

Alaska
Beyond

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Horizon Edition

**Celebrating
National
Parks**

TRI-CITIES TRAVEL: Wine, golf, water activities and more, p. 15.
AGRITOURISM: Growing popularity, p. 36. **BOISE:** Remarkable
recreation destination, p. 50. **LESSONS LEARNED:** Golf tips from
playing with the pros, p. 62.

TRI-CITIES, WA

Sip and savor



In 1990, **Badger Mountain Vineyard**, in the Tri-Cities town of Kennewick, became the **first certified-organic winegrape vineyard in Washington state**. Today, the winery's tasting room on the southern slope of the mountain is a popular place to sip and savor varietals ranging from the NSA (no sulfites added) organic Riesling to the NSA organic Merlot.

The Tri-Cities is an excellent base for wine touring, with around **200 wineries within a 50-mile radius**. Many of these wineries, including Badger Mountain, waive tasting fees for Alaska Airlines ticket holders who show a current boarding pass.

The tasting-fee waivers are part of the **Taste and Tote program**, which also lets travelers to the Tri-Cities region, Walla Walla Valley and Yakima Valley check their first case of wine free on Alaska Airlines flights from those regions. See tasteandtote.com for details. For more information on the Tri-Cities, see **Visit Tri-Cities** at visittri-cities.com.

Last year Washington State University dedicated the new **Ste. Michelle Wine Estates WSU Wine Science Center**—one of the world's most technologically advanced teaching and research facilities—on the school's Tri-Cities campus in Richland. Chateau Ste. Michelle has been a significant supporter of the center and of the university's wine-education program.



Tri-Cities visitors enjoy wine touring at wineries such as Badger Mountain Vineyard, and bicycling scenic routes such as the Sacagawea Heritage Trail.

Also in the Tri-Cities

To learn more about the activities and attractions below, and many more, go to visittri-cities.com.

Golf: Year-round play can be enjoyed in the Tri-Cities area, which boasts 10 courses, including the highly rated, 7,026-yard Canyon Lakes Golf Course (right), known for its rolling terrain and large, fast greens, in addition to the namesake lakes.



The Reach Museum, gateway to the Hanford Reach National Monument: Learn about the area's natural and human history, and take guided tours such as a Wallula Gap Hike, May 21, and a Jet Boat/Bus Tour of White Bluffs to West Bar, June 3 (advance registration required for tours).

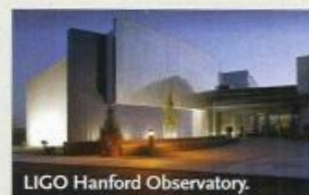


Water recreation: A location at the confluence of three rivers makes the Tri-Cities popular for activities such as kayaking, SUPing, fishing and houseboating.

Hiking, biking, horseback riding: Explore a dramatic region sculpted by the Ice Age Floods. Of special interest is the Sacagawea Heritage Trail, a paved 23-mile trail that runs primarily along the Columbia River.

LIGO Hanford Observatory: The observatory uses the world's largest gravitational wave detectors to measure faint ripples of gravitational waves from outer space. These indicators of major events in the distant universe are expected to help scientists unlock mysteries of the cosmos.

Public tours are offered the second Saturday and fourth Friday of each month.



LIGO Hanford Observatory.

TOP: COURTESY BADGER MOUNTAIN VINEYARD; MIDDLE: COURTESY VISIT TRI-CITIES; BOTTOM: COURTESY CANYON LAKES GOLF COURSE; LIGO HANFORD OBSERVATORY: COURTESY LIGO