nileGUIDE
ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP

Travel Portland

Top 10 Adventures

Portland, 1 Day

Table of contents:

Guide Description 2

My List 3

Portland Snapshot 5

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: It's true, Portlanders practically live outside. Once you've traveled to Oregon, you'll quickly realize why. During summer months the sun comes up before 6am and doesn't set until 10pm, so put on a good pair of shoes and c'mon outside!

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

My List

contact:
tel: +1 503 823 2223
fax: +1 503 823 6007
http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/finder/index.cfm

location:
Upsher-Newberry Road and Northwest 29th Street
Portland OR 97210

1 Forest Park

wcities

OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:
This fairyland park proves that a city that gets more than its fair share of rain grows all kinds of wildlife in epic proportions.

DESCRIPTION: Forest Park, the largest municipal park in the nature, is a great spot for hiking, biking, and jogging on a clear day in Portland. This 5,000 acre park is a must-see for all nature lovers visiting the area. The fir trees and abundant plant life make this park feel other-worldly. Extra points if you can find the picnic tables buried in moss. © NileGuide

contact:
tel: 541-352-6002

location:
97268

2 Surveyor's Ridge Trail

DESCRIPTION: Surveyor's Ridge Trail rolls along a ridge top, resulting in a mixture of steep up and downhill areas as well as flat sections. The landscape varies from open grassy slopes and meadows, to rocky outcroppings, to abandoned logging roads. The trail can be joined from access points along road 17 for shorter hiking and biking trips. A strenuous 35 mile loop bike ride can be made in either direction by using the trail, road 17, Highway 35 and road 44. Gibson prairie campground, a 4-site campground designed especially for those traveling with horses, can be reached by this trail of road 17. In addition to magnificent views of Mt. Hood and the Hood River Valley, points of interest include: A climb to the top of Rim Rock (a former lookout tower site), a passage through Cook's Meadow, and a look at an aqueduct that once contributed water to the Dalles watershed. In the spring and summer, the section of the trail between Forest Service Road 640 (continuing past the trailhead) up to Bald Butte offers outstanding wildflowers. With enough time and energy, the climb to Bald Butte is worth it due to its unsurpassable views.

contact:
tel: 541-352-6002

location:
97041

3 Tamanawas Falls Trail

DESCRIPTION: From the Tamanawas Falls parking area, cross the East Fork of the Hood River on a log bridge and turn right (north) on the East Fork Trail #650. The trail continues along the west bank of the river for half a mile to a junction with the Tamanawas Falls Trail #650A. Continue straight ahead on this trail, cross Cold Spring Creek on a plank bridge and turn left. Another quarter mile brings you to a junction with the Tamanawas Tie trail #650B. Turn left and cross the stream on a log bridge. The trail then follows the south bank a short distance and after descending a series of log steps, crosses back to the north bank. From here, the trail climbs through a talus slope and in a quarter mile reaches the falls. Note: Optional Five mile Loop: After visiting the falls, hikers may choose to vary the return route by taking the Tamanawas Tie trail. This trail climbs gently out of the canyon and after a half mile reaches a junction with the Elk Meadows Trail #645. Turn right and follow this trail downhill for a mile and a quarter to a junction with the East Fork trail just above the Polallie trailhead parking area. If you have not arranged to be picked up here, turn right and follow the East Fork trail back to the Tamanawas Falls parking area to complete the loop.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

contact:
tel: 541-352-6002

location:
97211

4 Gumjuwac Trail

DESCRIPTION: Gumjuwac Trail climbs steadily in a series of switchbacks to Rd. 3550. Your hike can be continued on Trail #480 to Gumjuwac Saddle or on Trail #458 to Lookout Mt. for spectacular views and summer wildflowers.

