



Alaska

BEYOND

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ROMANTIC LOCALES

Great resorts for together time [PAGE 21](#)

INSIDER'S INLAND NW

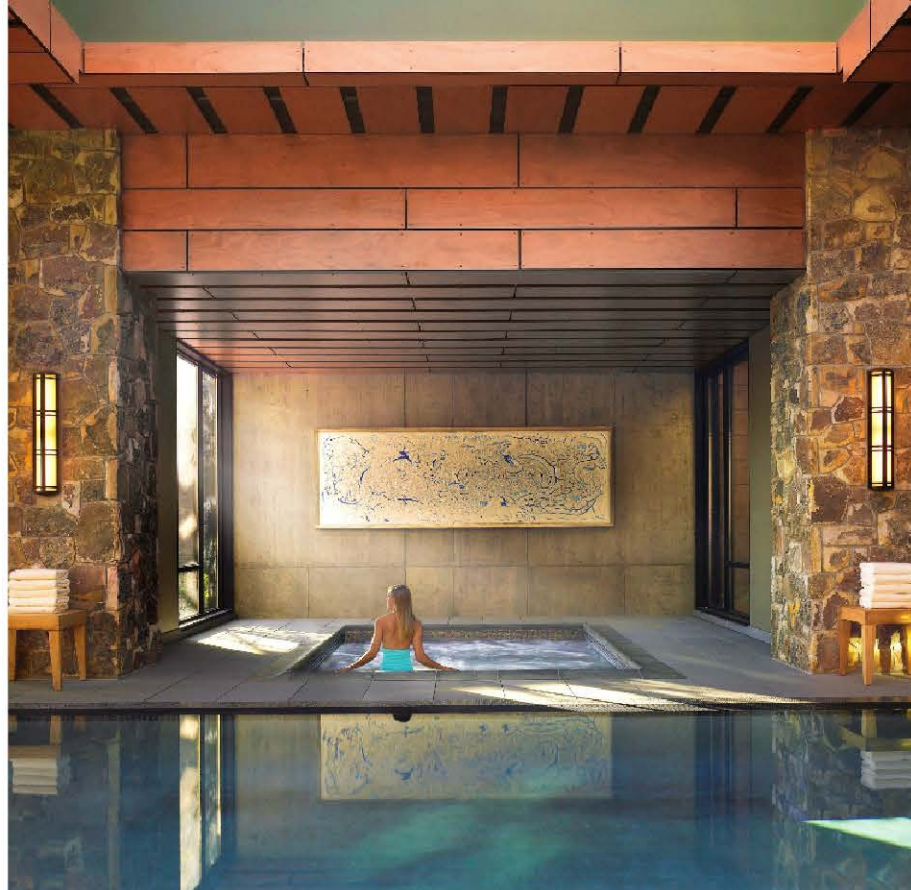
Local favorites in this lively region [PAGE 33](#)

EXPLORE Glacier's Garden
in Montana [PAGE 61](#)

ACTION PLAN

RECREATION & RELAXATION
IN THE NORTHWEST

THE REGION » TOGETHER TIME



» The restful pool complex, above, and walkway to the spa, right, at The Allison Inn & Spa. One of the inviting relaxation rooms at The Coeur d'Alene Resort Spa, above right.

The Allison Inn & Spa (theallison.com): If Burgundy, France, married Oregon wine country, the offspring would likely look a lot like this beautiful, warmly elegant property amid Willamette Valley vineyards. The inn offers spacious terrace or balcony rooms—all with gas fireplaces, bay-window seats, and bathrooms with separate showers and soaking tubs (complimentary Lavender Dead Sea Salts provided)—plus sliding wood panels that open to provide views from the tub toward the fireplace, TV and outdoor scenery. Amenities also include a complimentary welcome basket filled with local snacks.

The Allison's peaceful 15,000-square-foot spa includes a couple's treatment room and four relaxation rooms, two of them coed. One of these coed spaces, complete with an outdoor terrace and fireplace, can be reserved for private use



(and rose-petal adornment), or for private yoga sessions. The spa area also includes separate men's and women's steamrooms and saunas. And a wall of glass doors at one end of the indoor pool complex opens to an outdoor sun deck.

Jory Restaurant serves outstanding meals with fresh, organic, regional ingredients. In fact, dishes such as the roasted-squash soup feature items from the resort garden, and many meats are house-cured. And the extensive wine list (36 pages) requires a table of contents. Providing a feast for the eyes, Oregon artists created the 100-plus works of art mounted in the restaurant and other indoor spaces, and also placed outdoors along walking paths that lead to gardens and vineyards.



The Coeur d'Alene Resort (cdaresort.com): Guests can luxuriate here in a Lake Tower room with a gas fireplace and a spectacular view of North Idaho's Lake Coeur d'Alene. The Lake Tower baths also are luxurious, with a separate tub and shower.

The resort's 30,000-square-foot spa, which offers couple's treatments in a Just For Two massage suite with a fireplace and a lake view, is renowned for its romantic ambiance, and the spa's three relaxation rooms include a coed option. You can also relax at indoor and outdoor pools and hot tubs.

When it's time to eat, choose from six restaurants and two lounges. At the signature Beverly's, you can even book a private room for two to savor the marvelous Northwest-focused cuisine, and selections from the \$2 million wine inventory (wine-cellar tours are available, as well).

The resort can help you book activities ranging from snowshoeing to lake cruises, to golfing the resort's immaculate 18-hole course, where a golf lesson might enhance your subsequent enjoyment of the famous 14th-hole floating green.

→ **The Resort at Paws Up** (pawsup.com): Retreat to Montana ranch country north-east of Missoula for pampering on 37,000 acres of natural beauty. Lodging choices range from private homes to upscale safari-style riverside tents.

The resort's "refined rustic ranch"

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cuisine varies seasonally and may include Black Angus and bison steaks, elk, rainbow trout, organic salads and local huckleberries.

Numerous activities can be booked, from horseback riding to dogsledding to hot-air ballooning. Before and after your active pursuits, stretch your muscles with yoga classes or enjoy a spa treatment.

Vintners Inn (vintnersinn.com): Described as “a destination that defines serenity,” the inn is located among 92 acres of vine-



» A fireplace room at Vintners Inn, top. Roasted elk short loin, above, from a Montana farm, served with yam puree at The Resort at Paws Up.

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yards in the Russian River Valley appellation of Sonoma County, CA, wine country. Guestrooms, all with patios or balconies, have vineyard, courtyard or garden views. Upper-level rooms also have electric fireplaces, and junior suites have jetted tubs and separate showers. Complimentary Vintners Inn wine is placed in each room.

Property amenities include landscaped gardens, fountains, a jogging trail through vineyards, a bocce ball court amid redwoods, in-room spa services, two restaurants and a lounge.

At John Ash & Co. restaurant, enjoy gourmet wine-country dining, with pairings expertly recommended by the sommelier, and ingredients from the onsite fruit, vegetable and herb gardens. ■

Michele Andrus Dill is the editor of Alaska Beyond Horizon Edition.