

## Other Nearby Destinations

Longview is a great jumping off place for doing all sorts of other activities:

- ⚙ Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Hood, and Mt. Rainier
- ⚙ Ocean beaches
- ⚙ Columbia River Gorge
- ⚙ Portland or Seattle area
- ⚙ Clark County Amphitheater

## Resource Information

For additional information on any of the events listed in the pamphlet, please contact one of the following:

Kelso-Longview Chamber of Commerce ....	360.423.8400
Cowlitz County Tourism .....	360.577.3137
Longview Parks & Recreation .....	360.442.5400
Longview Public Library .....	360.442.5300
Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts ...	360.423.1011

You may also download information from:

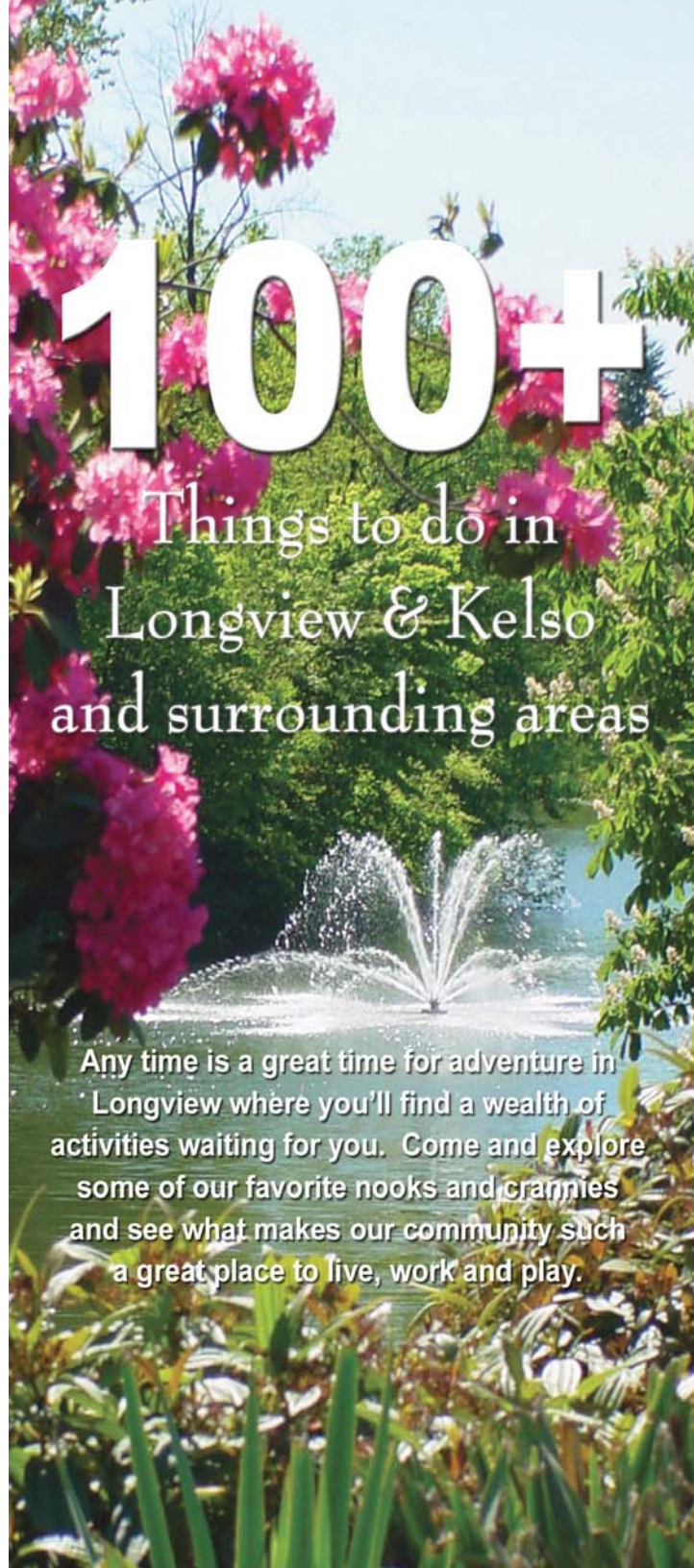
[www.mylongview.com](http://www.mylongview.com)  
[www.kelsolongviewchamber.org](http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org)  
[www.visitmtsthelens.com](http://www.visitmtsthelens.com)

## CowlitzToday.com

... the first place to check for local events!



