



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
TOURISM OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington Launches Online Resource for Olympics-Bound Travelers
Web page offers travel tips, information on border crossing and attractions

OLYMPIA, Wash. – Washington State Tourism is making it easy for travelers to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games to enjoy a complete Northwest experience by visiting Washington. A new Web page, found at www.ExperienceWA.com/2010WinterGames, includes idea-generating travel itineraries, border-crossing information and other resources to ensure travelers can make the most of their trip as they travel to and from the 2010 Winter Games.

“Washington is proud to be a gateway to the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver,” said Gov. Chris Gregoire. “Whether people are just passing through, looking to get away from the crowds or extending their stay in this beautiful corner of the world, ExperienceWA.com/2010WinterGames provides the information they need to have the best possible stay.”

“Washington’s travel industry is an important piece of our state’s economic engine,” said Rogers Weed, director of the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. “In 2008 alone, travelers in Washington spent \$15.7 billion and we plan to take advantage of the global spotlight on the Pacific Northwest next winter in order to spur more tourism following the Winter Games.”

Visitors to the site can explore the countless attractions that are accessible from Vancouver and from major portals for 2010 Winter Games-bound travelers, including SeaTac International Airport, Interstate 5 and Interstate 90. The site also includes information on various travel options for getting to and from the region, including trains, seaplanes and Washington’s famous ferries.

Less than an hour from downtown Vancouver, Washington stands to benefit from the increased traffic to the region during the games. It is estimated that as many as 190,000 tourists, volunteers, staff and athletes will flock to Vancouver in February, many of whom will pass through Washington on their way or extend their trip with a visit to the state. At the same time, many Vancouver residents are expected to leave the city in search of relief from the crowds.



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For more information about traveling to Washington, visit www.ExperienceWA.com. CTED (www.cted.wa.gov) is the lead state agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable community and economic vitality in Washington.

Source: Washington State Tourism