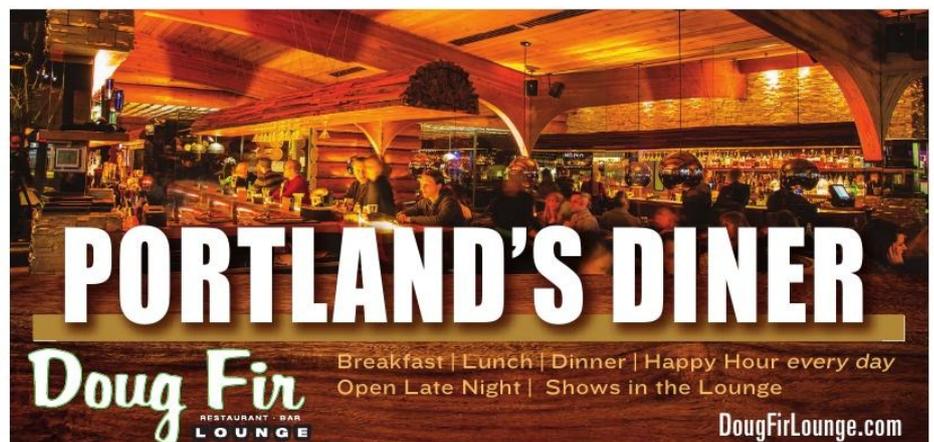
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# — 10 — REASONS

to make Eugene-Springfield your  
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The 4-mile Middle Fork Path in Springfield runs from Clearwater Park to Dorris Ranch, offering scenic views of the Willamette River's Middle Fork.



**W**hether you're visiting or relocating, Oregon's side-by-side cities nestled between the Cascade Mountains and rocky headlands of the Pacific Coast boast some of the best reasons to live, work and play in the Northwest.

Eugene-Springfield is home to 221,000 residents and an upward economy, with its top employers being higher education, health care, wood products, food and beverage, and a growing technology sector. While employment and business opportunities abound, the real fun begins when the workday ends.

### QUIRKY & COOL

The community's progressive spirit makes living here fun. From old-school arcades and board game lounges to Indie Game Con and Eugene Comic Con, gamers and techies fit right in with academics, professionals and the blue-collar crowd.

Grab the kids and go to the Island Park Children's Celebration for fun-filled activities, the Oregon Logging Conference for its chainsaw carving and giant machinery, the Eugene Pro Rodeo and fireworks show, the annual Jell-O Art Show, or the Oregon Country Fair with its one-with-the-earth vibe. There's something for everyone. It's a live and let live kind of place.

### DUAL DOWNTOWNS

Explore Springfield and Eugene's downtown areas, each with its own unique personality and pulse. Both have undergone revitalization in recent years and have more plans on the horizon.

Colorful murals adorn Springfield's walkable downtown, which draws a steady stream of visitors with its art exhibits and fun outdoor festivals, like the Tap & Taste in August. Settle in for a meal at one of several restaurants. Take in a show at the community theater. Explore the public library and charming shops. Sip on barrel-aged craft beer. And be sure to pop into Sprout!, an impressive, restored church that houses a regional food hub, café, taphouse and a weekly rain-or-shine covered farmers market.

Downtown Eugene excites the senses with its culinary choices, social culture, urban wine and beer scene, and visual and performing arts. A state-of-the-art public library, a downtown community college campus, and a nationally recognized public transportation system reflect Eugene's commitment to community, education and environmental responsibility. An accessible network of pedestrian connections and bike lanes link downtown to nearby parks, river trail systems, the University of Oregon and the vibrant Whiteaker neighborhood.

SOUTH WILLAMETTE VALLEY

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**LEFT:** The Simpsons Mural adorning the Emerald Art Center in Springfield—“the REAL Springfield,” according to creator Matt Groening—is one of six must-see stops for fans of the long-running TV show.

**RIGHT:** Hop aboard a pub cycle and pedal along with a group of friends for a fun-filled pub crawl along Eugene’s Ale Trail.



## DIRECT FLIGHTS

Easy access to the Eugene Airport, offering daily, nonstop flights to 10 major destinations, such as Portland, San Jose and Seattle, makes travel quick and uncomplicated.

## THE WHIT

The Whiteaker neighborhood, dubbed “The Whit,” has recently become Eugene’s bustling craft brewery district and a hub of hip restaurants, featuring vegan and vegetarian cafés, Thai, Mexican-Salvadoran, barbecue, Italian and a farm-to-table prix-fixe restaurant. Private residences are sandwiched between bakeries and ice-cream purveyors, with the neighborhood’s natural grocer occupying a repurposed dairy barn.

## CRAFT BEER SCENE

The birthplace of Ninkasi Brewing Co. and its legendary Total Domination IPA, Eugene-Springfield is hopping with craft beer. Close proximity makes it easy to explore breweries and taphouses, many of which are within walking distance of each other. Ultra pure water from the McKenzie River, an emphasis on local and regional ingredients, and a local legacy of homebrewing makes the beer truly unique. Grab a Eugene Ale Trail Passport and have it stamped along the way, and be sure to visit some of the smaller outlying breweries for their rural appeal and abundant beer.

## SOUTH WILLAMETTE VALLEY WINES

Oregon’s volcanic soils and a climate similar to that of France contribute to the many wine flavors found here. Best known for its Pinot Noir and its anchor winery, King Estate, the South Willamette Valley region boasts vast vineyards, award-winning wineries and talented vintners passionate about wine. From urban wineries nestled in eclectic neighborhoods to rural vineyards that unfold along lush rolling hills, it’s truly a wine lover’s paradise. For a fun, interactive way to tour tasting spots, pick up a Pinot Bingo card from a participating winery or the Eugene Cascades & Coast Adventure Center in Springfield.

