



Portland

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Best Places to Eat

- » Paley's Place (p219)
- » Higgins (p217)
- » Laurelhurst Market (p219)
- » Pok Pok (p221)
- » Bamboo Sushi (p219)

Best Places to Stay

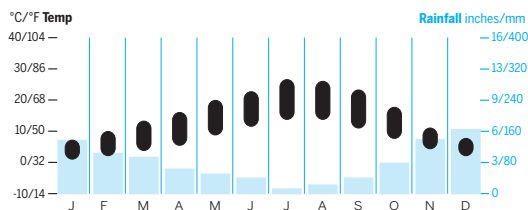
- » Ace Hotel (p214)
- » Nines (p214)
- » Hawthorne Portland Hostel (p217)
- » Kennedy School (p216)
- » Jupiter Hotel (p216)

Why Go?

Dynamic yet laid back, Portland is a superstar city. It's Oregon's largest metropolis, with a bustling, vibrant downtown across the Willamette River from charming neighborhoods full of friendly (and often zany) people. It hums with a youthful vitality, and is home to a landslide of liberal idealists – but located in a state where backroads brim with Republican red. It's a place where Gore-Tex rain jackets in fine restaurants are as common as sideburns on a hipster. It's a haven for eco-activists, cyclists, grungsters, outdoor nuts, vegans, gardeners and dog-lovers, all supporting countless brewpubs, coffeehouses, knitting circles, lesbian potlucks and book clubs. It's a livable metropolis with pretty neighborhoods and a friendly, small-town atmosphere – an up-and-coming destination that has finally found itself, but keeps redefining its ethos with every controversy. Portland is racially progressive, culturally diverse and politically charged, and – as many folks from out of state have discovered – an awesome spot to plant roots, settle in and chill out for while.

When to Go

Portland



April–May
Long-awaited springtime flowers start blooming

June–September
Festivals galore, including the Oregon Brewer's Festival and the Bite of Oregon

November–March
Rainy season: visit museums, galleries, coffee shops, brewpubs...



Portland Highlights

- 1 Explore the many restaurants and art galleries in Portland's chic **Pearl District** (p207)
- 2 Sample a wide variety of microbrews in Portland, which boasts around 30 breweries and **brewpubs** (p223)
- 3 Visit eclectic **Kennedy School** (p216) and watch a

movie, drink a beer, soak in the hot tub or spend the night

- 4 Wander through crafts stalls at the **Saturday Market** (p205), grab a bite to eat and take in street performers' antics

- 5 Party with the hip (or just obnoxious) 'Last Thursday' crowds on NE Alberta in the **Northeast** (p208), where

artists, musicians and buskers compete for attention

- 6 Catch a flick at one of Portland's many pizza-and-beer **movie houses** (p225), offering second-run screenings for \$3

- 7 Take a walk in **Forest Park** (p210), the country's largest urban park, with more than 70 miles of woody trails