

An aerial photograph of Spokane, Washington, showing a dense urban area with various high-rise buildings, a river winding through the city, and green spaces. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

Spokane Regional
Convention & Visitors Bureau

City Drive Guide

City Drive Attractions

1. **Spokane Regional Visitor & Information Center:** 201 W. Main Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
2. **Riverfront Park:** 808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard Spokane, WA 99201
3. **Gonzaga University:** 502 E. Boone Ave. Spokane, WA 99258
4. **Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena:** 720 W. Mallon Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
5. **Flour Mill:** 621 W. Mallon Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
6. **Spokane County Courthouse:** 1116 W. Broadway Spokane, WA 99260
7. **Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture:** 2316 W. 1st Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
8. **Campbell House:** 2316 W. 1st Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
9. **Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox:** 1001 W. Sprague Ave. Spokane, WA 99201
10. **The Davenport Hotel and Tower:** 10 S. Post St. Spokane, WA 99201
11. **The Steam Plant Grill: 159 S. Lincoln St., Spokane, WA 99201**
12. **Manito Park:** 1800 S. Grand Boulevard Spokane, WA 99203
13. **Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist:** 127 E. 12th Ave. Spokane, WA 99202
14. **Cliff Drive & Cliff Aerie:** 708 W. Cliff Drive Spokane, WA 99204
15. **Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens:** 507 W. 7th Ave. Spokane, WA 99204
16. **Glover Mansion:** 321 W. 8th Ave. Spokane, WA 99204

Optional Excursions

17. **Hutton Settlement:** 10200 E. Upriver Dr. Spokane, WA 99206
18. **Arbor Crest Wine Cellars:** 4705 N. Fruit Hill Rd. Spokane, WA 99217
19. **Green Bluff Growers:** 9807 E. Day Rd Mead, WA
20. **Cat Tales Zoological Park:** 17020 N. Newport Hwy. Mead, WA 99021
21. **Whitworth University:** 300 W. Hawthorne Rd. Spokane, WA 99251
22. **Downriver Golf Course:** 3225 N. Columbia Circle Spokane, WA 99205
23. **Bowl & Pitcher:** 4427 N. Aubrey L. White Parkway Spokane, WA 99026
24. **Fort George Wright:** 4000 W. Randolph Rd. Spokane, WA 99224
24. **Finch Arboretum:** 3404 W. Woodland Boulevard Spokane, WA 99224

Don't Know Much About Our History?

It is clear the very first visitors and settlers who called the Spokane region home were the Native Americans. And one might muse over the very meaning of Spokane, a Salish word which is often loosely translated to mean "children of the sun" or "land of shimmering waters." Either interpretation offers an apt description of our city's earliest days when the tribes camped and fished along the banks of the Spokane River and its untamed falls. Those same rushing waters mark the pulse of our community today, the ebb and flow of a people and place called Spokane.

Officially founded in 1873 by James Nettle Glover, Spokane was first a small settlement known as Spokan Falls. The natural resources of Eastern Washington - fertile soil, timber and mineral wealth - eventually attracted more settlers to the area. The present boundaries of Spokane County were created by the legislature in 1879. Incorporated in 1881, Spokane Falls - now with an "e" added - became the county seat in 1887 after a hotly contested battle with Cheney.

Eighteen eighty-nine marked an eventful year around the Pacific Northwest when Spokane Falls, Seattle and Ellensburg were all destroyed by disastrous fires. Known as "a night of terror, devastation, suffering and awful woe," Spokane's response to the fire, which destroyed 32 blocks of the city's core, was to rebuild immediately, and in a far grander fashion than before.

Spokane was transformed when the Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in 1881 and was linked transcontinentally in 1883. In that same year, Spokane experienced its first boom when the discovery of gold in the Coeur d'Alene mining district established Spokane as the service center for the north Idaho mines. Local investors, funded by money made in the mines, quickly helped rebuild the city following the fire of 1889. So great was Spokane's influence at that time that some even considered declaring the city its own state!

Rebounding from a national depression in 1893, Spokane experienced another building boom at the turn of the century. Construction expanded the downtown area, and the city nearly doubled in size. With a population of just over 300 in 1880, Spokane had grown to more than 100,000 people by 1909, making it the largest city west of Minneapolis.

Spokane retains much of its architectural history today. More than 50 percent of Spokane's downtown is designated as historic, making up three separate National Register Historic Districts. In fact, the City of Spokane has the most designated National Register Historic Districts in the state, with 18 on the list.