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Those who live here call old-growth forests, crystal clear lakes and pristine rivers their backyard play places, with a walk on the beach and superb winter snow sports being just an hour’s drive. If hiking, cycling, mountain biking, disc golfing, skiing, snowboarding and paddle sports aren’t your thing, maybe try tree climbing or sandboarding, or explore each of the area’s seven best waterfall wonders.

## FREE WHEELING

Nationally recognized for their bike-friendly streets and scenic river paths, Eugene and Springfield make it easy to get around without a car. A lot of people ride bikes—traditional, tall, tandem, recumbent, mountain, even unicycles—for leisure or to get where they need to go. Pedal along the Middle Fork or Willamette River paths, or commute from one city to the other.

Skateparks—including a new 23,000-square-foot covered and illuminated skatepark and urban plaza—draw kids and adults, alike. If roller derby is more your speed, check out the elbow-bumping recreational and competitive Emerald Roller Derby League, which attracts enthusiastic crowds. However you roll, there are endless outlets.

## UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Lauded for its academics and athletics, the University of Oregon elevates the community with its higher education and soaring sports teams. Listed in the top 2 percent of the “Best Global Universities” and rated one of the top five for its education program, it’s among the nation’s best-ranked universities. With football, basketball, track and field, baseball, volleyball, soccer, softball and lacrosse, there’s never a lack of adrenaline. Here, the Ducks win the day, rain or shine.

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## TRACKTOWN USA

Home of the UO's Historic Hayward Field and the most esteemed track and field program in the world, TrackTown USA welcomes athletes from around the globe to compete in world-class events, such as the NCAA Outdoor Championships held in June for the next five years; the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in July; and the IAAF World Championships, to be hosted by the United States for the first time ever in 2021.

Its storied past includes legendary coaches like Bill Bowerman, who helped produce scores of American record-holders, Olympians and All-Americans, while current head coach Robert Johnson has so far claimed eight NCAA team titles, 28 NCAA individual titles, eight team and 28 individual PAC 12 titles, and 16 awards for head coach of the year. Johnson is one of only two coaches to have ever won a career women's triple crown—three NCAA team titles for indoor, outdoor and cross-country.

It's the sacred ground of track legend Steve Prefontaine, and the place where loyal fans pay homage to him. So, if you're a runner or track fan, it's indeed the place to be.

## ARTS, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

Both cities play host to art walks and exhibitions, concerts in the park and cultural events. Take your pick of year-round performing arts venues—Matthew Knight Arena, Hult Center for the Performing Arts, The Shedd Institute or Wildish Community Theater—which book big-name headliners, Broadway shows, symphony, opera, theater, dance, comedians and more, while local entertainment fills the many bars and coffee shops.

In the summer, lounge on the lawn at The Cuthbert Amphitheater, and listen to some of the best touring bands in the country. On rainy days, spend the day at one of four museums. Explore science and technology at the interactive Science Factory Children's Museum & Planetarium. Visit the Museum of Natural and Cultural History or Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, both on the UO campus, or step back in time at the Lane County Historical Museum. ■

If this isn't enough to send you packing, visit [EugeneCascadesCoast.org/relocation](http://EugeneCascadesCoast.org/relocation) for more great reasons to live, work and play in Eugene-Springfield.



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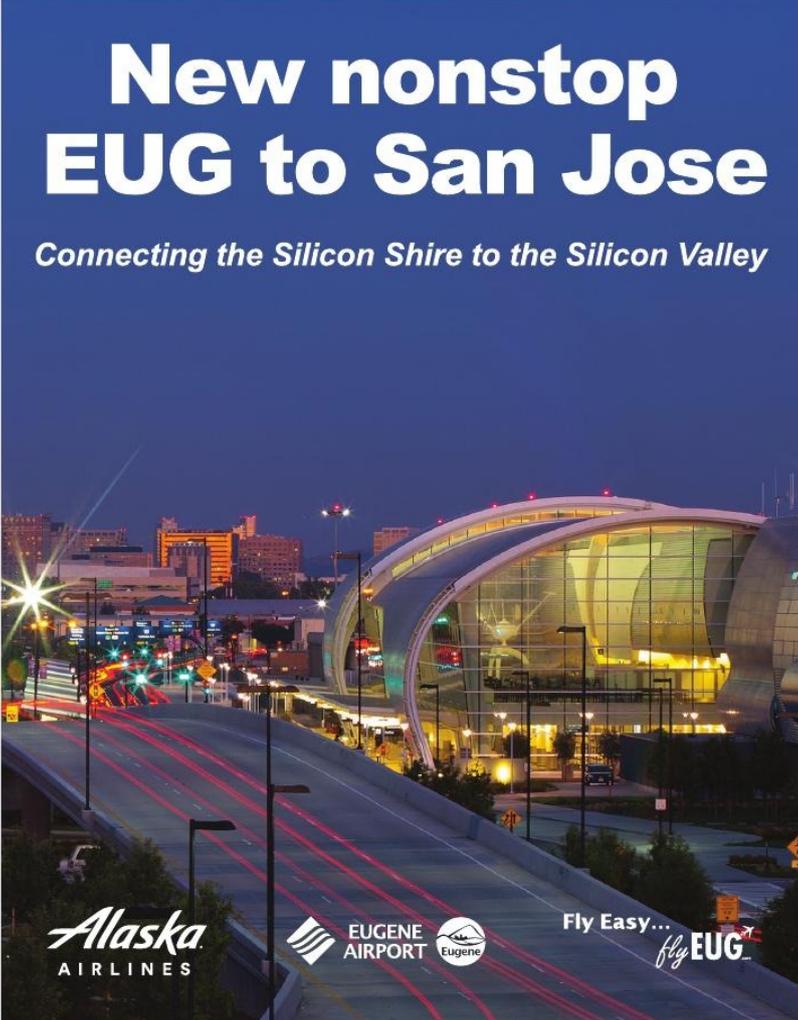
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# Taking Care of Business

