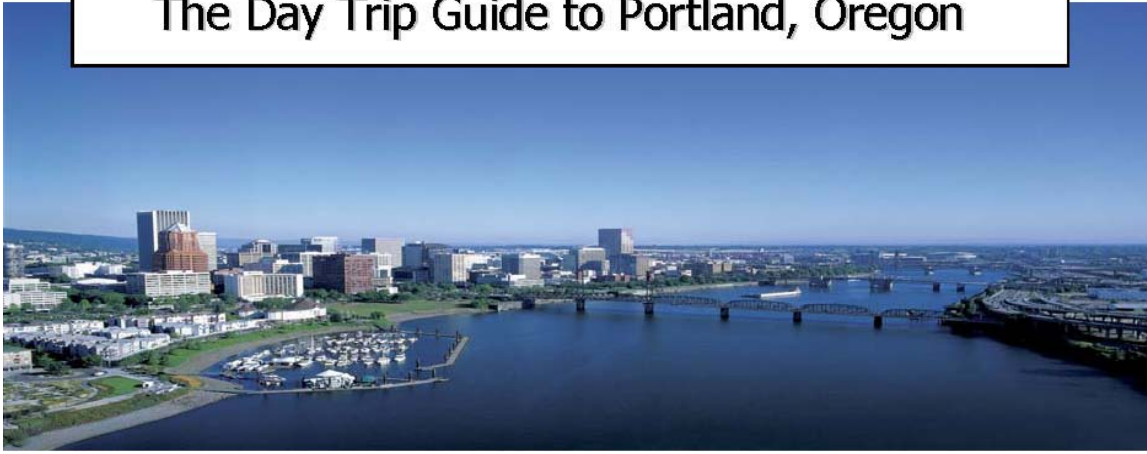


The Day Trip Guide to Portland, Oregon



Big city excitement and small town charm make Portland, known as “the City of Roses”, one of the favorite destinations on the West Coast. Portland, situated approximately 70 miles from the Pacific Ocean where the Columbia River meets the Willamette River, has a magnificent setting, combining sparkling waterways with lush greenery rarely found in urban settings. Portland’s historic old town, Pearl District, Saturday Market, Waterfront Park, and theatre companies will keep visitors busy for weeks in the downtown area. Portland is just a short distance from the spectacular Columbia Gorge including many beautiful waterfalls, windsurfing at Hood River, touring the valley wineries, winter sports at Mt. Hood, fish watching at Bonneville Dam, and all of the excitement and beauty of the Oregon Coast.

Portland is known for its extensive park system with 37,000 acres of parks in the Metro area including 5,000 acres in Forest Park. Other parks include Washington Park, home of one of the International Rose Test Gardens, beautiful Laurelhurst Park, and Oxbow Regional Park.

Years of careful urban management have made Portland a city planner’s dream. Light rail and Tri-Met buses move smoothly through metro Portland and farther out of the city. Short city blocks of 200 feet also make Portland a walker’s paradise. The combination of high tech companies like Nike and Intel located in Portland and the relaxed attitude give the city a unique livability.



Following are some of Portland’s most interesting places that are easy to see in a day or even half a day.

Enjoy your day in Portland!

POINTS OF INTEREST

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry – 1945 SE Water Avenue

A great indoor activity for the whole family – climb aboard a real submarine (USS Blueback), touch a tornado, travel the world in a five-story Omnimax theater, experience an earthquake and journey through the galaxy at the Murdock Planetarium. \$9/adult \$7/child (under 3yo – free)

www.oms.edu

Powell’s City of Books – 1005 West Burnside

Rain or shine, it seems Powell’s is the refuge of choice for book lovers. It is a gentle giant of a bookstore – the biggest independent bookstore in America – occupying one full city block and four other stores in other areas of Portland (including PDX airport). The store is color-coded and offers a map upon entrance and help in every area of the store. With over one million volumes, every subject is covered here displayed in a comfortable atmosphere so revered by customers that it has been the site of two weddings and one funeral. www.powells.com

Classical Chinese Gardens – NW Third Avenue and Everett Street

The largest urban Suzhou-style garden created outside of China’s borders.