Rev. 3/07

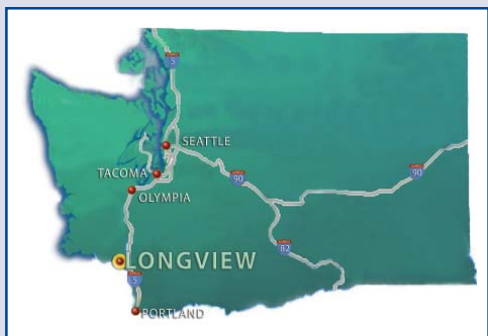
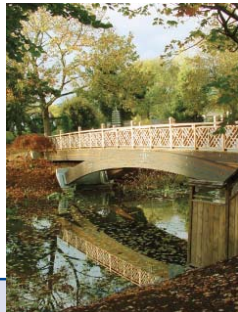


# Recreation and Cultural Opportunities Abound!

Any time is a great time for adventure in Longview where you'll find a wealth of activities waiting for you. Come and explore some of our favorite nooks and crannies and see what makes our community such a great place to live, work, and play.

Longview and its surrounding areas offer a wide variety of community events, including farmer's markets, car cruises, golf tournaments, performances at the Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts or the Pepper Studio Theater, family programs at the library, and a wide range of park and recreation programs. This pamphlet contains a listing for **over 100** things to see and do in Longview, Kelso, and the surrounding area.

The Longview Public Library was a personal gift from founding father R.A. Long, representing the importance he placed on the city's cultural and intellectual growth. Cultural events abound at the library, including programs like Northwest Voices, Koth Art Gallery exhibits, and a multitude of English and Spanish family story times taking place throughout the year. A beautiful rose garden is located on the attractively maintained library grounds as well as a giant carved squirrel, a memorial to animal lover Amos Peters who built the famous Nutty Narrows Bridge.



## About Longview

Flowering trees line the streets of our warm, welcoming city nestled at the confluence of the Cowlitz and Columbia Rivers. Longview is ideally situated between Seattle, Washington and Portland, Oregon. Located on Interstate 5, approximately 47 miles north of Portland and 135 miles south of Seattle, the city is only a short 90-minute drive west to the Pacific Ocean or east to the Cascade mountains. On clear days, Mt. St. Helens is easily visible from the city.

Longview enjoys a moderate climate with an average annual precipitation of 45 inches. The average temperature is 51 degrees with temperatures climbing into the 80s in the summer months. Residents and visitors alike enjoy a a small-town atmosphere with year-round opportunities for recreation and adventure. The city also has the distinction of being named a Tree City, U.S.A., and the Parks and Recreation Department maintains over 16,000 trees of many varieties.

## Lake Sacajawea Park

Rain or shine finds the health-conscious walking, jogging, and biking the 3.5 miles of trails that wind under landscaped bridges, past many species of trees and flowers in bloom, through rhododendron gardens, and past the lake's two spectacular fountains. A more leisurely stroll around the lake will allow you to view various pieces of art or learn about the planets or trees by way of the Planetary Walk or the Frank Willis Arboretum. Visitors enjoy the captivating Japanese Gardens, splendid in any season. Bird-watching is popular at the lake, recently identified as one of the Audobon Society's birding trails. Kayaking, fishing, canoeing, and picnicking bring out families for a day of fun.

Children or those young at heart can enjoy three unique playgrounds. Everyone loves relaxing to Concerts at the Lake on summer evenings and taking in the

Go Fourth event celebrating the Fourth of July holiday. During the week folks use the park to relax during lunch time,



bringing a book or just visiting and watching the activity of children enjoying the birds, squirrels, and chipmunks. There truly is something for everyone at the lake, so add this gem to your list of things to do in Longview, and come down for a visit. You will see why we call Lake Sacajawea the city's crown jewel...it always sparkles with activity!

## Other Recreation Opportunities

Longview's location makes it an ideal vacation headquarters for enjoying the Pacific Northwest's magnificent beauty. Take a short drive to fish from a mountain lake, fish the Columbia River and its tributaries for salmon and steelhead, or head to the Pacific Ocean for a day of beachcombing or storm watching. Nearby Mt. St. Helens is another popular attraction with over 70 miles of trails available for those wishing to explore the volcanic landscape.

