

# 425 MAGAZINE

TRAVEL + OUTDOORS

## Let's Hit the Road

By 425 staff | May 26, 2017

**425 Magazine**  
**May 26, 2017**

**Impressions: 15,000**



**T**he ribbons of pavement that stretch across the Northwest don't have deadlines. There are no trains to catch, no planes to board, and no tickets to keep track of or security lines to file into. It's just the dusty highway, awaiting explorers. We've mapped trips across the state and beyond, geared for different personalities — from the adrenaline junkie to the geology nerd. So pack your bags (and more importantly, snacks), crank the tunes, and roll down the windows. Adventure calls.

By Lauren Foster, Margo Greenman, Karen Miller, Joanna Kresge, Natalie Deford, and Shelby Rowe Moyer

## ROAD TRIP #1

### Geeks at the Wheel

By Joanna Kresge

There used to be a day when the word “geek” was derogatory. Individuals branded as “geeks” or “nerds” were ostracized and seen as socially awkward outcasts — albeit often highly intelligent ones. Society has since embraced geeks as we become increasingly dependent on the technology all around us. Virtual reality fanboys, gamers, computer-building savants, STEM enthusiasts, and aspiring engineers are just a few of the stereotypical smarty-pants travelers that might crave a vacation that also exercises the mind.

### B Reactor at the Hanford Site

Did you know that aspects of the infamous Manhattan Project got their start right here in Washington? The B Reactor at the **Hanford Site** was the world's first full-scale plutonium production reactor. The plutonium produced there was used for the world's first nuclear detonation, the Trinity Test, as well as for the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, which triggered the end of World War II. Now a National Historic Landmark, you can visit the B Reactor and [take a free tour](#). Tour days and times vary; check the B Reactor's website before you go. *Hanford*