



FACT SHEET

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THE FACTS ABOUT SEATTLE NORTHCOUNTRY

Location:

Located just 15 miles north of downtown Seattle, Snohomish County's Seattle NorthCountry stretches from the Puget Sound and Salish Sea in the West to the Cascade Range and Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in the east. The elevation rises from sea level to 10,541-foot Glacier Peak. Bothell, the southernmost city in Snohomish County, sits about 170 miles north of the Washington-Oregon border. North Stanwood in northern Snohomish County rests about 60 miles south of the U.S.-Canadian border. The county includes Everett, the county's largest city and country seat, as well as the communities of Arlington, Baring, Bothell, Brier, Darrington, Edmonds, Gold Bar, Granite Falls, Index, Lake Stevens, Lynnwood, Marysville, Mill Creek, Monroe, Mountlake Terrace, Mukilteo, Snohomish, Stanwood, Startup, Sultan, Tulalip, and Woodway.

Population:

With a population of 822,083 in 2019, according to U.S. Census estimates, Snohomish County is the third-largest county in Washington. The population of Everett, the area's largest city and the county seat of Snohomish County, was last estimated by the U.S. Census at 111,262.

Climate:

With an elevation that ranges from sea level to more than 10,000 feet in the Cascade Range, Seattle NorthCountry features a diverse climate that is moderate year-round in the lower elevations and more extreme at the upper elevations. In the west, where most of the region's population is centered, the average temperature reaches 75 degrees in July and falls to 33 degrees in January. And sheltered by the Olympic Mountains to the west, the western section of Snohomish County receives 35 inches of precipitation annually. Meanwhile, the highest points of the Cascade Range receive as much as 120 inches of precipitation annually.

Geography:

Covering 2,090 square miles, Snohomish County is the 13th largest county by square mileage in Washington. Its varied elevation affects the region's topography, which includes saltwater beaches along the Salish Sea, rolling hills, and fertile prairie land in the west, and dense forestland and alpine

wilderness in the east. At 10,541 feet, Glacier Peak, one of five active volcanoes in the region, is the highest point in Seattle NorthCountry and one of the highest in Washington. Those mountains feed 19 rivers and streams, including the Snohomish, Skykomish, Snoqualmie, and Stillaguamish rivers. In all, 68% of the county land area is forest land, 18% is rural, 9% is urban, and 5% is agricultural. Much of Seattle NorthCountry's land to the east is preserved in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Snohomish County's diverse geography includes 62,000 acres of national forest, 560 miles of trails, 132 summits, 74 miles of coastline, 10 major mountains, 44 lakes, 38 campgrounds, and seven Puget Sound beaches.

How to get here:

Paine Field (PAE) in Everett is Seattle NorthCountry's commercial airport and is serviced by Alaska Airlines and United Airlines. The airport currently offers nonstop service to 11 cities in the West. Additionally, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), the region's largest airport, sits 35 miles south of Snohomish County. Amtrak Cascades also serves Seattle NorthCountry through stations in Edmonds, Everett, and Stanwood.

By car, Seattle NorthCountry is connected by I-5, I-405, Washington State Route 9, and Washington State Route 99, which all run north-south and through Seattle NorthCountry's Urban Basecamp and Salish Sea Coastal Communities regions. U.S. Highway 2 is the only east-west highway, connecting the Urban Basecamp and Salish Sea Communities in the west to the Skykomish-Snohomish River Valleys and Stillaguamish-Sauk River Valleys in the east. Everett is three hours from Portland (200 miles), and just over two hours from Vancouver, British Columbia (115 miles). Spokane, Washington (300 miles), is less than five hours away along I-90.

Demographics:

The median age in Snohomish County is nearly 38 years old. Median household income is \$87,440 (2018).

