

2007 Bellingham Tour

1. Conventions and abbreviations [*Text in italics is informational only*] :

N, E, W, S = North, East, West, South	T = Turn
RT = Right	LT = Left
SL = Speed Limit	SR = State route
SS = Stop sign	
2. Reset your trip counter as you leave the parking lot. The data recorded below is for your own information.

End odometer:		End Time:	
Start odometer:		Start Time:	
Total Mileage =		Total time =	

Interspersed among the route instructions are place name history tidbits to make your drive more enjoyable. No disputing the history tidbits allowed-they were taken from the Tacoma Public Library’s Historical Place Name On-line Database, which will be the final authority for this tour! (If you feel you know better, and I don’t want to hear about, then write your own tour instructions!) They also appear in *italics type*.

Route North Instructions

From the parking lot T RT onto Bothell-Everett Hwy (SR-527)

T RT onto Mill Creek Rd [164th St SE (signed to west) / Mill Creek Rd (signed to east)]

Mill Creek Rd becomes Seattle Hill Rd

Stay on Seattle Hill Rd, crossing 132nd St SE

At bottom of hill T LT onto Marsh Rd, crossing the valley floor. [Caution: construction/lane closures possible-construction was in progress in June]

Cross SR-9 and T LT onto Airport Way – becomes Avenue D

Snohomish:

Snohomish is five miles southeast of Everett at the confluence of the Snohomish and Pilchuck rivers in southwest Snohomish County. An early name was Cadyville for Capt. Cady who built a military trail over the crest of the Cascades, known as Cady Pass. In the late 1850s, the growing town was called Snohomish City.

T RT onto 10th St in Snohomish

T LT onto Maple Ave

Maple Ave becomes S. Machias Rd

T RT at SS to stay on Machias Rd until you reach SR-92/Granite Falls Hwy

T RT at SS onto SR-92/Granite Falls Hwy [SL = 55 MPH]

T LT onto 84th St NE at traffic light

T RT onto 163rd Ave

T LT onto 100th St NE at SS

Road makes 90° turn to RT to become 159th Ave

T LT onto 116th St

T RT onto Burn Rd

T RT to stay on Burn Rd

Stay on Burn Rd until you reach Highland Dr in Arlington

Arlington:

Arlington is twelve miles north of Everett at the junction of the North and South forks of the Stillaguamish River in northwest Snohomish County. When a townsite was platted in March of 1889 by Morris G. Haller the name chosen was Haller for his father Col. Granville O. Haller. It is shown on some older maps as Haller City. An adjoining townsite, purchased by J. W. McLeod, a railroad contractor, was named Arlington for the Virginia home of Robert E. Lee that became Arlington National Cemetery. In June 1903, the two townsites were joined under the name of Arlington in an election.

T LT onto Highland Dr at SS

T RT onto SR-9 at traffic light [We did not see any signs to identify SR-9]

After passing Bryant and Pilchuck communities cross into Skagit County

Bryant:

Bryant is three miles north of Arlington in northwest Snohomish County. Once a sawmill town it was named for John H. Bryant, who was a vice president and director of Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railroad, which was later purchased by the Northern Pacific Railway.

Pilchuck:

Located on the east shore at the west entrance to Holmes Harbor. The name was chosen in 1906 by Calvin Phillips of Seattle for his boyhood home in Delaware.

T RT onto Finn Settlement Rd

[Cross into Skagit County-road becomes Granstrom Rd]

T LT onto Lake Cavanaugh Rd at SS

T RT onto SR-9 at SS

McMurray:

McMurray is a scattered community of small farms and homes on the west shore of Lake McMurray seven miles southeast of Mount Vernon in southwest Skagit County. It was once an important lumber and

shingle manufacturing town. The railroad station was named by Northern Pacific Railway officials for Dr. McMurray, a physician who homesteaded the site of the town.

Big Lake and Monteborne:

Big Lake is a community at the north end of Big Lake four miles east of Mt. Vernon in southwest Skagit County. Formerly a sawmill and logging center, it lost its importance with the depletion of old-growth timber. It was named for the lake on which it is located.

Montborne, on the east shore of the lake, was called Big Lake until 1890 when it was changed by the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern Railway.

