



MAKERS

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MADE IN SEATTLE NORTHCOUNTRY: CREATORS AND INNOVATORS THRIVE

(EVERETT, Wash.) — The culture of making has been nurtured in the region that would become Snohomish County since the first Native American inhabitants, which used its highly developed culture to become one of the wealthiest tribes in North America. Today, that tradition of doing continues in Seattle NorthCountry, which fosters a modern culture of artists, authors, craftsmen, entrepreneurs, engineers, scientists, and more.

Snohomish County thrives today because it is a hub for creators and innovators, storytellers and artists, who have come together to build a community pushing the boundaries of creativity. The result is a region that is a true original, with fascinating explorations of local products, arts, and crafts.

The most obvious testament to this is the Paine Field Aviation District, home to Boeing's manufacturing heart and some of the world's greatest feats of past, present, and future aeronautical engineering. Visitors can experience it themselves at [The Future of Flight Aviation Center & Boeing Tour](#), North America's only publicly available commercial jet assembly plant tour.

Boeing's plant is just the beginning of any exploration of the region's makers, who continually draw inspiration from Snohomish County life. With more than 100 coffeehouses and coffee stands, 30 breweries, 13 wineries, five distilleries, and one meadery, Seattle NorthCountry's culture of making is in what you drink. With 70,000 acres of farmland, 18 U-pick farms, 18 farmers' markets, and a thriving farm-to-table culinary scene, it's in what you eat. And with local artists—from Tulalip master carver [James Madison](#), to the [Chihuly and the Pilchuck Glass School](#), to the artists and architects who have contributed to the region's many instances of [public art](#), to the purveyors of [world-class chocolate](#), to the fun created by Everett-based toymakers [Funko](#)—it's in what you see and experience in Seattle NorthCountry.

Snohomish County has far too many makers to list them all, but the following is just a few examples of some of the most prominent makers in the region:

James Madison, Tulalip master carver

With work steeped in the cultural heritage of the region's Tulalip Tribes, [James Madison](#), is widely recognized both regionally and in the broader art world. Madison can be commissioned for custom-made pieces, such as carved canoe paddles, maps, giant sculptures, and totem poles for private residences. His work can also be experienced in public art displays and is featured prominently in the [Hibulb Cultural Center & Natural History Preserve](#) in Tulalip.

Pilchuck Glass School

Northwest artist Dale Chihuly elevated glassblowing to fine art in the 1960s, and his legacy lives on today at the [Pilchuck Glass School](#) in Stanwood. The roots of the "school" begin in the 1970s, when Chihuly and other like-minded-artists set up a colony deep in the woods of Seattle NorthCountry, working together to make blown-glass abstractions from a cobbled-together hot shop. Today, the Pilchuck Glass School is a world-renowned institution that invites visitors to explore the facets of the glassmaking processes taught at Pilchuck, talk with working artists, and watch the pole-turners blowing glass.

Funko

Headquartered in downtown Everett, [Funko](#) is the creator of prized pop culture toys and other products. But the description hardly does Funko justice. However, its headquarters most certainly does. An indoor amusement park as much as a company headquarters, Funko is a living, breathing tribute to its fun creations. With themed sections spread over a city block, Funko offers a little something for everyone, including anime, DC Comics, Disney, Marvel, Star Wars, Harry Potter.

Appetizing creations

With local farmers and fruit stands spread across Seattle NorthCountry—such as [Biringer Farms](#) and [Garden Treasures Nursery and Organic Farm](#) in Everett, or [Fruitful Farm](#) in Oso—fresh treats are never hard to find, particularly from spring through fall. Bakeries such as [Rila Bakery](#) in Lynwood, [Choux-Choux Bakery](#) and [Panaderia La Gloria](#) in Everett, and [Snohomish Pie Company](#) make magic out of those fresh, local ingredients. In Monroe, [St. John Creamery](#) is a working goat farm that delights visitors with its raw goat milk and farmstead cheeses.

To learn more about Seattle NorthCountry, including events, attractions, and activities, visit [SeattleNorthCountry.com](#).

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, urban landscapes, 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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