Preserving the past with an eye to the future has always been a key to Spokane's character. Now you'll find an "All America" city that is home to the nation's largest Wi-Fi HotZone. Spokane County is filled with entrepreneurs whose companies and products have put our region on the worldwide map! Yet despite the progress, our community unfailingly embraces the essence of its founders and original settlers. Here you'll find spirit, integrity, courage, innovation and inspiration in both the place and its people.

10 Things You May Not Know About Spokane

1. **Spokane City/County Population:** 204,400/459,000
2. **Downtown Spokane elevation:** 1,898 feet
3. **Number of Wineries within 20 minutes of Spokane:** 18
4. **Average Number of Sunny Days:** 260
5. **Number of Golf Courses within 75 miles:** 33
6. **Minutes from Airport to Downtown:** 10
7. **Average Summer Temperature:** 78 degrees
8. **Number of Ski Areas within 75 miles:** 5
9. **Average Commute Time:** 21 minutes
10. **Number of Lakes within 50 miles:** 76

City Drive

Come enjoy breathtaking vistas, appealing parks and interesting historical and architectural structures along the City Drive, a scenic 60-mile loop tour of Spokane! For the convenience of those who like to use their GPS, we have included way points for all stops on the Spokane City Drive. Now sit back, relax and experience Spokane at your own pace.

Spokane Regional Visitor & Information Center

47°39'32.09"N

117°24'49.29"W

Located at Main Ave. and Browne St., make sure to pick up some brochures to take along with you on the City Drive to provide more in-depth information on the attractions you will see.

Proceed east on west Main Ave. toward north Division St. Turn left onto north Division St. to Spokane Falls Blvd. Turn left onto west Spokane Falls Blvd. and proceed to . . .

Riverfront Park

47°39'37.20"N

117°25'15.93"W

One-hundred acres of beautifully manicured lawns and trees, interesting art and amazing attractions located in the heart of downtown Spokane.

Riverfront Park is home to the antique Looft Carrousel, Ken Spierings's sculpture entitled "Childhood Express," a unique giant replica of a Radio Flyer Wagon that is actually a slide for children. A sculpture walk follows the Centennial Trail through the park. Many bridges and viewpoints offer spectacular views of the beautiful Spokane Falls. Attractions include an IMAX Theatre, the Ice Palace skating rink (Open Oct.-Mar.), park train, kids' rides, a gondola ride over the Spokane Falls and a mechanical garbage-eating goat. The INB Performing Arts Center, Spokane Convention Center (located on Spokane Falls Blvd., the south boundary of the park) and the park itself are the legacy of Spokane's Expo '74 World's Fair. Plenty of parking is located along the south side of Spokane Falls Boulevard.

Start out going west on Spokane Falls Blvd. toward north Monroe St. Turn left onto west Main Ave. Turn left onto north Division St. Follow north Division St. to Sharp Ave. Take a right onto

east Sharp Ave. and proceed to Addison St. Turn right onto north Addison St. (Main Campus Entry) and proceed until you see . . .

Gonzaga University

47°40'6.26"N

117°24'10.25"W

Bing Crosby's alma mater welcomes visitors to enjoy the country's largest public collection of Bing Crosby memorabilia, located in the Crosbyana Room in the Crosby Student Center. Bing's boyhood home at 508 E. Sharp is now home of the Gonzaga University Alumni Association and is also open to the public.

Start out going north on Addison St. Turn left onto east Sharp Ave. followed by a left onto north Division St./US-2 W/US-395 S. Turn right onto west Boone Ave. followed by a left onto north Howard St. Take a right onto west Mallon Ave. and end at . . .

Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena

47°39'55.60"N

117°25'20.65"W

A multi-purpose building with seating up to 12,500 that offers facilities for ice hockey, high school and college basketball games, special shows, rodeos and conventions. The Star Theatre also transforms the Arena into a wonderful venue for concerts. Just south of the arena you will find the . . .

Flour Mill

47°39'54.33"N

117°25'18.92"W

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Flour Mill was originally built over a hundred years ago to harness the energy of the Spokane River to grind wheat into flour. It was renovated during the excitement prior to the Expo '74 World's Fair into an eclectic collection of specialty shops, eateries, self-guided tours and office space.

Head west on west Mallon. Turn left onto north Post St. Turn right onto west Broadway Ave. and end at the . . .

Spokane County Courthouse

47°39'51.87"N

117°25'43.92"W

Designed by architect W. A. Ritchie in a 16th Century French Renaissance design, this facility has served the citizens of Spokane County since 1895.

Make a right on N. Adams Street. Make another right onto W. Gardner Ave. Turn right onto north Monroe St. followed by a right onto west Riverside Ave. Take a left onto south Maple St. followed by a right onto west 1st Ave. where you will enter . . .

