SEATTLE
NORTHCOUNTRY
TRUE PNW

REGION OVERVIEWS

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SEATTLE NORTHCOUNTRY: FOUR UNIQUE REGIONS, ONE INCOMPARABLE DESTINATION

(EVERETT, Wash.) — From Seattle NorthCountry's first Coast Salish inhabitants to today's four distinct regions – each with its own character and culture – Snohomish County has long been a place of diversity. Today, Seattle NorthCountry's Salish Sea Communities, Urban Basecamp, Skykomish & Snohomish River Valleys, and Stillaguamish & Sauk River Valleys offer four unique experiences. Together they make one unforgettable destination.

The region's geography and topography are keys to Seattle NorthCountry's varied experiences. Located just 15 miles north of downtown Seattle, 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, offering vastly different landscapes along the way.

Such divergent geography was bound to foster differences in culture, art, food, outdoor activities, and more. From the coastal experiences of the Salish Sea, to the region's bustling and international Urban Basecamp, to the water-shaped and forested Skykomish & Snohomish River Valleys, to the outdoors mecca that is Stillaguamish & Sauk River Valleys, there is so much for a traveler to explore.

Salish Sea Communities

Nestled against the Salish Sea, the communities of Edmonds, Everett, Marysville, Mukilteo, Stanwood, and Tulalip, offer miles of shoreline to explore. Here, everything is inspired and informed by the Salish Sea, including the atmospheric art, the fresh-from-the-boat seafood, and the sweeping views of the Olympic Mountains off in the distance. Visitors soak in the salty air while kayaking on the open water to a nearby island, or join a whale-watching excursion to spot resident and migratory whales. Beachcombers can explore the rocky beaches or drop a pot in and catch their own Dungeness crab. The bustling harbor towns on the Salish Sea have developed their own unique culture. Visitors try their hand at glassblowing or simply take it all in from the comfort of a cozy coffee shop. Explore the fascinating history of this diverse region by visiting the Hibulb Cultural Center, and learn more about the first people to inhabit it.

Urban Basecamp

Nestled between the Cascade Range and the Salish Sea, the communities of Bothell, Brier, Everett, Lynnwood, Mill Creek, and Mountlake Terrace combine to create a vibrant urban center rich in art, culture, innovation, and incredible cuisine. Seattle NorthCountry's urban basecamp is among the world's foremost aviation hubs. Historic Paine Field serves as the region's commercial airport and Boeing's manufacturing center. Here, visitors can explore the Aviation District in Mukilteo and Everett and experience the magnitude of flight on the Boeing Tour, learn about the night witches at the Flying Heritage and Combat Armor Museum, and play in the sky at High Trek Adventures. Wander international markets filled with locally grown produce, or embark on a culinary adventure with the region's imaginative and diverse cuisine. From the urban basecamp, take day trips to the mountains or the sea, then soak away sore muscles in a Korean spa.

Skykomish & Snohomish River Valleys

Set in the majestic Cascade Range, the communities of Baring, Gold Bar, Index, Lake Stevens, Monroe, Snohomish, Startup, and Sultan can feel a bit like stepping back in time. The pace of life here is just a bit slower, leaving plenty of time to linger in a bakery, small boutique, or vintage shop. In the Skykomish & Snohomish River Valleys, you can sip locally roasted and brewed coffee and strike up a conversation with a friendly local. Rich with agriculture, hop from farmstand to farmstand, feasting on berries in the summer and picking pumpkins in the fall. Visitors are drawn to the district's more rugged pursuits. The district is home to 88 miles of mountain waterways, perfect for fishing, swimming, or kayaking. Ski nearby Stevens Pass, or hike through the forests and discover each incredible waterfall. Launch a white-water rafting trip from a historic mining village. Then, take in the lush river landscapes and rural vistas from a hot air balloon.

Stillaguamish & Sauk River Valleys

The communities of Arlington, Darrington, and Granite Falls are nestled deep in the Central Cascades, offering an untamed experience in the shadow of towering snow-capped mountains. Here, glacier runoff pools into pristine alpine lakes. The star-strewn night sky can take your breath away, particularly if viewed from a fire lookout. This verdant valley has become an outdoor hub. River rafters, hikers, campers, mountain bikers, and more are drawn to this wild region in search of adventure, while fly fishermen travel from near and far to fish the famed "Stilly" river. Cyclists take to the Mountain Loop Highway for a camping-riding experience found in few other places. And music lovers flock to the area each August to immerse themselves in the Darrington Summer Meltdown Music Festival.

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.

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