



Where you can play golf in Southwest Washington

Planning a golf trip to Southwest Washington? *Inside Golf* gives you a map of where to play and a listing of all the courses. See Page 11 inside for more.

No shortage of things to do when visiting SW Washington

There are plenty of options off the golf course when visiting SW Washington, including windsurfing on the Columbia River. For more, please see inside this section of *Inside Golf Newspaper*.



Destination: SW Washington

Southwest Washington is an area loaded with golf. There are plenty of courses and a wide variety to choose from. The area stretches from Olympia west to the Pacific Ocean and south to the city of Vancouver.

With some of the Pacific Northwest's top public courses located in Southwest Washington, golf has proven to be a popular attraction. From places like Riverside Golf Club (left) to Tumwater (lower left) and Green Mountain (lower right), finding good golf is not a problem.

And many are right off Interstate-5 as you take the drive from Seattle to Portland or vice versa. You won't even have to travel far off the exit to find some good golf to play up and down the I-5 corridor.

Join *Inside Golf* this month as we take you on a tour of Southwest Washington.



Golfing the Columbia

Skamania Lodge, just east of Vancouver right along the Columbia River, is a treat for golfers and non-golfers alike. The majestic lodge has 254 rooms and suites and sits on a bluff overlooking the golf course and the Columbia River. Also part of the lodge is a spa, conference center, fitness room and more. The golf course is nestled into 175 acres and plays through the trees and to a par-70. For more information call the resort at 888.399.7980.



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Golfing 1-5

• Finding a good course to play shouldn't be a problem if you are traveling north or south along Interstate-5 in Southwest Washington. Page 5.

The Tour

• Taking in some views of places like Mount St. Helens is always a possibility when touring the Southwest Washington area. Page 6.



Southwest Washington

Area from Olympia to Vancouver just might be more of a golf destination than you might think with a wide variety of golf courses to choose from

When you think of golf destinations, Southwest Washington doesn't really roll right off the tongue. But when you think about it, why not.

There is plenty of golf, and good golf at that. There are the tourist activities, including the Washington Coast, the Great Wolf Lodge just south of Olympia, the casinos as well as the outlet malls in Centralia. And don't forget the outdoor things, like taking a trip to Mount St. Helens or fishing the local rivers and streams.

And combined with some of the golf courses like Camas Meadows (pictured right), Tri-Mountain (right) and other top-notch courses, why not consider the area as a golf destination.

Throw in the fact that the area is a short drive away from both Portland and Seattle. Southwest Washington really is a place that caters to visitor with so many golf courses and other things to do and see.

The Washington Coast might not be loaded with golf courses, but Ocean Shores is a great option and the Quinault Beach Resort is a place to stay, eat and gamble right next to the beach.

For more of a resort feel, Skamania Lodge has what you might be looking for from its 254-room resort hotel, spa, fitness room, swimming pools and 18-hole golf course which overlooks the Columbia River just east of Vancouver.

And if you are looking for some of the top public golf around, look no further than the Home Course in DuPont to Green Mountain just east Vancouver and anything in between, like Riverside in Chehalis and Lewis River in Woodland.

No shortage of places to practice either, like Airport Golf, which has a 9-hole course as well as a practice area or the Vanco Driving Range in Vancouver.

Shopping? No problem. The outlet malls in Centralia are a popular stop along Interstate-5.

It might just be a destination after all.



Camas Meadows in Camas, Wash. (top) and Tri-Mountain in Ridgefield are two reasons that Southwest Washington is becoming an enjoyable area for a golf destination.

