



## EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

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### SEATTLE NORTHCOUNTRY: AN EDUCATIONAL TRIP IN THE MAKING

(EVERETT, Wash.) — Never stop learning is advice best heeded, particularly on a visit to Seattle NorthCountry. Sightseeing is wonderful. Relaxation is necessary. But adding a layer of educational adventure to a visit to Snohomish County creates a rich and immersive experience that will last long after you return home.

From its earliest Native American inhabitants, this region has been fortunate in that it has long attracted unending talent to create art, to build incredible achievements of aeronautical engineering, and to push the limits of what humans can accomplish. Seeing such innovators thrive is an experience to itself. But many of those who have perfected their craft in Snohomish County are open to sharing what they know with those who are eager to learn.

In Snohomish County, that could mean getting hands-on with the art of glass-blowing or striving for a deeper experience with a guided exploration of the native flora and fauna of the region. It could mean a deep dive into human flight in the [Paine Field Aviation District](#), a class in how to scale a rock wall, or a hands-on lesson in creating craft spirits from a local distillery.

The bottom line is that if the very purpose of travel is to experience something new or dig deeper into something you already love, then Seattle NorthCountry has much to offer. It could make for a visit that is as enlightening as it is relaxing.

The following are some of the best ways to learn while doing on a trip Seattle NorthCountry:

**Art:** Located in downtown Everett, the [Schack Art Center](#) features community art classes and a glass blowing hot shop. The [Pilchuck Glass School](#) in Stanwood is a world-renowned institution that invites visitors to explore the facets of glassmaking, talk with working artists, and watch the pole-turners blowing glass. Learn the intricacies of pottery by taking a class at the [Bruning Pottery Studio](#) in Snohomish. Or visit the [Imagine Children's Museum](#) in Everett, and let the kids get hands-on with art, history, culture, and science.

**The outdoors:** With so much to explore from sea to mountain peak in Seattle NorthCountry, it helps to tap a little local expertise. The [Alderleaf Wilderness College](#) offers courses in nature education and wilderness survival. The kids will love the [Beach Camp at Sunset Bay](#), a summer camp focused on water sports and marine sciences. Take on a whitewater adventure with [Chinook Expeditions and Bald Eagle Float Tours](#) in Index. In Everett, learn to paddleboard at [Hydrology Stand Up Paddle](#) or get up close to native wildlife at the [Northwest Stream Center](#) in Everett. For fledgling mountain bikers, the [Darrington North Mountain Bike Skills Area](#) is an ever-growing network of family-friendly trails perfect for skill-building.

**Agritourism adventures:** With the right guide, you can do more than just eat your food. You can truly experience it. Snohomish County is home to dozens of farms and farmer's markets, many of which are eager to show visitors just how the intricacies of local agriculture function. [NW Select Organic Gardens](#) offers guided tours of the farm, gardens, and village that is home to a family community of 80 people. Embark on the [Red Rooster Route](#) in Arlington, and explore an association of small, family-friendly farms during harvest season. Or explore the many family-friendly facets of [Farm at Swans Trail](#) in Snohomish.

**Rock climbing:** Rock climbers and boulderers have for generations flocked to the rocky cliffs of the Cascade Range, and with that comes a ton of expertise. Before taking on on the 500-foot vertical cliff of the Index Town Wall or the 1,100-foot face Witch Doctor Wall of Exfoliation Dome, it makes sense to sharpen your skills and gain some local knowledge at the climbing wall at [Vertical World](#) in Everett, which was America's first climbing gym, or at the [Summit Everett Climbing Gym](#).

**Paine Field Aviation District:** Straddling Mukilteo and Everett in the Urban Basecamp region of Seattle NorthCountry, the [Aviation District](#) offers fascinating, up-close lessons of the past, present, and future of human flight. The Aviation District includes three distinctive and interactive experiences that immerse visitors in the miracle of human flight – the Flying Heritage and Combat Armor Museum, the Museum of Flight Restoration Center and Reserve Collection, and the Future of Flight Aviation Center and Boeing Tour. In addition, High Trek Adventures' rope course and ziplines provide an added dose of fun and adventure.

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, 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](http://www.seattlenorthcountry.com).

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