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Alderbrook Resort & Spa, Union, WA

That is what lodges do best. They pull us in, asking us to stay awhile, to settle down, to forget the worries of the world and to unwind in a place where you feel any minute the doors could open and the snow might begin falling. While it's not possible to check into The Columbia Inn (it was a soundstage), it is possible to find impressive lodges throughout the Northwest. With age, history and a classic lodge look, these all make for memorable visits.

Alderbrook Resort & Spa, Union, Washington

alderbrookresort.com

Peacefully situated on the shores of Hood Canal, with the Olympic Mountains as a backdrop, Alderbrook Resort & Spa has been in this location, in some form, since 1913. The sweeping lodge with breathtaking views allows travelers to unwind and relax.

The main lodge, with tall beams and a stone fireplace, opens to expansive views of the resort's waterfront courtyard. Don't be surprised to see resident house cats, Alder and Brook, basking in the sunlight, as guests filter in, finding complimentary art supplies, ukuleles and board games with which to spend the afternoon.

"Our open fire pit overlooking the canal is one of my favorite spots," says Alderbrook's Jennifer Rhea. "It's where we see families and friends come together over



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house-made s'mores, and sit back and relax, enjoying the unmistakable view. There is a real sense of community."

Alderbrook greets winter with an annual tree lighting ceremony, and weekly cocoa cruises on the Lady Alderbrook are always a hit, as is foraging and cooking demonstrations with The Restaurant at Alderbrook's team. —BT

Nita Lake Lodge, Whistler, B.C.

nitalakelodge.com

Tucked on an idyllic glacier-fed lake shore, far from the more frenetic après ski scene of Whistler Village, Nita Lake Lodge is a tranquil oasis in one of North America's