Browne's Addition Historic District

In the late 1800's, this neighborhood was home to many of the wealthy mining barons who got rich on silver and gold claims in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Continue on 1st Ave. until you reach the . . .

Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture

47°39'23.16"N

117°26'46.64"W

The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, a Smithsonian affiliate, features exhibits of regional and natural history, including America's largest collection of Northern Plateau Indian art and artifacts, and fine art exhibits that change monthly. Open Wednesday through Saturday, 10a.m. to 5p.m. Just down the street is the . . .

Campbell House

47°39'23.16"N

117°26'46.64"W

The Campbell House, designed in 1898 by Kirtland Cutter, is furnished in the fashion of Spokane's turn of the century 'Age of Elegance.' Hours are Wednesday-Saturday 10a.m.-5p.m. Though Kirtland Cutter got his architectural start in Spokane his crown jewel is the design of many homes and buildings in Mission Viejo, California.

Start by taking a left on S. Poplar St. Then take a left on W. 2nd Ave. Follow along past Rosauers and take a left onto south Maple St. followed by a slight right onto west 1st Ave. Turn left onto south Lincoln St. followed by a left onto west Sprague Ave. where you will end at the . . .

Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox

47°39'24.55"N

117°25'37.20"W

Constructed by renowned architect Robert Reamer in an art deco style, the Fox Theater opened to the public in September of 1931. With 2,300 seats and air conditioning (the first building in Spokane to have it), the Fox was the largest and most unique venue of its kind in the region. Inside the theater, murals created by Anthony Heinsbergen evolve from underwater floral patterns at the lobby level to landscapes of castles, rivers and clouds on the mezzanine, culminating with a magnificent 60-foot wide sunburst that dominates the auditorium. Sunlight radiates across the ceiling and falls on a canopy of foliage representative of a forest under a starlit sky. Divided into two small theaters in 1975 and later slated for demolition in 2000, a massive community effort spearheaded by the Spokane Symphony saved the Fox. When its doors finally reopened in November of 2007, following a \$31 million renovation, the Fox had finally come full circle retaking its place as the premier historical performing arts venue in the Inland Northwest.

Start out going west on Sprague Ave. Turn left onto south Madison St., followed by a left onto west 1st Ave. Take another left onto S. Post St., followed by a left onto Sprague Ave. and end at the...

The Davenport Hotel and Tower

47°39'25.32"N

117°25'24.63"W

The Davenport Hotel has been world-famous since its opening in September of 1914. It was the first hotel with air conditioning, a central vacuum system, housekeeping carts (designed by Louis Davenport himself), accordion ballroom doors and Crab Louis (named for Louis Davenport). After a \$38-million top to bottom renovation, the Davenport revels in its previous glory. Re-opened in 2002, it now has 611 guest rooms and suites, thanks in part to the completion of the Davenport Tower in early 2007. It is known as one of "America's Exceptional Hotels." In January 2007, Conde Nast magazine named The Davenport Hotel among the top 100 in the world. In June 2007, Expedia.com named the Davenport Hotel and Tower #6 in the world and #3 in the United States.

Continue heading west on Sprague Ave. Take a left on Monroe St. Take another left on W. 3rd Ave., followed by a left on S. Lincoln St. You are now at....

Steam Plant Grill

*47°39'18.18"N
117°25'30.01"W*

Built in 1916, the Steamplant was constructed to produce steam heat and electrical power for all of downtown Spokane. The twin 225-foot smokestacks, now Spokane landmarks, were hand-formed using a total of 333,340 bricks. In operation until 1986, the Steamplant produced 15,000-370,000 pounds of steam pressure per hour virtually every hour of the day or night. After sitting idle for nearly 10 years upon closing, the Steamplant was purchased and rennovated into one of the most unique dining experiences in the Pacific Northwest. The Steamplant now features dining on two levels, four unique ballrooms and Coeur d'Alene beer brewed on-site.

Continue north on Lincoln St. and take a right on W. 1st Ave. Next, turn right onto south Stevens St. Remain in the left lane after driving under I-90 to ensure you will take a slight left onto west 9th Ave. Take a slight right onto south Grand Blvd. and end at . . .

Manito Park

*47°38'18.98"N
117°24'25.81"W*

Covering over 90 acres, Manito Park is one of Spokane's largest and most beautiful parks. It includes a Lilac Garden, the Nishinomiya Japanese Garden, Rose Hill, Duncan Formal Gardens and the Gaiser Conservatory. The gardens are spectacular during the growing season and the conservatory is a wonderful stop any time of the year. (During winter, the Japanese Gardens will be closed).