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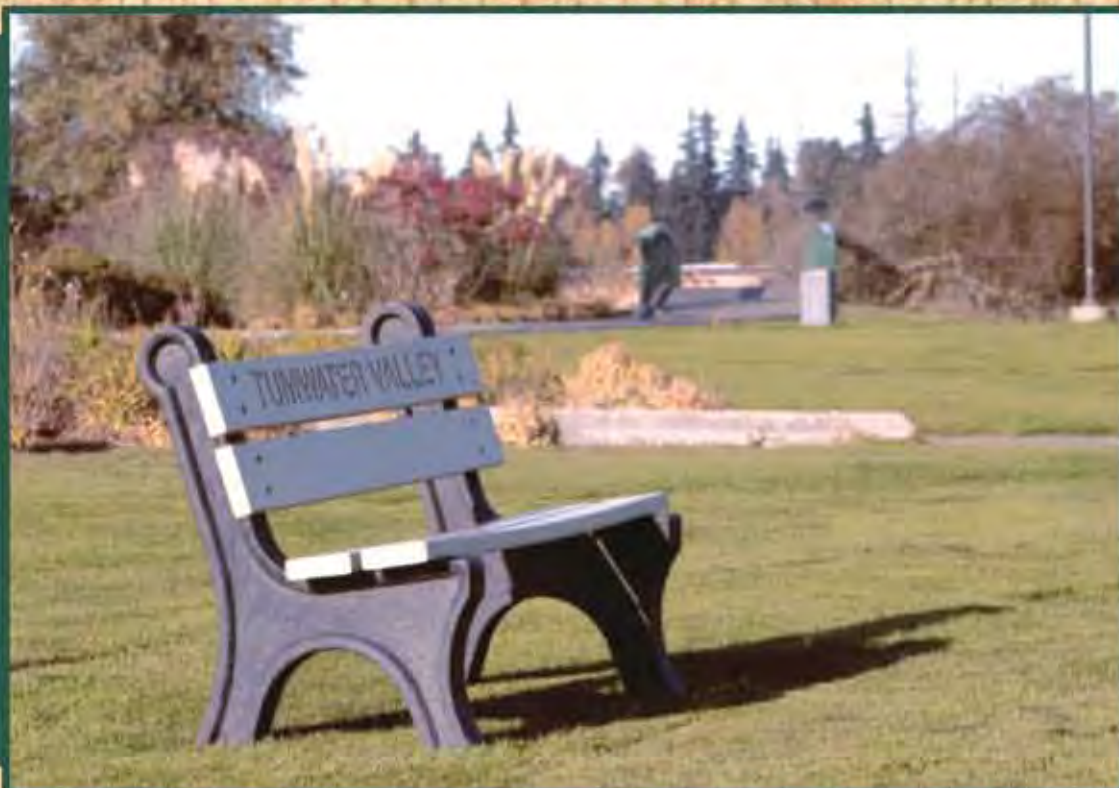
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Southwest Washington area has plenty more to see and do

When you head to the Southwest Washington area, make sure you bring your golf clubs as well as your sight-seeing gear because there is a lot to see and do in the area.

Just south of Olympia is Wolf Haven, a place which houses more than 40 wolves and gives you a chance to get up close with the animals.

A little further south sits Mount St. Helens, a place that offers some terrific hikes and an opportunity to see some of the left-over destruction from the 1980 volcanic eruption.

There are also plenty of lakes, rivers and streams. If you are a fisherman, bring the fishing pole because there is anything from steelhead to trout to salmon to latch on to from places like the Columbia River, to the Pacific Ocean to small creeks and streams.

Near Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, along the Columbia River, there are some great white water rafting possibilities.

A trip to the ocean in Southwest Washington is also a treat as Ocean Shores is a tourist haven.



A side trip to Wolf Haven (near Olympia) or river rafting are good options to try.





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Freeway golf: Don't have to drive far off I-5 to find a variety of courses to try

If you find yourself planning a trip up or down Interstate-5, you might also want to plan on packing your golf clubs in the back of your car.

From Olympia on south to Vancouver, there are plenty of choices when it comes to playing golf right off I-5. The courses all sit within minutes of the freeway and if you have the time, they are all worth the trip.

Starting from the north, the Olympia area has a couple of courses less than five minutes off the freeway in the Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie. You can't go wrong with the Links Course or the Woodlands Course. Both are extremely challenging and the conditioning is good.

The PNGA's Home Course, which opened for play three years ago, sits just minutes off the freeway in the town of DuPont. One exit and a couple of turns puts you in the parking lot of one of the newest courses to open in the Northwest and a host for the 2010 U.S. Amateur.

A couple of miles to the south lies Tumwater Valley, a course you can see just south of the old Olympia Brewery. A couple of quick turns off the freeway, gets you there. This popular course has hosted some of the top amateur events in the Pacific Northwest and you can virtually see the course as you head north or south on I-5.

