

ALFA ROMEO CAR CLUB
SUMMER TOUR TO WALLA WALLA - AUGUST 7-9

I am still hoping to proceed with this tour unless we are seeing a spike/second wave in Coronavirus cases in Oregon and Walla Walla. Below is a rundown on the proposed tour.

Day 1-Tour departs from Meinig Park in Sandy Oregon at 8:30. The route has us going over Hwy 26 to Maupin, Fossil, John Day Fossil Beds, Condon, Hermiston, and Pendleton to Walla Walla. Suggested lodging is Marcus Whitman. I did a room block for a couple of room types under Alfa Romeo. The block expires July 7. You can cancel your reservation 24 hours before arrival. A social distancing happy hour may be in the works around 6 (no shared appetizers) either in the lobby sitting area or outside in the lawn area with our own folding chairs or blanket.

Day 2- I have two possible routes. My preferred route has us visit Le Ecole 41 winery (or possibly Woodward Canyon which is next door if we need to split into two groups to facilitate Covid 19 rules). Next we would drive to Palouse Falls State Park to view the falls and canyons which originated during the Missoula Ice Ages. Nice drive to and from and quite a sight.

Thereafter, we will have lunch at Lyon's Ferry Park located at the conflux of the Palouse and Snake Rivers. After lunch, we return to Walla Walla from the east side hopefully stopping at Walla Walla Vintners for some tasting/buying (good wine at relatively decent prices for Walla Walla appellation). We should arrive at the hotel by 4 leaving you ample time to visit one of many wine tasting rooms within blocks of the hotel (there are several inside the Marcus as well). Another social distancing happy hour may be in the works around 6.

Day 3- Back roads to Government Camp via Umatilla, Lexington/Ione, Condon, Moro, Grass Valley and Maupin.

The virus will still be around. Walla Walla is in Stage 2 phase and probably will move to phase 3 by the time we go assuming no relapse. The real effect on the tour of moving to phase 3 will be wineries and restaurants will be able accommodate up to 75% of capacity, increasing our choice of wineries to visit and increasing the legal size of a gathering to 50. **Paula and I intend to continue social distancing, including masks, for the foreseeable future. We would prefer you do too on this tour.**

To help facilitate this, I am not planning on organizing an inside group restaurant dinner event either evening. Depending on how many folks sign up, I may try to reserve the patio at Big House Brewing one night which would offer spaced outside sitting. If not, Paula and I will be doing Door Dash/Grub Hub/to-go or curbside pickup and eating our dinners outside the hotel in our lounge chairs. The Marcus just opened their restaurant and can facilitate a 'to go' option as well. You would be welcome to join us at a distance or dine in at a restaurant of your choice. Folks should plan on bringing their own sack lunch for day 1. We will be individually ordering box lunches from Graze for Saturday and Sunday. We would be practicing social distancing at rest stops and winery visits.

If you have not let me know you are coming, please do so. Likewise, please notify me if you change your mind. Having an accurate account will greatly aid in my selection of wineries to visit. If you cannot get into the Marcus, there are several motels nearby.

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