

# NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK: FALL WONDERS

**4**  
DAYS

## DATES

October 8 - 11, 2025

## ARRIVE/ DEPART

Seattle, WA

## DIFFICULTY



## COST

\$3250

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike through golden larch forests and breathtaking alpine meadows as you explore the stunning North Cascades National Park during peak fall colors.
- Conquer iconic trails like Heather-Maple Pass Loop and Cutthroat Pass for panoramic views of rugged peaks and colorful landscapes.
- Enjoy a scenic drive through the heart of the Cascades, stopping at Diablo Lake Overlook for an awe-inspiring view of the turquoise waters and surrounding peaks.

## DAILY ITINERARY

### DAY 1

### WELCOME TO THE NORTH CASCADES & BLUE LAKE HIKE

We gather with our Be Wyld guides and fellow adventurers for an introduction and quick gear check, ensuring everyone is prepared for the journey ahead. Once ready, we load up the van and head into the heart of the North Cascades, known as the "American Alps" for their dramatic peaks and pristine wilderness. On the way, we stop at the North Cascades Visitor Center to learn about the park's history and diverse ecosystems.

With fresh insight into the area, we embark on our first hike to Blue Lake, an alpine gem nestled amidst towering peaks. As we ascend, vibrant fall colors and golden larches surround us, with views of mountain ridges and the turquoise Blue Lake below. We pause to take it all in and snap photos under the afternoon sun.

After our hike, we head to our hotel accommodations, enjoy a hot shower, and then celebrate with a group dinner and cold pints at a local brewery. We head to bed knowing our adventure has just begun.

Accommodations: Hotel

Hiking Details: 4.4 miles, 1050 ft elevation gain/loss

Drive Time: ~ 4 hours



## DAY 2

### EXPERIENCE HEATHER-MAPLE PASS LOOP

After fueling up with delicious pastries and coffee from Twisp Bakery, we embark on one of the Pacific Northwest's most iconic hikes – the Heather-Maple Pass Loop. This stunning trail winds through alpine meadows and golden larch forests, offering breathtaking views of never-ending mountain ridges, sparkling lakes, and a kaleidoscope of autumn colors.

As we ascend, the trail opens up to panoramic vistas, leading us through colorful meadows and groves of shimmering larches. At the summit, we pause to take in the awe-inspiring alpine beauty, capturing photos and memories of this unforgettable landscape.

After a day filled with wonder, we return to our cozy hotel to rest up for tomorrow's adventures. We'll enjoy a delicious dinner and share stories from the day.

**Accommodations:** Hotel

**Hiking Details:** 7.2 miles, ~ 2,000' elevation gain

**Drive Time:** ~ 1.5 – 2 hours



## DAY 3

### HIKE TO CUTTHROAT PASS

Day three of our adventure leads us deeper into the wild beauty of the North Cascades with a hike to Cutthroat Pass. The trail switchbacks through dense pine forests, slowly revealing dramatic views of jagged mountains and expansive valleys with each new step. As we continue to climb, vibrant larch groves lead us to the pass, where a stunning panorama of fall colors unfolds.

This hike is a true highlight of the region, offering unforgettable scenery, crisp mountain air, and the splendor of autumn color. As the day draws to a close, we gather for our final night together, reflecting on our incredible adventures and celebrating the friendships we have forged.

**Accommodations:** Backcountry Camping

**Hiking Details:** 10 miles, 2,000 ft elevation gain/loss

**Drive Time:** ~ 1.5 hour

## DAY 4

### DIABLO LAKE OVERLOOK & RETURN TO SEATTLE

After breakfast, we pack up and begin our journey back to Seattle. Along the way, we stop at the stunning Diablo Lake Overlook. The vibrant turquoise waters, framed by autumn foliage and snow-capped peaks, offer one last breathtaking view of the North Cascades—perfect for a group photo and a moment to reflect on the memories we've made.

We then continue our scenic drive back to Seattle, carrying with us the beauty of golden larches, towering peaks, and the unforgettable landscapes of fall. As we say our final goodbyes, we leave knowing these experiences will stay with us forever.

**Accommodations:** On Your Own

**Drive Time:** ~ 4 hours

# PACKING LIST

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Our adventure will take us into the great outdoors, where we'll spend most of our time immersed in nature and exposed to the elements. Having the right clothing and gear is essential for both your comfort and the success of the group. Once you've officially joined the trip, you'll receive a comprehensive Welcome Packet with packing list and glossary to help you prepare for your journey.

