

TRIP PLANNER:
OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK
PG. 78

Gravel Grinding

Life-Changing
Chocolate

The Cozy
Sweater Cocktail

1889

Washington's Magazine

DIVINE DESTINATIONS

RELAX BY THE WATER | RECHARGE IN THE MOUNTAINS | GO RITZY OR GET RUSTIC



LIVE | THINK | EXPLORE | WASHINGTON

February | March volume 113

↓ **In the Mountains**

Sometimes the mountains just pull you in. Even if you're not a winter sports enthusiast eager to strap on your board and head into the wilderness, there's plenty to do around these parts year round. Or you can curl up next to a roaring fire—whatever you need, these places have it in spades.

Head to the Methow Valley, tucked into the foothills of the North Cascades, and start at Sun Mountain Lodge. If you're a cross-country skier, make first tracks on the trails. If you're a hiker or mountain biker, there are tons of choices here too. If you're none of those things, no worries—the lodge has a spa, a game room, horseback riding, and a beaver pond where you and the kids can look for beavers making their dams. This is the kind of place that allows for as much or as little activity as you might want.

If you're a big fan of mountain meadows, craggy mountains and really, really good food, Sleeping Lady Resort in Leavenworth is a good bet. It may appear a bit rustic, but thought has been put into every detail. The majority of resort reservations include breakfast and dinner at the Kingfisher Restaurant, with locally sourced food, and there's a play barn on site with pool, board games and table tennis.

QUICK HIT

Sun Mountain Lodge
Methow Valley
\$218+

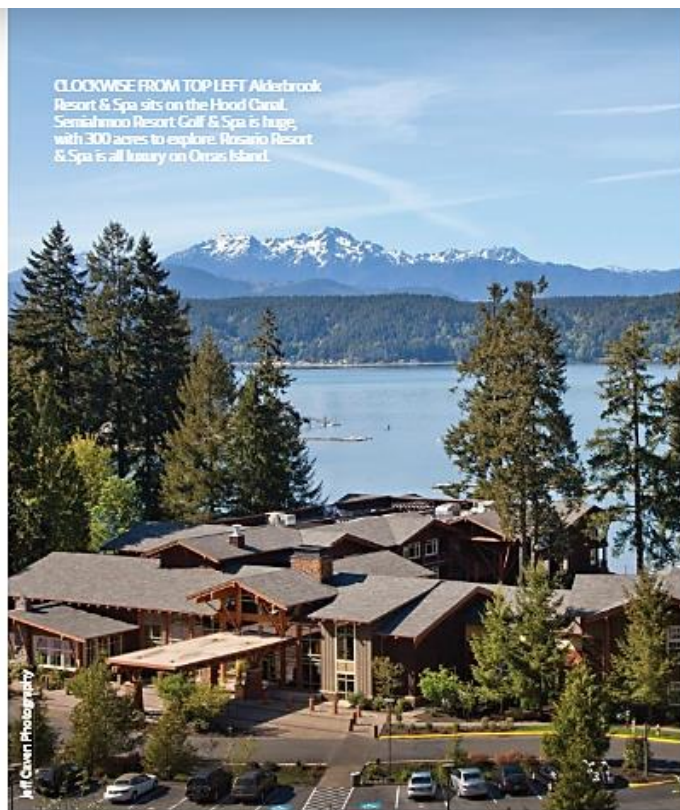
Sleeping Lady Resort
Leavenworth
\$253+

Suncadia Resort
Cle Elum
\$169+

Or swing to Suncadia Resort, in Cle Elum, which has a big lodge with 250 rooms, as well as the Suncadia Inn, which has fourteen rooms and four large suites, and a smattering of cabins. When you show up to check in, you receive a "destination taste," a bite of locally sourced food, and it just gets better from there. With three golf courses, a full spa, scooters you can borrow and a 1,000-step staircase to a riverfront park, you're going to stay busy.



Sleeping Lady puts thought into every detail.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Alderbrook Resort & Spa sits on the Hood Canal. Semiahmoo Resort Golf & Spa is huge, with 300 acres to explore. Rosario Resort & Spa is all luxury on Orcas Island.





Semiahmoo Resort

↓ **On the Water**

Washington is that lucky state with water in all its forms, from thrashing waves to glassy stillness. By extension, the state also has resorts up against many of those great bodies of water. We benefit from the state's beautiful diversity.

Semiahmoo Resort Golf & Spa is a resort in the grandest sense. This place is huge—300 acres at the tip of the Semiahmoo Spit in Blaine. Just south of the Canadian border, this spot offers whale-watching tours or fishing boat charters that leave straight from the resort. Rent a bike, paddleboard or other outdoor gear from the beach activities center, or just hang close to home with great dining and a spa.

On Orcas Island, Rosario Resort & Spa gleams on the shores of the East Sound. This

40-acre retreat feels luxurious, even though its pricing is very reasonable. Some of that may come from the excellent restaurant on site—The Mansion Restaurant offers local food that is

all about creativity. Indoor and outdoor pools, plenty of room to wander, and a slow pace make this place a must see. The mansion on the property has a museum worth a look, too.

And don't forget Alderbrook Resort & Spa, which is only two hours from Seattle and strikes a subtle and stylish pose along the Hood Canal.

