



Barn at Hovander Homestead Park, Ferndale WA  
(photo by Gary Quintrall, Jr., courtesy Ferndale Chamber of Commerce)

ning to arrive.

The arrival of the Tacoma Eastern Railway in 1904 opened the door to the timber industry, which today can be viewed with the help of a self-guided walking tour map, available at the local visitor information center.

Hiking and fishing areas are nearby. Other attractions you will enjoy include **Pioneer Farm Museum**, which is an 1880's style farm which features hands on attractions to visitors. Learn how to milk a cow and other farm chores pioneer style.

Northwest Trek, a highly regarded 635 acre wildlife park, features animals native to the Northwest. A guided tour will show you moose, caribou, elk and bison. You can take a walking tour which features animal exhibits and a children's nature discovery center and a theater.

**EDMONDS**

Located minutes north of Seattle, the waterfront community of **Edmonds** is a regional destination for day-travelers and weekenders. The unique downtown area offers everything from best-seller books to boutique clothing, 1920's movie theater, contemporary housewares, coffee bistros, restaurants and beautiful beaches set against the scenic backdrop of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains. Dine downtown or enjoy a beachfront

eatery with outdoor tables offering views of the pier, the Sound and sunsets. The rich blend of old and new make **Edmonds** special. Set in the vibrant center of downtown shops, the Historical Museum, a former Carnegie library, recalls **Edmonds'** founding in 1890 as a mill town.

According to *Sunset Magazine*, **Edmonds'** charms are a "well-kept secret." As to the public waterfront fishing pier, *Sunset* notes, "When the salmon are running, there can be 100 people out there---pullin' 'em in." One of the West Coast's largest covered moorage facilities, the award winning marina at the Port of **Edmonds** houses more than 1,200 boats and adds immensely to the ambiance of **Edmonds'** waterfront vista.

A ferry terminal provides daily service to Kingston, carrying passengers, cars, and bicycles to Hood Canal and the Olympic Peninsula, while the train station nearby serves Amtrak and local commuters. Sandy beaches and a one of a kind underwater diving park are walkable from downtown, as is the new Edmonds Center for the Arts where exciting performances fill the stage year round.

Celebrated as an arts community, **Edmonds** hosts Third Thursday Art Walks, where you meet local artists, browse through galleries, and enjoy the warm hospitality of downtown merchants. Special events are held throughout

the year including the Edmonds Arts Festival, Waterfront Festival, Saturday Summer Markets, and A Taste of Edmonds.

A big crowd pleaser is the Fourth of July celebration, highlighted by a children's parade, Main St. parade, and evening fireworks. In September, The **Edmonds'** Classic Car Show, welcomes the arrival of fall, and October hosts a nationally recognized writer's conference.

A central fountain, streetlamps with colorful hanging flower baskets, public art, and a waterfront walkway make visitors to **Edmonds** feel welcome in one of Washington's friendliest towns.

For more info, please phone **Edmonds Chamber of Commerce** at (425) 670-1496 x3 or visit our web site at [www.EdmondsWA.com](http://www.EdmondsWA.com)

**ELBE**

**Elbe** is located on State Route 7 on the way to Mount Rainier National Park. Attractive back roads, dense forests and beautiful lakes define this area. Tacoma Public Utilities maintains several recreational sites along Alder Lake, including a boat launch, moorage, camping and day-use areas. Take time to visit the Alder Dam overlook from Alder Lake Park. Visitors will find lodging, restaurants, a service station and grocery stores.

**FALL CITY / PRESTON**

Unincorporated areas of **Fall City** and **Preston** are located a few miles from the bottom of Snoqualmie Falls. The area offers opportunities for fishing,

golf, visiting farm gardens and pumpkin patches, camping and an outdoor theater. The center of **Fall City** showcased a hand-carved totem pole.

**FERNDALE**

**Ferndale** is located in the northwest corner of Washington State between Bellingham and the U.S./Canadian border and sits along the Nooksack River.

The city was founded in the mid-1800's and is well known for its Pioneer Park, which has one of the largest collections of authentic log structures in the country. All of these structures were relocated to Pioneer Park to save them from further deterioration and destructions. Tours are available from May 15 – September 15. Other activities are plentiful as we host the Scottish Highland Games held at our historical Hovander Homestead Park in June, we have our Annual Pioneer Days Festivities in July along with our Annual Street Festival the last Saturday in August.

