

Snohomish County Farms, Flowers and Festivals

Snohomish County, Washington Minutes North of Seattle

Agricultural tourism is a great way to visit rural areas to learn more about farm life or to reminisce about the good ol' days and Snohomish County has a variety of farms to visit from Apples and Pumpkins to Lavender and Antique Roses. Culinary cooking classes, wine tasting and historic villages all set the stage for fun!

Day One

(One to two hours – depending on farm selection) Get out to The farm! Experience a farm adventure in Snohomish County. Get lost in a corn maze, browse through a pumpkin patch, taste ripe berries from the bush, or pick a handful of flowers for that favorite vase. Agricultural tourism is a great way to visit rural areas to learn more about farm life or to reminisce about the good ol' days. Many activities are offered throughout the year, although fall is the highlight season.

(Three hours) On the national historic register for both their business and residential districts, the town of Snohomish is the "Antique Capitol of the Pacific Northwest". Stop by a riverfront café a delectable lunch, a cup of coffee and piece of pie, and then stroll along historic streets and shop at one of the country and Victorian shops where over 450 antique dealers sell their treasures. www.cityofsnohomish.org.

(One hour) The newly opened Western Heritage Museum is not to be missed. Committed to preserving the stories of the Snohomish River Valleys and sharing the local history, the interactive displays and guided tours feature the history of logging, mining and construction, transportation, and agriculture in Snohomish County.

(One hour) Flower World - Ten acres of display gardens, greenhouses and retail displays. Special programs and classes available for groups.

Day Two

(One hour) Rhody Ridge County Park Garden Tour. Five acres of private grounds donated to the county. Specializing in displays of azaleas and rhododendrons.

(Depends on festival selected) Depending on the dates of your tour, garden and flower festivals bloom throughout the spring and summer!

1. Garden Affair Festival (425)263-7226; http://elegantcraftshows.com/events/19th-garden-affair/ (April)

- 2. Edmonds in Bloom Garden Tours (425-771-2631); http://edmondsinbloom.com/ (May August)
- 3. Sorticulture Garden Art Show (425)257-7107; www.everettwa.org/default.aspx?ID=1228 (June)
- 5. Everett's arboretum tours (425)257-8300; www.evergreenarboretum.com/tours.asp

(One hour) Visit Heritage Park in Lynnwood. Heritage Park is a collection of historic buildings and demonstration farm. A self-guided tour of the park walks you through the early settlement of Lynnwood, then Alderwood Manor. Take a guided tour of a fully restored 1909 single-ended wooden electric rail car; visit the historic Wickers building and transportation museum. The cottage and water tower are the only surviving structures from the 1917 Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm. The Demonstration Farm encouraged folks from the cities to purchase 5 -10 acres tracts and taught them how to make a living off the land.

(One hour) Winery tours are all the rage in Washington and Snohomish County is no exception. Or visit one of the many microbreweries Washington is famous for. Big E Ales in Lynnwood is an excellent example. And not to stop there, Distilleries are popping up all over Snohomish County, such a Bluewater Organic Distillery in Everett.

(Three hours) "Get Sauced Safely" Cooking Italian with Washington Wines. Learn the secrets of preparing 5 versatile sauces, which are the foundation of Italian cuisine. Master a fresh and simple Marinara, the perfect Pesto, a delicate Carbonnara, an awesome Alfredo, and a magically simple Marsala. Each sauce will be demonstrated and served with a pasta or meat dish, and paired with a matching wine from Washington State. You'll discover why Washington wines work so well with Italian food, and after the class we'll provide you with recipes so that you can share your delicious new skills with family and friends. Lombardi's Neighborhood Italian.

Additional information:

Amy Spain Snohomish County Tourism Bureau 1133 164th Street SW, Suite 204, Lynnwood, WA 98087 (425)348-5802, extension 11; (888)338-0976 amy@snohomish.org; www.snohomish.org