



MAZAMA GENERAL STORE



STOP AT NORTH CASCADES VISITOR CENTER



CAMP AT PEARRYGIN LAKE STATE PARK



48.7718° N
121.2985° W

remains one of the least-visited national parks. It's hard to believe this wilderness gem flies under the radar, especially with so many outdoor adventures waiting to be explored. From backpacking and kayaking to simply taking a scenic drive, the park is a tranquil treasure for nature lovers. The park is open year-round for exploration. If you're looking for a wild, remote escape, the North Cascades delivers.

10

Known for its friendly atmosphere, the Mazama General Store is a must-visit whether you're heading out for a hike, returning from an adventure, or just passing through. The store offers everything from fresh-baked pastries and hot coffee to outdoor gear and supplies. It's also a community hub, frequently hosting live music and local craft

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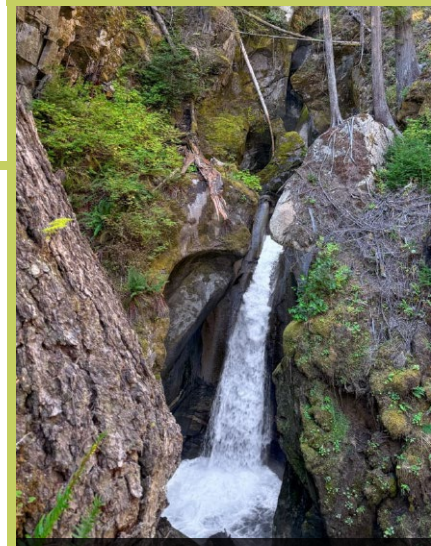
Located on the far eastern side of the park, the North Cascades Visitor Center is the perfect place for information about trails, park history, and more. Don't forget to grab a quick photo at the visitor sign! The snow-covered rock sign is unique and one of our favorites of all the national parks we've visited.

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Located just a few miles outside Winthrop, Pearrygin Lake State Park provides a picturesque place to park your RV or set up camp. The park offers campsites of all sizes, some with full hookups, as well as access to hiking trails, fishing, and swimming areas. In addition to scenic views, the park offers great amenities, including picnic areas and boat rentals. Sunrise over the lake is a sight you won't want to miss.

7

You only need to walk half a mile to enjoy this stunning waterfall. Crystal-clear mountain water cascades over tiered, moss-covered rocks like steps, giving it the name "Ladder Creek." At night, the falls shine even brighter! Illuminated by colorful lights powered by the Gorge Powerhouse, they take on a magical glow that enhances the forest's enchantment.



HIKE TO LADDER CREEK FALLS



**DRIVE THE NORTH CASCADES
SCENIC HIGHWAY (HWY 20)**



STOP BY THREE FINGERED JACK'S



DIABLO LAKE OVERLOOK

6

This easy 0.2-mile paved trail leads you to panoramic views of Washington Pass at 5,400 feet — the highest point on Hwy 20. From the platform, you'll see Liberty Bell Mountain, the Early Winter Spires, and tiny cars winding through the pass below. It's a great place to stretch your legs and watch the sunset cast golden hues over the peaks.

5

You don't even have to leave your car to enjoy the beauty of the North Cascades (although you should)! The highway stretches over 100 miles of dense forests, dramatic rocky cliffs, and sparkling lakes. Stop along the way for picnics, short hikes, or simply soak in the incredible vistas. It's an easy way to enjoy the park without breaking a sweat.

4

While in Winthrop, be sure to check out Washington's oldest legal saloon, which has been serving whiskey since 1890. Three Fingered Jack's is a great place to relax after a day of exploring, offering hearty pub fare, local brews, and Old West memorabilia. Jack reportedly lost his other fingers during a bar brawl, giving the saloon its unique name.

3

Located 30 miles east of the park, the charming Old West town of Winthrop features wooden boardwalks and saloon-style facades. Originally an old mining town, it received a Western-themed makeover in the 1970s to attract visitors. It's an ideal spot to grab coffee, explore local boutiques, and learn about the area's history.

2

Diablo Lake's surreal turquoise waters are an iconic spot along the North Cascades Scenic Highway. The lake's vivid hue is due to "glacial flour," fine particles from glacial erosion that reflect light. Stop at the overlook for a picnic or bring your watercraft to enjoy the chilly mountain waters and jaw-dropping views.

1

This challenging 8-mile hike showcases the best of the North Cascades, including dense forests, sketchy ledges with breathtaking views, and two alpine lakes! With about 2,000 feet of elevation gain, it's not for the faint of heart. This trail is especially popular in the fall when the larches turn a brilliant golden yellow. If you're looking for an unforgettable adventure, this hike belongs on your bucket list.



WASHINGTON PASS OVERLOOK



**HANG OUT IN THE WESTERN-THEMED
TOWN OF WINTHROP, WA**



HIKE THE MAPLE PASS LOOP TRAIL