



Old School Walla Walla

Spring Valley Vineyard

Serge Laville, Winemaker & Kate Derby Raymond, Assistant Winemaker

The Walla Walla Valley has a rich history. Whether it's the history of the town itself, the winemaking community or personal experiences over the years, this itinerary will immerse you in the Old School Walla Walla.

9:00 AM: Start the day with a light breakfast at the [Colville Street Patisserie](#). The pastries here are incredible—as good as in France. Their canelés (a specialty from Bordeaux) are a must try. They also have great coffee and tea options.

9:30 AM: Take a stroll through Walla Walla's history before beginning your wine tasting for the day. Start by walking east, then turn south on Palouse, where you'll see historic houses, built with lots of attention to detail. Some of the houses along this street date back to as early as the late 1800s. At Whitman Street, turn left to head towards Pioneer Park.

When you arrive, take the time to stroll through Walla Walla's oldest park. [Pioneer Park](#) was completed in 1908, and was designed in part by Frederick Law Olmstead, the designer of New York City's Central Park.

After that, walk north toward Boyer Street, and turn left to return to downtown through [Whitman College's](#) campus. The college was founded in 1859. All in all, this gorgeous and historical walk is about 2.5 miles long, but it can also be done by car. Check out the route [HERE](#).

10:30 AM: Enjoy your first wine tasting of the day at our tasting room - [Spring Valley Vineyard](#), located on 2nd Avenue in downtown Walla Walla. Learn about the history of the Derby family, going back generations in the Walla Walla Valley, through the wines in the tasting line-up.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)



11:45 AM: One of the best ways to do lunch in the Walla Walla Valley is to picnic. After tasting with us, head to [Graze](#) in downtown Walla Walla and pick up a sandwich or salad to go and set out for your next tasting location. Serge recommends any of their paninis - be sure to ask about their seasonal panini!

12:00 PM: Arrive at [Woodward Canyon Winery](#) for a tasting and enjoy a picnic lunch in their garden. Established in 1981, Woodward Canyon was the second winery in the Walla Walla Valley.

1:30 PM: After tasting at Woodward Canyon Winery, head just next door for a tasting at [L'Ecole N° 41](#). L'Ecole was the third winery in the Walla Walla Valley, and their tasting room is in the historic Frenchtown schoolhouse.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

3:00 PM: For the final tasting of the day, head to [Northstar](#), located in the Southside Wine District. Northstar's first vintage was in 1994, and they have had a focus on one of the Walla Walla Valley's top wine varietals since the start - Merlot. Taste through their lineup while enjoying wonderful views of vineyards and the foothills of the Blue Mountains.

[Reservations are recommended for tasting.](#)

4:30 PM: After a wonderful day of wine tasting, it's time to head back into town and enjoy the charm of downtown Walla Walla.

To be transported back in time, check out [Hot Poop](#) - Washington's oldest independent record store. With vinyl records everywhere, signed pictures of famous artists and a great selection of handmade guitars from the [Walla Walla Guitar Company](#), this place feels like a museum where good music is always playing. Serge bought the owners' 1976 Mercedes in 2008 to restore for his wife. After a little rear end accident, he gave up on the restoration and uses the car in the vineyard instead. The car has more than 350,000 miles on it!

5:30 PM: For dinner, we recommend [Brasserie Four](#) - the premier French bistro in Walla Walla. Serge's favorite dish is the Bouillabaisse, and he says that the French style is accurate—high praise from a Frenchman!

Fun fact: when Serge first came to Walla Walla in 2000 he was the chef at this location, when it was known as Grapefield and under previous ownership. The menu and spirit of the place has not changed much since the beginning, and there is comfort in these old school roots.

[Reservations are recommended.](#)

7:00 PM: End the day with something sweet - follow the smell of fresh chocolate across the street to [Bright's Candies](#). This classic candy shop has been in town since 1934. They offer everything from boxed chocolates to gourmet candies, root beer floats to caramel corn, and ice cream to jellybeans!





Listen to the Old School Walla Walla playlist, curated by Serge and Kate, on Spotify as you wander. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to start listening.