Continue on SR-9 north bound through Sedro-Woolley, stay on SR-9

Sedro-Woolley:

Sedro-Woolley is a city in the west central part of Skagit County. The place was first settled in 1878 by David Batey and Joseph Hart. In 1884, Mortimer Cook bought forty acres and planned a town. Desiring a name that would be unique he called it "Bug."

The settlers did not like the lack of dignity and threatened to preface the syllable "Hum" to the sign at the river landing. Mrs. Batey said she had found "Sedro" in a Spanish dictionary as meaning cedar. As there were many fine trees there of that species the suggested name was taken though the spelling should have been "Cedro."

In 1890, Norman R. Kelly platted some land and his part of the town was known as "Kellyville." With the boom of 1890, Philip A. Woolley started a rival town nearby under the name of "Woolley". The dual government was expensive and on December 19, 1898, the movement for consolidation was successful, resulting in the hyphenated name of Sedro-Woolley.

[Cross into Whatcom County]

T LT onto Park Rd – look for a sign on RT: “Lake Whatcom” pointing to LT. [The Park Rd street sign is hidden on the LT]

T LT onto S Bay Dr – staying on main road which continues to LT

S Bay Dr becomes Lake Whatcom Blvd

Proceed through Sudden Valley community

Construction likely in progress. Follow detour signs – route took us to Lakeway Dr

At SS T RT to stay on Lakeway Dr

Proceed on Lakeway Dr until you see I-5 overpass and cross under I-5.

Bellingham:

Bellingham is on Bellingham Bay in Whatcom County. The first white man to enter the bay was the Spaniard Eliza in 1791, who named it Seño de Gaston or Gulf of Gaston. On June 11, 1792, the bay was surveyed by Joseph Whidbey in a boat excursion under Captain George Vancouver of the Royal Navy. The latter, on receiving his officer's report, charted the name Bellingham Bay. He does not say for whom the name was given, but he frequently associated the surnames and Christian names of those honored by giving them to nearby or related geographic features.

He gave the name of Point William to the prominent point south of the entrance to the bay. In studying his contemporaries, it was found that Sir William Bellingham checked over Vancouver's supplies and accounts as he was leaving England. There is very little doubt that Sir William Bellingham was the man thus honored.

In that same year, 1792, the Spaniards of the "Sutil y Mexicana" Expedition again charted the bay and sought to retain a form of Spanish name by calling it Bahia de Gaston. The Spanish charts were not published for years, while the British charts appeared promptly and fixed the name permanently. David Thompson of the North-West Company of Montreal referred to the bay as "Bailsam Bay."

The United States Coast Survey in 1854 showed the northern portion of the bay as "Gaston Bay," a partial recognition of the older Spanish name. The first town on the bay was given the Indian name Whatcom. Later there

were established the towns of Sehome and Fairhaven. There were several combinations of these rival settlements, all of which later joined in the one City of Bellingham.

Mrs. Ella Higginson, the Northwest poet, says she has had the distinction of having lived in three cities of Washington-Sehome, New Whatcom and Bellingham-without having moved out of her house.

[Route to Fairhaven District]

Proceed ~ 4 blocks

T LT onto Ellis St

T LT onto Maple St, proceed 2 blocks veers at ~45° to become...Samish Way

T RT onto Bill McDonald Parkway

T LT onto 21th St

T RT onto Harris Ave

At ~12th St you are now in the Fairhaven District. Find a place to park, explore, and enjoy!

Suggested Route South Instructions

Follow 12th St to S

Watch for signs for Chuckanut Dr

Stay on Chuckanut Dr all the way to I-5 at the north side of Burlington

Chuckanut:

Chuckanut Bay, port, railway station and famous scenic automobile highway, is immediately south of Bellingham. Capt. Henry Roeder, 1853, gave it the Lummi, Nooksack, Samish, Skagit and Snohomish Indian name, Chuckanut. Some of the old Lummi Indians say it means the long beach far from a narrow entrance. William McCloskey, who was born in Sehome and reared at Lummi, educated at Tulalip Indian School, now government farmer at Swinomish Reservation at La Conner, says it means "the large bay of beach with the narrow entrance from open water." Captain Roeder said that he understood the word meant "the mountain by the water." It was once a ferry landing for the Orcas Island ferry boat. Its population was sixty people in the 1940s.

Follow I-5 south to Seattle