## Downtown Longview

Longview recognizes that a vibrant downtown is critical to our uniqueness as a community. Built in the 1920s, Longview has a small-town atmosphere that is very appealing to residents and visitors alike, offering a safe, comfortable, and inviting gathering place with shopping, restaurants, galleries, and beautiful streetscapes. Whether you enjoy unique shopping experiences, eating outside at one of the many quaint restaurants, taking in a performance at the Columbia Theatre, visiting local exhibits of fine art, or brushing up on your history with the historic walking tour, you'll find it in downtown Longview.

## Civic Circle

History buffs will want to visit the historic Civic Circle just west of the downtown area. The Civic Center is a National Register Historic District, and was planned to be the focal point and geographical center of Longview, bringing together governmental and cultural buildings surrounding a central park. You won't want to miss R.A. Long Park, the four commemorative markers in the civic circle that include a chunk of Plymouth Rock, the historic library building with the Longview Room, the post office, the Monticello Convention Markers, the fragrant library rose garden, the Nutty Narrows Squirrel Bridge and squirrel statue, and the Knowles paintings in the Monticello Hotel lobby.

## Dining & Lodging

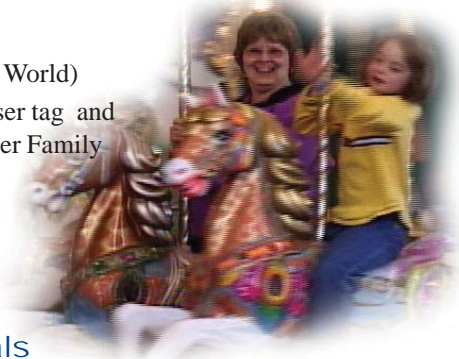
Our local Chamber of Commerce has complete listings of dining and lodging establishments in Longview and surrounding areas. You may contact them at 360.423.8400, or online at [www.kelsolongviewchamber.org](http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org) for more information.

# Family Fun & Community Celebrations

There are countless recreation and leisure activities waiting for you and your family in Longview and the surrounding area. Take in one of our many family fun adventures:

## Family Fun

- ⚙ Rollerskate (Skate World)
- ⚙ Arcade games, Laser tag and Carousel at Hilander Family Fun Center
- ⚙ Bowl
- ⚙ Paint ball
- ⚙ Amtrak trip



## Fairs & Festivals

- ⚙ Earth Day (April)
- ⚙ Cowlitz County Expo Center events
- ⚙ Babe Ruth World Series
- ⚙ Highlander Festival in Kelso (September)
- ⚙ International Festival (May)
- ⚙ Garlic Festival in Woodland (July)
- ⚙ Cowlitz County Fair & Rodeo (August)
- ⚙ Motorcycle Races at Castle Rock Fair Grounds (June through September)
- ⚙ Egg Festival (Winlock)
- ⚙ Planters Day Festival (Woodland)
- ⚙ Tulip Festival (Morton)
- ⚙ Cowlitz County Fair Kid's Day Parade (August)
- ⚙ Terry-Taylor Garage Sale (first Saturday in August)
- ⚙ Home & Garden Show (May)
- ⚙ Mountain Mania Festival in Castle Rock (July)
- ⚙ Castle Rock Fair (July)
- ⚙ In Honor of our Children Pow Wow (third Saturday in May, Kelso High School)



## Community Spirit

- ⚙ High school sports/games
- ⚙ Community college sporting events
- ⚙ League sports



## Car Shows

- ⚙ Unique Tin Car Show/Cruise (August)
- ⚙ Bow Tie Bash (July)
- ⚙ Run to the Rock Car Show in Castle Rock (July)
- ⚙ Top of the World Car Show (September)
- ⚙ Cruise to Delaware Plaza Car Show (August)
- ⚙ Mark Morris High School Car Show (May)

## Holidays

- ⚙ Go 4th parade, festival, fireworks, and logging competition over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday
- ⚙ Holiday Tour of Homes
- ⚙ Jumbo's Toy Run Parade (December)
- ⚙ Holiday Parade in downtown Longview and Civic Center Park Christmas tree lighting (first Saturday in December)
- ⚙ Holiday lights at Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Holiday lights Joy Ride



## Spring & Summer

- ⚙ Wednesday and Saturday Farmer's Markets in downtown Longview, May to September
- ⚙ Tuesday & Saturday Farmer's Market at the Cowlitz Regional Conference Center
- ⚙ Concerts at Lake Sacajawea, Thursday evenings July through August

