

PASSPORT



BEGIN YOUR TOUR

As you travel to the six designated locations, take a moment to take in the beauty and history.

Look for the tour guide, they will be sharing stories and answering any questions.

Make sure you get a passport stamp for each location. After you have collected all six, bring it back to the Olalla Bay Market and enter to win a prize.

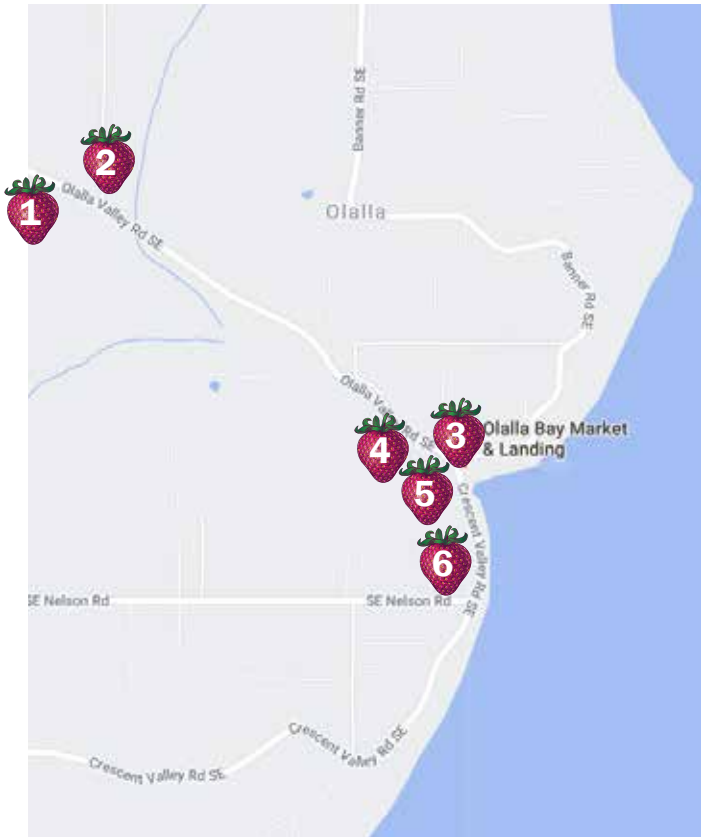
While you are there, enjoy a gourmet hot dog or a refreshing cup of shave ice. Check out the video storytelling booth and share a tale about Olalla.



Have a great time and if you post pictures, make sure to tag @OlallaBayMarket and use hashtag #olallahistorytour

Shop with promocode HERITAGETOUR for 10% OFF. olallabaymarket.com

TOUR MAP



HISTORY OF OLALLA

Olalla is a small unincorporated community in Kitsap County, Washington, United States. It is located on Colvos Passage on Puget Sound, just north of the Pierce County county line. Olalla used to be the size of Port Orchard, the county seat of Kitsap County.

The community was settled by Norwegian and other Scandinavian immigrants because of its similarities to their native countries. Noted as early as the 1860's Olalla developed a commerce center by way of its maritime seaway access.



Olalla's name is the Salishan and Chinook Jargon word for "berry" or "berries" (usually olallie or ollalie in most lexicons of the jargon).

By the end of the 19th century, the harvesting of old-growth forests was well on its way out. Olalla was no exception. The land was stripped clean leaving a barren landscape. This created an opportunity for farming as dynamiting stump and clearing the land became a standard operation. With European immigration fueling the growth spurt, new commerce came by growing strawberries and vegetables.



Olalla was served by steamships, including the Virginia V which is the last operational example of a Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet steamer. On Oct. 21, 1934, a severe Pacific storm swept through Puget Sound. Virginia V was attempting to dock at Olalla when the brunt of the storm hit. The powerful winds and waves pushed the ship into the dock and pounded it into the pilings. The result was the near destruction of the upper decks.

Olalla has some small claim to fame as the location of an early 20th-century health retreat (sanitarium) called Wilderness Heights a.k.a. “Starvation Heights”. The sanitarium was owned and operated by Dr. Linda Burfield Hazzard. Her practice of starvation to cure one’s ills resulted in the death of a visiting English heiress in 1911, and ultimately the conviction of Hazzard for her murder.



OLALLA COMMUNITY CLUB

12970 Olalla Valley Rd. SE

In the early 1900's, the hall was built by The Modern Woodmen of America Insurance Company, a fraternal organization dedicated to community involvement and support. Three decades later, the organization deeded the property to the community and the new Olalla Community Club began its service as the heart of the community. Countless dances, meetings and social events have been held at the building. Most recently, the OCC has been the location for live music acts, weddings, swap meets, birthday parties, and more.





OLALLA BIBLE CHURCH

13053 Olalla Valley Rd. SE

Built by the Lutheran Church in 1907 for \$1,600, the Olalla Bible Church features a traditional steeple, which has been lovingly maintained by the current congregation since 1956, and an intimate interior space for worship. The church has nurtured the spirit of Olallans for decades and has been the home of numerous weddings and social gatherings. During the pandemic, the church offered a drive-in service for Sunday worship. Most recently, when temps topped 100-plus degrees, the congregation hosted a cooling center.





OLALLA STORE

13965 Crescent Valley Rd. SE

For more than 100 years, a general store has served the community as a market, post office, barber shop, mechanic shop, and more. Opened by the Martins, Grants, Nelsons, Greggersons, Roebecks (of the renowned Al's) and now the Olsens. Very early on in 1904, the store operated as the area's lone public telephone and also served as the post office. Over the years, innovations included the addition of a butcher shop, VHS rentals, beer garden, and pizza.





ESTUARY AND BOAT LAUNCH

13925 Crescent Valley Rd. SE

The estuary – where saltwater meets fresh – is teeming with life year-round. From solitary great blue herons marching along the mud flats, to salmon and trout running through the narrow channels of low tide, the bay serves as a protected space for animals and human observers who enjoy them. While the beauty of the location is the primary attraction, the community also uses the space to gather and celebrate the start of the New Year – hello Polar Bear Plunge! – and the founding of our nation on the 4th of July.





TEKA VILLAGE

13925 Crescent Valley Rd. SE

Olalla, named Teká on early maps, was first populated by Native Americans belonging to the Suquamish Tribe, who hunted and gathered food plants and medicinal plants in the forests and marshes between Long Lake and Puget Sound. A winter camp, Teká featured a cedar long-house surrounded by a palisade wall. Villagers subsisted on salmon fished from Olalla Creek, as well as foraged plants and berries. The large rock on the shoreline north of the store was used as a navigation landmark, Native American's called the rock, Sceye.





NELSON MANSION

8355 SE Nelson Rd.

In 1913, storekeepers Charles Nelson, wife Mary, and son Carl, moved into “Buena Vista,” an expansive and beautifully crafted Victorian built overlooking the Olalla Trading Company and dock. When asked why he built such a big house, it was reported that Nelson said the project was a way for debtors to work off what they owed. Years later, that craftsmanship earned Buena Vista National Historic Landmark status.



SPECIAL THANKS TO



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brand marketing consulting

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Positive Olalla Projects

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memories. we are stewards
of our magnificent natural
surroundings and a conduit
for the giving spirit of our
community. our unique history
informs our future as we
seek to build a legacy of our
own. finally, we affirm
Walla
as the center
of the
universe.