



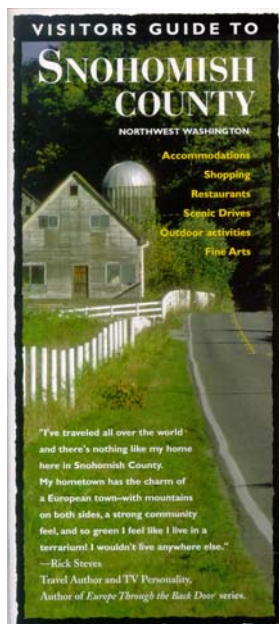
Snohomish County, Washington StoryLine

September 2003

Seattle's Playground - Located just 12 miles north of downtown Seattle

For Immediate Release

*News tips and story
ideas from Snohomish
County, Seattle's
playground-located just
12 miles north of
downtown Seattle*



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New Visitor Guides Available

Everett: Be Surprised

You've heard it before—a resort, a city, a recreation destination that claims to have something for everyone. The City of Everett makes no such claims, they just ask you to ***Be Surprised***. Then, voila, their visitor guide unfolds with just about something for everyone. Cultural and sporting events, nature trails and parks, festivals and fairs, oceans and rivers—a lineup that would satisfy nearly everyone we know. Everett. Who'd a guessed it? Call the City of Everett 425-257-8700 for an Everett visitor guide that's full of surprises.

Snohomish County Visitor Guide

Nationally known travel guru, author and TV personality **Rick Steves** (*Europe Through the Back Door*) says this about Edmonds, "...the charm of a European town—with mountains on both sides....and so green I feel like I live in a terrarium!"

World explorer **Helen Thayer**, the first woman to solo trek to the Magnetic North Pole and author of *Polar Dream*, chimes in "I love the mountains, with variations from gentle hiking trails to high altitude climbs. Then there are the lakes for fishing, kayaking and bird watching."

Find out what all the praise is about. Call us for a copy of the new Snohomish County Visitors Guide. Then let us know how we can help you scope out some stories. Call 888-338-0976 or pick up a visitor guide at one of our visitor centers. You'll find them in Arlington, Edmonds, Everett, Marysville Chamber, Monroe, Snohomish, Darrington, Skykomish, Verlot and the Boeing Tour Center.

A New Twist on Dinner to Go

Two ladies from Wenatchee recently escaped the kids, the husbands, and their routines and drove to Snohomish County. They did a little antiquing, spent the night at a one of our moderately-priced hotels (and congratulated themselves on finding luxury at a bargain). The next day they launched into the real reason for their escape. They fixed dinner to go. Twelve dinners, to be exact.

Dream Dinners is an innovative business that takes the drudgery out of meal preparation. Customers pay \$147 for the ingredients of 12 entrees (each serves eight people) and they prepare the meals at the **Dream Dinners** kitchen. Entrees are then taken home and frozen for future enjoyment.

Dream Dinners provides all the fixings, instructions and the cooking/preparation space at their Everett super kitchen. Call 425-438-8105.



Off-Season

Off-season (September-May) is a great time to take a mini vacation. The tourist season is over and hotels are looking to fill rooms. Our off-season programs

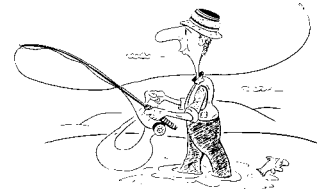
offer as much as 50% discounts at participating hotels in Edmonds, Everett, Lynnwood, Mukilteo, Snohomish and Arlington. Discounts are valid till May 31, 2004.

- Need some family time? Check out **www.ParentsStayFree.com** for big discounts on rooms for the whole crew.
- Don't want to take the kids? You're probably long overdue for a romantic weekend, so click on **www.YourGreatEscape.com**.
- The grandparents, on the other hand, might love some time to spoil and get to know the grandkids. Great deals can be found at **www.GrandParentsStayFree.com**.
- And if the visitor traffic is still going strong at your house (or you know it'll pick up during the holidays), go to **www.ExtraBedroom.com** give your guests and *yourself* a holiday.

Year-Round Camp Cabins

Folks who like their to escape into the woods but aren't too fond of tent camping swear by camp cabins. Snohomish County Parks recently opened four delightful cabins within walking distance of Flowing Lake that have nearly all the comforts of home.

The cabins are open year round (picture fall colors or the hush of snow). All have covered porches, electricity, heat, beds (full size and bunk), picnic tables and fire grills. The heated restrooms with showers are just steps away. What these cabins lack in creature luxuries they more than make up for with surround-sound tranquility and right-there access to the outdoors. Rates are \$40 to \$60 per night with discounts offered from October 1 to April 1. Contact Snohomish County Parks and Recreation, 425-388-6600, parks.department@co.snohomish.wa.us.



Field and Stream Says Our Fishing is Hot

The editors of Field & Stream named the **Skykomish River** one of the top 25 fishing spots in the United States. Come on over and see what you can catch.

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**Articles in the StoryLine may be used
as-is in your publication.
Or conduct your own in-depth research
by visiting Snohomish County.
Give us a call and we'll assist.
Photos are available on CD
in high resolution format.**