



14810 Linden Ave. N. Shoreline,

WA

9/12 MELMONT GHOST TOWN HIKE

This is an easy hike with little ups and downs along an old railroad grade, but do wear good hiking boots since it is in the deep walled moist and mossy, lichen laden canyon of the Carbon River. This is one of our states sheerest walled river canyons plunging through hard igneous rock as it makes its way north out of Mt. Rainier National Park. I have whitewater kayaked this section of river and in much of its canyon run the top of the canyon seems little wider than the river banks at the bottom. The river of course drains the cold melt-water from the Carbon Glacier, the lowest altitude glacier in the contiguous US, and it is probably this heavy glacial silt laden water that has worn the remarkable canyon through this section of forest. From the WTA “Depending on the direction you arrive at the town from, there are some ruins left to view along the way, making it a fun adventure for children. The path follows an abandoned rail grade. If you look around the site enough, you can find the remnants of an old bridge abutment where a wagon bridge used to span the river. The old hotel was sited here. Up the hill opposite the obvious townsite field, you will find the remnants of the old school basement. It is interesting to note that much of the original wood from this school structure was recycled in the 20's and used in building the Carbon River Ranch, a building a few more miles down the road towards the Carbon River entrance”.



Provided: transit, maps. Date 9/12 Cost \$51

*Summer 2020 Covid-19 Precautions: We will be limiting participation to 50% capacity on trips this summer. The transit van will be sterilized before and after each trip we do. The corona virus is mostly spread during prolonged indoor contact rarely in the outdoors, so travel distances will be limited to a maximum of 1:15 hr. Masks will be required on all participants, and hand washing before entering the vehicle. All personal gear will be kept in the back not in the seating area, and we will try to keep extraneous stops to a minimum. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available for those who need it. Please do not come if you feel sick in any way: dry cough, fatigue, nausea, loss of smell/taste, sore throat, headache, temperature, etc. A full refund will be provided for any who have symptoms or have had any recent contact with the virus.



MAIL THE FORM BELOW WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP & DONATION
To: One World Outing Club; 14810 Linden Ave. N.; Shoreline, WA 98133
Annual Membership is \$20 (www.outingclub.org)

Name: _____ Trip Title: _____ Enclosed \$: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ H. _____ O.Sign _____

I the above signed understand that there are risks and hazards involved in active sports including the activities I will be participating in with One World Outing Club. I accept these risks as my responsibility and agree to release One World Outing Club, their representatives, guides, and associates from any liability for accidents or injuries which may occur during or traveling to and from said activities.

Current Covid-19 situation and trip logistics modifications to accommodate:

I originally anticipated that by the first of August we would have the Coronavirus largely contained in our area or at least on the tail end of the decline curve. This has not happened here as it has in much of Europe and Canada. It appears to be infecting younger people 20-40 as much as the older (more wary) generations this time around. Washington State Governor Insley is now stopping the reopening plan, recommending gatherings of no more than 10 people (down from 50), and advocating face masks be worn by everyone.

Because of the continuing risk I no longer think that it is a good idea to run our summer as hoped, in particular the car pooling part gathered together in the club van. For now we will try to keep the schedule we have but everyone will have to drive themselves separately. I will put the driving directions and rough trail map on the back of the trip sheets on the web for anyone who is interested in the destinations. On the Outing Club trips we do I will be requiring face masks whenever people are hiking or sitting together even outdoors. While normal breathing in close proximity for short periods may not infect others, even if you are asymptomatic positive, heavy breathing like when exerting yourself coughing or sneezing can infect others quite easily.

Please feel free to print out the directions and do these trips on your own schedule. This is encouraged as most of these destinations were picked specifically because they are often less traveled places, and perhaps even quieter on midweek days, they are also fairly close to home and pretty easy drives. Those who come with the club I would ask that you sign up as I will be limiting the participation numbers to conform with state recommendations (and will ask half price \$25/hike to help keep the Club running through this unusual time).

Ghost Town Logistics: (no parking permits required)

Driving Directions: Drive south on I-5 or Hwy 167 (East Valley Hwy) to Sumner and turn east on 410. Near Buckley turn south on Hwy 165 toward Wilkeson travel past Carbonado and start watching for pullouts on the side of the road. As you pass the main town heading towards Rainier, you will see a series of three pullouts next to the highway, two are marked by white poles, the third with a gate. This is the western end of the abandoned rail line, and it is owned by Pierce County Parks. Park well off the road. The trail is often muddy so wear good waterproof hiking boots, or rubber boots.

