

# MONTHLY Portland



TRAVEL

## 10 Grand Lodges of the Pacific Northwest

For every season, there's a dream destination.

Cascadia has timbered villas and chalets aplenty. But what exactly makes a grand lodge? It should breathe an air of epic romance, a place where quotidian worries succumb to wild beauty and creature comforts. These 10 retreats invoke the mythic best of the Northwest. And each has its perfect season.

**Winter • Spring • Summer • Fall  
Spas • Am I in a Lodge?**

# Spring



## Salish Lodge Is Your Great Northern Spa

Perched above Snoqualmie Falls and familiar from pancake-mix packages and the dreamy intro to the '90s TV series *Twin Peaks*, 102-year-old [Salish Lodge & Spa](#) was once a simple, woodsy traveler's rest. Last summer, the already slicked-up spot, now nearly absorbed by the Seattle metro area, got even more luxe with a "contemporary mountainside concept" renovation, including updated bathrooms and a new VIP lounge.

But it's still all about the waterfall (pictured at top). While forking through predictable but pleasing Northwest fare (chinook salmon, cedar-roasted wild mushrooms), eaters in the dining room or Attic restaurant can look out over the fantastical drop of the 268-foot falls, drama heightened by a deep wine list packed with Northwest AVAs. (A few guest rooms also offer Snoqualmie Falls glimpses.)

Note: the lodge is wedged between river and roadway. On summer weekends, that means traffic jams to viewpoints and competition for access to the Salish's crisp, slate-floored spa from Seattle day-trippers on their way back from Mount Si. Visit, instead, in mistier months, when the spa's soaking tubs (and area hiking trails and golf courses) are less crowded—and when that in-room wood-burning fireplace extends a welcome worthy of *Twin Peaks'* fictional Great Northern Hotel. (A gin-and-honey Dale Cooper cocktail helps, too.) *Snoqualmie, Wash., spring rates from \$239–369* —Margaret Seiler