It is right downtown on the MAX line or bus line and within easy walking distance from anywhere downtown. The Garden is located between NW 2nd and 3rd and NW Flanders and Glisan in Old Town/Chinatown. Admission: \$7

/adult
www.portlandchinesegarden.org



Hoyt Arboretum – 4000 Fairview Boulevard

One of the most idyllic sanctuaries in the city. It links Washington Park and Forest Park. Founded in 1928, the 185-acre arboretum has 10 miles of trails and more than 1,100 species of trees, including an extensive collection of conifers. Meditate in a garden of magnolias or take one of the seasonal tours such as the Fall Color Walk, the Flowering Tree Tour or the Spring Wildflower Walk. The formal Garden of Solace commemorates Oregonians who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. You can ride the Westside light rail line to the Washington Park/Zoo stop and walk uphill to the visitor center.

www.hoytarboretum.org

International Rose Test Gardens – 400 SW Kingston Avenue, Washington Park

Offering a spectacular view of Portland, the 4.5 acre garden contains 400 species and over 8,000 bushes. The test garden is the oldest rose test garden in the country. The blossoms are at their peak in June during the Rose Festival, but some species continue to bloom into October. You can ride the Westside light rail line to the Washington Park/Zoo stop and follow the signs.



www.parks.ci.portland.or.us/Gardens/IntRoseTestGarden.htm

Japanese Gardens – 611 SW Kingston Avenue, Washington Park



Tucked above the International Rose Test Garden in Washington Park, the Japanese Gardens have been proclaimed one of the most authentic Japanese gardens outside Japan. Five traditional garden styles, an authentic teahouse, and a pavilion combine to recapture the mood of ancient Japan. A haven of tranquil beauty, the garden covers 5.5 acres and has a magnificent view of Portland and the Rose Test Garden. \$6.75/adult www.japanesegarden.com

Oregon Zoo – 4001 SW Canyon Road

The zoo, formerly known as the Washington Park Zoo, is home to animals from around the world. The zoo features several exhibits including the Cascade exhibit, the Alaska Tundra exhibit, the African Savanna, rainforest exhibits, the new oceanic exhibit – Steller Cove, and the world famous elephant exhibit. Oregon Zoo has one of the most successful elephant breeding programs in the world. \$9.50/adult \$6.50/child www.oregonzoo.org

Pittock Mansion – 3229 NW Pittock Drive

Situated at nearly 1,000 feet above sea level, this French Renaissance mansion is amazing in its accoutrements. Oregonian editor Henry Pittock built this grand palace in 1909-1914. This mansion has been a movie location and TV backdrop favorite. It's especially nice to visit at Christmas. \$6.00/adult www.pittockmansion.com



Pioneer Courthouse Square – on Broadway between Morrison and Yamhill, downtown



There is virtually no better place to sit down with a cup of coffee and people watch in this square of towering. The Romanesque columns, waterfalls, and wrought iron work. square sits on the most valuable block of land in downtown Portland. When the space was to be taken for a parking lot, the city decided instead to sell 63,000 bricks at \$15 each to build the square. This was the site of Portland's first school. It has earned its nickname as "Portland's Living Room" as over 2.5 million people visit the square each year to take part in over 300 events.

www.parks.ci.portland.or.us/Parks/PioneerCourthouseSq.htm

Tom McCall Waterfront Park – along the west side of the river

What used to be a freeway fronting downtown is now a lush greenbelt over two miles long next to the Willamette River. The park offers riverside jogging and walking paths, great restaurants, and a popular venue for outdoor festivals including the Rose Festival in June.

www.parks.ci.portland.or.us/Parks/TomMcCallWaterfront.htm

World Forestry Center – 4033 SW Canyon Road

Just reopened in June, 2005 from a \$7 million renovation – On the first floor, see how the forests of the Pacific Northwest have systems, structure, and cycles, and how they affect our lives each and every day. On the second floor, People and Forests are highlighted and how they interact with the world.

