Northwest weekend

BY SARA SCHNEIDER | PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN CLARK

After a day in town, Le Puy Inn gives you vineyard views.

Oregon day trip
Newberg

Why go now: This former pass-through town now has the quality food, sips, and art you used to find only deeper inside the Willamette Valley. **Skip the crawl:** Just 25 miles southwest of Portland, Newberg is the last town on State 99W before Dundee's one stoplight jams traffic on busy wine-tasting weekends. **Number of tasting rooms downtown:** 10 **Why that's a big deal:** A Quaker stronghold, Newberg was a dry town all the way up to 1967. **Take a stroll:** First Street has a cluster of tasting rooms, plus galleries like Art Elements *(604 E. First; 503/487-6141)*, with its contemporary vineyard scapes and cool, nature-inspired jewelry. **Best use of a gorgeous old schoolhouse:** Newberg's Chehalem Cultural Center *(closed Sun; chehalemculturalcenter.org)*, with rotating exhibits of local art and hands-on workshops *(from $20)*. **Best chef-watching:** From the open kitchen bar at the Allison Inn's Jory *($$$$; 2525 Allison Lane; 503/554-2526)*, where the grilled Caesar with pork belly harmonizes health and sin. >22

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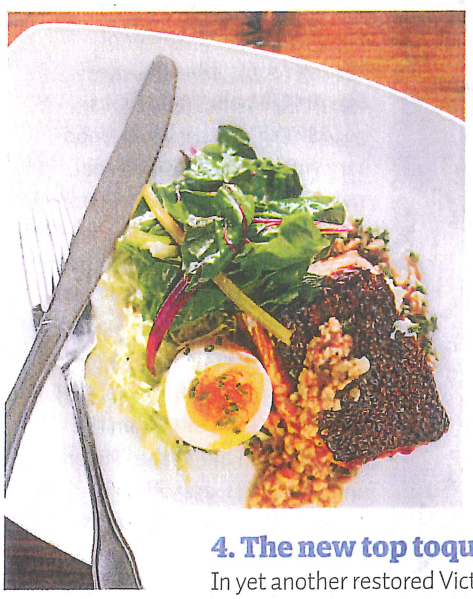
1. Wine, naturally

Over at **Longplay,** Luddite vision is a good thing: The motto "Analog Wine for a Digital World" shows with a turntable spinning in the tasting room and quirky Pinots not manipulated by technology. Ask about the wine and they'll spend a B-side explaining natural winemaking. *$5 tasting; 215 E. First St.; longplaywine.com*

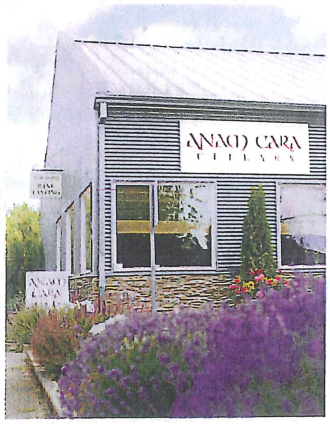


4. The new top toque

In yet another restored Victorian (a theme in town), **Recipe, A Neighborhood Kitchen** yields locavore pleasures such as Chinook salmon with rainbow chard. Trust the sausages: Chef/co-owner Paul Bachand makes them in his tiny kitchen. *$$; closed Sun; 115 N. Washington St.; recipenewbergor.com*

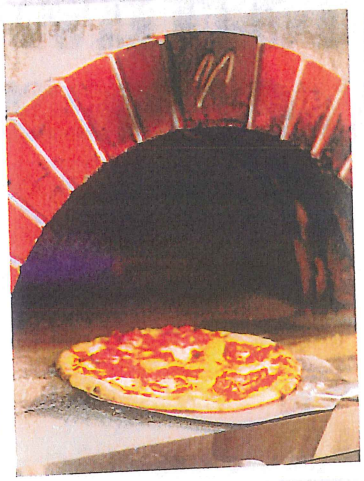
2. Park play

By 2020, many of Chehalem Valley's parks will be connected by a 70-plus-mile Chehalem Heritage Trails network. An early stretch goes by **Ewing Young Historical Park,** where you can stroll the Willamette River or gawk at the enormous skateboard park, said to be one of Shaun White's favorites. *1201 S. Blaine St.; 503/538-3993.*



3. All about Pinot

Chehalem Wines pioneered the artful tasting room in town; now a new wave has followed suit. At **Anam Cara Cellars'** warm wood bar, the Pinot Noirs are perfectly balanced between dark Willamette Valley fruit and earth. And one Saturday a month, owners Sheila and Nick Nicholas host "homeless" winemakers—their fellows who have no tasting rooms of their own. *$10 tasting; 306 N. Main St.; anamcaracellars.com*



If you brave the traffic to Dundee

You'll be rewarded with these don't-miss tastes

STOCK THE PICNIC BASKET

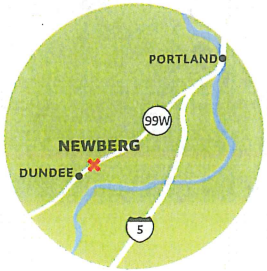
New **Red Hills Market,** near the Dundee Bistro, has a gamut of local wine and beer, charcuterie, local cheeses, and pizzas from the wood oven that make you wonder how the region ever got along without a place like this. *155 S.W. Seventh St.; 971/832-8414.*

STEP OUT OF THE PINOT BOX

Wander up the stairs from Red Hills Market, where the new tasting room of **Domaine Trouvére** (a recent label from Lange Estate) offers a bit of diversity here in Pinot country, like great-value Tempranillo and Syrah. *$10 tasting; 503/487-6370.*

BUST OUT THE BUBBLY

Around the corner from Domaine Trouvére, a flute of **Argyle Winery's** creamy *blanc de blancs,* at the nut-processing facility turned winery/tasting room, is a knockout way to stretch the day out just a bit longer. *$10 tasting; argylewinery.com*



Getting there

From I-5 in Portland, take exit 294 toward State 99W.

Make it a weekend

A B&B that breaks the mold of Victorian frill, **Le Puy, A Wine Valley Inn** wraps you in calming feng shui balance, with bamboo floors and brilliant use of color in each room. Make time to soak in the views across the valley, and hope for crêpes for breakfast—they're an old family recipe. *From $195; 2-night minimum; lepuy-inn.com*