Mount Rainier

Of all the fire mountains which like beacons, once blazed along the Pacific Coast, Mount Rainier is the noblest.

John Muir

A mountain of immesurable inspiration. Mount Rainier is the crowning jewel of the nation’s fifth national park, it is a place of discovery and of personal triumphs, where family traditions endure.

At 14,410 feet, the mountain is the tallest volcano in the continental United States. Basalt columns and other remnants of early eruptions and lava flows reveal Mount Rainier’s ancient geologic history. Designed nearly one hundred years ago, Mount Rainier National Historic Landmark is a place where people can reconnect with what is important in their lives.

Unforgettable Destinations

Longmire

Paradise

Ohanapecoh

Sunrise

Carbon River

Accessible year-round. Scenic walks or cross-country skiing during winter. Stroll the edge of the meadow where history meets nature.

Day hike to separate exits. Step back in time; discover rustic park architecture and past waterfalls on the light and your perspective—surrounds the town of the fantastic. Grab a sled and head for Paradise’s winter wonderland and set up a snow camp. Kit or snowboard.

During summer, hike the maintained trail around meadows, streams, and waterfalls. Watch and listen for wildlife—deer, grouse, butterflies, mammals, and more. Explore exhibits at the visitor and information centers. Rest a while or have a snack at the historic Paradise Inn. Grab a sled and head for Paradise’s winter wonderland and set up a snow camp. Kit or snowboard.

In summer, hike the maintained trails to expansive vistas. Step back in time; discover rustic park architecture, which harmonizes with the park’s natural scenery. Accessible year-round. Snowshoe or cross-country ski.

The park’s wilderness is protected from development; a place to recreate and find solitude.

Explore Wilderness

Meet the People

People have been coming to Mount Rainier for more than 9,000 years. Archaeological findings suggest that Native Americans hunted, gathered, and conducted spiritual and ceremonial activities on the mountain. Their descendants maintain a special connection with the mountain to this present day.

Witness Change

Though the mountain may convey a sense of permanence, Mount Rainier is anything but permanent. Ice and rock continually break away from the peak. Glaciers and rivers transport debris and water down the mountain, and often wreak havoc with roads and park buildings. Subalpine meadows, buried beneath deep debris from the peak, provide an example of the change in the landscape as the snow melts. Animals must adapt to this ever-changing environment, migrate, or die.

As Earth’s temperature rises, it is unclear how such a change will affect the mountain’s dynamic forces, its plants, animals, or ourselves.

For thousands of years, Mount Rainier has been an important place for Pacific Northwest Indian people. Nearly two million people from around the world now visit Mount Rainier National Park each year.

Explore Wilderness

Mount Rainier is an evolving landscape of forests, meadows, glaciers, and craters. Wilderness performs functions essential to life on Earth. Making snow produces fresh water. Plants pump oxygen into the atmosphere. Protecting the mountain’s wild places, and the wild life and the natural processes they support, will become ever more essential in our developing world.

In the late 1800s, miners, entrepreneurs, and tourists recognized the mountain’s potential to provide wealth and recreation. They came with the hope to prosper, to recreate, and simply to breathe the clear mountain air.

In the late 1800s, miners, entrepreneurs, and tourists recognized the mountain’s potential to provide wealth and recreation. They came with the hope to prosper, to recreate, and simply to breathe the clear mountain air.
Visiting the Park

Bikes and Motorcycles

Roads are narrow and should be shared. Bikes and motorcycles are prohibited on park trails. Wear your helmet!

Protect Yourself and the Park

Follow posted speed limits and use pullouts on the park’s winding roads.

- Pets must be on leashes no longer than six feet and are not allowed in buildings, on trails, or in off-trail or backcountry areas.
- Stay on designated trails. Federal laws protect all natural and cultural features in the park.
- You must have a permit to travel above 10,000 ft. and for any overnight wilderness stay.

Firearms

The use of firearms is prohibited within Mount Rainier National Park. People who can legally possess firearms under federal, Washington State, and local laws may possess them in the park. However, federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park; these places are posted with signs at public entrances.

Firearms are prohibited in certain facilities in this park; these places are posted with signs at public entrances.

Fees

Mount Rainier collects fees from visitors who use the park. Recreational fees enhance visitor experiences.

Lodging

National Park Inn at Longmire is open all year. Paradise Inn is open in summer only. Visit our website for lodging and camping contact information.

Accessibility

Most visitor centers, restrooms, picnic areas, and designated campsites are accessible or accessible with help for wheelchair users. Find accessible lodging at Longmire and Paradise. Paradise Visitor Center, audiovisual programs, and exhibits are accessible. Sunrise Visitor Center and exhibit area are accessible with help via the north entrance. Find fully accessible trails at Kautz and Paradise. Some trails at Paradise and Longmire are accessible with help.

Emergencies

Call 911 from any phone located in the park.

Winter Driving

All vehicles must carry tire chains when traveling in the park November 1 to May 1.

Mount Rainier National Park

55210238th Ave. East Joliet, WA 98304

TTY 360-569-2177

www.nps.gov/mora

Mount Rainier National Park is one of over 400 parks in the National Park System. Learn more about parks at www.nps.gov.