contact:
tel: +1 503 622 3191

location:
70220 East Highway 26 Zigzag United States of America 97049

hours:
Dawn-dusk

5 Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness

DESCRIPTION: Hidden just below Mt. Hood and less than an hour from Portland, this 44,560-acre wilderness is relatively unknown and lightly used. As its name implies, the main draw here is the Salmon River and the mountains it winds through. Hiking trails below 2,000 feet are usually snow-free all winter while those higher are often closed November-May. Easy day hikes filled with good views of Mt. Hood can be had along the Mirror Lake and Veda Lake Trails, both two and a half miles round-trip in length. There are no fees to use the area. © wcities.com

contact:
tel: 503-622-3191 or 503-668-1704

location:
97015

6 Top Spur Trail

DESCRIPTION: The Top Spur Trail provides quick access to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail #2000 (PCNST), Bald Mountain Trail #784 and Timberline Trail #600. The closest viewpoint to Top Spur is on the PCNST, towards the Muddy Fork of the Sandy River. This viewpoint overlooks the Muddy Fork and Mount Hood. The Bald Mountain Trail and the PCNST are both open to horses. The portion of the PCNST between Bald Mountain and Ramona Falls, however, is not recommended for equestrian use due to frequent slides. Bald Mountain Trail is a highly recommended alternate route. The Timberline Trail is closed to horses. The Top Spur Trail also leads to trails within the Mount Hood Wilderness, which are closed to bicycles and motorcycle use and wilderness permits are required in the wilderness.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Portland Snapshot

Local Info

Portland, Oregon… a city of wanderers, artists, and nature lovers. The unique atmosphere of Portland is unrivaled by any other city in the United States. Here you'll find hippies, farmers, accountants, musicians, entrepreneurs, and artists coexisting in the rainy Oregon climate. Sustainable living has taken root and taken over. In a city of sublime restaurants, galleries, coffee shops, and yoga studios, it is easy to see why Portland is such a well loved destination.

Downtown

The diversity of Downtown Portland creates a bustling and bubbling atmosphere of West Coast Life. Hop on theFareless Square and travel Downtown for free, as you explore this small yet eclectic city. Peruse literature in the largest book store in America; Powell's Books, and then explore the art galleries of the Pearl District. Watch a movie on the giant couches in the Living Room Theater, and get as much coffee as you can handle atCafé Umbria. Downtown Portland is easily explored by foot if the weather is accommodating. Don't miss wanderingChinatown during the daytime, a rough and tumble little section of Downtown Portland. And if you're craving a Maple Bacon Donut,Voodoo Donuts is open 23 hours a day, and is absolutely not-to-be-missed.

Multnomah

The Multnomah District is a true glimpse of how most of Portlanders live. With beautiful little houses and home grown gardens, this area is considered true Portland. The quaintness of the main street is the best place to explore in this attractive and quiet neighborhood. Check out theMultnomah Art Center, which is well-loved by the people who live here.

Waterfront

Portland's beautiful Waterfront is a great area to view the spectacular Willamette River that separates the east and west sides of Portland. During the day, walk the length ofWaterfront Park. Every June, theRose Festival sets up shop here, a city wide party and parade that illustrates Portland's dedication to life and celebration. The Waterfront is always full of locals, and on a beautiful Portland summer day this is a relaxing and unique area to explore.

Old Town

Old Town is one of the more colorful and unique parts of Downtown Portland. It is here that a visitor can really discover the dark underbelly of Portland's history. Wander theClassical Chinese Garden, an oasis in a busy and bustling city. During the day, take a tour of theShanghai Tunnels, which run under Old Town and were once used for human trafficking. The nightlife here is a fun experience but borders on the nitty and gritty, especially because Portland has the most strip clubs per capita of any city in the United States, including Las Vegas.

Northwest

Northwest Portland, or the trendy shopping area of Portland, boasts beautiful old homes, snazzy clothing boutiques, and a glimpse of the more'comfortable' lifestyles in Portland. Also known asNob Hill, both 23rd Street and 21st Street have some of the best shopping in Portland, with a range of local independent designers and upscale clothing chains. If you have a love of shopping, this is well worth the visit.

The Pearl District

ThePearl District is most akin to NYC's Meat Packing District. With cobblestone streets, urban living, and art galleries galore, it's easy to see the comparison. Trendy bars and restaurants are popping up here on a weekly basis, making the Pearl District an interesting and luxurious neighborhood of Downtown Portland. On the First Thursday of every month, the galleries open their doors to the general public into the late hours of the night, turning this upscale neighborhood into a loud and bustling party for all.

Sellwood

Sellwood is a quaint neighborhood, and home to the best antique shops in Portland. NicknamedAntique Row, this is a great area to spend an afternoon perusing shops and drinking coffee. If it's a nice day out, theOaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge is a scenic spot to spend an afternoon. Sellwood has a distinctly'livable' feel, and it's hard to not feel like a true Portlander when wandering this quietly beautiful area.

