

Wenatchee, Washington



Situated in Central Washington, Wenatchee is the second most populous city in the central area of the state. Surrounding mountains provide a dramatic backdrop for this city and its population of 54,000. As the midpoint between Seattle and Spokane, development was spurred by the Great Northern Railway and by the late 1890's a new county and community was bustling with potential. Due to its arid climate and rich volcanic soil, Wenatchee is well known for its fruit trees, dubbing itself the "Apple Capital of the World." While the agriculture is lucrative for some, social and ecological justice issues abound, particularly for the farm workers who make these high yields possible. Recently, this bustling community saw its largest population growth between 1990 and 2000, growing by more than 6,000. Located near both the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers, the area offers ample recreational possibilities as well as many outdoor community events. Between its apples and recreation, this active area draws more than 3 million visitors a year.

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