

ith lakes, parks, golf courses, and a vast nature preserve in proximity to the state capital and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Lacey finds a balance between outdoors attractions and the amenities of a city with a young and active workforce, not to mention the student body at St. Martin's University and South Puget Sound Community College.

Originally called Woodland, after the Wood family who settled here in 1853, Lacey became a logging center and a pioneer of beer. The founding family started the first brewery in what became Washington state, which reportedly served an expensive gourmet cream lager. Staying true to its past, today Lacey's burgeoning Producer's District has locally created beer and wine on tap. Pair that with an exciting food scene, namely, the growing Depot District, a designated food truck space that has proven popular with

Lacey's locals. If you're up for an epicurean adventure, hop in the car—or on a bike—and set off on the Thurston Bountiful Byway, a 60-mile journey of eats and sips around Thurston County.

But before you hit up Lacey's food and drink scene, work up an appetite exploring Lacey's great outdoors!











YOUR GUIDE TO



An urban oasis surrounded by outdoor paradise

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THINGS TO DO

1 LACEY DEPOT DISTRICT

Lacey's Depot District, a product of the Lacey 50th Anniversary Landmark Project, comprises a replica of the original train station that put Lacey (then called Woodland) on the map. The Depot District is the beginning of a larger site that will contain an expanded Lacey Museum and Cultural Center, and, city leaders hope, musical and entertainment events. The Depot is open May-September. 5555 Pacific Avenue SE, ci.lacey.wa.us/city-government/city-departments/parks-and-recreation/parks-and-facilities/lacey-depot

2 LACEY MUSEUM

Located in the heart of Lacey's historic neighborhood, discover Lacey's surprising and fascinating past in the charming 1928 Russell House, once a residence, fire station, and Lacey's first City Hall. 829 Lacey Street SE

3 KAREN FRASER WOODLAND TRAIL

This former Georgia Pacific Rail line is now a paved bike and walking path that parallels Pacific Avenue. Park and start at the Woodland Creek Community Park in Lacey, and follow the trail to where it connects with the Chehalis-Western Trail or the Olympia Woodland Trail.

4 PRODUCER'S DISTRICT

Lacey, like its spirited neighboring cities, is a rising star on the craft drinks map. Take in a flight of wine at Stottle Winery, then hop on over to Top Rung, a brewery started by two former firefighters, for a stein of Lacey Lager. For another kind of craft, swing by Shipwreck Beads, the world's largest bead store, for endless options of jewelry-making supplies.

5 BILLY FRANK JR. NISQUALLY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Bring binoculars and arrive at dawn for primetime bird watching, or simply enjoy a peaceful walk any time of day along the boardwalk at this US Fish and Wildlife Serviceowned preserve just outside Lacey on the Nisqually River Delta. The estuary, named in honor of the late Nisqually Tribe leader, is home to over 200 types of birds as well as otters, beavers, salmon, and a myriad of other creatures.

fws.gov/refuge/billy_frank_jr_nisqually

6 LAKES

Lacey is home to five lakes: Long, Pattison, Hicks, Chambers, and Smith, making the city a historic hotspot for vacationers. The fish are jumping at each lake, but for swimming and watersports, head to Long Lake Park on Long Lake, where kids (and adults) can jump off the dock and frolic in the grass. Explore the trails around Hicks Lake, paddle out in a canoe on Pattison Lake, or drop a line in Chambers Lake in hopes of catching perch, bass, and catfish.

7 THE GOLF CLUB AT HAWKS PRAIRIE

Two courses, The Links and The Woodlands, provide unique 18-hole golf experiences. For a classic Northwest feel, putt among the pines and marshes at The Woodlands. The Links, by contrast, offers a Scottish style with views of Mount Rainier and Puget Sound. Replenish with a meal from the Talon Grill, located on The Links fairway, when you're done. 8383 Vicwood Lane, hawksprairiegolf.com

8 PARKS

Burn off energy at the Lacey Regional Athletic Complex, one of the largest sports complexes in Washington. Soccer and baseball fields, basketball courts, wide open spaces and playgrounds, make this a popular spot for families and sports enthusiasts. Rainier Vista Park has a large play structure, sports courts,

and a skatepark made for all-ages fun.
For athletic fields, trails, and grassy knolls
for picnicking, visit the small but mighty
Wonderwood Park. Downtown Lacey is home to
Huntamer Park, known for summer concerts and
events. And Woodland Creek and Community
Park provide play structures, picnic shelters, and
fishing at Long Pond.
Regional Athletic Complex:
8345 Steilacoom Road SE
Rainier Vista Park: 5475 45th Avenue SE
Wonderwood Park: 5304 32nd Avenue SE
Woodland Creek and Community Park: 6729
Pacific Avenue SE

9 LACEY MAKER SPACE

Have an idea? Bring it to life at this innovator's workshop, designed to assist people with building or growing their businesses and open to anyone over 12. Tools here allow for prototyping, metalworking, woodworking, sewing, and electronics; mentoring services and classes are available, too. Zaverl Hall at St. Martin's University Campus, Building 5, Baran Drive SE laceymakerspace.org

10 LASER FUN ZONE

This laser tag and arcade hotspot is the perfect place to bring kids of all ages, friends, or a group for a team-building and entertaining night out. Book it for a party or just to burn off steam. 1225 Ruddell Road SE,

laserfunzone.net

NEARBY ...

11 TOLMIE STATE PARK

Tolmie State Park provides Puget Sound beachfront, hiking trails, and day-use activities as well as a hidden gem: a man-made underwater park with an artificial reef. Hungry? Dig up clams and bring them home for dinner. 730 61st Avenue NE, Olympia, parks.state.wa.us/297/Tolmie