**SUNLIGHT SWEEPS ACROSS** 465 acres of King Estate Winery grapevines on warm summer days, nurturing the vines, along with interspersed plants such as crimson clover and purple vetch that produce beneficial nitrogen and attract insects that prey on mites and other pests.

Four acres of solar panels also capture the sun's energy, to power buildings and equipment used for production of Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir and other varietals crafted from the winery's handpicked grapes. And the russet plumage of wild kestrels gleams in the light as the raptors circle the emerald vineyard blocks in search of a meal. The winery is a release site for an area nonprofit that rescues and rehabilitates raptors,

**King Estate Winery is one of Oregon's top wine producers, with volume of about 400,000 cases annually. Overall, South Willamette Valley viticultural operations harvest more than 2,000 acres a year.**



COURTESY KING ESTATE WINERY '22

and their presence in turn discourages small birds from eating the fruit of the vine.

King Estate prides itself on using natural cultivation and management methods, and has earned organic and salmon-safe certification from Oregon Tilth. Located at the southern end of the fertile Willamette Valley, which extends about 150 miles from the Eugene area to the Portland area, King Estate is one of Oregon's top wine producers, based on volume of about 400,000 cases a year. The winery is one of the many businesses flourishing in the Eugene–Springfield region, where notable sectors also include craft-beer production, agriculture, technology and advanced wood products.

Kristina Payne, executive director of the Lane Workforce Partnership, notes that successful local companies range from large operations such as King Estate to entrepreneurial endeavors such as SheerID, founded five years ago to help companies quickly determine whether a given online customer qualifies for a special offer.

“I am very pleased about the level of collaboration from local leaders in cultivating a community that supports entrepreneurs and a startup ecosystem,” Payne says. “We have fostered a creatively rich and diverse environment, drawing top talent to relocate to or stay in the region. Our numerous growing business sectors also mean that companies continue to actively seek qualified workers.”

## Wine

The number of wineries in the South Willamette Valley increased from 56 to 67 between 2013 and 2014, according to the “2014 Oregon Vineyard and Winery Census Report,” the most recent data available. Harvested vineyard acreage increased from 1,629 to 2,395 acres, and grape production increased from 4,731 tons to 7,038 tons. The South Willamette Valley is particularly known for its Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris, along with Chardonnay, Riesling and other varieties.

The area’s temperate climate and diverse soils, such as volcanic, sedimentary and silty loam, make it an excellent place to produce world-class French-style wines such as Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris and Chardonnay, says Lorrie Normann. In 1997, she and her husband, Eric, bought a 12-acre vineyard about 15 miles west of downtown Eugene. They produce Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Syrah, Riesling and sparkling wines ([meriwetherwines.com](http://meriwetherwines.com)).

In 1999, she helped start the South Willamette Wineries Association, and she also owns a wine-related consulting company. “I’m more excited about this wine-growing region now than when I started 20 years ago,” she says. “The quality of the region’s wine has come up, and I think it’s because the vineyard owners are a tight-knit community. We support each other, and share information and equipment if needed. We all do this for the love of it.”

Normann says that local vineyard owners also are happy to train interns who don’t have any wine-

# Companies are flourishing in the Eugene-Springfield area

By Susan Goracke

industry experience. “I, myself, started out at a local winery as a part-time assistant wine-club manager, with zero wine experience—now, I own a winery,” she says. “There is a huge opportunity for people to be trained in the wine industry, from the vineyard to the tasting room.”

King Estate ([kingestate.com](http://kingestate.com)) employs approximately 100 workers—from novices to work the fall grape crush to experienced line cooks for the winery’s fine-dining restaurant. The company, founded in 1991, has grown tremendously since planting its first grapes on 16.5 acres in 1992, with its first harvest in 1995 yielding 20 tons of grapes. Last year, the winery harvested more than 1,600 tons of grapes on its 465 planted acres, part of King Estate’s 1,033 total acres, which include gardens, orchards, wetlands and oak woodlands. Bottlings include Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Rosé, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Riesling and red blends.

King Estate sells its wines in all 50 states and to distributors in Japan, Canada, the Caribbean, Denmark, Sweden and China, but the biggest market opportunity is still in the United States, “where many people are still unaware of the high quality of Oregon’s wines,” says King Estate CEO and co-founder Ed King. “As the word spreads, the sales will naturally increase.”

## Beer

The developing beer industry in Lane County employs an estimated 300 people



Ninkasi Brewing Company, co-founded by Nikos Ridge and Jamie Floyd, above, is one of the country’s largest craft brewers.





COURTESY FALL CREEK FARM AND NURSERY, AZ

rado, Idaho, Maryland, Nevada, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington, plus Alberta and British Columbia.

“The Eugene area is a great beer-making region,” Ridge says, pointing to the proximity of local hops fields and malting facilities, as well as to the McKenzie River’s clean and abundant water supply.