"We're lucky because we're in such a

great location," said head pro Stu Aden. "Sitting right off the freeway, people don't have to go searching for us up and down side roads. Once you get off the freeway, there we are."

In Chehalis, Riverside Golf Club is so close to the freeway, you could probably reach it with a driver. It's difficult to see from the freeway but it is less than three minutes from the off-ramp. The course is not real long but will test your game.

In the Kelso area, it takes a little work to get to Three Rivers and Mint Valley, but both are good public tracks and a short drive off Interstate-5. Three Rivers was a course that was built after the flooding from the eruption of Mount St. Helens. All kinds of material was left over from the floods and much of the material was left to build a golf course.

A little further south in Woodland, Lewis River is about a 10-minute drive off the freeway, but with its park-like setting, and top quality golf, it's worth the extra time.

The course that gets the most exposure from being near Interstate-5 is Tri-Mountain in Ridgefield, just north of Vancouver. You can see virtually the entire course as well as Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Adams and Mt. Hood – hence the name, Tri-Mountain. One unique feature of Tri-Mountain is the driving range which is a lake.



Tri-Mountain (top) and Riverside (bottom) are two courses close to Interstate-5.

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Southwest Washington

The area is home to some great golf courses from the Olympia area to the Washington Coast to Vancouver area

There is plenty to like when it comes to Southwest Washington, an area that stretches from the state capitol in Olympia to just east of Vancouver to the Pacific Ocean. Sight-seeing, fishing, hiking, camping . . . are all a part of the area's landscape. But don't forget about the golf.

Golf options range from 9 and 18-hole public golf courses, to some of the best country clubs in the Pacific Northwest. If you are heading to the Washington Coast to enjoy its natural attractions and to browse the numerous shops in the coastal towns then you will have plenty of opportunity to play golf along the way.

This month, Inside Golf takes you on a tour of the area.

Green Mountain: The feeling of playing at home

Green Mountain Golf Course, located on the border of Vancouver and Camas, tries to make each golfer feel special. That, said General Manager Kevin Coombs, is the goal. Three statements help: Warm welcome, magic moments and fond farewells. "It's a way for us to make golfers feel special about being here," he said.

Green Mountain opened for play in 1999 and offers Southwest Washington golfers a special place to play. The course, designed by the legendary Gene "Bunny" Mason measures 6,170 yards but features enough challenges to make you hit every club in the bag. GPS systems in all carts are a nice benefit and they help pace of play. And the price is right: It costs less than \$40 to play Green Mountain.

Tumwater Valley: Par-3 double double

Tumwater Golf Course has several things which keeps golfers coming back – like the second and 17th holes, both par-3 holes.

The second and 17th are unique in that they both have two greens. One green plays much shorter than the other, giving both the low and high handicap players



Green Mountain Golf Course is located just east of Vancouver near Camas.



Tumwater Golf Course is a popular place and located a wedge away from I-5.

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The Tour: Nine-hole courses give you another reason to play

different choices from the tee box. There are also two different sets of tees to choose from. Tumwater's length is another challenge. The course stretches to nearly 7,200 yards from the tips, and when the wind blows, it plays longer.

A new restaurant called River's Edge featuring fine dining and a deck with a view of the golf course. Some of the carts in the fleet feature air conditioning.

9-hole courses: No shortage to tee it up at

From Shelton to Olympia to the Washington Coast, there are nine-hole golf courses throughout this area that provide a wide variety of styles and difficulties.

The Shelton area boasts two quality nine-hole courses in Bayshore and Lake Limerick. Bayshore, located along the water, has two sets of tees and a par-4 hole with two greens. Lake Limerick has been upgraded and if you haven't played there in a few years then you will be pleasantly surprised at how it looks and plays.

Both of these courses have tall trees that define the fairways and both have small and well conditioned greens.

In the Olympia area, Scott Lake and Delphi are another pair of nine-holers that can be fitted in if you are on a tight time schedule as their yardage suggests.

Airport Golf in Tumwater is another good nine-hole test for beginning and advanced players. Airport Golf also features plenty of room to practice and has some indoor batting cages.

