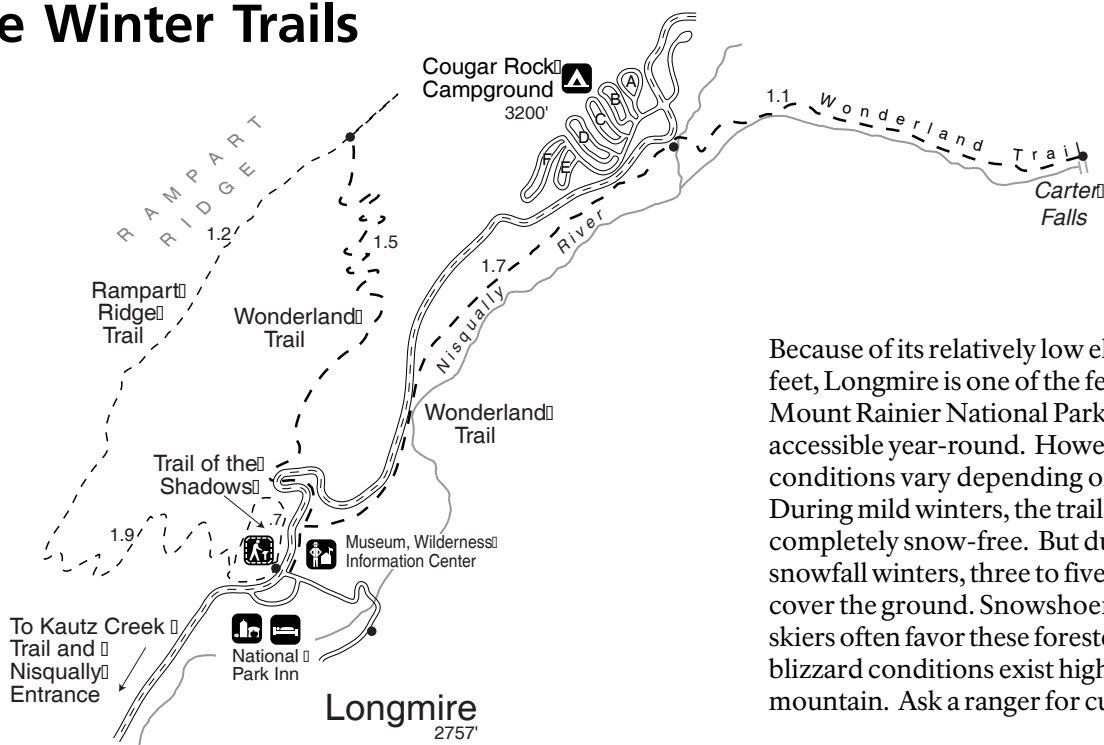


Mount Rainier National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Longmire Winter Trails



Because of its relatively low elevation at 2,761 feet, Longmire is one of the few areas of Mount Rainier National Park which remains accessible year-round. However, winter trail conditions vary depending on snowfall. During mild winters, the trails may be completely snow-free. But during heavy snowfall winters, three to five feet of snow may cover the ground. Snowshoers and novice skiers often favor these forested trails when blizzard conditions exist higher on the mountain. Ask a ranger for current conditions.

Westside Road	14 miles round trip to Round Pass. Begins at the junction with the main park road, one mile east of the Nisqually Entrance and climbs gradually to Round Pass following the unplowed road (not shown on map).	High avalanche potential at Dry Creek, the first open area at the base of Mount Wow. Novice: first 3 miles to Dry Creek. Intermediate: next 4 miles from Dry Creek to Round Pass.
Kautz Creek	2 miles round trip to the creek crossing. Begins at Kautz Creek parking area, 3 miles east of the Nisqually Entrance (not shown on map). Crossing the creek can be dangerous when	winter storms remove bridges. The trail steepens after crossing the creek and route finding is required. Novice.
Trail of the Shadows	0.7 mile loop trail. Begins across the road from	the National Park Inn. Level terrain. Novice.
Rampart Ridge	4.6 mile loop trail. Begins along the west side of the Trail of the Shadows, across the road from the National Park Inn. Very steep terrain.	Narrow trail through forest. Rampart Ridge is not recommended for skiers. Advanced trail for snowshoers. Often requires route finding.
Wonderland Trail	3.2 miles round trip from Longmire to Cougar Rock Campground. Rolling terrain. Narrow	trail through the forest. Intermediate. May require some route finding.
Cougar Rock Campground	Begins at the campground entrance, 2 miles above Longmire toward Paradise. Flat terrain.	Follows snow covered loops of campground. May encounter snowmobiles. Novice.
Carter Falls	2.2 miles round trip along the Wonderland Trail. Begins on the curve below the Cougar Rock Campground. Gradually uphill most of	the way with some steep sections. Narrow trail through forest. Advanced. Requires route finding.

Equipment Rental

Cross country skis and snowshoes are available for rent in Longmire at the General Store from mid-December to early April. For details please inquire at the General Store (360) 569-2411.

Food Service

Food, gifts and lodging are available daily at the historic National Park Inn. Enter from the parking area on the south side of the building.

Tire Chains

Snow tires or tire chains may be required while driving in the park. Signs posted along the roadway indicate traction device requirements.

Chains are available at local stores in Ashford and at the General Store in Longmire. For your own safety, always follow the traction requirements.

All vehicles traveling above Longmire must carry properly fitting tire chains.



Nightly Road Closures

For safety reasons and to facilitate plowing, the road to Paradise closes at Longmire each evening around dusk. It reopens the next morning if road conditions allow safe travel, usually between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

However, some days the weather and snow conditions prevent the road from opening at all. Keep in mind that all roads are subject to closure at any time.

Overnight Parking and Camping

Look for signs designating overnight parking areas near the National Park Inn and Longmire Museum. Parking outside these areas will impede snowplowing operations and could cause an accident.

Avoid setting your emergency break – it may freeze!

Wilderness permits are required for all overnight camping. They are available free of charge at the Longmire Museum, open daily from 9:00am until 4:30pm.