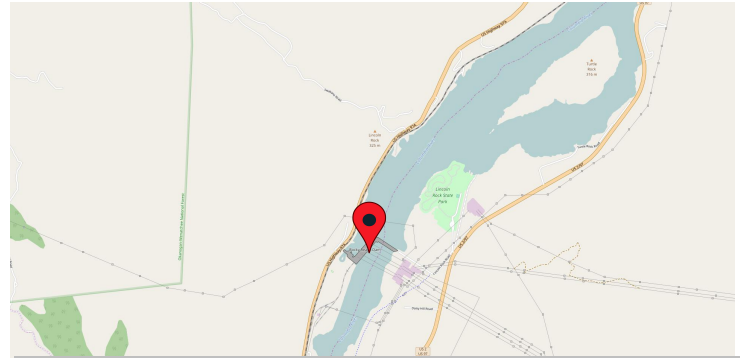


Rocky Reach Dam

Wenatchee, Washington



The Rocky Reach Dam is a hydroelectric dam on Columbia river. The construction began in 1956 and they increased the capacity in 1969. The project cost \$273.1 million. The 11 generators have a capacity of 1300 MW. Water flows through each of the seven turbines at a rate of 116 thousand gallons per second and 145 thousand gallons per second through each of the remaining four turbines. The Dam is owned and operated by Chelan County.



Power plant

47.53 N 120.29 W Elevation: 731 feet

Opening hours: Need to book a tour

Distance from Wenatchee: 9.5 Miles

Prices: free



We went to the dam by bus, when we arrived we passed a security check and two guides divided us in two groups. We went down with an elevator inside the dam and stood in front of a big window where we could see the fish swim past and the guide told us how they fight against some fish which kills and eats the salmon, she also told us about the way the salmon travels through his life. It was a strange feeling standing in front of this window knowing we are that deep under the water level. After that we went back up, crossed the dam and went down by elevator on the other side of the dam. We went on a small balcony and had the chance to look at the big hall with the really huge turbines, which was a great experience.

We also thought it is crazy that they have to change the wings of the turbine every five years because the water is so strong that it destroys the wings over time. After that we could walk around in a museum, which was really great because it also gave us a lot information about Wenatchee and not only the dam, but also about some things that were just not that interesting.



My tipp:

Go there in the summer because there will be many more fish in the fish ladder.