



Longmire | Things To Do

Welcome to Longmire!

Longmire is an area steeped in history with so much to offer. There are countless opportunities to learn, explore, recreate, and enjoy Mount Rainier National Park here.

Longmire has lots of historic buildings and scenic hiking trails. Stop at the historic Nisqually Bridge or the Trail of the Shadows to take in some history, or stretch your legs by hiking Rampart Ridge or Eagle Peak. This is a great place to visit year round. The National

Park Inn is a nice place to take a break after a long drive, and the Longmire Museum provides information to visitors.

Always check trail and road conditions with a park ranger or online before hiking. Many trails may be partially or totally covered in snow and can be dangerous. Roads may be closed due to snow conditions.

Mountain Views

Year-round and weather dependent

Trail of the Shadows

0.7 miles round-trip, 30 minutes

Trail of the Shadows begins across the main park road from the Longmire Museum. A short spur trail will take you into the meadow and offer a view of the mountain. For your safety, do not drink the water from the springs!

Longmire Community Building

1 mile round-trip, 40 minutes

Follow the side road towards all the buildings and through the employee housing area. The road will make two switchbacking turns before crossing the Nisqually River on a wooden suspension bridge. Cross the bridge and follow the road to the Community Building on the left. Enjoy the views of Mount Rainier!

Rampart Ridge

4.6 mile loop, 1339' elevation gain,
2 ½ hours

Beginning from the Trail of the Shadows, this is a steep loop trail traveling through forests with vistas from the top.

Waterfalls

Carter Falls Trail

2.2 miles round-trip, 500' elevation gain, 2 hours

The trail begins at the paved pullout 100 yards below Cougar Rock Campground. To add 1.4 miles one-way to the hike, start in Longmire rather than Cougar Rock Campground. Look for the Wonderland Trail sign in Longmire to start your hike.

Christine Falls

Located 4.5 miles east of Longmire. Use the pullout just beyond the stone bridge. The trail descends 100' to a view of Christine Falls framed by the bridge. *For your safety, please don't stop your car or walk on the bridge—drivers distracted by the scenery may hit you!*

Don't forget your Ten Essentials!

To be prepared for minor injuries, sudden weather changes or delays always carry the Ten Essentials:

1. A map of the area
2. A compass
3. A flashlight with extra batteries/bulb
4. Extra food
5. Extra clothing, including rain gear
6. Sunglasses and sunscreen
7. A pocketknife
8. Matches in a waterproof container
9. A candle or other fire starter
10. A first aid kit

Always have a plan and tell a trusted friend or family member when you will be back so they can notify a ranger in case you do not return.

Historic Buildings

Historic Walking Tour

The self-guided walking tour pamphlet can be found at the Longmire Museum or on our website.

Longmire Museum (Currently closed)

Completed in 1928 and is now primarily used as a visitor center. However, many of the original exhibits are still on display.

Administration Building

Built in 1928 and still stands as a treasured example of National Park Service Rustic architecture.

National Park Inn

Opened in 1906 and is still enjoyed by guests today. Feel free to explore the inside and enjoy a meal at the restaurant.

Old-Growth Forest

Twin Firs Trail .4 mile loop, 15 minutes

Located 2 miles west of Longmire (towards the Nisqually Entrance).

This short loop is a quick and easy opportunity to enjoy a beautiful old-growth forest and gaze up at towering giant trees.

Trail of the Shadows 0.7 miles round-trip, 30 minutes

Trail of the Shadows begins across the main park road from the Longmire Museum. The farthest side of the loop boasts some large old-growth trees. *For your safety, do not drink the water from the springs!*

Recreate Responsibly

A visit to a national park is a great way to enjoy life during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Here are some ways you can stay healthy and help stop the spread of COVID-19:

Avoid crowded areas. Seek another location to recreate.

Practice physical distancing. Keep six feet between you and anyone who doesn't live with you.

Wear a mask and practice good hygiene. Keep your hands clean and avoid touching any high-traffic surfaces. Wear a mask when you must be in close contact with others.

Leave no trace. Always pack out what you pack in, including gloves and masks.

Know your limits. Don't take unnecessary risks. Be extra vigilant and avoid injury and the need for rescue.