

# The Cascade Loop Scenic Highway

## *Refresh Your Sense of Wonder.*

*The Cascade Loop Scenic Highway begins and ends just 25 miles North of Seattle and two hours south of Vancouver, Canada. Enjoy all the diversity of Washington State in this 440-mile driving tour encompassing the North Cascades National Park, Puget Sound island beaches, sun-drenched lakes, high-desert vistas along the Mighty Columbia River, glacier-clad peaks, comfortable accommodations, delicious Northwest cuisine and quaint towns. Drive our adventure to refresh your sense of wonder!*

**Day 1 – Seattle to South Whidbey Island via I-5 to Mukilteo-Clinton Ferry**  
(36 miles+20 minute ferry ride)

**Day 2 –Whidbey Island to Winthrop (165 miles)**

**Day 3 – Winthrop to Lake Chelan (61 miles)**

**Day 4 – Lake Chelan to Leavenworth to (55 miles)**

**Day 5 – Leavenworth to Seattle via Stevens Pass Hwy 2 (126 miles)**

### **DAY ONE:**

**Seattle – Mukilteo – Whidbey Island**

#### ***Whidbey Island Activities:***

Your refreshing adventure begins the moment the ferry leaves the mainland headed for Clinton.

**Langley:** This quaint historic village on the sea is known as the “artists colony of Puget Sound.” It overlooks the waters of Saratoga Passage where Gray whales feed in the spring. Langley’s quiet streets are lined with eateries, galleries, boutiques, historic buildings and over 60 country inns, B&B’s and guest cottages.

#### **Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens:**

Walk among the rhododendrons enjoying miles of trails providing color and beauty.

#### **Greenbank Farm circa 1904 & Winery:**

Stop for some wine-tasting, homemade loganberry pie or to sample cheese. Enjoy local art galleries and more.

#### **Double Bluff Beach and Useless Bay:**

Take a stroll, go beachcombing, take your dog for a walk on the pet friendly beach.

**Fort Casey State Park:** sweeping views of Admiralty Inlet and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. This park features, historic battery guns, walking trails and the Admiralty Head Lighthouse & Interpretive Center.



**Fort Ebey State Park:** 28 miles of trails with stunning views of the Olympic Peninsula.

**Coupeville:** The second-oldest town in Washington also draws folks to its Victorian-era homes, historic waterfront wharf, fine dining on famous Penn Cove mussels, eclectic shops, the Island County Museum and self-guided history walks.

**Dinner and Overnight in Coupeville or Oak Harbor.**

### **DAY TWO:**

**Whidbey Island – North Cascades National Park - Winthrop**

#### ***Whidbey Island Activities:***

**Oak Harbor:** Explore Harborside’s charming restaurants and shops and many family-friendly amenities. Windjammer Park offers visitors a hint of the area’s

Dutch heritage, a waterfront campground, play areas, a walking trail and a saltwater swimming hole.

**Walk or drive across Deception Pass Bridge,** which towers over the swirling waters separating Whidbey & Fidalgo Islands and explore the State Park too.



**La Conner:** Return to the mainland via bridge to for this unique combination of fishing village and artist colony right on the Swinomish Channel. Visit their excellent quilt museum, eat a delicious lunch, and browse one of the many shops. La Conner is in the heart of the brilliant blooming tulip fields during April’s month-long Tulip Festival.

**Hwy 20 Activities (Skagit Valley-North Cascades National Park-Methow Valley):** Padilla Bay National Estuarine Sanctuary (Mount Vernon), Nature float on the Skagit River; Skagit River Bald Eagle Natural Area & Interpretive Center (Rockport).

**North Cascades National Park Visitor Information Center (Newhalem):** Provides interpretive information, displays and videos on the North Cascades.

### Skagit Hydroelectric Project Boat

**Cruise & Tour:** View a picturesque and impressive series of dams along the Skagit River via boat, or take a self-guided walking tour.

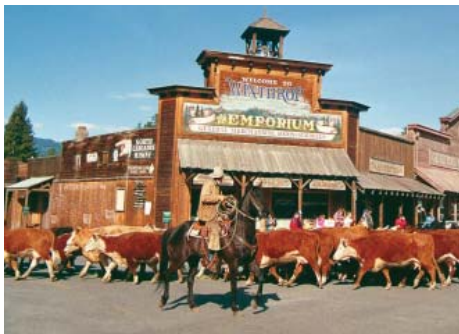
**North Cascades Highway 20:** There is no food or gas stations between Newhalem and Mazama, so be sure to have gas and snacks for the trip. (Note: This highway is closed in the winter, usually mid-Nov. thru mid-April).

