

White Salmon .

Latitude 45.728 and longitude -121.486

Elevation: 623

White Salmon appears on the White Salmon U.S. Geological Survey Map.

Area Code: 509

Zip Code: 98672

Population: 2235 (City Limits)

White Salmon is a beautiful, rural town situated on the bluff overlooking the Columbia River. Views from the city range from the Columbia River Gorge and Mt Hood, to glimpses of Washington's Mt Adams. Because even the surrounding hillsides offer up visual delights with each change of the seasons, the locals often say there's no such thing as a bad view in White Salmon.

The City's name comes from the nearby White Salmon River so named when the Lewis and Clark Expedition saw the river teeming with salmon whose color had turned white after spawning. Incorporated in 1907, White Salmon's city government serves over two thousand residents. Another four thousand or so live outside of the city limits, but within the 98672 zip code. The city limits extend across State Route 14 just west of Bingen; the Mt Adams Chamber of Commerce's office is located within the city.

Just east of the Chamber's office is the vertical lift steel truss bridge connecting the north and south shores of the Columbia. The bridge connects Hood River and White Salmon, First built in 1924, it has been greatly altered since then. Regular commuters can sign up for electronic toll collection which eliminates the need to stop at the toll booth to pay the crossing fee, or to purchase bridge toll tickets.

The phrase "*The Land Where the Sun Meets the Rain*" has long been used describe local climate. The City of White Salmon is located in a transition zone between the marine-influenced climate west of the Cascade Mountain range and the dry continental climate of the inner-mountain region. The Columbia River Gorge serves as a conduit for the differing air pressures on either side of the Cascades, resulting in major wind patterns. The transition zone typically results in westerly winds in the summer and chilly easterlies in the winter.

The area's relatively mild climate and location offer visitors and residents a recreation paradise. Hiking, camping and biking opportunities are abundant throughout the local hills, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and the Mt. Adams area. Water enthusiasts can windsurf on the Columbia or take a rafting or kayaking trip on the White Salmon, Little White Salmon, or Klickitat Rivers. In the winter, downhill skiing is available at nearby Mt. Hood in Oregon and cross-country trails are maintained throughout the Gifford Pinchot National Forest near Trout Lake.

Artists, musicians, and other creative types are drawn to The Gorge and White Salmon certainly has its share of them. The White Salmon Arts Council helps to promote artists and keep arts on the minds of the residents with two annual events: *The Nights in White Salmon Art and Wine Fusion* on the 3rd Saturday in July and the *I'm Dreaming of a White Salmon Holiday Festival*, the 1st Saturday in December.

There are several artists with in-town studios including a potter, a painter, a luthier, a boat maker, and the White Salmon Glassworks. Others open their studios to the public once a year as part of the region-wide Gorge Artists Open Studios event. Artisans Jewelry and Gallery, Trellis Fresh Flowers and Gifts, and Collage of the Gorge all feature local artists in their shops.

White Salmon is a small community, but it offers diverse services from qualified, local providers. If you want to pamper yourself, get a massage from one of the local masseurs, or workout and get a new look from a local salon like Strawberry Mountain Fitness Spa and Salon. While you're

working on your body, Morris Motors can work on your car! If you need to board your pet or find childcare, Happy Tails and Bambinos may be your answer.

If you're visiting the area, consider staying at the Inn of the White Salmon so you'll be able to easily walk the downtown.

The area's farms, orchards, gardens, cattle, alpacas, llamas, logging mills, artists, technicians, fishing and hunting provide a special and diverse way of life for local residents. If you decided to become a neighbor instead of a visitor, you'll be in excellent company.