## Wildlife & Pets

- ⚙ Feed squirrels at Civic Center Park
- ⚙ Bird watching at Lake Sacajawea: cormorants and wood ducks; wood duck nesting boxes on islands.
- ⚙ Wildlife observations of beaver, raccoon, otter, nutria, weasel, muskrat, peregrine falcons, and blue herons at Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Exercise pets at Willow Grove and Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Canine agility class
- ⚙ Adopt a pet from the Humane Society or PAWS to Adopt

# Architecture, Artwork & Exhibits

## Downtown Longview

- ⚙ Totem pole carved by Chief Dan Lelooska at the intersection of Broadway and Commerce
- ⚙ “Thank you, Mr. Long” statue on Commerce
- ⚙ Historic Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts and “Helping Hands” fountain in front of the theater

## Civic Circle Area

- ⚙ Historic Monticello Hotel with ceiling paintings in the lobby and two Native American bronze sculptures
- ⚙ “Vernal Rill” water fountain in City Hall lobby
- ⚙ R.A. Long statue in R.A. Long Park
- ⚙ Nutty Narrows Squirrel Bridge on Civic Circle
- ⚙ “Story Time” bronze sculpture in front of the Longview Public Library
- ⚙ Koth Gallery in the Longview Public Library
- ⚙ Giant squirrel carving on library grounds
- ⚙ Art exhibit in the Old Main building at Lower Columbia College

## Lake Sacajawea

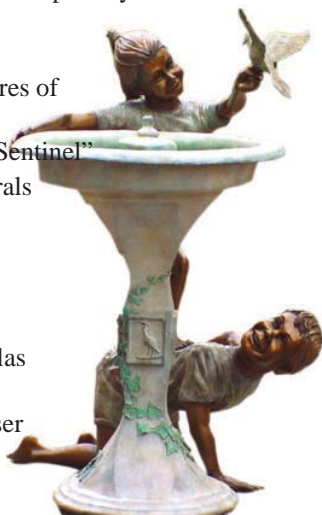
- ⚙ Weyerhaeuser Centennial Bridge to Japanese Island
- ⚙ Totem pole on Lion’s Island
- ⚙ Georgia Gerber bronze sculpture of “Best Friends” at Martin’s Dock
- ⚙ “Sacajawea and Pomp” bronze sculpture by Jim Demetro

## Kelso

- ⚙ Allen Street Bridge sculptures of “Bert & Ernie,” “Rainbow Splendors,” and “Sunriver Sentinel”
- ⚙ Various Kelso building murals
- ⚙ Kelso Train Depot

## Other Artwork

- ⚙ “Playing Boy” statue at Recreation Office on Douglas Street
- ⚙ Various pieces of art at Kaiser Permanente and St. John Medical Center



## Gardens

- ⚙ Japanese Island at Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Rhododendron Garden at Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Grotto garden across from St. John Medical Center
- ⚙ Rose Garden at Longview Public Library
- ⚙ Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens (Woodland)
- ⚙ Van Der Salm Bulb Farm (Woodland)

## For History Buffs

- ⚙ Longview Room at the Longview Public Library
- ⚙ Civic Circle & Downtown Longview Historic Walking Tour
- ⚙ Lewis & Clark commemorative panels at Lake Sacajawea
- ⚙ Cowlitz County Historical Museum
- ⚙ Long-Bell Reading Room at the Merk
- ⚙ Lumberman’s Bank Clock and world’s largest steam whistle on Commerce Avenue
- ⚙ Historic Rutherglen Mansion
- ⚙ Cowlitz Valley historical relief artwork at Bank of America
- ⚙ Pictorial history of Longview in City Hall lobby



## Local Entertainment

- ⚙ Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts
- ⚙ Summer Solstice Celebration
- ⚙ Pepper Studio Theater
- ⚙ Cascade Players at McClelland Arts Center
- ⚙ Theater performances at the high schools and Lower Columbia College
- ⚙ Longview or Kelso movie theaters
- ⚙ Kelso Theater Pub with pizza and beverages
- ⚙ Story time at the Longview & Kelso libraries
- ⚙ Community education at Lower Columbia College

