

Why Walla Walla is one of the best wine tasting holidays in the USA

Now that travel is back on the cards, it's time to plan your future trips.



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When you consider a wine-tasting holiday, the first places that might spring to mind will likely be the typical vineyard hotspots – Napa and Sonoma in California, Tuscany, Italy, Bordeaux in France, or Rioja in Spain.

But one destination you may not be as familiar with is Walla Walla, a wine region in Walla Walla County in the USA.

Located in Washington State, the quaint but large and buzzing city is located just 45-minutes by plane from the city of Seattle – or a picturesque 4-hour drive across the state of Washington and through the Cascade Mountains, into the Walla Walla Valley.

You'd be forgiven for underestimating the city, given it's a little quieter on the tourist trail. But you'd be missing out if you discount it.

When w&h visited, we found it the epitome of a charming, traditional US city – full of picture-perfect streets, locally sourced eateries, and historic architecture – and of course, the all-important vineyards and wineries.

So how can you spend a few days in Walla Walla?

Walla Walla wine, wineries and vineyards

If there's one reason to visit Walla Walla, it's the incredible range of vineyards, wineries – and wine-tasting tours. There are a whopping 132 wineries in Walla Walla – so you've got plenty to take your pick from.

Head to [L'Ecole](#) to kickstart your tour, a family-owned winery set within the historic – and rather gothic – Frenchtown School. Enter the impressive building and you're guided up wooden stairs to a dining room, where you'll try a selection of red, white and rose wines from their local vineyard and the Seven Hills Vineyard. If you like, you can even bring a picnic to enjoy in their picturesque grounds.

In Downtown Walla Walla, right near Main Street, is [Seven Hills Winery](#). Staff at the winery told us that Walla Walla is largely a red wine valley – which is perfectly displayed in their delicious Merlot, their benchmark wine, sourced from the vineyard just a few miles away. But for lovers of white or rose, there are also a huge array of options.

Seven Hills is a Walla Walla institution, and so offers an exclusive membership for residents. Their most expensive wine is an exquisite Pentad red, which costs \$85, and is on wish-list for subscription members. And we can attest, it's well worth the price...

Despite this rather pricey outlier, Walla Walla wines are on the whole much more affordable than any others in the world. This is not due to lack of quality, but because the cost of production is much cheaper in Walla Walla, compared to the likes of California.

The region isn't short of beer venues either, if wine isn't quite your thing.

A few of the must-visit breweries and wineries include:

- [Valdemar Estates](#)
- [Doubleback Winery](#)
- [Saviah Cellars](#)
- [Quirk Brewing](#)
- [Burwood Brewery](#)

Walla Walla hotels: Where to stay in Walla Walla

There's somewhere for everyone in Walla Walla!

The Inn at Abeja

For a truly luxurious stay, there's also The Inn at Abeja. Abeja is a luxury winery just outside the town. The owners have restored and refurbished the winery's outbuildings into intimate but superbly finished cottages and suites. Even if you don't stay here, it's well worth a visit for the unbelievably picturesque winery anyway.

