Okanogan Country Presents the Upper Columbia River Region Map

Okanogan Country in north central Washington State offers everything from snow-capped mountains to high deserts, verdant agricultural areas to wide-open range. You'll find friendly towns and quiet corners to explore here, the largest county in Washington State. With 1,000 miles of scenic trails, 200 water and wildlife access areas, three million acres of public land, and over 300 days of sunshine, you can experience almost any outdoor adventure imaginable.

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Upper Columbia River Region Highlights

The mighty **Columbia River** flows through Okanogan Country and creates some of the state's best fisheries and water recreation opportunities. The famous Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dams create lakes along the river's path, and the waters of the Columbia fill Banks Lake as well. Each of these lakes offer year-round fishing and also create recreation destinations featuring water access, boating and jetskiing, parks, campgrounds, and golfing.

Rufus Wood Lake—Located upstream of Chief Joseph Dam, Rufus Woods Reservoir is 51 miles long with a year-round open season including trout and kokanee, walleye, yellow perch and smallmouth bass. There is a state park with camping and boat launching facilities, two nearby golf courses (Gamble Sands and Lakewoods Golf Course) and an Army Corps of Engineers hunting access area with boat launch. Free tours. www.corpslakes.com

Banks Lake—Banks Lake is a 27-miles-long, mile-wide reservoir formed by the North Dam near Grand Coulee and the Dry Falls Dam near Coulee City and is filled with water from Lake Roosevelt (part of the Columbia River). Most of the shoreline is ringed with basalt cliffs and talus slopes, rocky outcrops and shrub-steppe habitat. There are about 23 islands in the reservoir from one to several acres in size. Steamboat Rock, in the northern part of the lake, has varied wildlife and birdwatching opportunities, including common loons, bald eagles, mule deer and peregrine falcons.

Lake Roosevelt—The upper Columbia River gorge, within which Lake Roosevelt is a national recreation area spanning three areas: the Okanogan Highlands, the Kootenay Arc, and the Columbia Plateau, each of them featuring completely distinct geographic features and creating an incredibly diverse region. Lake Roosevelt Reservoir was created in 1941 by the completion of Grand Coulee Dam. Includes130 miles of water, 27 campgrounds, 22 boat launches, 10 swim beaches, and historical sites such as Fort Spokane Visitor Center and Museum and St. Paul's Mission. For more info call Lake Roosevelt National Recreational Area: (509) 633-9441.

Lake Pateros —Located upstream of Wells Dam, this twenty (20) mile long reservoir contains a variety of fish species, but it is noted for Steelhead, summer Chinook, and Sockeye salmon fisheries. Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth bass and Walleye are also available.

The Grand Coulee Dam—At an awe-inspiring span of 5,223 feet, the Grand Coulee Dam is the largest concrete structure and largest electricity-producing facility in the United States. North America's largest outdoor laser light show is projected nightly onto the face of the Dam from Memorial Day through the end of September, and a Fourth of July pyrotechnic show is launched every year from its top. A Visitor Information Center at the Dam offers information and free tours.

Additional information available at & www.wdfw.wa.gov • (360) 902.2200

Area Events

ALL SUMMER, GRAND COULEE Nightly laser light show on the face of the Grand Coulee Dam. Memorial Day through September 30th.

APRIL through November: Fishing Tournaments launch from Coulee Playland Resort from. B.A.S.S., Northwest Bass Federation, FLW and variety of local fishing clubs offer tournaments.

MAY Colorama Festival & Pro-West Rodeos, Grand Coulee- 3-day festival that includes 2 rodeos, parade, helicopter rides, beer garden with live music, carnival.

MAY Cinco De Mayo/Mother's Day Celebration, Brewster. Parade, Cultural Dancing Horse Team, cultural Forkloric Dance Team performances.

JUNE Bridgeport Daze, 1st weekend in June. Two full days of family fun for everyone with a parade, 3 on 3 basketball tourney, live music, car show and lots of vendors full the park.

JUNE Koulee Kids Fest, Grand Coulee- Free kids activities: paddle boat rides, miniature golf, fishing tank, rock-hound digging, disc golf, more.

JULY Festival of America, Grand Coulee- 2-day festival includes a arts/crafts and food fair, live music, fireworks off the top of the dam.

JULY Pateros Apple Pie Jamboree: Annual fundraising event the third weekend in July, complete with JetSki races, Ray Stanley Bass Tourney, basketball tourney, jamboree jog, golf tourney, downtown parade, quilt show, pie baking contest & more!

AUGUST Brewster King Salmon Derby: Annual salmon fishing competition the first weekend in August on the mighty Columbia River, complete with prizes!

AUGUST Hydro Races at Pateros Memorial Park. Limited hydros skip across the Columbia River and roar past the crowds. (253) 229-5350

SEPTEMBER Harvest Festival, Grand Coulee. 3-day festival includes arts/crafts and food fair, beer garden live music, hay wagon rides, petting zoo, costumed pet show, motorcycle poker run, PNWBA sanctioned BBQ competition.

Selected Campgrounds

Alta Lake State Park • Pateros • 3 miles north of Pateros, this state park has great swimming for kids and families, boat launch, camping, concessions stand and golf course adjacent. Also horseback riding nearby (see listing to lower right).

Bridgeport State Park On Rufus Woods Lake • Boat launch, fishing, camping, golf courses nearby, swimming.