The scenery is beautiful, there's a nearby golf course, and the on-site restaurant is the epitome of fine dining. Add in comfortable rooms and sixteen cottages that are perfect for family getaways, and you have the makings of a great getaway.

QUICK HIT

Semiahmoo Resort
Blaine
\$169+

Rosario Resort & Spa
Orcas Island
\$119+

Alderbrook Resort & Spa
Union
\$159+



Spend Your Clams at These Casinos

With twenty-eight tribe-operated casinos around the state, you can try your luck from Tulalip to Toppenish and Chewelah to Shelton. We picked a few of our favorites.

**LITTLE CREEK CASINO RESORT
SHELTON**

Many of the rooms here were just renovated, and while not as extravagant as some of the other casinos in the state, this spot has a cigar bar, a spa and a game room for the kids. The hotel also includes a tribal art collection.

www.little-creek.com

**ANGEL OF THE WINDS CASINO RESORT
ARLINGTON**

This big and beautiful casino and hotel is growing. An expansion started last year will add slots and gaming tables, as well as an enclosed parking garage and new restaurants (including a 60-seat steakhouse!) and bars. Plus, there will be a bowling alley and a new 8,500-square-foot entertainment facility for concerts and other events.

www.angelofthewinds.com

**ILANI
LA CENTER**

ilani caused quite a stir when it opened in April 2017, and that's for good reason—this spot was developed by the Cowlitz Tribe in conjunction with the Salishan-Mohegan and partners with the Mohegan Sun, the famous casino in Connecticut. The casino is more than 100,000 square feet and has fifteen restaurants, bars and stores.

www.ilaniresort.com

**SUQUAMISH CLEARWATER CASINO RESORT
POULSBO**

This hotspot recently got a facelift, and the rooms are even more beautiful than before. The waterfront property has beach access, is popular for weddings and other events, and has a golf course.

www.clearwatercasino.com

**NORTHERN QUEST RESORT & CASINO
AIRWAY HEIGHTS**

Just outside Spokane, Northern Quest has a huge casino that's open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, but it's also known for offering big-name entertainment and having a full-service spa that looks like something right out of a movie.

www.northernquest.com



A Dash of Ritzzy

Willows Lodge in Woodinville is a bit of an anomaly because it's so close to Seattle and the bustle of city life, and yet once you set foot inside, you feel a world away. Rooms here come in nice, nicer and nicest, there's a full-service spa with a host of luxurious treatments (detoxifying wrap and body polish, anyone?), and one of the best restaurants

QUICK HIT

Willows Lodge
Woodinville
\$269+

Inn at Langley
Whidbey Island
\$325+

Salish Lodge & Spa
Snoqualmie
\$219+

Barking Frog, is on the premises. If you even need to venture out, you can hit up more than a dozen wine tasting rooms just minutes away.

Also near Seattle is the Inn at Langley, on Whidbey Island. Every room has a view of the water, and the resort doesn't welcome children under 12 (dogs are fine). Breakfast, movie passes and yoga are all included, and the open kitchen restaurant with huge fireplace is a bonus worth paying for. Meanwhile, there's a spa, of course, and the rooms are all an indulgent 400 square feet or bigger.

As for the Salish Lodge & Spa, it sits on the edge of Snoqualmie Falls. As though that weren't enough, it has a romance concierge who will help you turn up the love quotient on your next getaway. Dine in the dining room or at The Attic, where you can overlook the falls, and get ready for local food—the on-site apiary produces honey and homegrown herbs spice up all the dishes.



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT Experience incredible cuisine at Barking Frog on the Willows Lodge campus. Doe Bay has yurts, cabins and camping. The Inn at Langley has water views and big rooms. Campbell's Resort has been on the shores of Lake Chelan since 1901.



↓ **An Earthy Rustic**

In the San Juans, Doe Bay Resort & Retreat has cabins, yurts and campsites on 38 acres. This is one of those places where you feel your body exhale and relax as you arrive—it's got that magical quality to it. Each year, the resort hosts a four-day grassroots music festival (this year from August 7 to 12) and you get a 10 percent discount on your accommodations when you book a whale-watching trip with Outer Island Excursions. Plus, the Doe Bay Cafe has a menu filled with fresh ingredients, many from the Doe Bay Garden outside.

Freestone Inn is tucked into the Methow Valley, and it's rustic only insofar as it has fireplaces in every one of the sixteen lodge

guest rooms and looks like a supersized log cabin. There are views of a small lake, fifteen cabins available for rent, and a breakfast buffet each day. This is a great jumping-off point for adventures in the mountains, or just sitting in the year-round hot tub.

Once again, "rustic" isn't quite the right word to describe Campbell's Resort on Lake Chelan. Instead, historic is probably the right term. This spot has been around, and been improved upon many times, since 1901, and has 170 lakeside guest rooms and a private beach on the 8-acre site. In the summer there are beachside concerts and the kids can learn to fish with the resort's fishing program.

QUICK HIT

Doe Bay Resort & Retreat
Orcas Island
\$16+ (2-night minimum)

Freestone Inn
Methow Valley
\$229+

Campbell's Resort
Chelan
\$94+