South of Aberdeen along the Washington Coast there is Willapa Harbor in Raymond, Surfside and Peninsula GC in Ocean Park.

Marvin Road Golf & BattingRange: A place to tee it and hit it

It was called Hickory Stick Driving Range, in Lacey when the doors first opened. Now the name has been changed to Marvin Road Golf & Batting Range and offers more than just golf. It is an 18-stall driving range, complete with a short game practice area and putting course. Four batting cages have been installed, and you don't just hit the baseballs into a net – you get to hit them into the driving range field. The 18-hole miniature putting course is complete with water hazards and a waterfall. It's the perfect place to work on your game and a better place to take your family to. Their website is: www.marvinroadgolf.com.

Capitol City: Dry is the word

In Washington's wet climate golf courses are often remembered for being wet or dry. Built on a gravel pit in 1962, Capitol City Golf Course has excellent drainage and has enjoyed the reputation as being one of, if not the, driest course in western Washington for more than 40 years. But it's more than just a dry course, it has tree-



Marvin Road Golf & Batting Range (top) and Camas Meadows are popular with golfers.

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The Tour: Double up golf at Hawk's Prairie Golf Club

lined fairways and is well bunkered with well maintained greens.

Access Golf Mgmt, LLC, acquired Capitol City Golf Club a few years ago. With the acquisition came many course improvements that made a good course even better. If you haven't played this course lately then you need to see it now to appreciate the changes.

Camas Meadows: Different looks on both nines

Camas Meadows opened for play in 2000 and since then, golfers have finished their rounds thinking they played two different golf courses. The front is tree-lined with the back running through meadows and wetlands. It's a unique and challenging course with plenty of natural wildlife present to share your round with.

The course is in its 10th season and plays to 6,518 yards which is not overly long but with the narrow fairways and other obstacles, it's good that the course isn't any longer that it is. Camas Meadows has a super practice facility - 300 yards long, with grass tees and 17 covered and heated stalls. There is also a practice bunker and pitching green. A new gazebo and tent has the wedding business covered.

Riverside: Popular stop even more popular now

Riverside Golf Club in Chehalis has long been a popular stop for travelers on Interstate-5. Improvements have made the course even better, including faster greens, improved conditioning, new RV parking and a new restaurant.

The course is also home to one of the best amateur events in the Northwest called the Lewis County Amateur.

New ownership took over the course four years ago and already changes have been made to the course and clubhouse, including new sand in the bunkers and an expanded pond from the first to the ninth holes.

Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie: Two rounds, different courses

The Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie offers two distinctly different courses - the Woodlands Course and the Links course. Each course has its own personality and special challenges with a series of tight driving holes and tough undulating greens.

As you might expect, the Woodlands presents tree-lined fairways but the Links course, while more open, has it's share of tree-lined fairways as well. Both present challenging approach shots to large greens and are in top condition.

Since both courses are part of the Oki Golf ownership, there are a variety of pricing options and specials available. You can visit their website at www.okigolf.com to find the best or latest deals at Hawks Prairie.



Hawk's Prairie (top) offers two courses; Skamania plays through tall trees and wetlands.

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The Tour: Lewis River offers a tranquil golf setting with a long hole

Lewis River: Like taking a walk in the park

When the Lewis River spilled over its banks and flooded the Lewis River Golf Course in Woodland, Wash. in 1996, it was kind of like Mother Nature signalling it was time for a change in the golf course. The flooding ruined six of the nine holes on the back side of the golf course. Since then, owner Ralph Stading Jr. and his crew have rebuilt the holes adding new and challenging changes.

A fire in 2000 destroyed the golf shop and restaurant so a new one was built in 2001. There are two sets of nines that are distinctly different from each other at Lewis River. The front nine plays to 2,868 yards while the back nine is 3,499 yards and features a park-like setting, with holes running through trees with strategically placed ponds guarding some of the greens. The back side is also where you'll find one of the longest holes in the Northwest – the par-5 12th plays to 649 yards.

Home Course: U.S. Amateur host course along with Chambers Bay

The Home Course has made headlines, not only for being one of the top courses in the Pacific Northwest but for also playing host to the qualifying rounds at the United States Amateur in August. The course held two qualifying rounds before the golfers headed to Chambers Bay for match play.

