



Things to do at Longmire

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 is a great stop with lots of historic buildings and scenic hiking trails. Visit the historic Nisqually Suspension 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 relaxing 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 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

Average hiking time: 30 minutes

The Trail of the Shadows begins across the main road from the Longmire Museum. A short spur trail takes you to the meadow and offers a view of the mountain. *For your safety, do not drink the water from the springs!*

Longmire Community Building

1 mile round-trip

Average hiking time: 40 minutes

Follow the side road past the Wilderness Information Center and continue on to the switchbacks before crossing the Nisqually River on the historic wooden suspension bridge. Cross the bridge and follow the road on to the Community Building on the left. From here, enjoy the views of Mount Rainier!

Rampart Ridge

4.6 mile loop, 1339' elevation gain.

Average hiking time: 2 ½ hours

Begin from the Trail of the Shadows. This is a moderately difficult, steep loop trail through forests with vistas from the ridge top.

Waterfalls

Carter Falls Trail

2.2 miles round-trip, 500' elevation gain

Average hiking time: 2 hours

The moderately difficult trail begins at the paved pullout 100 yards below Cougar Rock Campground. Prefer to extend this hike? Start in Longmire rather than Cougar Rock Campground to add 1.4 miles one-way (2.8 miles round-trip). Look for the Wonderland Trail sign in Longmire to start your hike.

Christine Falls Drive

4.5 miles east of Longmire and use the pullout just beyond the stone bridge.

The trail descends 100' to a view of Christine Falls framed by the historic masonry 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!

Navigation: map, compass, GPS device and the knowledge to use them properly

Illumination: headlamp, flashlight, extra batteries

Sun protection: sunglasses, sunscreen, sun protective clothing

First Aid Kit

Knife

Fire: lighter, matches, or stove (open fires are not allowed in Mount Rainier's wilderness)

Shelter: tent

Food: enough for your travels plus a little extra

Water: plus filtration system

Clothing: extra layers

Always have a plan and tell a trusted friend or family member when you will return 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 in the Longmire Museum or on the park website. It provides an introduction and tour of the historic buildings of Longmire.

Longmire Museum

Built in 1916 and moved across the street to its current location in 1928, the museum is now primarily used as a visitor center. However, many of the original exhibits are still on display.

Administration Building

Built in 1928, this grand building is an excellent example of National Park Service rustic architecture.

National Park Inn

The National Park Inn opened in 1906 and is still enjoyed by guests today. Take time to explore the inside and enjoy a meal at the restaurant.

Longmire Service Station

Constructed in 1929, this building was essential to early motorists. Today, it portrays the history of travel to the park, and serves as an example of the National Park Service's rustic architecture. *There are no operating service stations inside the park. Gas is available in nearby communities.*

Old-Growth Forests

Twin Firs Trail

0.5 mile loop
Average hiking time: 15 minutes
Located two miles west of Longmire (towards the Nisqually Entrance), this short loop trail gives offers a quick and easy opportunity to enjoy a beautiful old-growth forest.

Wonderland Trail

This 93-mile trail loops around Mount Rainier, but you can walk a short distance up-river or to any point beyond. Catch the trail next to the Longmire Wilderness Information Center to hike through towering old-growth forest. Cougar Rock campground or picnic area or Carter Falls are popular day hike destinations from Longmire. **This section of trail is easy to moderate difficulty.**

Trail of the Shadows

0.7 miles round-trip
Average hiking time: 30 minutes
The Trail of the Shadows begins across the main 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!*



No Pets on Trails

Leashed pets are permitted only in parking lots and along roads open to public vehicles.



No Drone Zone!

Drones are not allowed anywhere in Mount Rainier National Park. This includes launching, landing, and operating drones.



Mask Requirements

Mask requirements are based on county COVID case levels. Check bulletin boards and signs for status.

For online Longmire information and downloads scan the QR code or go to



<https://go.usa.gov/xwgqX>