Columbia Cove RV Park • Brewster • 29 full hook-ups, plus dry camping area and bath house. Located right next to city pool and waterslide. (509) 733-0540.

Jones Bay & Osborn Bay • 44 primitive campsites with vault toilets at Jones Bay and 36 primitive campsites with vault toilets at Osborn Bay. No drinking water. Accessible by Northrup Canyon boat launch. 5 equestrian campsites at Northrup Canyon.

Spring Canyon Campground On Lake Roosevelt • 87 reservable sites, flush toilets, showers, boat docks, hiking trails. Approximately 5 miles from Grand Coulee Dam.

Southwest Lake Roosevelt • Four boat-in campgrounds: Goldsmith campground, Jones Bay campground, Penix campground and Plum Point campground. All have vault toilets and boat docks.

Steamboat Rock State Park On Banks Lake • Main Steamboat Rock campground has 136 utility sites, 26 tent sites, three cabins, flush toilets, showers, boat docks, concession-operated store, amphitheater, basketball court, volleyball field, playground, and 12 primitive, boat-in, non-reservable campsites with vault toilets, drinking water, and ADA pier. Offers water recreation, biking, camping, hiking, wildlife watching. Golf course and other activities nearby.

For reservations and information on Washington State Parks, call (888) 226-7688 or visit www.parks.wa.gov

Historical & Cultural Stops

Colville Tribal Museum • Coulee Dam. Inside the main room are displays of basketry, beadwork, clothing and tools from this area. A diorama at the end depicts the traditional salmon fishing so important to the area, and a mural above the door shows Kettle Falls before it was submerged by the dam. Other artwork by local artists is also displayed. (509) 663-0751

Coulee Pioneer Museum • Grand Coulee Dam Area (509) 633-2773

Dyer Ghost Town • In Douglas County on Central Ferry Canyon Road

Fort Okanogan Interpretive Center • Near Bridgeport • Presentations, interpretive center in summer. Th–Su, 10–6 (509) 689-6665

Historical Walking Tour of Grand Coulee Dam. Start at Visitor Center in Grand Coulee, follow signs.

Little Elk Chief Joseph Interpretive Area

Pateros Museum • Weekdays 8-4:30 at Pateros City Hall. (509) 923-2571 www.Pateros.com.

For details, directions, tips and information, call (888) 431-3080

www.OkanoganCountry.com

Special thanks to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for its generous help with this and other projects.

OCTC maps & directions are for planning and informational purposes only, and not intended for navigation. Road construction, traffic, road closures, mapping errors, weather conditions and/or other events may cause actual road conditions and directions to differ. In rural areas GPS can be unreliable or unavailable. Check the weather report and road conditions at www.wsdot.wa.gov and www.noaa.gov.

Attractions

Chief Joseph Dam • Bridgeport • Free tours in summer (509) 686-5501

Grand Coulee Dam • Laser light show, visitor center, free tours (509) 633-9265

Crown Point Vista • Grand Coulee area's best vantage point. 2 miles west of Grand Coulee on SR174.

Sasquatch • Disautel Pass (Hwy 155) 18 foot metal work sculpture by Smoker Marchand. Easier to spot when heading west towards Omak from Nespelem.

Shaw's Fruit Stand • Belvedere • Seasonally, luscious and bountiful fruit

Smoker Marchand Sculptures • Rootdiggers in Belvedere, Bighorn Sheep at Omak Lake, and The Gathering Place outside of Omak.

Golf Courses & Casinos

Alta Lake Golf Course • Pateros (509) 923-2359

Banks Lake Golf Course • Electric City (509) 633-1400

Gamble Sands • Brewster (509) 436-8323

Lakewoods Golf Course • Bridgeport (509) 686-5721

Coulee Dam Casino • (800) 556-7492

Wildlife Areas

Bridgeport Bar • Near the mouth of the Okanogan River, 450 acres of wetlands and ponds. Waterfowl, Bald eagles, American white pelicans, long-billed curlews and Sandhill cranes, California quail, Ring-necked pheasants and grey partridge occur on the area.

Central Ferry Canyon • The Central Ferry Canyon Unit encompasses 1,908 acres of land located southwest of Brewster. Shrubsteppe habitat occurs extensively on this unit, providing habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, white-tailed jackrabbit, sage thrasher, sage and Brewer's sparrows, mule deer and other wildlife.

Indian Dan Canyon • 4,412 acres northeast of Brewster. Shrubsteppe habitat occurs extensively on this unit, providing habitat for sharp-tailed grouse, white-tailed jackrabbit, sage and Brewer's sparrows, mule deer, white-tailed deer and other wildlife.

West Foster Creek • The West Foster Creek unit's 1,050 acres lie south of and adjacent to the Bridgeport Unit of the Sagebrush Flat Wildlife Area in Douglas County. Its shrubsteppe habitat supports sharp-tailed grouse, white-tailed jackrabbit, sage thrasher, sage and Brewer's sparrows, mule deer and other wildlife species.

Horseback Riding

Whislin' Pine Ranch • Hourly guided trail rides, ranch and wilderness day trips and more. (509) 923-2548

Visitor Information Centers

Brewster Chamber of Commerce
(509) 689-3464 • www.brewsterchamber.org

City of Pateros
(509) 923-2571 • www.pateros.com

Colville Confederated Tribes
(509) 634-4711 • www.colvilletribes.com

Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce
(509) 633-3074 • www.grandcouleedam.org