

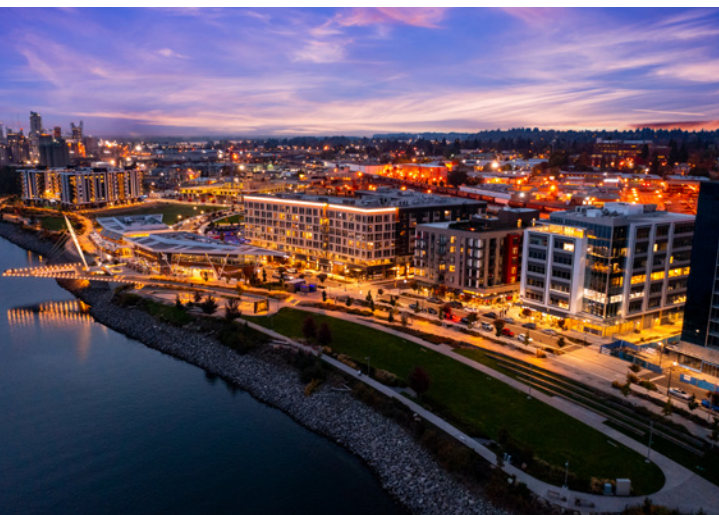
Vancouver

Waterfront views, wine tasting
and well-crafted dishes.

BY MOLLY ALLEN

Vancouver, Washington, sits at the western edge of the Columbia River, right on the border of Washington and Oregon. A two-and-a-half hour drive from Seattle and just 15 minutes from downtown Portland, Oregon, the city of Vancouver is within reach for a fun-filled day trip.

Come for the number of wineries that have recently opened tasting rooms in this hub and stay for the dreamy waterfront views. You'll also find fantastic coffee roasted in small batches and a mix of charming and modern eateries, along with historical sites and buildings where you can learn about the storied past of the Columbia River's north bank.



Barnard Griffin Winery

8 - 10:30 A.M.

If you're a coffee lover, a great cup of brewed coffee or a latte in the morning is a must. **RELEVANT COFFEE** serves up sustainably sourced coffee which is roasted on-site. Grab a latte and sit in this light-filled space dressed up with plenty of plants. You'll also find pastries from Baron Patisserie and Portland's Shoofly Vegan Bakery.

Want another cup that is also ethically and sustainably sourced? **COMPASS COFFEE ROASTING** has two locations in Vancouver. Sip an Americano with a salty vanilla cream topper at the downtown location, or head to the coffeehouse at the roastery for an incredibly fresh cup and an unpretentious vibe.

CHANDELIER BAKERY doesn't open until 10 a.m. but it's worth the stop for a treat in the morning (or an afternoon pick-me-up). Located in the historic Padden House, a 100-year-old farmhouse, you'll find dreamy cinnamon rolls, decorated sugar cookies and macarons.

10:30 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Well caffeinated and ready to explore, head to **FORT VANCOUVER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** for a mid-morning stroll. This was once home to the Hudson's Bay Company and operated as a trading post. Now, you can take a step back in time to learn about early pioneering while wandering historic buildings and taking in the sights and smells of the fort's volunteer-run garden.



Brian Carter Cellars

12 P.M.

East of Fort Vancouver, near the border of Vancouver and Camas, is **ENGLISH ESTATE WINERY** with estate vineyards dating back to 1980. This property has been in the English family since 1903 with a history of farming over five generations. Just off the road, this is a dreamy garden escape with a big bright red barn called The Loafing Shed that hosts indoor tastings. You can also enjoy a tasting outside with a picnic in tow.

1:30 P.M.

Following that first wine tasting appointment, it's time for lunch. **AMARO'S TABLE** is located downtown and serves up comfort foods such as burgers, sandwiches and beautiful salads with a seasonal twist. Dine on the brick patio or cozy up in a modern leather booth. Prefer a waterfront lunch? **THE COVE** has a large patio space overlooking the Tidewater Cove Marina. The views are spectacular, but you'll also find a delicious Northwest-focused menu with fresh seafood, Wagyu sirloin and sandwiches served with vinegar salted steak fries — not to mention a great beverage list highlighting wines across the world, along with beer and cider options.

2:30 – 6 P.M.

After lunch, book a tasting appointment at one (or a few!) of the many tasting rooms that now call the Vancouver waterfront area home. **AIRFIELD ESTATES** makes wines in the Yakima Valley and the Bombshell red blend is a can't-miss. You'll find both indoor and outdoor seating at this sleek, modern spot. Just a

block away, Richland-based winery **BARNARD GRIFFIN WINERY** is pouring in a colorful tasting room with indoor booth seating, patio seating and even a charcuterie vending machine. Next door, Walla Walla's **AMAVI CELLARS & PEPPER BRIDGE WINERY** invite you in for a glass of Merlot. The small booth-style seating here is perfect for the solo traveler, or you can cozy up with your partner or hang out with friends on the comfy leather couch. Back toward the waterfront, you'll find **BRIAN CARTER CELLARS** offering tastings from their beautifully tiled, live-edge bar. Head in for just a tasting, or snack on an heirloom tomato flatbread paired with a Bordeaux-style red blend.

6 – 8 P.M.

Once you're ready for dinner, Vancouver is filled with flavorful options. On the waterfront, you'll find **DOSALAS** delivering Latin-inspired dishes. Inside, discover stunning white booths and marble countertops. There's also seating outside next to firepit tables. This hot spot also has an extensive beverage list with

signature margaritas, craft cocktails and a wide selection of tequilas. Downtown, you'll find **ELEMENTS** with an intimate atmosphere and vibrant dishes. The wine list includes Pacific Northwest options, as well as selections from Portugal, France and Italy. Dishes prepared by Chef Miguel Sosa celebrate the elements of nature and changing seasons with a focus on sourcing local, sustainable ingredients.

8 – 10 P.M.

Before you call it a night, head to **Ice CREAM RENAISSANCE** for a treat. Grab a scoop of honey vanilla ice cream or choose a vegan option such as minted cookie crunch. All of the ice cream is made in small batches. Enjoy your scoop while walking the neighborhood or snag a seat by the fireplace and play a board game to end a fun-filled day of experiencing the sites, smells and flavors of Vancouver. ●



Brian Carter Cellars



Barnard Griffin