

Hello Hikers,

I hope you are looking forward to our hike to Cowiche Canyon this Saturday! If you haven't hiked in this part of the state before we'll be experiencing a landscape that is completely different from what you'll see in the Cascades, and you might think you're in the Southwest U.S. Check out the hike description and recent trip reports here:

<http://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/cowiche-canyon-conservancy>

We'll do about 3 miles of the relatively flat canyon trail, then add on the Upland Trail and the Vineyard trail for flowers, views, and wine (what more could you ask from a hike?). Our total stats will be around 7.5 miles, 800- 1,000' gain. If you use hiking poles you might want to bring them for the winery and Upland trails as there are a few steep sections on both. Please bring sunscreen and plenty of water as there's not much shade once we're out of the canyon on the side trails. If you might want to purchase wine at the winery bring money/credit card with you on the hike.

Please print out the trail maps on the Cowiche Canyon conservancy site:

<http://www.cowichecanyon.org/hikethetrails.html>

Note that while the website above indicates a section of the trail is closed due to flood damage, I spoke to the folks at the Conservancy and they said it should not be a problem to hike through that part of trail.

Meet: Let's meet at **7:00 am** at the Preston Park and Ride, 30303 SE High Point Way, Issaquah. Take I-90 east to exit 22 toward Preston/Fall City. Turn left onto SE 82nd St, then left onto SE High Point Way. P&R will be on your left immediately after turning onto High Point Way.

We'll carpool to the trailhead which is near Yakima, about 2.5 hours from the P&R.

Directions to the Trailhead:

Driving Directions:

Take I-90 to Exit 110, I-82/Hwy 97 S. Drive east on Interstate 82 to exit 31A to get on westbound US 12. Take the second exit off US 12 --the exit is signed "N. 40th Ave. and Fruitvale Blvd." Drive under the freeway, across Fruitvale, and in 1.5 miles from US 12 turn right onto Summitview. Continue for 7.1 miles and turn right on Weikel Road (signs on Summitview indicate Cowiche Canyon turnoff). Drive 0.4 mile on Weikel Road, and turn right at the sign for Cowiche Canyon.

Be sure to bring a lunch, snacks, water, and of course the ten essentials...

If you have any questions or need to reach me before the hike please email me at [\[email address\]](#) on my cell [] (no calls after 9 pm, please).

See you Saturday!