Convention Center Area

The Convention Center Area is located just across the river from bustling Downtown Portland. TheRose Garden Arena is the largest venue in Portland, and is the home of the Portland Trailblazers, Oregon's well-loved basketball team. If you're in this area, don't miss theOregon Museum of Science and Industry(also known as the OMSI), especially if you're toting little kids around on your travels. The children's exhibit is fantastically interactive. Although this area can be a little difficult to get to, it is worth a gander if you're planning on attending any concerts while you're in the area. TheOregon Convention Center is located here, and is busy every night of the week with a different local event. When your travel dates are finalized, make sure to check out the local happenings here!

Hawthorne District

TheHawthorne District is what Portland is known for. Whether you enjoy record shopping, local coffee shops, or browsing unique stores, this area is well-loved by all.Mount Tabor, an inactive volcano, towers over this eclectic district, and if you have time, the sunset is rather enjoyable from the top of this redwood-filled park. The local bars and restaurants in this area provide great entertainment and enjoyment for the evening no matter what kind of night you're looking for.

© NileGuide

History

Well before visits by explorers and frontiersmen, the Portland area and its rivers were home to trading among the many native people who lived in the lush valleys bordering Mount Hood and the Cascade Mountains. Legend tells that the Native Americans who thrived here used to hunt at Elk Rock and meet at Council Crest, the city's highest point. Tribal lore reaches in all directions, including the Bridge of the Gods, where Mother Nature provided the perfect place for a man-made bridge that now links Oregon to Washington near Bonneville Lock& Dam. Much of the vibrant culture of local tribes can be experienced at The Museum at Warm Springs.

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Ordered by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the Pacific Northwest in 1804, Lewis and Clark made their famed journey through the Columbia River Gorge, which remains among the most scenic areas in the U.S. Take in the expansive view from the historic Vista House. The arrival of the explorers brought a new wave of trade and culture to the city. With military camps at nearby Fort Clatsop and Fort Vancouver, as well as historic Officers Row, U.S. military personnel mixed with settlers, fur trappers and seamen who came to Portland primarily from Astoria. The coastal town itself has a bountiful past that lives on in the Astoria Column and Columbia River Maritime Museum.

Drawn west by the California Gold Rush, a number of pioneers decided to head north to Oregon and Portland. Their arduous journey can be revisited at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center as well as other museums. Among pioneers who came to the city in the 1840s were two early settlers from Boston, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine. The two gentlemen bet the name of the city on the toss of a coin, which can still be seen today at the Oregon History Center. The City of Portland was actually chartered in 1851, and historic City Hall and Pioneer Courthouse, both still in use, are testaments to Portland's dedication to its past.

Other key figures of Portland's past include the original publisher ofThe Oregonian Henry Pittock, whose Northwest Portland mansion provides an incredible view of Downtown and can be toured. Another father of the city is lumber baron Simon Benson, whose water fountains, known as the Benson Bubblers, still offer cool drinks today. The Benson Hotel is also named after this head of industry and is considered among the top accommodations in town.

Benson and Portland prospered through the harvest of timber, which is more closely examined at the World Forestry Center and Magness Memorial Tree Farm. Shipping along the banks of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, as well as fishing, helped drive drive the city's growth. When times became more difficult with the Great Depression, the area saw one of its biggest government projects with the New Deal construction of historic Timberline Lodge.

The history of Downtown Portland is rich with culture and color. The centuries-old buildings of the Pearl District and Chinatown mix with newer aesthetic attractions such as the Classical Chinese Garden. Stories of the city's boisterous past, when sailors and shipyard workers mixed in places like the White Eagle and Buffalo Gap saloons, include tales of men getting"shanghai'd"—taken away drunk and forced to work aboard the ship of a cruel captain. The city's darker side can also be seen at the Portland Police Historical Museum, where both criminals and heroes of the city's past live on.

Also known as the City of Bridges, part of Portland's history spans the Willamette River, which passengers can tour on the Willamette Shore Trolley. The Hawthorne Bridge—one of the oldest elevation bridges still operating—is often being filmed for a movie, and where races and walks take place. It connects the Downtown area to East Portland, which in the early days of the city was connected only by ferry. Today, Portlanders have a choice of many bridges, including the Steel Bridge, which is a one of-a-kind, double-decker elevation bridge, and the Broadway Bridge, which connects Downtown to the Rose Quarter and Northeast Portland. The city is also linked by the Interstate Bridge to Vancouver, Washington, which carries its own history in a small, rejuvenated downtown area.