# Outdoor Adventures

## Parks & Recreation

- ☼ Playgrounds at Victoria Freeman, Mark Hoehne, Vandercook, Anderson, John Null, Cloney, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Longview Rotary, Bailey, and Windermere Parks
- ☼ Picnic at City & County parks
- ☼ Catlin Teen Center and Late Night at YMCA for teens
- ☼ Swim at YMCA and Kelso High School
- ☼ Senior Center in Longview
- ☼ Awesome Longview Parks and Recreation programs
- ☼ Water fun in the Cowlitz at Gerhart Garden or in the Columbia at Willow Grove

## Boating, Fishing & Water Sports

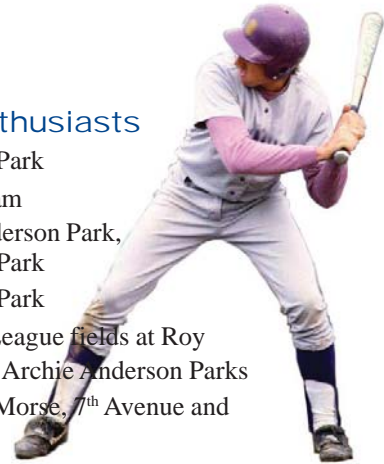
- ☼ Free Fishing Day at Lake Sacajawea (first week in June)
- ☼ Fish at Lake Sacajawea
- ☼ Canoe, kayak, raft (Lake Sacajawea; Willow Grove; Columbia, Cowlitz or Coweeman Rivers)
- ☼ Ski-do, watercrafts, and water skiing on the Columbia or Cowlitz Rivers
- ☼ Wind surf on the Columbia River
- ☼ Smelt dip in the Cowlitz River (February/March)
- ☼ Sailboat races Tuesday evenings from Willow Grove Park (summer months)
- ☼ Mini hydro-boat races at Lake Sacajawea (June)
- ☼ Boat at Gerhart Gardens or Willow Grove
- ☼ Sport fish for steelhead, salmon, sturgeon, bass, etc.
- ☼ Visit local fish hatcheries
- ☼ Sternwheeler cruises on the Columbia River

## Hiking, Biking & Dancing

- ☼ Lake Sacajawea walking/jogging trail
- ☼ Tour de' Blast bike event (June)
- ☼ Seattle to Portland (STP) bike event (July)
- ☼ Coweeman Dike in Kelso walking, jogging trail
- ☼ Longview dike pathway at 30<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenues
- ☼ Mt. St. Helens trails
- ☼ Mall walk at Three Rivers Mall
- ☼ Dance (Ballroom, Square, Round, Scottish, Line, Hula)

## For the Sports Enthusiasts

- ☼ Skateboard at Cloney Park
- ☼ Basketball courts at Tam O'Shanter, Archie Anderson Park, and Victoria Freeman Park
- ☼ BMX track at Cloney Park
- ☼ Baseball/Cal Ripken League fields at Roy Morse, John Null, and Archie Anderson Parks
- ☼ Softball fields at Roy Morse, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Tam O'Shanter Parks
- ☼ Soccer fields at 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park
- ☼ Tennis courts at Vandercook and John Null Parks in Longview and at Kelso High School
- ☼ Horseshoe pits at Tam O'Shanter and Roy Morse Parks
- ☼ Golfing at Mint Valley or Longview Country Club in Longview, or at Three Rivers in Kelso



## Health & Fitness Walks & Events

- ☼ Walking tour of Frank Willis Arboretum (119 tree species) at Lake Sacajawea
- ☼ Solar System Walk at Lake Sacajawea
- ☼ Walking trail in Kelso along the Cowlitz River
- ☼ American Cancer Society's Relay for Life (August)
- ☼ March of Dimes Walk (April)
- ☼ Turkey Trot (Thanksgiving Day) at Lake Sacajawea
- ☼ Humane Society's Pet Trek at Tam O'Shanter Park (September)
- ☼ Harvest Run (October)
- ☼ Year-to-Year Run (December 31)
- ☼ 10k/5k Volksmarch Art Walk starting at The Merk (all year)
- ☼ Workout opportunities at the Longview YMCA, Mint Valley Racquet Complex, and at local private gyms



## Extreme Fun

- ☼ Dirt biking, 4x4 (off roading), and quad riding
- ☼ Flying lessons
- ☼ Kite boarding at Willow Grove

## Camping

- ☼ Sequest State Park
- ☼ Camp Kalama
- ☼ County Line Park