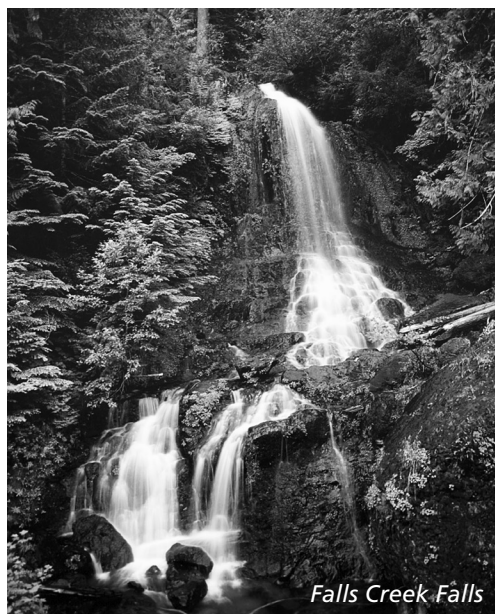


Mount Rainier National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Waterfalls



Falls Creek Falls

Mount Rainier's numerous waterfalls are best viewed in early summer as melting snow feeds the streams, and again in autumn as the rains fill the streambeds. During late summer, only the major waterfalls will be flowing.

Only a small number of the many waterfalls have been named. What names would you give to your favorite unnamed waterfalls? Whether the falls have names or not, they are a refreshing sight to both the eye and spirit.

Please approach and view waterfalls safely. Stay on maintained trails and viewpoints. Wet rocks, steep slopes, and cliff areas are extremely hazardous!

Longmire and Paradise areas

Carter Falls and Madcap Falls

This horsetail-shaped waterfall is more than 50 feet tall. It was named in honor of Harry Carter, builder of much of the trail between Longmire and Paradise. The falls is on the Paradise River 1.1 miles from the Cougar Rock Campground

on the Wonderland Trail. Cross the Nisqually River and follow the trail toward Paradise. Roughly 100 yards upstream from Carter Falls is another attractive cascade known as Madcap Falls.

Comet Falls

The trailhead and parking is located two miles above Cougar Rock Campground on the road to Paradise. This 320-foot waterfall is one of the park's most spectacular. A strenuous hike of 1.9

miles leads to the base of the falls, gaining 1,200 feet in elevation. It is best to wait until snow has completely melted from the trail, as it can be treacherous until early summer.

Christine Falls

Located 4.5 miles from Longmire on the road to Paradise, just 0.2 mile from the Comet Falls parking area. The best way to view this 60-foot plunging waterfall is to park and walk down

the short path to the viewpoint below the stone bridge. The waterfall is named for Christine Van Trump, daughter of P.B. Van Trump, one of the first climbers of Mount Rainier.

Narada Falls

Located 3 miles below Paradise and 9 miles from Longmire where the Paradise River plunges 168 feet over an old andesite lava flow to the valley floor. The short, steep walk to the

base gives the best view, and the spray and mist will refresh you. On a sunny day, a colorful rainbow may add a bit of magic to the falls.

Myrtle Falls

Take an easy 0.4-mile walk from the Paradise Inn northeast along the paved Skyline Trail to Edith Creek. A steep stairway descends to

a superb viewpoint overlooking the 60-foot waterfall with Mount Rainier towering in the background.

Sluiskin Falls

This veil-like cascade slides off the side of Mazama Ridge at the head of the Paradise Valley, falling 300 feet to the creekbed below. It is best viewed from a distance, along the Skyline Trail en route to Myrtle Falls, and is visible from most of the Paradise area. The falls are named

for Sluiskin, the Yakama Indian who guided Mount Rainier's first summit climbers, Hazard Stevens and P.B. Van Trump, to the site of their timberline base camp near the top of these falls in August 1870.

(continued)

Fairy Falls	This 3-tiered cascade drops nearly 600 feet over a headwall of Stevens Canyon. However, due to its inaccessible location, it is best viewed from a distance; binoculars may be helpful. To spot it, go to the Snow Lake trailhead and look north across the upper end of Stevens Canyon. The	falls' former sources of water, the Stevens and Williwakas Glaciers, have disappeared due to the warming climate. Formerly an impressive year-round feature, the falls now dwindle to a trickle by late summer as the annual snowpack melts away.
Martha Falls	Unicorn Creek flows from Snow Lake, over the edge of a lava flow via a series of cascades, finally dropping 125 feet to the canyon floor over Martha Falls. The falls can be seen across	the upper end of Stevens Canyon from a viewpoint along the road. The falls were named for Martha Longmire by one of her sons while he was building the Wonderland Trail.
Ohanapecosh area		
Silver Falls	The full power of the Ohanapecosh River surges over a series of smaller cascades, culminating in a forceful 60-foot drop into an amphitheater surrounded by old-growth forest. During periods of high flow, the roaring spray makes this one of the park's most impressive falls. Reach the falls by trail, either from the	north (Grove of the Patriarchs trailhead), from the east (Laughingwater Creek trailhead), or from the south (Ohanapecosh Campground). The best views are from just east of the dramatic footbridge spanning the river's gorge, and from the viewpoint perched on the west side of the amphitheater next to the falls.
Falls Creek Falls	This small but graceful waterfall (pictured on the front of this publication) can be seen next to Stevens Canyon Road, about 300 yards uphill	from the Grove of the Patriarchs parking area, just north of Ohanapecosh.
Ohanapecosh Falls	The Ohanapecosh River drops nearly 70 feet into a punchbowl at this 2-tiered waterfall. To reach the falls, follow the Eastside Trail about	3.7 miles north from the Grove of the Patriarchs parking area. The best viewing is from south of the falls' footbridge.
Deer Creek Falls	Hike about 0.2 mile down the Owyhigh Lakes Trail from Highway 123 to see Deer Creek cascading over 60 feet into a scenic gorge below	the trail. Use caution when viewing the falls from the brink of the gorge.
Stafford Falls	This punchbowl waterfall drops about 30 feet on Chinook Creek. To reach the falls, follow the Owyhigh Lakes Trail 0.4 mile from Highway 123	to the Eastside Trail, then about 1.4 miles south on the Eastside Trail to a short spur trail leading to a viewpoint.
Mowich Lake and Carbon River areas		
Spray Falls	Spray Creek drops over 300 feet in a magnificent, veil-like waterfall. The remains of the Flett Glacier provide a reliable source of water for this attraction. From the trailhead at	the end of the Mowich Lake Road, hike 2 miles on the trail toward Spray Park, then follow the 0.2-mile spur trail to the base of Spray Falls.
Ranger Falls	This dramatic cascade is visible from a viewpoint along the trail to Green Lake. Hike or bike 3.2 miles up the Carbon River Road to the	Green Lake Trail, then continue on foot 1 mile toward Green Lake to the viewpoint.
Chenuis Falls	Hike or bike 3.7 miles up the Carbon River Road to the Chenuis Falls trailhead, then hike 0.2 miles to the other side of the Carbon River	to view this attractive, low-profile waterfall ending in a beautiful pool.
Ipsut Falls	When visiting the Ipsut Creek backcountry campsite (5 miles by trail from the Carbon River Ranger Station), follow the trail a short distance	up Ipsut Creek to view this small cascade tumbling through the canyon.