Rivaling Portland's numerous, historic bridges are the city's parks, which are never far and offer the perfect place to play, walk, relax or picnic. It would not be hard to spend a day at Forest Park, which is the largest city park in the United States. A visit to Portland would not be complete without seeing Washington Park, the International Rose Test Garden and other attractions of the urban forest. Here you will see and smell the reason Portland is called the Rose City.

One of Portland's largest examples of history is the renovated PGE Park. Formerly known as Civic Stadium and rebuilt in 2001, this is one of the oldest Downtown ballparks in the U.S. The outdoor park still hosts Portland Beavers baseball as well as other sporting and musical events. Other landmarks connecting Portland's past and future include Powell's Books, which chronicles the local history and the Portland Brewing Tap Room, where the new twist of micro brew adds flavor to the old art of brewing. ©

Hotel Insights

For a small city, Portland sure has diversity. From beautiful boutiques to downtown luxury hotels, Portland has a great variety of choices when it comes to accommodations. If you're on a student's budget, there's choices for you in Portland as well.

Downtown

Downtown hotels offer a classic view of Portland for those interested in large attractions and the bustling city life. Each Downtown hotel has something to offer, so choose your neighborhood carefully. Choose from luxury hotels such as theHeathman Hotel, where you will experience first hand both elegant and regal accommodations. TheGovernor Hotel is a local Portland landmark oozing with history and prestige in the city of Portland. Built in 1894, theHotel Vintage Plaza is fantastic choice if you're a fan of local history. If you're interested in staying directly on theWaterfront, theRiver Place Hotel is a beautiful hotel boasting a priceless view of the Waterfront.

If you want to stay closer to coffee shops and beautiful art galleries, theHotel deLuxe is the perfect choice. Located in the heart of thePearl District, all hotels in this area boast old architecture. The Pearl District is a great place to be if you consider you're a fan of dressing up for dinner and drinks, because many of the more posh restaurants are located in this section Portland.

Northwest

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Ahhh... shopping, cocktails, and cobblestone streets... what could be better than this? Nob Hill is home to all of these well-loved activities. Nob Hill boasts an abundance of boutique hotels and old converted mansions to stay in during your time in Portland. TheMacMaster House is an old majestic mansion converts to historical accommodations. In addition, theHeron Haus is a beautiful old home worth spending a few nights in during your stay in Nob Hill. Walk out of your hotel's front door directly into the heart of great Portland shopping. If you love"towning," this is the right area for you. Regardless of where you stay in Nob Hill, you are ensured a lovely, historic, and beautiful hotel.

Eastside

The Eastside has many fantastic places to stay for the traveler that plans to explore all sections of Portland equally. In particular, theMcMenamins Kennedy School is a fun, quirky place to stay(although not for one who enjoys peace and quiet). Hotels owned by McMenamins are perfect accommodations for students traveling on a budget, and are usually located above hopping bars, movie theaters, and music venues. For those who are unfamiliar with Portland but wish to experience the Portland nightlife, these can be great places to stay. If peace and quiet is more up your alley, TheLion and the Rose is a beautiful bed and breakfast located on the stunning grounds of Queen Anne.

Outlaying Areas

If you're planning on staying outside of Portland, staying near toMount Hood is preferable. Although many towns around Portland offer some attractions, the majesty of Mount Hood is unparalleled. Stay at theTimberline Lodge if you're in the mood for a classic ski lodge that is convinient for hiking, skiing, and all forms of snow-play around Mount Hood.

© NileGuide

Restaurants Insights

It's true; you'd never have enough nights in Portland to sample all the local fare. Most restaurants in all parts of Portland are local and fresh, and most are organic. Meats are farm-raised and hormone free, and most restaurants serve fresh fruits and vegetables according to what's growing down the street, Dishes in the Northwest includes both fresh seafood and meat. Portland takes food to a whole new level, offering fresh and unique opportunities for food-lovers to eat both ethically and deliciously.

Downtown Portland

For a long day of seeing the sights, start the day out with brunch. If you're staying in Downtown Portland,Bijou Cafe is delicious and serves a creative oyster hash. If you're staying in Downtown Portland, there are plenty of amazing restaurants to choose from. Portland City Grill is the perfect spot for happy hour, complete with a spectacular view of Mount Hood at sunset. The appetizers are cheap and delicious. Try the scallops if you're a seafood lover. Also in the heart of Downtown Portland isTyphoon on Broadway; a creative Thai restaurant. And for Chinese food, China Town has the best to offer(obviously).

