



DAY TRIP TO WELLINGTON

From Skykomish · King County, Washington



RAILROAD AND
ROAD



Photo: E. J. Frazier, Wikimedia Commons, Public domain

TRAILHEAD

A Forest Service trailhead in the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. The townsite is gone; railroad ruins remain.

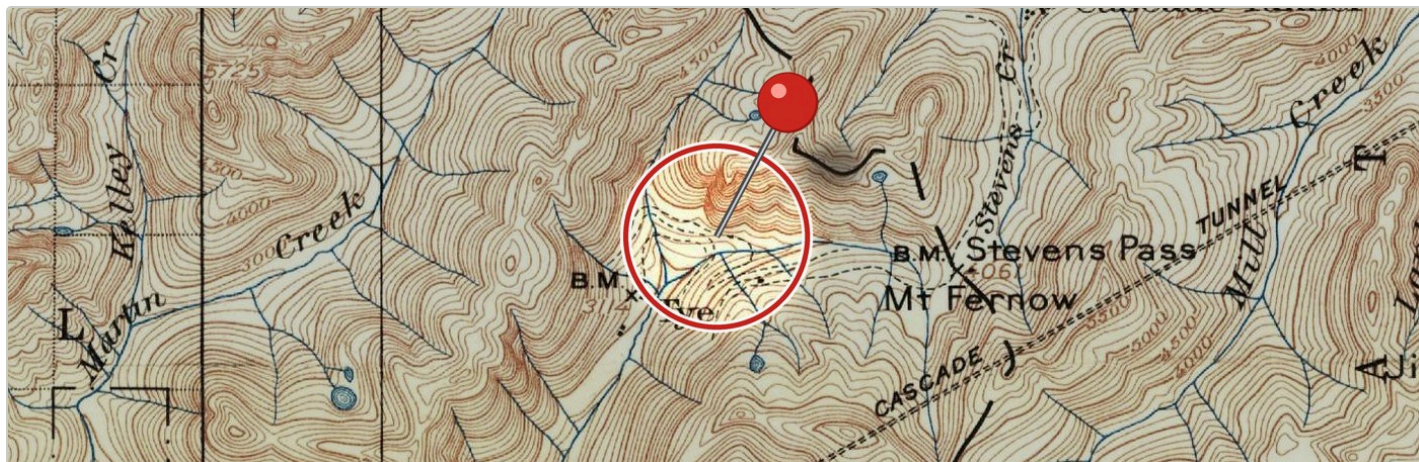
Wellington is half an hour from Skykomish. Walk the first stretch of the Iron Goat Trail along the old grade, past the concrete snowshed walls, then come back the same way.

A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 9 a.m. Drive east from Skykomish on US 2 to Stevens Pass, turn around at the crest as the Forest Service advises, then take the Old Stevens Pass Highway and Forest Road 050.
- ☐ 9:30 a.m. Pay at the trailhead, read the signs on the 1910 disaster, and walk the old grade past the concrete snowshed walls.
- ☐ 10:30 a.m. Continue west on the Iron Goat Trail along the old grade.
- ☐ 12:30 p.m. Picnic back at the trailhead, then drive down to Skykomish.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The snowshed.** The concrete backwalls, up to 30 feet high, make strong lines. Their wooden roofs rotted away long ago.
- **Old tunnels.** Their ceilings are collapsing, by the 2010 AP report. Photograph them from outside only.
- **The slide path.** Look down toward the Tye River valley where the trains came to rest.



USGS topographic map, 1902 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	18 mi, about 28 min each way from Skykomish. From Seattle: 84 mi, about 2 h 02 min.
OPEN	Day use, sunrise to sunset, per the Forest Service. A 2010 AP report put the snow-free season at mid-May through late October.
FEES	\$5 per vehicle per day or \$30 per year, paid by Scan & Pay, or a Northwest Forest Pass or Interagency pass. A Discover Pass is not valid.
RESTROOMS	Vault toilets at the trailhead. No drinking water.
FACILITIES	Picnic tables at the trailhead.
ON FOOT	The old grade has gentle grades and benches. Stay out of the tunnels; their ceilings are failing.
RULES	No motor vehicles, bikes or stock on the trail.
HELP	Skykomish Ranger Station, 360-677-2414.
WEBSITE	fs.usda.gov/ro6/mbs/recreation/trails/iron-goat-trail-1074-wellington

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Stay out of mine shafts, tunnels and unstable buildings.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 47.74944, -121.11944 • 47°44'58"N
121°07'10"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/washington/wellington/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.