The Home Course is a treat with superb conditions, some great views of the Puget Sound along the way and some challenging holes. If you want a real golf challenge, step back to the back tees called the Dynamite Tees and see what golf is like from 7,300-yards plus.

Highland Golf Club: New owners looking to make mark

After 54 years of ownership by the Stradas family, the course sold to Cosi Holdings, LLC, the same company that was building the new Links at Halfmoon Bay course in Westport three years ago—the project was stopped for lack of money.

The back nine at Highland Golf Course in Cosmopolis opened in 1994 and the first nine opened in 1930. The back nine is hilly, lined with trees and features solid par-4 holes. The 17th hole, a par-5, makes you think.

This is a must play course if you are in the Aberdeen area. The course will surprise you with its character and the variety of shots you will use around this track.



The Home Course in DuPont was a host for the United States Amateur in August.



Lewis River Golf Course in Woodland is like a walk through the park.

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The Tour: Skamania Lodge is a top retreat with terrific views; plenty of clubs to take a look at

Vanco Range: Place to tune up

Vanco Driving Range in Vancouver is an older range that has maintained a strong following over the years.

It's a complete package: level practice range, a nice practice chipping and putting area and a well stocked pro shop. The owner Chuck Milne has been and still is one of the Northwest's top players.

Skamania Lodge: A getaway

Skamania Lodge, located in Stevenson, Wash., just above the Columbia River, provides some spectacular views.

The 18-hole golf course is spread over 175 wooded acres and winds through the tall trees providing several views of the Columbia River from the course. The resort has 254 rooms, an 18-hole par-70 golf course, a full service spa and a fitness center.

Tahoma Valley: Looks new

Tahoma Valley Golf Club in Yelm has plenty new to show off. In addition to the new names (it used to be called Nisqually Golf Club) there is a new ninth hole and a new clubhouse.

The ninth hole used to be a par-4, but with the building of a new clubhouse the hole was converted to a 195-yard par-3 to get the green away from the clubhouse. The new 4,000 square foot clubhouse sits on the same site that the old clubhouse

once occupied.

Country Clubs: Places to join

If you are a country club golfer the area has some nice choices for you. From Olympia to Aberdeen to Longview, there are a handful of clubs you will want to try:

- **Indian Summer** is perhaps the best-known club in Olympia and is the newest of the four country clubs in Southwest Washington. Designed by Peter Thompson, the course continually makes the list of the top golf courses.

- **Olympia Country Club**, located along Budd Inlet with sweeping views of south Puget Sound and plays just over 6,000 yards but features a tight and hilly layout. Prepare for some tough walks or better yet, rent a cart for this course.

- **Grays Harbor Country Club** in Central Park is a nine-hole layout and is one of the oldest clubs in the Northwest having opened for play in 1912.

- **Longview Country Club** isn't long, playing to just over 6,000 yards and par-70, it opened three new holes for play in the 1996 season.

- **Royal Oaks Country Club:** This club in Vancouver is considered one of the top courses in the Pacific Northwest. It opened in the 1940s and hosts some of the Northwest's top events.



Eagle's Pride Golf Course at Fort Lewis has become a hit after opening to the public.

There is now a new sense of pride at Eagle's Pride Golf Course at Fort Lewis

The folks at Eagle's Pride Golf Course at Fort Lewis are going out of their way to make you feel welcome. From the minute you pull into the parking lot, the when you walk through the front door to when you tee it up, the folks at the course show plenty of pride in their golf course.

Voted in the top 10 of military golf courses by *Travel and Leisure* magazine, Eagles Pride Golf Course at Fort Lewis is trying to turn your golf experience into one of the best ever.

"We say hello before you come in the door," said Mike McDonald, the General Manager. "Things are improving here. It's

actually a fun place to be."

The course, a 27-hole layout, is open to the public, a policy which changed a few years ago. The open door policy has made the course even more popular.

"We're making improvements now and the feedback is positive," said McDonald. "It's a great golf course."

One of those changes was the hiring of Eric Bowen as head professional. Bowen played the course as a kid and is excited to see the changes and improvements.

