



Downtown Tenino

Like many Western towns, Tenino got its start when an entrepreneurial pioneer traveled across the country in search of open space and opportunity. Settled by Stephen Hodgden, a gold-seeker from Maine, Tenino earned a spot on the map when the Northern Pacific Railroad created a stop there in 1872. (Despite numerous legends and myths about T-9-0, the town is likely named after the steamship Tenino on the Columbia, named after a collective of tribes now known as the Warm Springs bands.)

Tenino grew into a boomtown in the late 19th century thanks to its proximity to Olympia and its supply of sandstone, a resource that was exported to Seattle and San Francisco following those cities' devastating fires. The pale stone remains the defining architectural feature of many local buildings, even though it fell out of use by the early 20th century. Nowadays, the old quarry serves the community as the town pool, a favorite all-ages activity for residents and visitors alike on a hot day.

That's not Tenino's only creative use of resources; its other claim to fame is its wooden money, a local currency created to help locals get through the Great Depression. The scrip was reintroduced and approved by the state auditor as legitimate money

during the Covid-19 pandemic to help residents in need and to keep the local economy moving.

Put your money where your mouth is, and take advantage of Tenino's vibrant dining scene, from lakeside dining at Lady of the Lake Public House to the much-loved Don Juan's Mexican Kitchen and the stick-to-your-ribs breakfast of Sandstone Cafe. With a full belly, you'll be powered up to browse Tenino's signature shops, including Iron Works Boutique, Tenino Antiques Mall, and the oddities of Tenino Time Machine. Animal lovers will enjoy a visit to Wolf Haven International sanctuary and the T90 Equestrian Event Center is a must for horse aficionados.

Your Guide To



A Family-Friendly
Small Town With a Rock-Solid History

experiencetenino.com

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Things To Do

1 Oregon Trail Days

While the heyday of sandstone and saloons may be in Tenino's past, the small town continues to celebrate old times with an annual Oregon Trail Days festival. At this July weekend of all things pioneer, participants can hone their homesteading skills and face off in a festival favorite, the black powder rifle shooting contest.

www.teninoacc.org

2 Millersylvania State Park

Located alongside Deep Lake, Millersylvania offers campsites, hiking trails, swimming, boating, and a place to while away a sunny afternoon with an ice cream or a beer from one of the beachside concessions. To live on the wild side, book a glamp site with Pampered Wilderness, where you can sleep on a memory foam mattress in a luxury tent under the stars. 12245 Tilley Rd S

parks.state.wa.us/546/millersylvania

3 Tenino Depot Museum

The original sandstone train depot, built in 1914, decommissioned after WWII, and moved to the city park in 1965, is packed with artifacts from the town's history. Examine the original wooden money printing press, tools from the logging and pioneer days, and articles about the area's intriguing past.

teninodepotmuseum.com

4 Farmers Market

On Saturdays between May and September, Tenino hosts a bustling farmers market. Produce stands, artisan and craft vendors provide shoppers the opportunity to buy local, sustainable, and healthy products. The mission of the market is to empower people to make good food choices and to give back to the community. Located in Downtown Tenino.



Tenino Stone Carvers Shed

5 Tenino City Park

Whether you're looking for quiet contemplation and relaxation or fun and exercise, the Tenino City Park is a great place to bring your family. After visiting the Depot Museum, head out on the park's endless trails and bike paths, reserve your space at the newly opened campground, and play your heart out at the brand-new playground opening this spring. Later this summer, be on the lookout for the new Pump Track!

Park Ave E

cityoftenino.us/community/page/city-park

6 Monarch Sculpture Park

Just off the Chehalis Western Trail sits this unique five-acre park and home to over 100 sculptures by renowned local, national, and international artists, as well as a giant butterfly maze (currently undergoing restoration) and a sound garden.

8431 Waldrick Rd SE, Between Old Highway 99 and Military Rd, 360-264-2408

monarchsculpturepark.org

7 Offut Lake Resort

With roots in the early 20th century heyday of lake resorts, Offut provides camping, cabins, fishing, swimming, boat rentals, and the Lady of the Lake Public House restaurant, which serves burgers and seafood with views of the water. 4005 120th Ave SE, 360-264-3474

offutlakeresort.com

8 Sandstone Distillery

Sandstone produces high-quality craft spirits with Washington-grown grains and pure, local water. Stop by their main tasting room for a tour and tasting Wednesday-Saturday between 12pm-5pm (Sunday by appointment only) to try the bacon-infused vodka, the stone-carver gin, or a fruity Wild Heart sipping vinegar.

Tasting Room & Distillery: 842 Wright Rd SE, 360-239-7272

sandstonedistillery.com

9 Tenino Creative District

Certified in 2020 by the Washington State Arts Commission, the Tenino Creative District embraces history, business, and creativity along a walkable stretch of town. Watch for the Tenino Spring Market, Oregon Trail Days, Tenino Holiday Market, and the Tenino Arts Creative Market (10am-3pm on second Saturdays May-September). Visit the Tenino Stone Carvers Shed for a hands-on way to share the history and artistry of the local stone carving tradition. Meet the stone carvers on Fridays and Saturdays during the summer and Saturdays during the winter. Located in Downtown Tenino.

10 Wolf Haven

Wolf Haven International has been providing sanctuary, education and wolf conservation since 1982. They rescue and provide sanctuary for displaced, captive-born wolves, and work to protect our remaining wild wolves and their habitat. Schedule a guided walking visit of the sanctuary by calling 360-264-4695 x220.

wolfhaven.org