Ninkasi’s flagship brews range from Total Domination IPA to Helles Belles Lager, and it also produces special and seasonal releases. In May, Ninkasi introduced a special-release Beer

Run IPA, a robust, hoppy beer being offered on draft and in 22-ounce bottles through August in partnership with local TrackTown USA, the local organizing committee for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for track and field, taking place in Eugene, July 1–10.

at breweries, with an annual payroll of an estimated \$9.5 million, according to a 2015 report by Brian Rooney, regional economist, Lane and Douglas Counties, for the Oregon Employment Department. Industry growth is also evident in the rapid expansion of companies such as



Ninkasi Brewing Company in Eugene, he says.

In 2014, Ninkasi ([ninkasibrewing.com](http://ninkasibrewing.com))—founded in 2006 and named after the Sumerian goddess of beer—opened an additional brewing facility, with a 90-barrel brewing system, across the street from its 55-barrel brewery in Eugene’s Whiteaker neighborhood. The combined facilities will allow Ninkasi to eventually grow to production capacity of 250,000 barrels a year. In 2015, the company’s annual production exceeded, for the first time, 100,000 barrels—more than 3 million gallons of beer.

The Colorado-based Brewers Association ranked Ninkasi 36th on a list of the top 50 (out of 4,225) U.S. craft breweries, based on 2015 beer sales volume.

“We make a lot of beer that people really enjoy,” says CEO Nikos Ridge, who co-founded the brewery with Jamie Floyd. The company now has 106 employees and distributes in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colo-

**Fall Creek Farm and Nursery, one of the world’s largest blueberry-plant nurseries, sells nearly 30 million blueberry plants a year to growers. The company has subsidiaries in several foreign countries.**

## Agriculture

The Eugene–Springfield area is also home to notable agriculture businesses such as Fall Creek Farm and Nursery ([fallcreeknursery.com](http://fallcreeknursery.com)), one of the world’s largest blueberry-plant nurseries. It has wholly owned subsidiaries in Mexico, Peru and Spain, and licensees in several additional countries. The family-owned company has three farms in the Eugene area, and sells nearly 30 million blueberry plants a year to growers.

Last year, Fall Creek Farm and Nursery won the Oregon Consular Corps’ Governor’s Trade Leadership Award in recognition of the company’s international growth. Total company revenue has tripled since 2012, when Fall Creek started its first international subsidiary, and international sales now exceed domestic sales. The Oregon Consular Corps consists of officials who represent or have represented governments of foreign nations in Oregon.

Dave and Barbara Brazelton founded the company in 1978 when they bought a small established blueberry farm with a retail nursery, southeast of Eugene. Growing blueberries had been Dave Brazelton’s dream since he was 14, when he had worked on his cousin’s New Hampshire blueberry farm. By 1984, the

Brazeltons had turned the retail nursery into a wholesale operation. Dave is the president of the company, and Barbara is an active shareholder and ambassador.

The Brazeltons' son, Cort, oversees international-business development, while their daughter, Amelie Aust, oversees intellectual-property needs, the licensing department and special projects. Her husband, Boris Aust, is the company's chief financial officer. Fall Creek employs 125 people in its Oregon operation, and approximately another 100 people in its international subsidiaries.

"We have a high-tech team of professionals propagating, growing and selling the highest quality of blueberry plants worldwide," says Amelie Aust. "We're also a research company, developing new varieties for better flavor, a longer shelf life, more crispness and a greater yield for growers. Our mission is to create a world of better blueberries."

## Technology

In July 2015, ZipRecruiter, an online job board, ranked the Eugene area No. 10 on a list of Top 10 Up-and-Coming Cities for Tech Jobs, and Fastcompany.com elaborated on those rankings, adding more data about each city, to create a list of "The Next Top 10 Cities for Tech Jobs" that also included Eugene.

"Tech is booming in the South Willamette Valley," says Matt Sayre, director at the Technology Association of Oregon, which opened a new office in Eugene early last year. Media stories increasingly refer to the area as the "Silicon Shire," he notes.

At the end of 2015, the Eugene-Springfield area had 418 software, hardware, gaming, scientific research and other tech companies, together employing about 4,400 people, with an annual average wage of more than \$74,000, according to Oregon Employment Department statistics. Sayre says the tech sector created more than 400 new jobs between 2012 and 2015. He believes that affordable office space and home prices are major factors in the area's tech growth. "Commercial Class A real estate is 82 percent less expensive per square foot here than in San Fran-

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Puzzle on page 111.

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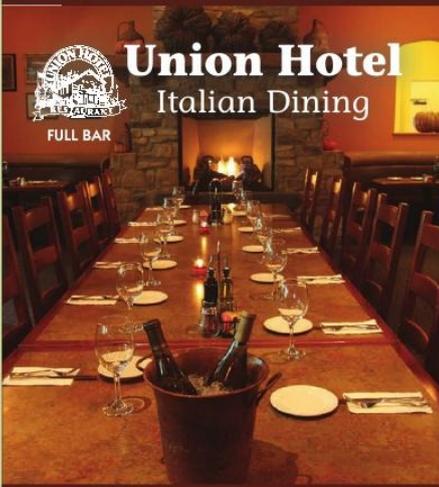
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cisco,” Sayre says. “And the median home price in San Francisco is a staggering \$1,150,000, compared to Eugene at \$235,000.”

Other draws include the University of Oregon’s Computer and Information Science Department, which works closely with the local tech industry, and solicits feedback on curriculum to help ensure that students are “turnkey-ready” to join the workforce, he says. In addition, talent-retention programs such as “Experience Oregon Tech” make graduates aware of opportunities at local tech companies.