Some of the most vibrant parks here include a natural historic site, Hovander Homestead Park which has a turn-of-the-century farmhouse, barn, an interpretive center, live farm animals, antique farm implements and plenty of gardens and picnic sites as well as 60 acres of fields, walking trails, fishing access and a scenic view from an old water tower. Another beautiful site to see is Tennant Lake, a 200 acre marshy habitat that includes walking trails and a boardwalk, a bird-watching tower, and a fragrance garden which is especially designed for visitors who are visually impaired. Plants

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(photo courtesy La Conner Chamber of Commerce)

have singular smells and textures and are signed in Braille.

Be sure to visit our Centennial Plaza and Riverwalk Park. Views of the Nooksack River along the river walk are splendid especially in autumn when the leaves are changing, or in the spring and summer when the flowers are in bloom. The plaza hosts a fountain, flag pole, year-round foliage, and a permanent art displays chosen from local artwork and featured totem poles.

We are also known for our abundant farm lands and dozens of bountiful farms which include bison, cattle, dairy, berries, apple orchards, organic vegetables, tree farms, flowers and lavender farms. So make **Ferndale** a stop over your next vacation. It is certainly worth it!

#### KIRKLAND

Named for a wealthy Englishman, Peter Kirk, who established the town to support a steel mill he was building here in the late 1880s. He envisioned

his little town would become the "Pittsburgh of the West."

Due to the stock market crash of 1893, his Moss Bay Iron and Steel Works never opened. Although it never became the "Pittsburgh" he envisioned it is the 14th most populated city in Washington, and a great waterfront haven for a wonderful vacation.

#### LA CONNER

Tucked away along the shores of the Swinomish Channel, is the historic waterfront village of **La Conner**. Businesses take pride in presenting a unique shopping experience away from crowds and noise of traffic. Known as Washington's "Best Tiny Town", visitors to **La Conner** become seeped in the history, outdoor sculpture art, boats floating along the channel, and just a slower pace along First and Morris Streets.

Victorian era shop-fronts hide a wealth of adventure; visitors experience the thrill of finding gifts from local craftsmen or unique finds from as far away as Africa,

France, New Zealand and many other countries – selected by proprietors who travel world-wide to select diverse and unique works of art.

Discover original Northwest Art in a variety of media, including glass art, displayed in **La Conner's** many galleries, three museums, and parks.

Breathe in the ambiance of **La Conner**! Stroll along sidewalks enjoying an ice cream cone and let the light breeze off the channel delight your senses. Experience food prepared by chefs in a variety of restaurants serving the finest northwest cuisine in settings that range from casual boardwalk dining to romantic candlelight dining, most with a view of the Swinomish Channel. Relax and watch private yachts

or a tugboat pulling a load of logs pass by your window.

Every season is a perfect time to visit **La Conner**; SPRING – Fields are colorful with Daffodils and Tulips, Boat parade, Poetry Festival; SUMMER – Boat Show & Swap Meet, Yacht & Car Show, Fireworks; FALL – Birding, Quilt Festival, Art Festival; WINTER – Lighted Boat Parade, Holiday Festival, Smelt Derby.

**La Conner** is about 1 hour north from Seattle or 2 hours south of Vancouver B.C. and just 15 minutes off I-5.

For more information please call the **La Conner Visitor Information Center** at (888) 642-9284 or visit our website [www.laconnerchamber.com](http://www.laconnerchamber.com)

#### LAKE STEVENS

**Lake Stevens** is located east of Everett. Named after former Governor Isaac I. Stevens, **Lake Stevens** is the largest recreational lake in the county (1,000 acres and 8 miles of shoreline).

The lake has both public and private shore lands, with sandy public beaches and public boat launches. Canoes, jet skis, airplanes, sailboats, surfboards, rowboats, windsurfers and activities like horseback riding, sunbathing and year-round fishing can all be enjoyed at **Lake Stevens**. You won't want to miss Aquafest, the biggest event of the year including parades, carnivals and vendors, held the last full weekend in July.

#### LYNDEN

First settled in the 1860s, **Lynden** became home to miners returning from the gold rush of 1858.

Other homesteaders followed and together they turned the valley into fertile farmland. This attracted many Dutch immigrants at the



Wyatt Park Boat Launch, Lake Stevens (photo courtesy Donna Foster)

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