Southeast Portland

If you're visiting the heart of Southeast Portland,Belly Timber is a fantastic date spot. Don't miss out on the creative cocktails made with fresh, local produce. If you're staying in Southeast Portland, theScreen Door Cafe is a scrumptious option. The food choices in Portland are diverse and never-ending. Peruse the selection of local and loved cuisine of the Pacific Northwest. Resist the urge to wake up early to fit in another meal. No matter how many nights you stay in Portland; it's never enough.

For the Kiddo's

If you're traveling with the whole family, there are many dining options that will please both the adults and the kids. If you're near Southwest Portland, check out theRaccoon Lodge& Brew Pub. The menu is extremely kid friendly, but also has dinner and drink options for the adults. If you're in Southeast Portland, head over to theHedge House. With fresh classic meals, the Hedge House is perfect for kids. The large front lawn is also a great place for them to play during the meal if they're feeling antsy, and is encouraged by the waitstaff and owners! For dessert, bring the little one's toCool Moon Creamery, for a taste of fresh homemade ice cream. Cool Moon Creamery is so delicious, we promise the whole family will be happy!

© NileGuide

Nightlife Insights

Downtown Portland is bustling at night with people, bars, and culture. From live entertainment to dark, smoky dive bars, the city is teeming with adventure at night. Finding something fun to do in the wee hours of the night isn't hard to do in Portland!

Festivals

If you happen to be in Portland during the summer months, don't miss the theRose Festival atWaterfront Village. From rides to funnel cake, the Rose Festival is unlike any other festival in Portland. Even though you have to buy tickets, theGrand Floral Parade is the highlight of the entire event, and is worth the price of admission. The Festival goes into the wee hours of the night, and gets increasingly rowdy as the night goes on.

Museums& Galleries

Downtown Portland has much to offer in the ways of museums and galleries. The DowntownPearl District is a symphony of cobblestone streets, quaint coffeeshops, and old art galleries. Some of Portland's oldest architecture lays in the heart of the Pearl District. For a traditional outing, begin with thePortland Art Museum(PAM), a classic museum in Portland. Spend the rest of the afternoon wandering around the local galleries. If you happen to be in Portland duringFirst Thursday, check out the happening after hours art scene. Into the night these galleries are open late, serving wine, cheese, and local art. This is quite an event.

Theater& Dancing

Portland is a city of artists and poets. If you enjoy the theater, you'll find unparalleled tallent at thePortland Center for the Performing Arts. If you love live music, theOregon Symphony is quite a treat. In addition theOregon Ballet Theater is a fantastic outing for anyone who enjoys classical dance. If you're looking for a bit more bohemian experience, visit thePortland Center Stage for performances that are uniquely Portland. If you want to be the one doing the dancing, there are options here as well! For a night out on the town full of dancing and fun, head to theCrystal Ballroom. This unique venue literally has a'bouncing floor,' which you will

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

notice immediately as the crowd begins to dance. If that doesn't put a little spring in your step, theRose Garden Amphitheater gets some truly prestigious performers.

For the Kiddo's

If the kids are awake well into the night, bring them to theClinton Street Theater! This old-school theater is cheap, local, and down to earth. Or, if you're on the other side of town, head to theAvalon Theater. Not only are tickets super cheap(a mere $3 a person), but they have an amazing arcade which is sure to keep the kids amused for hours!

© NileGuide

Things to Do Insights

The City Life

Don't get overwhelmed because there are so many unique things to do in Portland. Don't miss the beautifulPearl District, known for its cobblestone streets and old Portland feel. Peruse the many art galleries ranging from upscale and modern to DIY(Do-It-Yourself) local artists. Keep your eyes open for any special gallery events, such as First Friday. Also located in Downtown Portland is historicChinatown. TheClassical Chinese Garden is a virtual oasis amidst the bustling Downtown city. If shopping is your passion, take a weekend and explore the charm ofNob Hill. Discover the boutiques boasting local artists, and take a gander at some of the oldest homes in Portland. If you have an interest in the seedy underbelly ofOld Town, pick up a copy of Chuck Palahniuk's"Fugitive and Refugees" fromPowell's Books. a great book overflowing with little known facts of the darker history in Old Town. Powell's Books is literally the largest book store in the United States. Last but not least, don't missSoutheast Portland, a hip and hopping section of Portland's counterculture.

