

WELCOME TO THE HISTORIC  
EST 1917



# PARADISE INN

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## OUR STORY

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**T**he Paradise Inn is one of the great historic lodges of the National Park Service (NPS). A visit in the Inn is like time travelling back 100 years. Take a while to marvel at the work of skilled master woodworkers in a time before routers, planers and power saws. Unplug yourself from the stressful, every-moment-filled, techno world. Rest and relax in the nostalgic atmosphere of this grand old mountain chalet.

Paradise Inn's story is inextricably entwined with Stephen Mather, the father of the National Park Service. Mather wanted to promote the national parks as tourist meccas for all Americans. He invited a group of Tacoma businessmen to join him on a multiday backcountry excursion at Mount Rainier. Mather was convinced they would see the incredible beauty of the mountain and would experience a therapeutic restoration of body and soul after spending time in the subalpine wilderness. His plan worked. A few weeks later the men formed the Rainier National Park Company (RNPC). Mather gave RNPC exclusive rights to all tourist services inside the park as an incentive for their financing and building an elegant lodge at Paradise. RNPC started construction July 20, 1916. The Paradise Inn opened to guests July 1, 1917. The initial investment was a little over \$90,000.

As you sit in the dining room, look up. The beams and pillars surrounding you are the originals, as are those in the great hall. They are highly prized Alaska yellow cedar, logged inside the park a few miles away from the site of an 1885 forest fire. No power equipment or diesel cranes were used; rather, logs were hand-hoisted using ropes and pulleys. Notches and wooden pegs held the pillars and beams in place instead of nails. Likewise, the three massive rock fireplaces were lifted, laid and mortared by manpower rather than machines.

A local German furniture craftsman, Hans Fraehnke, was employed by the RNPC in 1916 to construct lobby furniture. He labored seven summers and one winter fashioning massive pieces out of Alaska yellow cedar. The old craftsman worked by lamplight, fashioning the hand-hewn cedar with an adz. The huge 1500 lb. tables at each end of the lobby and the regal throne-like chairs

still in the lobby today are Fraehnke's work. The cedar-encased upright piano that played every evening and Sunday afternoons was another of his artistic pieces. In the southwest corner of the great hall is probably Fraehnke's most impressive piece, a 14-foot tall, hand-hewed cedar grandfather clock.

The popular 1917 Paradise Inn only had 33 rooms. Planners knew this would not accommodate everyone who wanted lodging, so they built 200 tent cabins. These proved unpopular so the RNPC removed them and, in 1922, built the present annex, which added 100 more rooms.

The great depression of the 1930s, followed by World War II, were tough economic times for RNPC. They sold the Paradise Inn along with all their properties in the park to the NPS in 1952 and then leased back the operations. The NPS planned to tear down the Paradise Inn in 1953, but outcry from the public saved it. In 1987, the Paradise Inn was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and forms an integral part of the Mount Rainier National Historical Landmark District.

Over the years, reinforcement modifications and additions were made. The tremendous snow pack at Paradise (avg 53.6 ft/16.3 m/year) caused the building to tilt, windows to pop out and floors to buckle. The inn was closed during the summers of 2006 and 2007 to make seismic improvements, strengthen the foundation, and conduct historic rehabilitation. The outside façade, the great hall and the dining room are essentially the same as they were when the Inn first opened in 1917.

Paradise Inn is open for the season from mid-May to early October. The Inn offers 121 guest rooms, a 200-seat dining room, a gift shop, the Tatoosh Café and the magnificent lobby. A spectacular Sunday brunch is served mid-June through the end of September. We hope you, like the businessmen Stephen Mather took on the backcountry excursion 100 years ago, experience restoration from the relaxed atmosphere of a bygone era and are awed by the majestic mountain and meadows.

PARADISE INN  
**BREAKFAST**

SERVED DAILY  
7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

An 18% gratuity will be added  
to groups of 6 or more.

»»»»»»»» MOUNT RAINIER ««««««««

»» BREAKFAST BUFFET ««

ADULTS \$17.50 | CHILDREN (10 OR YOUNGER) \$12.00

VARIETY OF HOT ENTRÉES

BELGIUM WAFFLE STATION

GRANOLA AND YOGURT

SCRAMBLED EGGS

SMOKED BACON

LINK SAUSAGE

ROASTED POTATOES

SELECTION OF PASTRIES  
& DANISHES

FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT PLATTER

OLD FASHIONED HOT OATMEAL

ASSORTED COLD CEREALS

CHOICE OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

COFFEE, TEA, MILK,  
HOT CHOCOLATE OR JUICE

»» BEVERAGES ««

FRESH BREWED COFFEE \$3.25

HOT CHOCOLATE \$3.50

STASH TEA \$2.75

MILK \$3.25

ICED TEA \$3.25

JUICE \$3.75

*Apple, Orange, Tomato*

SPARKLING MINERAL WATER \$4.00

FOUNTAIN DRINKS \$3.25

*Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mug Root Beer, Dr. Pepper,  
Sierra Mist, Mt. Dew, Lemonade*

»» BEER & COCKTAILS ««

DRAFT BEER \$7.00

*Two Beers Immersion Amber, Seattle, WA  
Elysian The Immortal IPA, Seattle WA*

DOMESTIC BEER \$5.75

*Bud, Bud Light, Rainier*

NON-ALCOHOLIC BEER \$5.75

*Kaliber*

NORTHWEST MICRO BEER \$7.75

*Two Beers Wonderland Trail IPA, Seattle WA  
Rogue Honey Kolsch, Newport, OR  
Good Life Descender IPA, Bend, OR  
Deschutes Black Butte Porter, Bend, OR  
Elemental Blood Orange Cider, Woodinville, WA*

BLOODY MARY \$9.00

MIMOSA \$9.00

*Cocktails available, please ask your server*

MOUNT RAINIER BELIEVES IN SUSTAINABILITY

To secure a healthy landscape for generations to come, we offer a "farm to fork" philosophy that promotes fresh, high quality foods from local farms. We buy local foods as the season permits, to bring you the freshest menu selections. All of our seafood comes from responsibly managed, local, sustainable sources.