Sayre says that many of the area’s tech businesses are experiencing double-digit employment growth, such as Palo Alto Software (17 percent), Concentric Sky (20 percent) and SheerID (47 percent). Palo Alto Software (paloalto.com) develops small-business planning and financial-management software. Concentric Sky (concentricsky.com) creates products such as mobile apps and education-technology software. The instant-eligibility-verification software from SheerID (sheerid.com) helps companies protect their special offers from fraudulent use.

“Behind the county’s dazzling tech-growth stats is a community of innovators, creating a culture that is very collaborative, surrounded by a network of supporting organizations, including the Technology Association of Oregon,” Sayre says.

Sayre is a member of the Lane County Sector Strategy Team Tech Collaborative, which comprises local government and business leaders, such as Kristina Payne from the Lane Workforce Partnership, who are working together to meet local technology-sector needs and help the sector grow. The collaborative has partnered with numerous other community leaders to support advantages such as a daily nonstop flight between Eugene and San Jose, California, that Alaska Airlines added in November.

## Advanced Wood Products

Oregon, already a national leader in lumber and other wood-products manufacturing, is at the forefront of U.S. production of advanced wood products, also known as mass timber, including glue-laminated (glulam) beams, glulam columns, laminated veneer lumber and cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels.

Many of these products have been used for years as structural elements for houses and commercial buildings, according to Courtney Griesel, economic development manager for the City of Springfield, but while CLT has been widely utilized in Europe, U.S. builders have just fairly recently begun to actively seek building-code approval to use it. CLT panels consist of hundreds of smaller pieces of lumber placed in three



TODD BLACK

**Cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels and glulam timber beams produced by Oregon-based DR Johnson Wood Innovations are placed on the Albina Yard office building in Portland. The building is believed to be the first in the country to use U.S.-fabricated CLT for a building-wide structural floor system.**

to nine perpendicular layers that are fused with glue and high pressure, and then cut into panels up to 10 feet wide, 40 feet long and a foot thick.

Because the panels are prefabricated, they are fast and easy to install, and because of their configuration and size, they have a particularly high load-carrying capacity, an important feature in multistory buildings.

In addition, advocates say, production of timber framing such as CLT results in fewer net carbon dioxide emissions on a per-weight basis than production of various other materials commonly used in taller buildings, including steel and concrete (based on life-cycle assessment, including gathering and processing of raw materials, primary and secondary processing, and transportation). CLT panels are also made with a renewable resource, advocates note.

Last year, the University of Oregon and Oregon State University established the National Center for Advanced Wood Products Manufacturing and Design, which has received more than \$2 million in federal and state grants over the last 12 months for research and testing of innovative wood products.

DR Johnson Wood Innovations (drjlumber.com), located between Eugene and Medford, is the first U.S. company nationally certified by APA—The Engineered Wood Association (formerly the American Plywood Association) to manufacture and market construction-quality CLT panels.

The State of Oregon Building Codes Division has approved use of CLT panels in buildings up to five stories tall (or taller under certain circumstances) that meet specific requirements, according to APA—The Engineered Wood Association, and DR Johnson-produced CLT panels are being used for some of the walls of the two-story Richard Woodcock Education Center at Western Oregon University in Monmouth.

Expected to be completed this month, with the first classes to be held there this fall, it will be the first building in the United States to use CLT panels produced in the U.S., says Brad Huggins, the university's construction manager.

DR Johnson's CLT panels, and glulam timber columns and beams, also are being used in a four-story, 16,000-square-foot North Portland office building, Albina Yard, expected to be completed this summer. This is thought to be the nation's first use of domestically fabricated CLT for a building-wide structural floor system, according to Aaron Blake, owner of Reworks, the developer of the building.

Several other Oregon buildings that will include mass timber products are in the works, and Eugene-Springfield companies such as local industry heavy-weight Rosboro, and Zip-O-Log Mills Inc. are also producing engineered wood products.

FROM WOOD PRODUCTS TO TECHNOLOGY TO WINE, companies in the Eugene-Springfield area are thriving, says Kristina Payne from the Lane Workforce Partnership. The region offers numerous business opportunities, she says, with many programs that support businesses, and two higher-education

## Eugene-Springfield Area by the Numbers

**7,038:** Tons of wine grapes produced in the South Willamette Valley.

**36:** Ninkasi Brewing Company ranking on a list of the top 50 U.S. craft brewing companies (out of 4,225).

**3X:** Fall Creek Farm and Nursery revenue growth since 2012 when it started its first international subsidiary.

**418:** Number of tech companies.

institutions—Lane Community College and the University of Oregon—that are responsive to training needs. And public and private entities have “a collaborative, roll-up-our-sleeves approach” to working with businesses, she notes.