Nature

Once you tire of the city, take a day trip to theJapanese Garden and theInternational Rose Test Garden. Portland has an abundance of nature. Due to the long rainy season, all manner of wild plants grow all over the city. Both are a hop, skip, and a jump away from bustling Downtown Portland. These two gardens are a fantastic way to spend a bright, sunny Portland afternoon. Last but not list; don't even think of leaving Portland without a visit toMount Hood. This majestic local beauty is worth the drive. If you don't have time to see it up close, many of the higher points of Downtown Portland offer stunning views of the snowy mountain. Travel theMount Hood/Columbia Gorge Loop, and enjoy waterfalls and wildlife alike. If waterfalls peak your interest, visitMultnomah Falls, a hike appropriate for all ages. Outside of the woods and city, one of Oregon's best kept secrets are the beaches. VisitCannon Beach, which was featured in the movie"The Goonies." The beauty of Haystock Rock is unparalleled. The mountains, redwoods, and ocean intersect at this picturesque beach. Even at night, Cannon Beach is beautiful by moonlight.

Kids

If you have children, visit theOregon Zoo, which has outdoor concerts at night during the summer months. TheOregon Museum of Science and Industry(OMSI) is also a great stop for kids, and has an entire interactive section just for the little ones.

© NileGuide

Travel Tips

Getting There

Air

Portland International Airport(PDX)

+1 503 460 4234

http://www.portlandairportpdx.com

PDX is located 20 minutes from Downtown Portland and services the following airlines:

Air Canada Jazz(+1 888 247 2262/ http://www.aircanada.com)

Alaska Airlines(+1 800 426 0333/ http://www.alaskaair.com)

American Airlines(+1 800 433 7300/ http://www.aa.com)

Continental(+1 800 525 0280/ http://www.continental.com)

Delta(+1 800 221 1212/ http://www.delta.com)

Frontier(+1 800 432 1359/ http://www.frontierairlines.com)

Hawaiian Air(+ 1 800 367 5320/ http://www.hawaiianair.com)

Horizon Air(+1 800 547 9308/ http://www.horizonair.alaskaair.com)

Lufthansa(+1 800 645 3880/ http://www.lufthansa.com)

Mexicana(+1 800 531 7921/ http://www.mexicana.com)

Northwest(+1 800 225 2525/ http://www.nwa.com)

Southwest(+1 800 435 9792/ http://www.southwest.com)

United(+1 800 241 6522/ http://www.ual.com)

US Airways(+1 800 428 4322/ http://www.usairways.com) Airport Map& Information:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_pdx.htm

Airport Services:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_pdx2.htm

Airport Transportation:http://www.airguideonline.com/airports/airport_pdx3.htm

From the Airport

Light Rail: The 38-mile MAX(Metropolitan Area Express light rail system)(+1 503 238 7433/http://www.trimet.org) is the West Coast's only train-to-plane service and features access to many of Portland's attractions. Its Red Line exits the airport and runs every 15 minutes or better all day, every day. Adult single fares cost from USD1.35-1.65.

Shuttle: Sky Pilot Shuttle Service(+1 888 820 6555/ http://www.skypilotshuttle.com) is a popular choice for reliable transportation to and from PDX. Sky Pilot provides door-to-door service at competitive rates. Single passenger fares are around USD25-40 depending on the distance traveled.

Taxi: Taxis, all metered, generally cost between USD22-USD28 from the airport to Downtown Portland. Taxis can be easily located outside the ground transportation center from the following companies:

Broadway Cab(+1 503 227 1234)

Green Cab(formerly Smart Cab)(+1 503 234 1414)

New Rose City Cab(+1 503 282 7707)

Portland Taxi(+1 503 256 5400)

Radio Cab(+1 503 227 1212/ http://www.radiocab.net)

Car Rental: Avis(+1 503 249 4950/ http://www.avis.com)

Budget(+1 503 249 4556/ http://www.budget.com)

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.

