

# Portland, Oregon

We may be biased, but Portland is one of the most beautiful cities in the nation. Known as "the City of Roses," Portland combines small town charm and liveability with big city features such as a symphony, an art museum, an NBA basketball team, and diverse nightlife. Spend an evening at the country's largest bookstore (Powell's); dine in one of the many excellent restaurants in the city, check out the art galleries in the Pearl District, or drown out the city noise in the Classical Chinese Garden - a whole city block of tranquility. Catch a movie at any of the McMenemy's brew-n-view theaters where pizza, comfy couches, beer and a \$1 admission make any movie a winner. In fact, Portland boasts the largest collection of local microbrews in the nation. Take a wine tasting tour of our local vineyards. Nearby Yamhill County is home to more than forty wineries and is recognized as one of the premier Pinot Noir wine producing areas in the world. These are just a few examples of why Portland has been named "America's best big city" by Money magazine.

The Pacific Northwest is an ideal location for nearly any outdoor activity. Portland alone has over 200 parks, allowing for easy access to the outdoors - the largest is Forest Park which is 4,600 acres and boasts 50 miles of trails for running, hiking or trail riding. Mount Hood is only 70 miles away and has three ski areas; the beach is only 70 miles away, and fishing, hiking, and windsurfing are world class and easily accessible.