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27 holes, 3,455; 3,410; 3,282 yds
Fort Lewis, Public</p> <p>3. Golf Club at Hawk's Prairie
• Woodlands Course
18 holes, 7,170 yards
Lacey, Public
• The Links
18 holes, 6,887 yards
Lacey, Public</p> <p>4. Tahoma Valley GC
18 holes, 6,007 yards
Yelm, Public</p> <p>5. Capitol City Golf Club
18 holes, 6,536 yards
Olympia, Public</p> <p>6. Indian Summer CC
18 holes, 7,216 yards
Olympia, Private</p> <p>7. Delphi Golf Course
9 holes, 1,937 yards
Olympia, Public</p> <p>8. Scott Lake Golf Course
9 holes, 2,600 yards
Olympia, Public</p> <p>9. Airport Golf Center
9 holes, 1,737 yards
Tumwater, Public</p> <p>10. Tumwater Valley
18 holes, 7,154 yards
Tumwater, Public</p> | <p>11. Lake Limerick Golf Club
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Shelton, Public</p> <p>13. Oaksridge Golf Course
18 holes, 5,643 yards
Elma, Public</p> <p>14. Grays Harbor CC
9 holes, 2,915 yards
Central Park, Private</p> <p>15. Highland Golf Course
18 holes, 6,112 yards
Cosmopolis, Public</p> <p>16. Ocean Shores Golf Course
18 holes, 6,252 yards
Ocean Shores, Public</p> <p>17. Willapa Harbor
9 holes, 3,004 yards
Raymond, Public</p> <p>18. Peninsula Golf Course
9 holes, 2,057 yards
Ocean Park, Public</p> <p>19. Surfside Golf Course
9 holes, 2,960
Ocean Park, Public</p> <p>20. Skyline Golf Course
9 holes, 2,255 yards
Cathlamet, Public</p> <p>21. Centralia Golf Course
9 holes, 2,826 yards
Centralia, Public</p> | <p>22. Riverside Golf Club
18 holes, 6,155 yards
Chehalis, Public</p> <p>23. Newaukum Valley
27 holes, 3,268; 3,223; 2,945
Chehalis, Public</p> <p>24. Golfgreen Golf Center
9 holes, 1,175 yards
Longview, Public</p> <p>25. Longview Country Club
18 holes, 6,220 yards
Longview, Private</p> <p>26. Mint Valley Golf Course
18 holes, 6,304 yards
Longview, Public</p> <p>27. Three Rivers Golf Course
18 holes, 6,836 yards
Kelso, Public</p> <p>28. Lewis River Golf Course
18 holes, 6,325 yards
Woodland, Public</p> <p>29. Tri-Mountain Golf Course
18 holes, 6,850 yards
Ridgefield, Public</p> <p>30. The Cedars
18 holes, 6,423 yards
Brush Prairie, Public</p> <p>31. Hartwood Golf Course
9 holes, 1,588 yards
Brush Prairie, Public</p> <p>32. Club Green Meadows
18 holes, 6,486 yards
Vancouver, Private</p> | <p>33. Royal Oaks Country Club
18 holes, 6,900 yards
Vancouver, Private</p> <p>34. Camas Meadows
18 holes, 6,518 yards
Camas, Public</p> <p>35. Pinecrest Golf Club
9 holes, 1,206 yards
Vancouver, Public</p> <p>36. Bowyer's Par-3 Golf
9 holes, 1,015 yards
Vancouver, Public</p> <p>37. Orchard Hills Country Club
18 holes, 5,896 yards
Washougal, Private</p> <p>38. Green Mountain
18 holes, 6,400 yards
Vancouver, Public</p> <p>39. Fairway Village Golf Course
9 holes, 2,500 yards
Vancouver, Public</p> <p>40. Skamania Lodge
18 holes, 5,776 yards
Stevenson, Public</p> <p>41. Beacon Rock
9 holes, 2,753 yards
North Bonneville, Public</p> <p>42. Husum Hills
9 holes, 2,631 yards
White Salmon, Public</p> <p>43. Salish Cliffs
New course to open 2011</p> |
|---|---|---|---|

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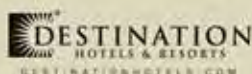


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