\$7.00/adult. www.worldforestrycenter.org

The Pearl district – NW Portland

In the heart of the city, the Pearl District is Portland's most colorful, creative neighborhood. It's home to more than 100 city blocks of shopping, music venues, fine dining, parks and nearly 30 art galleries. The neighborhood is known for its cobblestone streets, historic water towers, and restored brick buildings. The Pearl District is located in Northwest Portland, adjacent to the downtown core and is served by the Portland Streetcar and Tri-Met bus lines. Take the Streetcar from downtown or Nob Hill.



SHOPPING

A shopper's paradise, Portland offers everything from America's largest open-air market, Saturday Market, and chic boutiques to outlet stores and antique malls. Downtown is clean, glamorous and urbane, with three major department stores, including Nordstrom (701 SW Broadway), Meier & Frank (621 SW 5th), and the only Saks Fifth Avenue to reside on Fifth Avenue (850 SW 5th).

Since there is not a sales tax, Portland gives shoppers a bigger bang for their buck. Stocking up on fashions, furnishings, and sporting goods is easy at the multi-level, modern Pioneer Place and Pioneer Place II on 5th and Morrison. Sampling Oregon made outdoor gear is also convenient downtown where Columbia Sportswear (911 SW Broadway), Jantzen (921 SW Morrison), Pendleton Wool (SW 4th and Salmon), and Niketown (930 SW 6th) can all be found.

From downtown, hop aboard the MAX light rail for a quick ride across the Willamette River to Lloyd Center, where 200 stores wrap around an indoor ice rink. The historic Irvington neighborhood, just blocks away, is an enclave of tiny boutiques, restaurants, and coffee shops clustered along NE Broadway. The Nike Factory Store is just eight blocks down MLK Boulevard from Broadway.

Northwest Portland is Portland's answer to Seattle's Capitol Hill. Condensed, tree-lined, with business and residential exquisitely intermixed; this is the primo place to live if you want to be right in the center of the action. Though there is a lot of car and bus traffic, you can ride the street car (www.portlandstreetcar.org) to NW 23rd Avenue and catch a fascinating array of commercial, cultural, and culinary highlights all within a one mile radius. There is a concerted effort to keep traffic speed and noise to a minimum in this neighborhood of unique shops and fine dining surrounded by beautiful Victorian and Georgian-style homes.

Across the river, in SE Portland, lies a picturesque and old neighborhood referred to as the Hawthorne District. Incredibly ethnic and diverse SE Hawthorne Street (from about 30th to 39th Street) is the center of it all. The eclectic mix of upscale retail shops, bookstores, coffee shops, restaurants, and flower-power ambience make it easy to understand why it was voted one of the most interesting neighborhoods in North America.

Antique lovers will be drawn to Old Sellwood Antique Row, a mecca of treasure laden shops. Nearly all of the antique stores are located on SE 13th Avenue between the 7700 and 8200 blocks.

HIKES NEAR DOWNTOWN



Washington Park – A walk through Washington Park is a reminder of what's so wonderful about Portland. What other city would have a forest path leading from a world-class zoo, past a Japanese garden, to a mansion with a mountain view. While interlaced with dozens of trails, perhaps the most well known, and certainly one of the most scenic, is the 27 mile long Wildwood Trail begins at the western edge of Washington Park and ends on the north side of Forest Park. The trails can be accessed at dozens of points in between to make a hike as short or as long as desired. The first portion of the trail begins at the Vietnam Veteran Memorial. To get there, either take the

Washington Park Tri-Met bus (#63) to the end of the line, or drive west from Portland on Highway 26 toward Beaverton. If you're driving, take the zoo exit and continue beyond the zoo's huge parking lot to a smaller lot on the right for the memorial. An extensive map at the beginning of the trail will enable you to choose a variety of return routes depending on the distance you would like to hike. You will pass impressive views of Mount St. Helens and Mount Rainier, through lush natural NW forest, and catch glimpses of the manicured greenery and oriental bridges or the Japanese Gardens (1.7 miles). After the Japanese Gardens is the Hoyt Arboretum (2.6 miles). You'll switchback down through ponderosa pines reminiscent of Central Oregon and then traverse an impressive grove of coastal redwoods and giant sequoias. 1.2 miles past the arboretum on the trail is the impressive 16,000 square foot Pittock Mansion. Saturday Market, located between Burnside and Ankeny St. and adjacent to Waterfront Park, is open Saturdays and Sundays from March 1 to December 24. Here, hundreds of local artists, craftspeople, fortunetellers, and musicians sell their wares and skills.



