



Low-Key & Local

TruthTeller Winery

Chris Loeliger, Winemaker & Owner

Live like the locals do for a day in Walla Walla! Food trucks, parks and of course wine tasting are weekend essentials for Walla Wallans, and this day will satisfy those looking for a low-key weekend in wine country.

8:30 AM: Get your day started like the locals do with a morning walk.

Head out to [Rooks Park](#) or [Bennington Lake](#) to walk near Mill Creek and take in views of the foothills and wheat fields. Start earlier to see deer and river otters along the route!

Alternatively, stay a little bit closer to town and stroll around [Pioneer Park](#), where you'll find an aviary, duck ponds and more.

10:00 AM: Head into the core of downtown Walla Walla and grab coffee and a pastry at [Coffee Perk](#). They serve locally roasted coffee from Dyer Straits, a local roastery, and have a selection of breakfast treats ranging from croissant sandwiches to muffins. Grab a seat on the Plaza on 1st Avenue right in front of the shop and watch the town come to life.

10:30 AM: Take the time to walk around town and check out some of the many small businesses on Main Street. I recommend stopping in [35th + Butter](#) - a great local gift store with home goods, clothing and much more.

11:00 AM: It's time for the first tasting of the day! Head around the corner to [Lagana Cellars](#). Founded in 2013, owners Jason and Todd craft wines from a wide variety of grapes grown in the Walla Walla Valley. I highly recommend taking home a bottle of their Rosé of Pinot Noir - a wine that proves rosé isn't just for summer sipping!

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

12:30 PM: Next, head back down Main Street to taste at our winery - [TruthTeller Winery](#). Taste through our lineup and hear the stories behind our wines filled with humor. We have a wide variety of wines, and a great outdoor seating area!

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)



1:30 PM: Time for lunch! Locals know that often the best meal is found at one of Walla Walla's taco trucks, and my personal favorite is [Tacos La Monarca](#). Drive to their location on Rose Street and enjoy your lunch there or take it to your next stop as a wine pairing picnic. The Walla Walla Tacos are a must try.

2:00 PM: Head out to [Ducleaux Cellars](#) on the Oregon Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley for a tasting. You'll taste practically in winemaker & owners Toby Turlay and Chris Dukelow's backyard. Their Love & Chaos - a Bordeaux-Style Blend - is a must try.

[Reservations are required for tasting.](#)

3:30 PM: Head to the Westside Wine District of the Walla Walla Valley for a tasting at [Smoky Rose Cellars](#), one of the newer wineries in that part of town. There's a good chance you'll catch owners Josh and Jodi Roznowski behind the tasting bar. If you're lucky, get a taste of their Blanc de Blanc - a sparkling wine made in the Traditional Methode Champenoise. It's a perfect afternoon treat.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

5:00 PM: Make your way back to downtown for a final wine tasting for the day! Downtown Walla Walla is home to over 30 tasting rooms, but I recommend making a stop at Armstrong Family Winery or Time & Direction Wines.

[Armstrong Family Winery](#) is owned by Jen & Tim Armstrong, and winemaker Tim crafts some wonderful wines. A personal favorite of mine is their Viognier. They also host live jazz with local musicians on Friday nights, if you are looking for a little entertainment.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

[Time & Direction Wines](#) is perfect for letting your nerdy side shine. Winemaker and owner Steve Wells makes some beautiful wines with names inspired by music, video games and everything in between. Their Wellspring Reserve Syrah is something special.

[Reservations recommended for tasting.](#)

Pro tip: You probably won't have time to visit both wineries, but whichever one you miss on this trip is a great place to start your next visit to Walla Walla!

7:00 PM: Nothing rounds out a day in the Walla Walla Valley like a great meal, and locals and visitors alike love to grab a bite at [Hattaway's on Alder](#). Lindsay and Richard Hattaway craft classic southern dishes (Shrimp & Grits, anyone?) using local, Northwest ingredients. My wife Dawn, a Georgia native, approves - so you know it's good.

Local Tip: If you're looking for a place to stay, consider [The Barn B&B](#) - they are the most gracious hosts, and the comfiest B&B in town!



Listen to the Low Key & Local playlist, curated by Chris, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.

