

Photo by Suzi Pra

Whidbey & Camano Islands shine in fall, winter and early spring with charms all their own. Imagine, just you and a great blue heron stalking the edges of a misty beach. Cozying up by the fire with a good book, as the wind roars through the firs outside your cabin window. The swish of puffy coats as you walk arm in arm between restaurants and shops in a quiet seaside village. Or, watching the sun rise over glassy water while the mountains glitter in the crystalline air.

We could go on... hiking, biking, fishing, birding... but you get the idea. An off-season visit to Whidbey & Camano Islands can make a gray weekend beautiful.



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Whidbey E Camano Islands!





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Whidbey Camano

WASHINGTON STATE, USA

THE SHORTEST DISTANCE TO FAR AWAY"

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Travel Notes...

- **1** Deception Pass State Park and Bridge Washington State's most visited state park, it is popular for hiking, camping, boating and other recreation. Be sure to walk onto our famous bridge and snap a photo. Towering cliffs and sea water roaring at river speed, the bridge soars 17 stories above the waters and giant cedar trees.
- 2 Ala Spit Whidbey and Camano Islands are on the Pacific Flyway, a "highway" for migrating birds.
- **3** Joseph Whidbey State Park With beautiful views of Admiralty Inlet, this state park is a quick trip south from Oak Harbor.
- 4 Oak Harbor The city of Oak Harbor, Island County's largest city, is packed with great places to eat and shop. It is home to Windjammer Park and Oak Harbor Marina. Be sure to stroll, sip, and shop your way through the city's historic Main Street Pioneer Way. Explore the region's past and present military heritage at the PBY Naval History Museum. There is a Visitor Center at the Chamber of Commerce.
- **5** Fort Ebey State Park Built at the start of World War II, this state park is now a favorite place for picnics and paragliding. The hiking trail along the bluff offers great views and is part of the Pacific Northwest Trail.
- **6** Coupeville This town's Front Street is largely unchanged from a hundred years ago. Small shops, art galleries, and restaurants give this town an authentic charm few places can match. Island County Historical Museum and the Historic Wharf are located here. There is a Visitor Center at the Chamber of Commerce.
- **7** Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve At Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, past meets present in a working rural landscape and community. Established in 1978, the 17,572 acre Reserve is home to historic farms, the seaport town of Coupeville, and provides opportunities to explore parks, beaches, trails and stunning views.
- This bluff overlooking Puget Sound is home to both the region's first lighthouse, Admiralty Head Lighthouse, and a fort built in the 1890's. The fort, featuring cannons, was part of the region's "Triangle of Fire"; three forts to protect Puget Sound from invading ships.
- **9 Greenbank Farm** This publicly-owned farm is home to art galleries, specialty shops, and a restaurant. There are dog-friendly hiking trails through both fields and woods.

- **10** Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens "Rhodies" are the stars in this 10-acre garden. An amazing variety of rhododendrons, some developed right here, put on a colorful display in the spring and early summer.
- **11** South Whidbey State Park This park is a great place to hike and enjoy the water views from the bluff overlooking Admiralty Inlet.
- **12** Freeland Freeland is the commercial hub of South Whidbey Island. Freeland Park offers great views of Holmes Harbor and a nice dock. Freeland is home to numerous antique stores. There is a Visitor Center at the Chamber of Commerce office.
- **13 Double Bluff Beach** Named one of the best dog-friendly beaches on the west coast, this beach is an uncrowded, expansive escape for both dogs and people.
- **14** Earth Sanctuary A spiritual and peaceful place where nature and sacred spaces are the top priority. Explore "Stonehenge", Medicine Wheels, and many birds on two miles of trail.
- **15** Bayview Corner There's always something happening here. There's a summertime farmers market, restaurants, a winery and world famous living archway made of laburnum trees.
- 16 Langley Whidbey Island's "Village by the Sea" will captivate you with its small-town charm and artistic "vibe." Galleries, restaurants, wineries, breweries, and specialty food shops make this a shopping and dining paradise. The South Whidbey Harbor at Langley is located here. There is a Visitor Center at the Chamber of Commerce office.
- **17** Ken's Corner Shopping and dining options as well as a Visitor Center.
- **18** Clinton and South Whidbey Whidbey Island's ferry gateway is, for many, where they drive on the mainland, or where they depart. Small shops and restaurants greet visitors along the main highway. There is map information at Madrona Supply Company.

- **19** Kristoferson Farm Zip line among the trees at a 100 year-old working farm at Canopy Tours NW. Six zip lines plus a log bridge and a final rappel. The farm is also home to a challenging team-building course.
- **20** Camano Commons at Terry's Corner The Camano Island Marketplace at Terry's Corner is a small-town market square updated for the 21st Century. Restaurants, galleries, an artisanal coffee roaster and more make this a "must stop".
- **21** Iverson Spit Preserve This beach is a favorite for birdwatchers and features a special platform to make the experience easier. Hiking trails through the tide land round out the region.
- **22** Visitor Center Located at a busy shopping plaza across the street from Kristoferson Farm, this is another "must stop" for visitors to the island.
- **23** Four Springs Lake Preserve This 50-acre nature preserve includes 1.6 miles of wood trails, a meadow and lake for a perfect antidote to city life.
- **24** Barnum Point Once a private beach, this public property features more than a mile of waterfront, forests, trails and ponds to explore
- **25** Cama Beach State Park In the middle of the 20th century, small waterside fishing resorts dotted Puget Sound. This is one of the last remaining resorts, and you may stay in the historic cabins. The park is also home to The Center for Wooden Boats, the Cama Beach Café. and Cama Beach Foundation Historic Store.
- **26** Camano Island State Park Explore peaceful beaches, towering forests, and camping options, including cabins and boat launch.

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