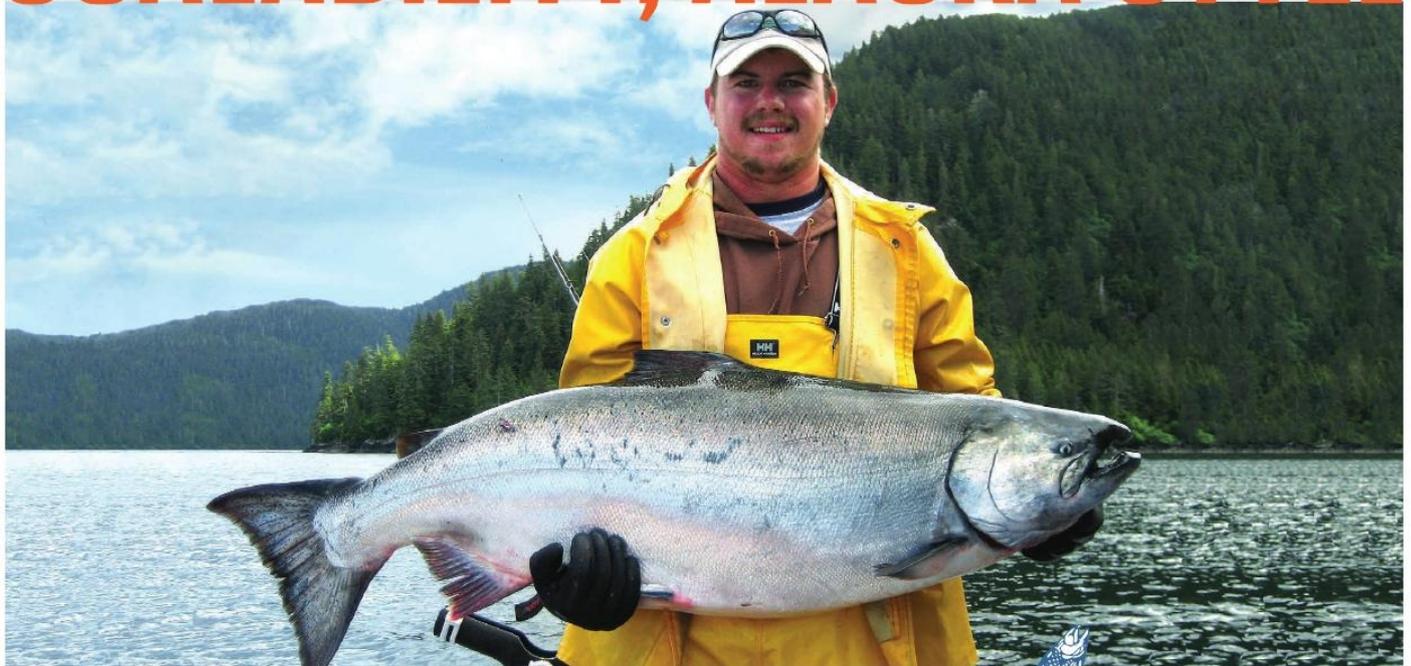
The region is seeing an increase in the number of people and companies who recognize it as a great place to locate, relocate and grow their businesses, says Lane County Board of Commissioners Chairperson Faye Stewart.

“We have a large number of manufacturing and tech companies ramping up their hiring as the economy grows and the current workforce begins to reach retirement age,” he adds. “Those jobs are often well paying and attract a skilled workforce. It’s a wonderful time to consider Lane County as a premier place to live, work and play.” ■

*Susan Goracke lives in Portland, Oregon.*

*Alaska Airlines (800-ALASKAAIR; alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Eugene. For more information on the area, visit laneworkforce.org, eugene Cascades coast.org/relocation, lanecounty.org/Departments/CAO/EconDev/Pages/default.aspx, and oregon4biz.com.*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

- A2** Beverages
  - Regional wines and microbrews
  - Our fleet
  - Feedback
- A3** Your safety and comfort
  - Discover Alaska Airlines
- A4** Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan
  - Welcome to a world of rewards
- A6** Global Partners
  - Travel the world with our 16 airline partners
- A8** Where we fly
  - 100+ destinations and counting
- A10** Airport terminal maps



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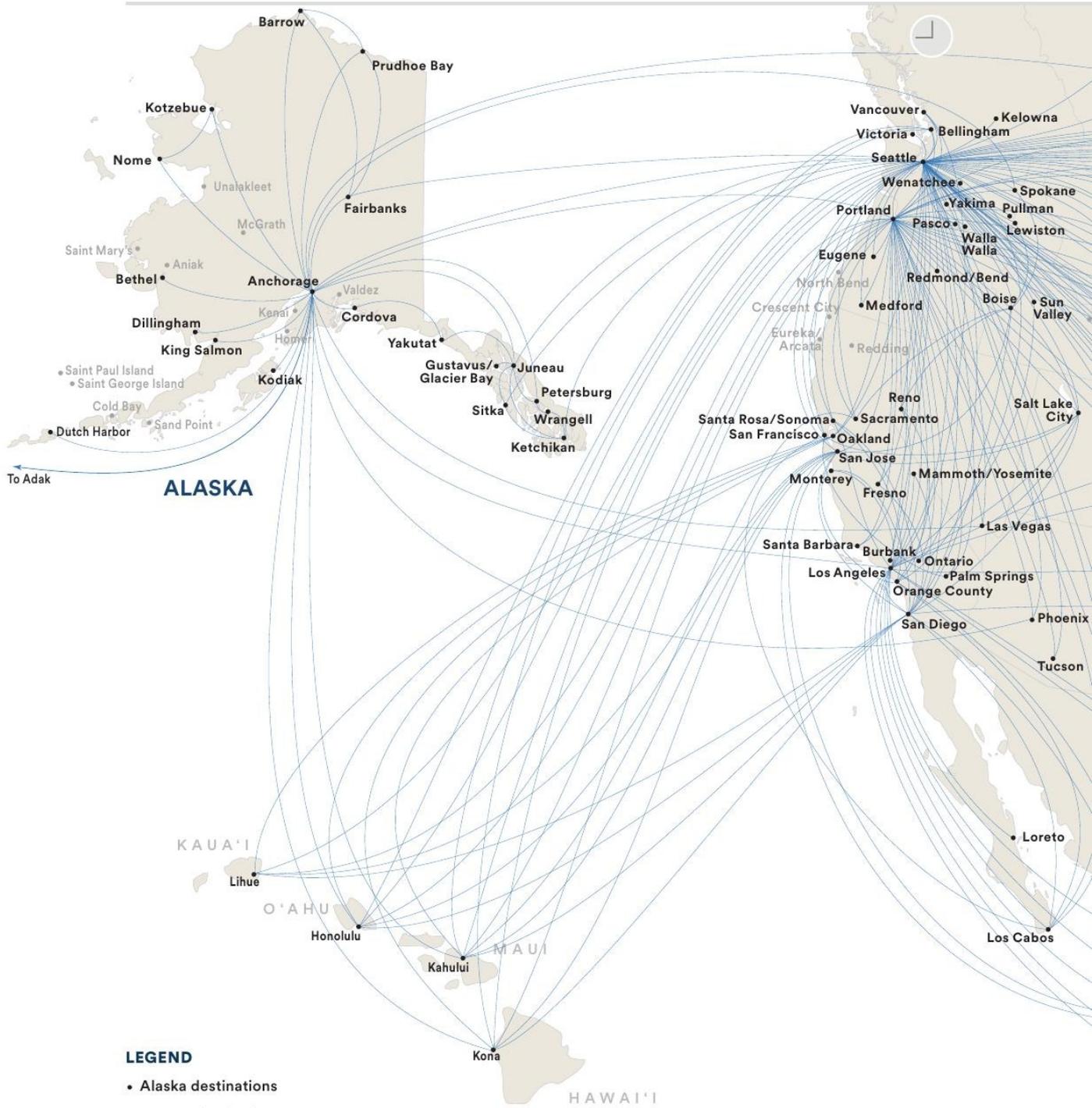
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Some routes shown operate seasonally.