Head north on south Grand Blvd. to 12th Ave. Turn right onto east 12th Ave. and end at . . .

The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

*47°38'40.41"N
117°24'31.28"W*

An excellent example of English gothic architecture. Free tours are conducted Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from noon to 3 p.m.

Return to south Grand Blvd. Turn right onto south Grand Blvd. followed by a left onto west Cliff Ave. where you can enjoy . . .

Cliff Drive & Cliff Aerie

*47°38'49.33"N
117°25'9.81"W*

Well-known for its panoramic view of the entire city, Cliff Drive provides a picture waiting to be taken. Continuing on to the left at the bend in the road is Cliff Aerie, the former residence of Senator Dill who introduced the bill to build Grand Coulee Dam.

Start out going southwest on west Cliff Dr. toward south Lincoln St. Turn right onto south Lincoln St. followed by a right onto west 7th Ave. where you will end at . . .

Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens

*47°38'53.58"N
117°25'8.84"W*

Originally developed between 1889 and 1932 for the residences of F. Rockwood Moore and later Senator George Turner, the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens are a combination of Victorian and Arts & Crafts styles. Buried for more than 50 years, the gardens were uncovered, restored and reopened in August of 2007. Restored using original photographs of the gardens, special features include a reflection pool, white garden steps, rustic rose arbor, conservatory, perennial gardens, octagon teahouse with white columns and an upper pond and rock waterfall. The Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens project is the first residential landscape of its kind in the state of Washington.

Start out going east on 7th Ave. and take a right onto south Stevens St. Stevens St. becomes west 9th Ave. Turn left onto south McClellan St. followed by a left onto west 8th Ave. where you will end at the . . .

Glover Mansion

*47°38'53.91"N
117°25'0.35"W*

Built by famed architect Kirtland Cutter for the "Father of Spokane," James Glover, in 1888 the mansion is an exquisite example of late 19th century design. Tour the mansion and marvel at the featured woodwork from 10 different areas around the world, and the wide array of stunning

lead and stained glass windows in original condition.

Start traveling west on 8th Ave. which will turn into south Washington St. Turn right onto west 3rd Ave. followed by a right south Browne St. Merge onto I-90 E. towards Coeur d'Alene. Take the Argonne Rd. exit, Exit 287. Take a left onto north Mullan Rd. followed by a slight right onto north Argonne Rd. Turn right onto east Upriver Dr. and end at the . . .

Optional Excursions

Still looking to experience more of Spokane? Check out these optional excursions throughout the region! From world-class wineries to raging whitewater, you won't want to miss out on these unique Spokane attractions.

Spokane Valley

Hutton Settlement

47°41'48.61"N

117°16'0.05"W

The Hutton Settlement Children's Home is the end-product and dream of Levi and May Hutton. Both raised as orphans, the Huttons were determined to make a difference. After becoming millionaires through investing in the Hercules Mine in Wallace, Idaho, the Huttons' motivation was finally matched with monetary backing. Opened in 1919, the Hutton Settlement has continued to provide a safe haven for children in line with the legacy the Huttons left behind.

Turn left onto east Upriver Dr. Take a slight left onto east Fruithill Rd and end at . . .

Arbor Crest Wine Cellars

47°42'0.55"N

117°15'2.57"W

Located in the Cliff House, a national historic landmark, this self-sustaining winery sits perched on a rock 450 feet above the Spokane River. Once the home of Royal Newton Riblet, an eccentric inventor, the grounds are as unique as the inventor was. Tour the grounds and hear stories about Mr. Riblet, his inventions and the unique additions he made to the Cliff House grounds. After working up a thirst, sample the delicious, award-winning wines while enjoying the panoramic view of the countryside, the valley and the river.

Start out going south on north Fruit Hill Rd. towards east Upriver Dr. Go straight onto east Upriver Dr. and then take a right onto north Argonne Rd. North Argonne Rd. becomes north Bruce Rd. Take a right onto east Day Mt. Spokane Rd. and then go straight onto east Day Rd. where you will end at Walter's Fruit Ranch which is a member of . . .

North Spokane

Green Bluff Growers

47°48'19.47"N

117°16'27.83"W

The farms that make up Green Bluff Growers are a diverse group of 38 family-owned farms resting at the base of Mount Spokane. Visitors can pick fresh fruits and vegetables from each of the farms from mid-June through late fall. The farms work together for several festivals throughout the season including the Strawberry Celebrations, Cherry Festival (including the popular Cherry Pickers Trot and Pit Spit), Peach Festival and Apple Festival. Of course, no self-respecting family in the region would consider buying a pumpkin from a store. Picking a pumpkin fresh is a must!