Council Crest – One of Portland’s hiking jewels is mere feet from OHSU, and a few blocks from downtown Portland. This path, through Marquam Nature Park, climbs a remarkably unspoiled forest canyon to Council Crest, whereupon lies a magnificent view of five Cascade peaks. At 1,073 feet, this is the highest point in Portland. The easiest way to access the trailhead is to walk to the trailhead at the base of Marquam Hill. The trailhead is off of Sam Jackson Parkway .2 miles past the intersection with Terwilliger

Boulevard. The #8 Tri-Met bus also stops at this intersection. At the first hairpin curve going up Sam Jackson take a right on Marquam Road to a large, pyramidal shelter at the trailhead. To start the hike, follow the gravel road up the canyon to the right. The road soon becomes a well-graded path, steadily climbing amid ferns and maples. In spring, expect many wildflowers. In summer, look for the delicate fronds of black-stalked maidenhair ferns along the trail. In autumn, the leaves of vine maple paint the woods scarlet. By following the signs to Council Crest, you’ll go straight at a trail junction and cross four paved roads as you climb. After 1.6 miles, reach an unmarked trail junction at the edge of a park lawn. Go left across the lawn to the brick observation patio on the summit, where plaques identify sights from Mount Rainier to Mount Jefferson. Access from Doernbecher Hospital is easy. Simply walk uphill on Sam Jackson past OHSU. A well-marked trailhead begins approximately 300 yards past the Plaid Pantry on the right. This trail soon connects with the path to the summit of Council Crest.



Forest Park – North America’s largest urban wilderness park at 4,800 acres is so large it would take days to explore it all. However, a convenient portion of the park is a mere few minutes from downtown will show you an intricate glimpse into the ecosystem of Oregon’s woodlands. The hiking loops suggested here start by climbing to the Wildwood Trail and return via Leif Erikson Drive, forest lane closed to motor vehicles. Because the Wildwood Trail and Leif Erikson parallel to each other along these forested hillsides, the length of your hiking loop depends on which of

the many cross trails you choose between them. The 8.6 mile long circuit via the Nature Trail is particularly tempting because it passes a secluded picnic shelter, scenic Rockingchair Creek, and a viewpoint of the mountains. To reach this hike’s trailhead from downtown, take Highway 30 towards St. Helens (the city) and promptly take the Vaughn Street exit. Turn left on 25th Avenue for two blocks and turn right on Thurman Street. An alternative route would be to simply travel north on NW 23rd Street and take a left on Thurman. Travel up Thurman for 1.1 miles to a switchback to the left, go straight 100 yards to a parking area and a gate blocking the start of Leif Erikson. Start by walking up Leif Erikson .3 mile before turning uphill on the well marked Wild Cherry Trail on the left. Here the whitewater-like roar of the city begins to fade away. Douglas firs and maples form a canopy above bold clumps of sword ferns, spiny-leaved Oregon grape, and spring wildflowers. Turn right at the junction with the Wildwood Trail. If you only have time for an hour’s walk, it’s possible to follow the Wildwood Trail just .6 mile, turn right onto the Dogwood Trail, descend a ridge to Leif Erikson and walk back to your car for a 2.8 mile loop. If you’re up for a longer hike, continue north along the Wildwood Trail to the Alder Trail junction for a 4.7 mile loop.



MUSEUMS

Oregon History Center – 1200 SW Park Ave. – (503) 222-1741

Oregon Maritime Center and Museum – 113 SW Front St. – (503) 224-7724

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry – 1945 SE Water Ave. – (503) 797-4000

Portland Art Museum – 1219 SW Park at Jefferson – (503) 226-2881

Portland Children’s Museum – 4015 SW Canyon Rd. (503) 223-6500

Portland Police Historical Museum – 1111 SW 2nd Ave. – (503) 823-0019

The American Advertising Museum – 524 NE Grand – (503) 226-0000

James F. Bybee House – Howell Territorial Park, Sauvie Island. (503) 621-3344

Cowboys Then and Now Museum – 729 Oregon St. (503) 731-3200