# Airport terminal maps

## ANC

Anchorage International Airport



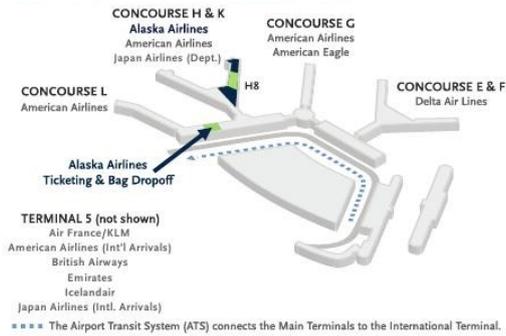
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## ORD

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## PDX

Portland International Airport



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Los Angeles International Airport



## SFO

San Francisco International Airport



## DFW

Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport



## SAN

San Diego International Airport



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- 11 Copied
- 15 Fling
- 19 Radio receiver
- 20 Librace's instrument
- 21 None
- 22 Kitchen cooker
- 23 Set designer
- 25 Singer Guthrie
- 26 Halo
- 27 Helicopter's kin, for short
- 28 Ms. Adams
- 29 Rudder handle
- 31 Hog's food
- 32 Noses
- 34 Novice
- 36 Simmers
- 37 Scraps
- 39 Author Jaffe
- 40 Title of respect
- 42 Hotel employee
- 47 Supports
- 51 Not aweather
- 52 Royal headwear
- 53 Somewhat wet
- 55 Swipe
- 56 Clergy mem.
- 57 African nation
- 58 Indulge
- 59 Actor Curtis
- 60 Night before Christmas
- 61 Adam's home
- 62 Notation
- 63 Emotional poem
- 65 Oozes
- 67 Assistant foreman
- 71 Perfumer's concern
- 75 Giants slugger
- 77 Chocolate cookie
- 78 Coup d'\_\_\_\_\_
- 80 Kilmer of "Tombstone"
- 81 Kin of etc.
- 84 Claim
- 87 Growing out
- 88 Pick
- 89 Watercourse
- 90 Desist
- 91 Or else, musically
- 92 Roof piece
- 93 Severe in demands
- 95 Pep rally participant
- 97 Has a snack
- 98 Hot, spicy beverage
- 100 Submerged
- 101 Colored
- 104 Fragrant flower
- 107 Required
- 111 Indian nursemaid
- 112 Japanese entertainer
- 114 Med. course
- 116 Michael Douglas film
- 117 Sitarist Shankar
- 118 Caron role
- 119 Supervisor of investing
- 122 Curved molding

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- 123 Pakistani language
- 124 Lauder of scents
- 125 Publish
- 126 Ego
- 127 Abound
- 128 Sizzles
- 129 Clarinets, e.g.

D O W N

- 1 Men-only parties
- 2 Italian city
- 3 Beginning section
- 4 Go back over
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Lanka
- 6 Accelerated
- 7 Lawful
- 8 Cowboy flick
- 9 Lennon's wife
- 10 Share
- 11 Flowering shrub
- 12 Ms. Mesta
- 13 Director Kenton
- 14 Room opening
- 15 Roast host

- 16 Small egg
- 17 Goat antelope
- 18 Breaks
- 24 Uttered again
- 30 Lodging house
- 33 Spasm
- 35 Operatic melody
- 36 Fri. follower
- 38 Backbones
- 40 Ponder
- 41 Jetson pooch
- 42 Exposes
- 43 Ecole pupil
- 44 Flood wall
- 45 Pollute
- 46 Prince Valiant's son
- 47 Tiny drink
- 48 "Sands of \_\_\_\_\_ Jima"
- 49 Bobbsey girl
- 50 Messy abode
- 53 Ballroom dance
- 54 Melville opus
- 57 Outdo
- 58 Flycatcher
- 62 Homer's wife