Economy:

Snohomish County's historical roots were planted with logging and agriculture as its main economic drivers. But later in the 20th century, the region developed into a global center of the aerospace industry thanks in large part to Boeing, which manufactured 747s at Paine Field. Today, Boeing and the aerospace industry continue to play a critical role in the economy and helped foster an environment that has attracted an array of hi-tech industries. Seattle NorthCountry is also a manufacturing hub, accounting for nearly 60,000 jobs in 2018, many in aerospace products and parts manufacturing. In addition, Snohomish County has emerged as a regional leader in revitalizing agriculture. Tourism is increasingly playing an important part in the region's economy. Since opening to commercial service, the Paine Field Passenger Terminal has been a vital cog, drawing its one millionth passenger on Feb. 26, 2020, less than a year from its opening in March 2019. The outdoors are an important attraction in the region, which is home to more than 560 miles of trails and 38 campgrounds, as is a diverse profile of creativity, including renowned art studios and Native American and other cultural attractions.

Fun facts:

- Glacier Peak is the most remote of the five active volcanoes in Washington, and it is home to more than a dozen glaciers, inspiring its name.
- Seattle NorthCountry is home to three federally recognized Native American tribes: the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe, the Stillaguamish Tribe, and the Tulalip Tribes.
- Seattle NorthCountry is a thirsty place with 30 breweries, 13 wineries, five distilleries, one meadery, and more than 100 coffeehouses and coffee stands.
- Seattle NorthCountry is a fertile place with 70,000 acres of farmland. As a result, the region has 18 U-pick farms and 18 farmers' markets.
- In addition to a resident Orca population as well as migratory humpback and minke whales, approximately one dozen gray whales are annual and popular guests to Seattle NorthCountry. These gray whales, nicknamed "sounders," come to feed for about three months each spring. Kayak Point County Park's observation dock is often the best spot to glimpse these marvels.
- Seattle NorthCountry is home to 68 waterfalls, most of which can be found in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. At 1,328 feet, Bridal Veil Falls is the tallest.
- Snohomish County's rich aviation history began in 1928, with the opening of its first airport. Boeing opened a shop in a former Everett auto garage in 1943 to build bulkheads and sections for B-17 bombers. In 1966, Boeing's foothold in the region boomed when it decided to manufacture 747s in the plant it built at Paine Field. That building would grow to be the world's largest building by volume, and the plant would eventually be used to manufacture all of Boeing's widebody jets.
- The Paine Field Aviation District is home to three aviation attractions: Flying Heritage and Combat Armor Museum, Museum of Flight Restoration Center, and Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour. It is also home to the High Trek Adventures ropes course and zipline experience.
- 6.8 million migrating salmon travel the waterways of Seattle NorthCountry each year.
- Many notable celebrities and artists come from Seattle NorthCountry. They include actor Chris Pratt, who grew up in Lake Stevens, actress Anna Faris, from Edmonds, as well as game-show legend Bob Barker, who was born in Darrington. Model Chrissy Teigen grew up Snohomish, travel author and television personality Rick Steves is from Edmonds, and pop star Kenny Loggins calls Everett home.

ABOUT SEATTLE NORTHCOUNTRY:

Located just 15 miles north of Seattle, and stretching from the shores of the Salish Sea to the peaks of the Cascade Range, Seattle NorthCountry is characterized by its abundance and variety of outdoor recreation, urbanscapes, and rural vistas befitting its *True PNW* designation. Seattle NorthCountry comprises four primary regions of Snohomish County: Urban Basecamp, Salish Sea Coastal Communities, Skykomish & Snohomish River Valleys, and Stillaguamish & Sauk River Valleys. An unofficial fifth region, the Paine Field Aviation District, pays tribute to the aviation industry's profound impact on Snohomish County. Under the direction of Snohomish County Parks Recreation & Tourism, and in conjunction with the Snohomish County Destination Alliance, Seattle NorthCountry develops, curates, and delivers a year-round visitor experience that appeals to leisure, business, and group travelers, while working closely with our Native American tribal partners to preserve, protect, and be sound stewards of the

ancestral homeland of the Coast Salish people. For more information visit www.seattlenorthcountry.com.

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