



Catch a Fish...Smelt Capital of the World

If visiting in January or February, smelt dipping is a "must do" activity! The small, silvery fish may appear quite regularly for consecutive years, then vanish for several more. Kelso is known as the 'Smelt Capital of the World', an indication that the wily smelt have filled the rivers more years than not.

Play Golf...Three Rivers Golf Course

Dubbed the "Driest Course in the Pacific Northwest", golf is played on the dredge spoils from the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. The course is reasonably priced and challenging. For more information call 360-423-4653.

Do Some Shopping...Three Rivers Mall

Four locations in Kelso: Three Rivers Mall indoor shopping complex with 70 shops, convenient Riverway Plaza, or step back in time and discover the unique variety stores of neighborhood business in historic downtown and west Kelso.

Go to the Park...Tam O'Shanter Park

"Tam O," as it is fondly called by locals, came into being in 1958 and encompasses 41-acres located alongside the Coweeman River. The park features covered picnic sites, BBQ grills, playgrounds, a 4-mile path, horseshoe pits and facilities for sporting events (soccer, softball, baseball, basketball). No charge for day-use. ADA accessible. For information call 360-442-5400.



Bagpipe Bands

Highlander Festival

In the 1840's Kelso, Washington was founded along the banks of the Cowlitz River by surveyor Peter Crawford, who named the town after his Scottish home. Now, 160 years later, the city continues to honor its roots with a Highlander Festival, a weekend of Scottish and Celtic culture: competition games, music, evening dinner events, clan displays, vendors, piping, and a parade as well as a golf tournament, fund raiser events and Sunday worship service. The festival is scheduled the second weekend of September. Events are held at the Tam O'Shanter Park, downtown Kelso and other special event sites.

www.highlanderfest.org



Highland Dancers

Cowlitz County Historical Museum

Through dynamic, informative interpretations and personal histories, the ever-changing exhibits tell the story of Cowlitz County. An 1884 log cabin built and lived in by a Toutle River settler, Native American artifacts, and a Model T truck. Re-creations of a logger's bunkhouse, general store, steamboat dock and railroad depot round out the exhibits. Directions-Take exit 39 off I-5, follow Allen Street one quarter-mile west to the museum. Coming through Longview, drive east on Ocean Beach Hwy (SR-4). Cross the Cowlitz River on the south bridge and drive 3 blocks east to the museum. Plenty of parking is available. www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/museum 360-577-3119

Explore at the Cowlitz County Historical Museum!



c.1939 Photo Courtesy of Cowlitz County Historical Museum No. 91.65.95

Coweeman River Dike Trail

Walk, jog and bike along the path that runs atop the river dikes of the Coweeman and Cowlitz Rivers. The Coweeman River Dike Trail is a 4-mile path and can be accessed at either Corduroy & East Allen, Tam O'Shanter Park, or off Talley Way near the airport. East of Kelso, the source of the Coweeman River is Coweeman Lake located on the north flank of Elk Mountain (4,538 ft.).The Coweeman River flows into the Cowlitz River near the Cowlitz-Columbia confluence.



Cowlitz River Dike Trail

The Cowlitz River Dike Trail is a 2-mile path and can be accessed at either Mill, Yew or Allen cross streets. The source of the Cowlitz River is Cowlitz Glacier on the southeast flank of Mt. Rainier. The Cowlitz Glacier melts into the Muddy River, then joins the Ohanapechosh River to make the Cowlitz River. Just south of Kelso, the Cowlitz flows into the Columbia River.



Enjoy a Sunday...Bridge Market

Welcome to this year's market season! The Kelso Bridge Market is a festive, outdoor, downtown experience. Shop for fresh produce, specialty foods and locally handcrafted gifts. Listen to live music and visit with the friendly people of Kelso. This market is located under the Allen Street Bridge and is open every Sunday during the months of April thru September, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Kelso Has A Colorful History

The city of Kelso was first envisioned on Christmas Day 1847, when Peter W. Crawford, a young pioneer, full of ambitions and dreams took up a donation land claim on the banks of the beautiful Cowlitz River. This growing settlement was to be known as "Crawford's" until October 1, 1884 when Peter Crawford first platted the town which he named, in honor of his birthplace-Kelso, Scotland. In the early 1840's Hudson Bay Company shipped beef to foreign ports from their Kelso Wharves. The city grew in size and importance as logging, lumbering, milling and fishing expanded throughout the region. In 1889 Kelso incorporated and in 1923 became the County seat of Cowlitz County.

Fraser's Bakery & Restaurant Fresh Breads & Pastry, Breakfast & Lunch, Low Carb Products, Specialty Orders. 6am-4pm www.frasersbakery.com 360-423-8810 207 Allen Street • Kelso, WA 98626



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