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Getaways CLOSE TO HOME

WASHINGTON ROAD TRIPS, TOURING YOUR
HOMETOWN AND MORE FUN SUMMER IDEAS



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TORI MCINTYRE
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1938 FAIRVIEW AVE E STE 200
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HIT THE ROAD

Summer Holiday is a Short Drive Away

Stress sits on your shoulders like a big, fat elephant. You “bah, humbug” beams of sunlight streaming through your window each morning because you can’t soak up the sun anyway. You must be under pressure because you swear your flip-flops just gave your high heels a dirty look when you slipped your proper shoes on and headed off to yet another meeting.

Don’t let this summer slip by without savoring its sunshiny sweetness. Pack up the kids, the car, even the dog, and explore everything this great, diverse and beautiful area has to offer. It’s time to get back in touch with your adventurous, relaxed, flip-flop-wearing self.

BY ETHAN CHUNG, LAUREN FOSTER, LISA PATTERSON AND JILL SANFORD | ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHRIS BRITT

APPLE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

The City of Wenatchee is known as the Apple Capital of the World. Visit and dine at the iconic eatery, The Windmill Restaurant. Now a steakhouse, Windmill has an interesting history that includes an upstairs room that was used for secret meetings of bootleggers in the 1930s. thewindmill-restaurant.com

SOAK UP THE SUN AT LAKE CHELAN

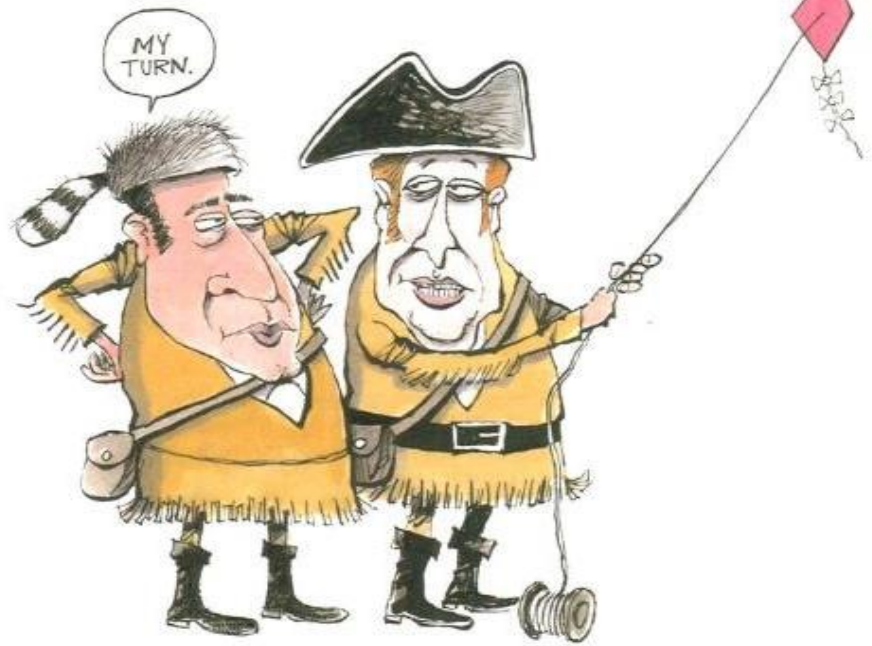
Leave the rain behind as you head east to the drier and sunnier side of the Cascades. Lake Chelan, a major recreation Mecca, promises 300 days of sunshine a year. lakechelan.com

EXPERIENCE NATURE

North Cascades National Park is a great place to experience the wild in Washington. The park offers numerous resources for recreation, education and conservation. Learn more at nps.gov/noca.

SEE THE SPARKLING WATER OF THE NORTHERN LAKES

For shockingly beautiful waters, visit Diablo Lake in Ross Lake Recreation Area. It is a dazzling turquoise. Nearby is the larger Ross Lake, which spans almost 25 miles, all the way to Canada.



FLY SOUTH You can head out of town to Southwest Washington for a quick and relaxing day trip or stay longer. By the time you drive past Olympia, it seems like Washington is a lot more laid-back no matter which direction you choose to go next. Explore the small and sometimes quirky towns of nearby Grays Harbor County, visit the coastal beaches, explore several state parks, shop little boutiques or the bigger outlets. There is something for every kind of traveler — here are some highlights.

SEE SOMETHING WACKY

In 1993, Weekly World News put a half-man, half-alligator creature on its cover, sparking the world's interest in what has become a cultural icon known as "Jake the Alligator Man." The supposedly mummified body of Jake, who has a human head and torso and an alligator tail and legs, sits in a glass case in Marsh's Free

Museum in Long Beach. marshsfreemuseum.com

A FUN HISTORY LESSON

After crossing the Rockies and encountering ferocious grizzly bears on their journey to the uncharted West, Lewis and Clark believed their float down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean would be mild in comparison.

But the rushing waters and chilling storms of the area proved to the early explorers that the Northwest, although hypnotically beautiful, was a force to be reckoned with. The Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center at Cape Disappointment State Park looks out onto the Columbia River where the Corps of Discovery traveled down into the depths of the Northwest.

