

CATALONIA

● puget sound

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Journey



**LĀNA'I
SURPRISES**
5 GREAT
THINGS TO
KNOW ABOUT
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**HIDDEN
TREASURES**
BEHIND THE
SCENES AT
NORTHWEST
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THE magazine for AAA members
september/october 2013

places to go • things to do • sights to see

departures

hands-on harvest

NORTHWEST FARMS LET YOU TRY OUT THE AGRICULTURAL LIFE



Fall fun includes cheesemaking in Dayton (above and inset), easy pickings near Hood River (left) and grape stomping along Lake Chelan (far left).

CRUSH: NICK ELIAS

THE HIGHEST HIGH

As if looking down on part of the Seattle waterfront from more than 900 feet above wasn't enough, a recent expansion of **COLUMBIA CENTER'S SKY VIEW OBSERVATORY** now provides a full 360-degree panorama of the Emerald City and beyond. The highest public viewing area on the West Coast lets you see the Space Needle (605 feet) and Seattle Great Wheel (175 feet) from above—and sample refreshments from its new cafe. Admission is \$12.50 for adults/\$9 for children and seniors. skyviewobservatory.com.



FOR A TASTE OF RURAL LIVING, or simply to connect with your food sources, there's no better time than fall harvest. The following Northwest farms invite you to jump in and get your hands (and feet!) dirty:

* Pluck peaches, nectarines, plums, pears and apples right off the trees, while enjoying views of Mt. Hood, at **DRAPER GIRLS COUNTRY FARM** (drapergirlscountryfarm.com) in Parkdale, Ore. It's located along the Hood River Fruit Loop, a 35-mile scenic drive spotlighting orchards, farms and vineyards. During late October's Cider Days Celebration, Draper Girls will pour cups of fresh-pressed cherry, pear, and grape-apple cider, served alongside warm cider doughnuts.



* Don a cheesemaker's fashion accessories (rubber boots and a hairnet, *bien sûr*) for one- and two-day artisan cheesemaking classes at **MONTEILLET FROMAGERIE** (monteilletcheese.com) in the Walla Walla Valley town of Dayton, where you'll use traditional French techniques to craft cheeses such as chèvre and *causse noir*. You'll

also enjoy wine and cheese tastings, tour the biodynamic garden, and meet the resident American Alpine goats and East Friesian-Lacaune sheep.

* Home to more than just a pretty lake, the Chelan area boasts mineral-rich soil that produces distinctive white wines. At **MELLISONI VINEYARDS** (mellisonivineyards.com), sip pinot grigio, gewürztraminer or riesling wines—then help pick grapes right off the vines. During **LAKE CHELAN WINERY'S** (lakechelanwinery.com) grape-stomping contests, jump into a half-barrel and attempt to stomp the most juice. The same lake climate that creates balanced wines offers the ideal setting for a picnic spread of all your autumn bounty. —LORA SHINN

TOP: CAMERON J. RILEY/PASTRY NINJA PHOTOGRAPHY; COLUMBIA CENTER: SIMON BRUNOZZI

OUR WORLD IN NUMBERS

245

Height, in feet, of the clock tower at Seattle's King Street Station. A project to refurbish the tower, its four clocks and the station interior to their original 1906 luster was completed this spring.

FOURTEEN

Diameter, in feet, of the world's largest Tiffany stained-glass clock, located at NYC's Grand Central Terminal. The terminal, designed by the same architectural firm as King Street Station, celebrates its centennial throughout 2013.

34.75

Distance, in feet, closer to the field that the first row of seats at the 50-yard lines are now located in Husky Stadium. The renovated stadium reopens Aug. 31 for UW's first home football game against Boise State.

2,600

Weight, in tons, of rebar used to construct the new stadium, roughly equivalent to the weight of 26,000 wide receivers.

SEVENTY-NINE

Percentage of the 2012 U.S. hop yield (61.24 million pounds) that was produced by Washington growers.

Amount of time, in hours, that brewers have to use hops after they're picked for entries in Yakima's Fresh Hop Ale Festival, Oct. 5.

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