## CLOTHING

- ☐ 1 Hiking Pants
- ☐ 3-4 T-shirts
- ☐ 1 Fleece / Down Jacket
- ☐ 3-4 Pairs of Underwear
- ☐ 1 Beanie
- ☐ Sweatpants / Long Underwear
- ☐ 1-2 Hiking shorts
- ☐ 1 Long Sleeve Shirt
- ☐ 1 Rain Jacket
- ☐ 1 Pair Lightweight Gloves
- ☐ 1 Hat / Baseball Cap

## FOOTWEAR

- ☐ 1 Pair Hiking Boots / Trail Runners
- ☐ 1 Pair Comfortable "City" Shoes for After Hiking (tennis shoes, flip-flops, etc)
- ☐ 3-5 Pairs Hiking Socks

## ESSENTIALS

- ☐ ID / Passport
- ☐ Medicines
- ☐ Day Pack (20- 35 liters)
- ☐ Money / Credit Card
- ☐ Phone

## ACCESSORIES

- ☐ Headlamp
- ☐ Chargers
- ☐ Personal First Aid Kit
- ☐ 2-3 Liter Water Reservoir
- ☐ Power bank
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Trekking Poles

## OPTIONAL

- ☐ Camera, Memory Card, & Charger / Extra Batteries
- ☐ Journal or Book

## TOILETRIES

- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Hand Sanitizer
- ☐ Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Lip Balm
- ☐ Menstrual Products
- ☐ Kula Cloth

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# FAQ

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN THIS TRIP ACCOMMODATE?

We believe in small groups to create a more authentic and meaningful experience. For this trip to run, we **require a minimum of 4 participants**, with a maximum group size of 12. This adventure is designed for travelers aged 25–50. If multiple groups run simultaneously, we'll arrange them by age to ensure an enjoyable and cohesive experience.



### WHO ARE THE BE WYLD GUIDES?

Our Be Wyld Guides are passionate outdoors enthusiasts and travelers with extensive group leadership and wilderness experience. They're knowledgeable, fun, and thoughtful, creating a welcoming and engaging atmosphere for all levels of adventurers. All guides are trained in Wilderness First Aid, with many holding advanced certifications, ensuring not only your safety but an unforgettable adventure.



### WHAT IS THE DIFFICULTY LEVEL OF THIS TRIP?

This trip is rated **Moderate (3)**. This trip is ideal for individuals with a moderate level of fitness who are excited to explore the region's stunning larch forests and breathtaking mountain vistas at an active yet manageable pace. Participants will enjoy daily hikes ranging from 4–10 miles with elevation gains and losses of up to 2,000 feet, carrying daypacks weighing 10–25 pounds. Trails include a mix of well-maintained paths and more rugged terrain, offering incredible opportunities to experience the North Cascades' dramatic alpine beauty and vibrant autumn colors.



### WHAT TYPE OF TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED?

For the duration of your adventure, we'll travel in a 15-passenger van, accompanied by a luggage and safety car for our gear. This setup ensures we can move comfortably and efficiently between destinations. We'll provide all transportation from the starting hotel to the final hotel at the end of the trip, making it easy for you to focus on the experience without worrying about logistics.



### WHAT TYPE OF FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED?

For this trip, we'll start our mornings with breakfast at the hotel or a local restaurant, fueling up for the day ahead. Lunches will be trail-friendly and easy to enjoy while exploring. Dinners will be a special opportunity to gather as a group at local restaurants, celebrating our adventures and sharing trail stories.

We can accommodate vegetarian diets and other dietary restrictions, such as allergies or specific food preferences. Prior to your trip, we'll ask for details about any dietary limitations, so please inform us in advance to ensure your needs are met.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### WHAT WILL THE WEATHER BE LIKE?

In early October, the weather in the North Cascades is crisp and cool, with daytime temperatures ranging from 45°F to 65°F. Nights can be chilly, often dipping into the high 30s°F, especially in high alpine areas. While early October is generally dry, rain or even light snow is possible, so it's important to pack warm layers and waterproof gear to be prepared for changing conditions.



### WHERE WILL I BE SLEEPING?

For this trip, we'll be staying in a local hotel that provides a comfortable and welcoming base for our adventures. While it's not a five-star resort, the accommodations are clean and cozy, and the hotel staff is friendly and attentive, ensuring a pleasant stay.

Rooms will be based on double occupancy according to gender identity. If you prefer single occupancy, a supplemental fee will apply and are very limited.



### WILL I HAVE INTERNET/PHONE SERVICE?

Each morning and night at the hotel, you'll have access to cell service and Wi-Fi. However, during our adventures in wilderness settings, phone service may be unavailable or sporadic. We encourage you to embrace the experience by using your phone sparingly, allowing you to connect with nature, your fellow adventurers, and fully immerse in your experience.



### WHAT HAPPENS IF I NEED TO CANCEL MY TRIP?

As a small, employee-owned company, we understand that life can be unpredictable, and we'll do our best to work with you when possible. However, many trip expenses are incurred prior to travel, so we follow a clear refund policy. The full details of our cancellation and refund policy can be found on the Be Wyld website under the trip details, but here's a quick summary:

- o 120+ days prior to departure: Full refund
- o 61 - 120 days prior to departure: \$500 deposit is non-refundable
- o 31 - 60 days prior to departure: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable
- o 0 - 30 days prior to departure: No refund or transfer options