Dollar(+1 503 249 4792/ http://www.dollar.com)

Enterprise(+1 503 252 1500/ http://www.enterprise.com)

Hertz(+1 800 654 3131/ http://www.hertz.com)

Car Share: Another attractive ground transportation option is Flexcar, which operates in certain U.S. cities. This new breed of rental car allows you to rent on an hourly basis rather than a daily basis. Be sure to register online before your trip. Flexcar(+1 877 353 9227/ http://www.flexcar.com)

Train

Portland Union Station, located at 800 NW 6th Avenue, serves four Amtrak(+1 800 872 7245/ http://www.amtrak.com) intercity passenger trains. There are three daily departures between Seattle and Portland and daily service to Vancouver, B.C with Amtrak Cascades(+1 800 872 7245/http://www.amtrakcascades.com). Amtrak's Coast Starlight runs daily throughout the West Coast including stops at Seattle, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Bus

Greyhound(+1 800 231 2222/ http://www.greyhound.com) accesses Portland daily. The Downtown bus station,(+1 503 243 2310), located at 550 NW 6th Avenue, is open midnight-1:30a and 6:30a-11:30p.

Car

Reach Portland by Interstate 405 from the north and west, Interstate 5 from the south and Interstate 84 from the east.

Getting Around

Public Transit

Portland has some convenient means of public transportation. The TriMet bus system(+1 503 238 7433/ http://www.trimet.org) makes its way throughout the city and surrounding suburbs three different ways including the MAX light rail, the European Trolley Car and the bus system. The MAX runs east to west throughout the middle of Portland and nearby small cities.

The Trolley services upper Downtown into the NW part of the city. The bus system provides the most routes and run every 15 minutes. An all-zone pass for all three of these has transfers good for two hours and is around USD1.45 for adults. Also available is a three-day pass costing USD10, which can be purchased at the Tri-Met office in Pioneer Court House Square on South West 6th Avenue.

Portland Aerial Tram(+1 503 823 5185/ http://www.portlandtram.org)

Taxi

Some of the major cab companies servicing Portland include:

Broadway Cab(+1 503 227 1234)

Green Cab(+1 503 234 1414)

Radio Cab Company(+1 503 227 1212/ http://www.radiocab.net)

Walking

Portland was voted one of"America's Best Walking Towns" by Walking Magazine with its short blocks and a Downtown area filled with several landmarks and attractions. For a walk along Portland's waterfront, take the promenade in Gov. Tom McCall Waterfront Park to the Steel Bridge. The lower deck of the bridge has a 1.5-mile pedestrian/cycling trail providing beautiful views of the skyline and access to four bridges that cross the Willamette River.

Traffic Information

To find out city traffic information go tohttp://www.traffic.com.

If traveling overseas, take the safety precaution of registering your trip athttps://travelregistration.state.gov and for helpful, practical advice about traveling technicalities and safety standards check outhttp://travel.state.gov.
©

Fun Facts

1. Portland, Oregon, was named in a coin toss after Francis Pettygrove's hometown of Portland, Maine. If Asa Lovejoy had won, we would live in Boston, Oregon instead. You can see the penny they tossed in the lobby of the Oregon Historical Society.

2. Portland is the proud home of the largest independent bookstore in the U.S.- Powell's City of Books.

3. Random fact: Portland also has the smallest park in the world: Mill Ends Park, measuring in at a whopping 452 square inches. Journalist Dick Fagen created the park as a home for leprechauns, and it was incorporated as an official city park on St. Patrick's Day in 1976.

4. Important fact: When you pull into a gas station, let the attendant fill your tank. It is illegal to pump your own gas in Oregon.

5. Portland is the second most bike friendly city in the United States according to Bicycle Magazine.

6. Portland has a number of unique bridges. The St. Johns Bridge was the first bridge to have aviation clearance lights on its towers. It has beautiful gothic towers, and is generally regarded as Portland's prettiest bridge.

7. Portland has more strip clubs per capita than any other city in the US.

8. Weird fact: There is no sales tax in Oregon.

9. The Port of Portland exports more wheat than any other port in the US.

10. Fun fact: Voodoo Doughnuts offers legal marriage ceremonies.

11. Founded in 1917, Portland's International Rose Test Garden is the longest operating rose test garden in the U.S. During World War I, hybridists from all over the world sent roses to the garden for safekeeping.

12. Interesting fact: Portlandia is the second largest hammered copper statue in the US. The largest is the Statue of Liberty.

© NileGuide

Copyright ©2000-2010 Nile Project. All rights reserved.