

REGIONAL GETAWAYS, ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES THAT BRIGHTEN UP THE SEASON

# NW Winter Fun!

● puget sound

# JOURNEY

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015



**ARIZONA  
ROAD TRIP**  
Desert charm  
from Tempe to  
Tombstone

**PACIFIC  
NORTHWEST  
BALLET**  
A new *Nutcracker*  
premieres in Seattle

the magazine for AAA members



The joys of winter  
converge upon  
Hurricane Ridge.



# Warming Up to Winter

## SIX GREAT WAYS TO EMBRACE THE CHILLY SEASON

BY CRAI S. BOWER

DESPITE THE SMILES ON OUR FACES EVERY SUMMER WHEN WE HIKE UP MOUNTAINS, PADDLE ACROSS BAYS AND DINE ON SUNNY PATIOS, WE *TRULY* LOVE EMBRACING THE ELEMENTS THAT WINTER BRINGS TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. SURE, WE MIGHT COMPLAIN FROM TIME TO TIME ABOUT HAVING TO PILE FLEECE AND GORE-TEX OVER OUR LAYERS OF FLANNEL AND POLYPROPYLENE, BUT EVEN THEN, WE ARE SECRETLY REJOICING OVER AN OPPORTUNITY TO GLIDE DOWN A SKI RUN, STROLL ALONG A QUIET BEACH OR SIMPLY GAZE INTO CLEAR NIGHT SKY. WITH OUR TIME TO SHINE UNDER DIMINISHING DAYLIGHT FAST APPROACHING, HERE ARE SIX GREAT WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS GLORIOUS TIME OF YEAR.





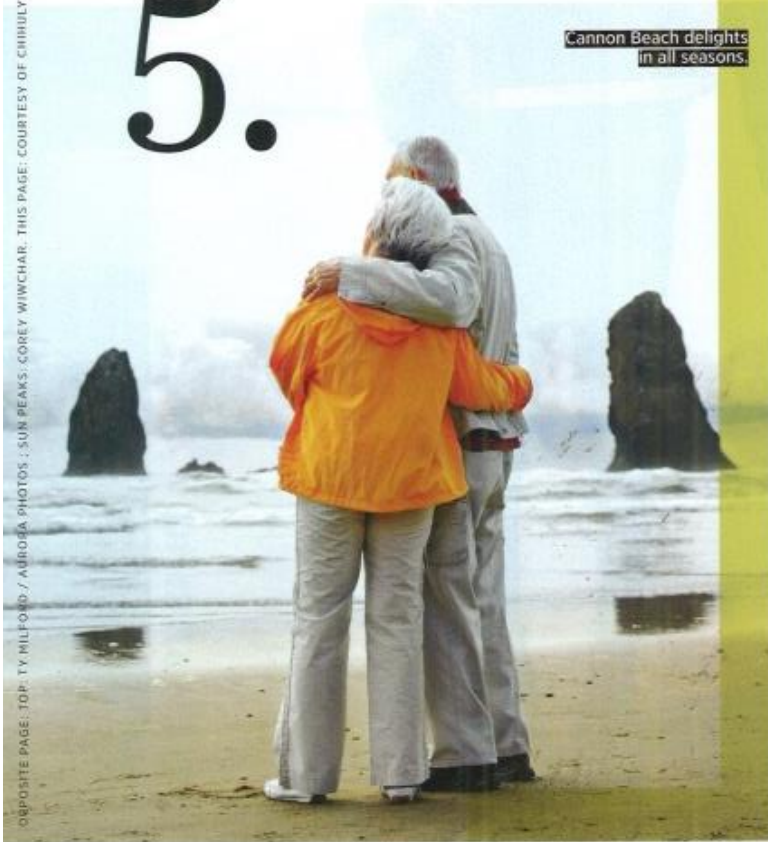
## \* WITH YOUR SPECIAL SOMEONE

Winter entices us to get cozy, so it's no surprise that the Northwest is packed with romantic "igloos." Favorites include the **Salish Lodge & Spa**, perched near the top of **Snoqualmie Falls**, and **Leavenworth's Sleeping Lady**, located beside **Icicle Creek**. The latter's cabins are scattered like gray jays beneath the ponderosa pines. The faux-rock hot pool is open year-round, and, on nearly every other Saturday, the on-site **Snowy Owl Theater** presents simulcasts of performances by the Metropolitan Opera.

Many of us also migrate during winter to witness the tempests that batter our Pacific Coast. Venture out for a beach walk beside the iconic sea stacks along **Cannon Beach, Ore.**, then repair to **Morris' Fireside Restaurant** for a well-deserved warm-up. Situated on the northern edge of **Vancouver Island's Pacific Rim National Park**, **Tofino** plies us with old-growth hikes to isolated beaches and the coast's best winter surfing. Nearby **Ucluelet**, just 25 miles southeast of Tofino, and **Washington's Long Beach Peninsula**, don't receive as much attention as they deserve, except, of course, from storms.

# 5.

Cannon Beach delights in all seasons.



OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP: TY MILFORD / ABRORA PHOTOS; SUN PEAKS: COREY WIWCHAR. THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF CHIHULY GARDEN AND GLASS.

# 6.



Chihuly's art shimmers at Seattle Center.

## \* WITH YOUR FINEST TWEED AND ELBOW PATCHES

Not even the gray days of winter can stop works from **Portland's** emerging artists from continuing to sprout up at gatherings such as the annual 11-day **Fertile Ground Festival** (Jan. 21-31), an annual showcase of new theater works. Meanwhile, **ChocolateFest** (Jan. 22-24) sweetens a **Rose City** winter weekend while raising funds for the **World Forestry Center**. Should the clouds still get you down, consider the **Biamp PDX Jazz Festival** (Feb. 18-28), featuring more than 100 concerts and events to blow those tears away.

In **Seattle**, the collection of works comprising **Chihuly Garden and Glass at Seattle Center** shimmer in any light, but especially so in **December**, when the Center brightens up the holidays with an ice rink, art installations and performances for **Winterfest**. At the **Seattle Art Museum**, *Intimate Impressionism from the National Gallery of Art* showcases stunning works by French masters through Jan. 10. 📍