- 64 See socially
- 66 Officer in charge
- 68 Red deer
- 69 Instinct
- 70 Steps
- 72 Like an egg
- 73 Syrup source
- 74 Transform
- 76 Silent
- 79 Mythological hunter
- 81 Fleecy mom
- 82 Tariff
- 83 City in Oklahoma
- 85 Camera's eye
- 86 Dally
- 87 Wind dir.
- 91 Cleveland's state
- 92 Apply caution
- 94 Produce lace
- 95 Coffee containers
- 96 Chemical suff.
- 98 Rare metal
- 99 That's a laugh!
- 101 Poi sources
- 102 Reflection

- 103 Orange type
- 104 Diacritical mark
- 105 Holiday visitor
- 106 Closer
- 108 Stray calf
- 109 Correct
- 110 Pub missiles
- 112 Excess
- 113 Dublin's land
- 115 Iowa town
- 120 Function
- 121 News-source letters

Solution on page 97.



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# Life Lessons

Dad teaches daughter what's important | BY MICHELE DILL

Early most mornings during my seventh-grade year, I went jogging with my dad, who had set an Idaho high-school track record in the 440 when he was 17, and who liked to foster physical fitness in his kids. As we returned to our street around 6:30 A.M. one day, we saw our neighbor, Mrs. E., striving to change a flat tire—in a dress and heels—so that she could get to work.

She stood and wiped perspiration off her forehead as we jogged up. “We can help,” my dad offered. “We’re wearing clothes that can get dirty.” Repeatedly expressing her gratitude, Mrs. E. stood back as Dad took this opportunity to walk me through how to change a flat. Mrs. E. was smiling with relief as she drove off to her job, and I went off to school pondering yet another parental example of what it meant to be a good neighbor.

Dad had a lot of favorite sayings that he repeated to us kids as part of his child-development efforts. They included: “Serve others” and “Aim for the stars” and “That which we persist in doing becomes easier to do, not that the nature of the thing has changed but that our power to do has increased” (an axiom typically, but without official verification, attributed to Emerson).

“Always go the distance” was another thing Dad frequently told me. “If you want to succeed, keep pushing forward, even if you are tired and discouraged. When something is important, give it your all.”

Dad’s sayings had an impact, but what influenced me even more was his example. He ran his own business, and he worked long hours to support our family of seven children, yet he also made time to play kickball with us, to come to our basketball games, to attend piano recitals and singing performances—even though, to his great dismay, he was woefully lacking in ability to carry a tune.

Somehow he also made time to run for public office and serve on the county school board, wanting to ensure that children in our area got the best education possible. And he joined a local Optimist Club working to “bring out the best in children.”

When I had a 6 A.M. extracurricular activity my first year of high school, he always made a hot breakfast for me, served promptly at 5:30, allowing our busy and beloved mom to sleep just a little longer, and providing me with encouragement to start my day.

Dad was not without his faults, of course. He could be quick to judge and fast to reprimand, and he wasn’t unfailingly understanding when I struggled with advanced-math equations. But he had a strong desire to help people, and he spent countless hours putting that into action. He used his extensive network to help others find jobs; he assisted people with clearing brush and putting in fence posts; he gave money not only to charitable causes but also directly to families in need because of illness or other hardships. He companioned that financial help with emotional support—a listening ear and a caring heart.

As a Boy Scout leader who loved nature and had spent summer school breaks working for Idaho Fish and Game, he led wilderness trips that would challenge and build character. He also organized service projects, often designed to foster confidence in a troubled teen. One time the troop was framing a building, and Dad made it a point to say to an introverted and somewhat rebellious 16-year-old who was experienced with tools: “Would you please show the other boys, in a kindly way, what to do, and help us make sure things are going OK?” The teen beamed as he mentored the other Scouts with surprising patience.

When I was 16, Dad invited me to help him put a new roof on someone’s tack shed. I learned what shakes were, how to lay down tarp paper, and how to use a staple gun. I discovered that the satisfaction of helping someone can make up for hard work under a hot sun.

When my mother had a stroke, Dad became her primary caregiver. For 10 years, he often rose at 4 A.M. to do consulting work until 10 A.M., finishing in time to bathe, feed and dress Mom, to talk to her, to work her arms and legs for physical therapy. Other caregivers periodically provided support, but mostly there was Dad, day in and day out, making sure she received his loving attention. During that decade, the most physically and emotionally demanding of his life, I realized that Dad was more than a good man. He was a hero.

When my sister was sorting through a lifetime of my parents’ possessions, she discovered that Dad had received dozens of awards over the years for his community service. They were packed away in a box. He hadn’t been displaying them. I thought he should also have received one for service to his family.

Every Father’s Day, I think about how my life and values have been shaped by the things he taught me ... and I am grateful.

*Michele Dill is the editor.*



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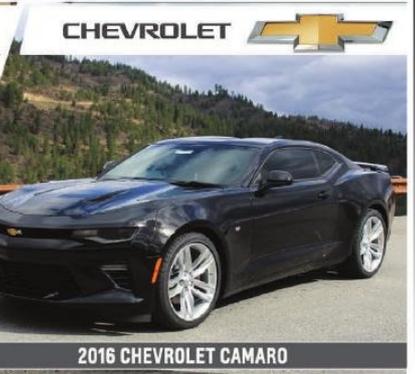
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