Start out going west on east Day Rd. which will turn into east Day Mt. Spokane Rd. Turn right onto US-2 E/N Newport Hwy ending at . . .

Cat Tales Zoological Park

47°48'25.78"N

117°20'50.59"W

A Zoological Park featuring over 40 big cats (Lions, Leopards, Pumas, Lynx & more). Cat Tales even has a Liger – and to think nobody believed Napoleon Dynamite. Also, this is the home of Terri Irwin's cat Zoey, whom she entrusted to the park when she left the country to marry the late Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin. Guests can walk within 8 feet of these rare and endangered species. Take part in Guided Tours, Petting Zoos, Educational Programs and Zookeeper Training Center & Outreach Programs. Closed on Mondays.

Turn onto US-HWY 2/N. Newport Highway going south and proceed to Hawthorne Rd. Turn right onto east Hawthorne Rd. stopping at . . .

Whitworth University

47°45'4.40"N

117°24'59.42"W

Founded in 1890, Whitworth University enrolls 2,500 students in more than 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Stop by the Whitworth Admissions office and schedule a tour, or walk the immaculately kept 200-acre campus. Enjoy the red brick buildings, towering pines and excellent architecture.

Start out going east on east Hawthorne Dr. towards north Division St. Turn right onto north Division St. and proceed to Country Homes Blvd. Turn right onto north Country Homes Blvd. which becomes north Ash St. Proceed on north Ash St. to Wellesley Ave. Take a right on W. Wellesley Ave. and follow it to Alberta St. Take a left onto north Alberta St. and proceed to Northwest Blvd. Turn left onto Northwest Blvd. followed by a right onto north TJ Meenach Dr. Exit north TJ Meenach Dr. to the right to get onto west Downriver Dr. Continue on west Downriver Dr. staying to the right until you reach Columbia Circle. Take a right onto Columbia Circle to end at . . .

West Spokane

Downriver Golf Course

47°41'14.07"N

117°27'56.31"W

Opened for play in 1916, making it Spokane's oldest course, it is also where Bing Crosby perfected his golf game as a youngster.

Start out going northwest on north Columbia Circle toward north Downriver Dr. Continue straight to go onto north Downriver Dr. Turn sharp right onto north Aubrey L. White Parkway which you will stay on until you reach . . .

Bowl & Pitcher

47°41'47.27"N

117°29'34.39"W

The "Bowl & Pitcher" is famous for its great views of the Spokane River. This area of Riverside State Park features camping and picnic sites, trails leading to the Spokane River, a swinging footbridge and views of lava rock outcroppings. Two of these outcroppings resemble a bowl and pitcher, giving this beautiful section of the park its name.

Start out going southeast on north Aubrey L. White Parkway. Take a slight right onto north

Downriver Dr. and proceed until you turn left onto the ramp. Take a slight right onto north TJ Meenach Dr. which becomes W. Fort George Wright Dr. Continue on Fort George Wright Dr. until you arrive at Randolph Rd. . . .

Fort George Wright, Mukogowa Fort Wright Institute and the Japanese Cultural Center

47°40'23.59"N

117°28'9.26"W

Fort George Wright is where the former Army Cavalry headquarters figured prominently in the early settlement of Spokane. The Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute is a branch campus of a university in Spokane's sister city, Nishinomiya, Japan. Stop by the Japanese Cultural Center that features exhibits of traditional Japanese art, crafts, costumes and traditional ceremonial dress.

Turn right onto West Fort George Wright Dr. Turn left onto north Government Way. Turn right onto Sunset Blvd/I-90 BR. Turn left onto south 'F' Street (looking for the Finch Arboretum sign) followed by a right onto west Woodland Blvd. which you will stay on until you reach . . .

Finch Arboretum

47°38'39.06"N

117°27'43.70"W

An extensive botanical and tree garden with more than 2,000 labeled ornamental trees, shrubs and flowers. Walk the many trails that weave through the 65 acres or stop alongside Garden Springs Creek for a beautiful natural setting.

You have now completed the City Drive. We hope that you enjoyed this tour of Spokane's past, present and future. There are so many other attractions and recreation opportunities in the Spokane area and we would encourage you to seek them out. For additional ideas and information, return to the Visitor Information Center on the corner of Browne and Main. Enjoy your stay in Spokane!

If you happen to get lost or confused while on the City Drive, please feel free to call the Spokane Regional Visitor & Information Center at (509) 747-3230. Open Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:30 p.m. and weekends 9:00-6:00 p.m.