

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Take the dogs out for some much needed fun-in-the-sun with *The Dog Lover's Companion to the Pacific Northwest*

It has been said that Pacific Northwesterners exaggerate reports of rainfall to prevent more people from moving to this desirable region. Though the Pacific Northwest receives a fair amount of rainfall, this season a break in the weather allows for plenty of outdoor adventures for residents and their dogs.

Before the rains come, petite pooches, slobbery mutts, and homebound hounds are just as anxious as their owners to head outdoors in search of exciting adventures. While there are numerous doggie parks in every neighborhood, the entire Pacific Northwest region is packed with many dog-friendly places like beaches, dog runs, and conservation areas, taking pets and their owners on fun outings well beyond their neighborhood streets.

Avalon Travel Publishing announces the release of ***The Dog Lover's Companion to the Pacific Northwest***. Author Val Mallinson has compiled—with the help of her trusty canine companions Cooper and Isis, also know as “The Wonder Wieners”—the inside scoop on the outdoor bounty and indoor comforts to be found for pets and their people. ***The Dog Lover's Companion to the Pacific Northwest*** is packed with great ideas and diversions in this region:

- Take a refreshing nature walk through the forests, meadows, ponds, and wetlands of the **Wescott Bay Reserve** on beautiful San Juan Island, WA.
- Cruise Seattle's canals and lakes on the **Sunday Fremont Ice Cream Cruise** and take in some of the city's best views while enjoying ice-cream (dogs get bacon-flavored treats).
- Stroll through the vineyard at **Maryhill Winery** in Zillah, WA and enjoy lunch and wine-tasting while pooches roam in the fenced dog run called the “doggie railroad.”
- Attend the annual **Bark in the Park** celebration in Brownville, OR. Honoring the special relationship between humans and dogs, this festival has a variety of fun contests that owners and pooches can enter such as the “dog and human look-alike contest.”

About Val Mallinson:

Before Val Mallinson devoted herself to the position of chauffeur and stenographer for the Wonder Wieners, she survived medical policy and procedure documentation, wrote a screenplay, and spent a decade in the fast-paced and glamorous world of advertising and marketing copywriting. She penned snappy copy for dot coms that no longer exist and a large software company in Redmond, Washington. She is also a contributing author to the stylish travel guide *Moon Metro Seattle*, and has articles appear in *BARK* and *CityDog Magazine*.



In the course of writing *The Dog Lover's Companion to the Pacific Northwest*, Val has figured out how to set up a tent in the dark and sleep in a mummy bag with two burrowing hounds. She has honed her reflexes avoiding road hazards flying out of the backs of pickup trucks. Most importantly, she's learned what poison oak looks like, and when not to set up at campsites located near roaming bears or wandering boys carrying .22 rifles.

For more information, to request a review copy, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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