**Diablo and Ross Lake Overlooks** provide inspiring views of these mountain lakes with their distinctive teal and jade colors.

**North Cascades National Park, Forestland, and Recreation Area:** This stunningly spectacular mountainous region features over 300 glaciers and an array of easy to extreme trails.

**Washington Pass Overlook** gives "top of the range" views of the North Cascades.

**Dinner and overnight in Old West Winthrop:** Stroll through this authentic Old West town with boardwalks, quaint shops and good eats! There is an array of comfortable accommodations from world-class resorts to cozy cabins or hotels. With over 200 km of groomed, well-established trails surrounding town you can walk, trail ride, mountain bike, hike or cross-country ski surrounded by stunning views of the North Cascade Mountains.



### DAY THREE:

#### Winthrop – Twisp – Pateros – Chelan

**Twisp:** Nestled along the Methow River, Twisp is a great place to browse for art and craft items made by local artisans.

**Lunch in Pateros:** Farm fresh produce grown along the banks of the Methow and Columbia Rivers are deliciously prepared and cooked for a fresh flavor at The Homestead. Buy fresh fruit and local crafted wines and coffee as well.

**Dinner and overnight in Chelan:** Explore the 55-mile long lake on a cruise to

Stehekin, the wilderness village at the head of the lake. Or, enjoy every kind of fresh water activity including: swimming, water-skiing, fishing, waterslides, and parasailing from one of the many parks along the lake. Explore the local restaurants or one of the many boutique wineries overlooking the lake.



#### Chelan – Wenatchee – Cashmere – Leavenworth

#### Columbia River Valley Activities:

**Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center, Entiat:** This self-guided "Trail of Fire & Forest" walk explains the role forest fires play in the environment. 17-acres with Forest Service Fire Lookout towers and interpretive signage.

**Rocky Reach Dam (Hwy 97A):** Free self-guided tour includes Gallery of Electricity & The Columbia, fish-viewing window, 18 areas of landscaped grounds, picnic area, restrooms and playground (March-Nov).

**Ohme Gardens:** One of America's most highly acclaimed Alpine gardens on nine gorgeous acres overlooking the confluence of the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers (April-October).

#### Lake Missoula Ice Age Floods

**Geological Trails Self-Drive Tour.** See evidence of this catastrophic event throughout the area. Driving Map and CD at Wenatchee Valley Visitors Bureau.

#### Cashmere Activities:

**Liberty Orchards' free Aplets & Cotlets Candy Factory Tour** with samples for all at the tour's conclusion.

**Chelan County Pioneer Village & Museum** offers a rich history of the Pacific Northwest with exhibits, original pioneer buildings and Native American artifacts dating back 9,000 years.

#### Dinner & Overnight in Bavarian

**Leavenworth:** Stroll the picturesque main street of this charming village at the base of the Cascade Mountains with its unique shops and galleries. Festivals such as Autumn Leaf, Oktoberfest, and Christmas

Lighting are part of life here. Dine at one of the authentic Bavarian restaurants and stay at a large variety of lodges, hotels, cabins or B&B's in the area.



### DAY FIVE:

**Leavenworth – Snohomish – Everett** Breakfast in Leavenworth before traveling through the scenic Tumwater River Valley on your way up Stevens Pass.

**Iron Goat Trail (MP 71.8):** This remnant of the 1892 rail line of the Great Northern Railroad is an interesting trail with interpretive signage and restrooms.

**Wallace Falls:** A moderate hike to the scenic and dramatic 265' waterfall through old-growth coniferous forest.

**Lunch in Snohomish:** The Antique Capital of the Northwest. Take a self-guided Victorian Homes walking tour, and browse through over 450 antique dealers' treasure troves.

**Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing Tour, Everett:** The 73,000 Sq. Ft. Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour is a fascinating interactive center with exhibits and displays. It offers the only public tour of a commercial jet assembly plant in North America. Reservations recommended.

*For free travel guides, maps and links to the mentioned towns and activities, visit:*

[www.CascadeLoop.com](http://www.CascadeLoop.com),  
(509) 662-3888



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