

# A NATURE-LOVER'S GUIDE TO EVERETT



## MORE POPULAR SPOTS

**JAPANESE GULCH.** Within biking distance of downtown Everett. Winding trails take you along the gulch, offering peekaboo views of Puget Sound, a large drainage basin and railroad tracks. [1301 5th St. PORT OF EVERETT TRAILS a.k.a. THE MILLTOWN TRAIL.](#) Seals, osprey, and other wildlife can often be seen on an afternoon spent wandering the trails, parks and boardwalks around the Port. Stop at [SCUTTLEBUTT](#) for seafood and burgers. [1205 Craftsman Way.](#)

In the summertime, start your day early at [1. VALLEY ORGANIC DELI](#), where you can grab breakfast to-go. Everything at “the Valley” is fresh, delicious, and most items are organic. Then make your way to [2. JETTY LANDING](#) and catch the public ferry to [JETTY ISLAND](#) for a picnic breakfast (note: the ferry runs in July and August only and reservations are required). A sizable man-made island, the Jetty is a favorite summer destination that features warm, sandy beaches and a self-guided nature walk. Be sure to arrive early, the boat can fill fast, especially on weekends and during warm weather.

When Jetty Island isn't an option, make a stop at the beautiful [3. SPENCER ISLAND](#) (4027 4th St. SE). A must for bird watchers or photographers, the secluded trail takes you along an island in an estuary. The trail is a gravel path that runs past blackberry bushes, cattails, and canals filled with all sorts of bird life and features gorgeous views of the Cascades. Local tip: this park is a wildlife preserve, so no dogs are allowed.

Dog owners may want to skip Spencer Island and head to the nearby [4. LANGUS RIVERFRONT PARK](#) (400 Smith Island Rd) instead. Here, a long, paved path takes you past the Snohomish River as it lazily empties into Port Gardner. The river is often filled with kayakers and rowing teams. Visitors are advised to use the bathrooms at the trailhead because there are no other bathrooms on the trail. This park makes for a leisurely afternoon and affords views of riverboats, Mount Pilchuck, Mount Baker and wildlife.

If you're planning your trip, be sure to book a walking tour of the [5. EVERETT ARBORETUM](#), a three-acre park filled with all kinds of flora and trees.

For dinner, make reservations at [6. CAPERS + OLIVES](#) for a white-tablecloth supper with fresh, handmade pasta and locally-sourced ingredients. Featuring a rotating menu, dinner will be based on what's in season. Be sure to come hungry—the portions here are robust.

Finish the day with a sunset at [7. GRAND AVENUE PARK](#). Built on a tall bluff, the park has a sweeping view of the marina and Puget Sound on one side, rows of historic mansions on the other. On a clear day you can see Hat Island, Mukilteo, Tulalip Bay and Whidbey Island. Plenty of picnic tables and benches are available here. Cross the Grand Ave. Park Bridge down to the waterfront to keep your outdoor adventure going.