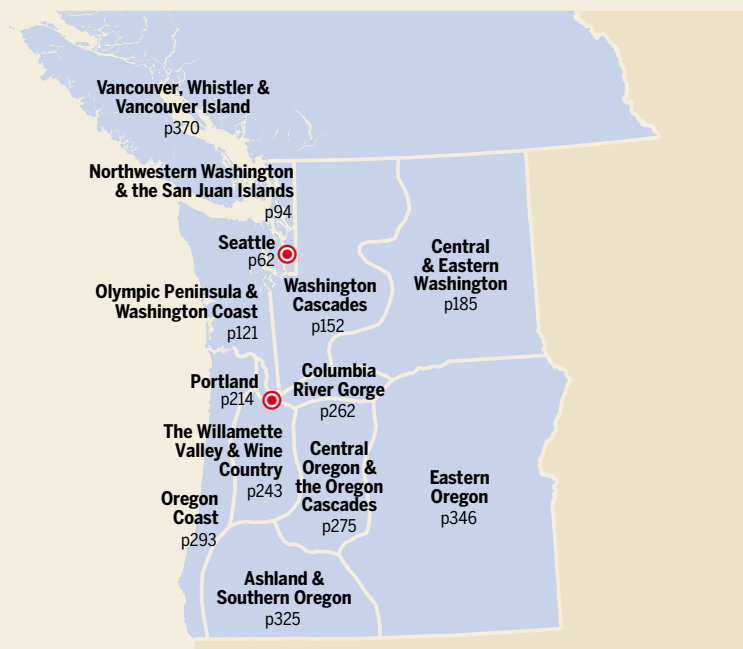




Washington, Oregon & the Pacific Northwest



THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

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Mt St Helens

Climb a smoking, live volcano (p179)

Portland

Eat on the street from gourmet food carts (p214)

Oregon Wine Country

Taste pinot noir while reenacting *Sideways* (p246)

Oregon Coast

Explore stunning coastline and charming towns (p293)

Mt Hood

Ski in winter, hike in summer (p276)

Columbia River Gorge

Sink your teeth into local produce (p262)

Crater Lake

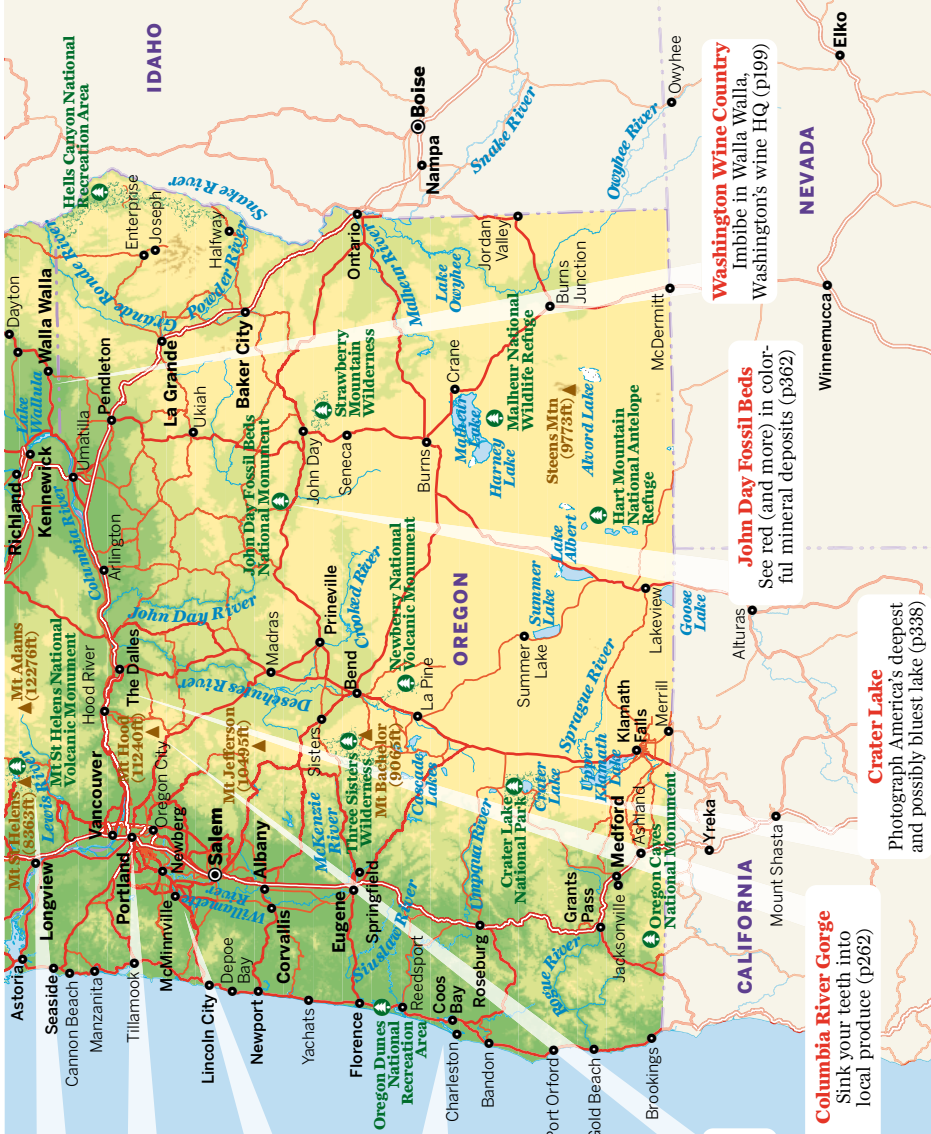
Photograph America's deepest and possibly bluest lake (p338)

John Day Fossil Beds

See red (and more) in colorful mineral deposits (p362)

Washington Wine Country

Imbibe in Walla Walla, Washington's wine HQ (p199)



PACIFIC OCEAN

IDAHO

NEVADA

CALIFORNIA

Boise

Elko

Winnemucca

Alturas

Mount Shasta

Yreka

Merrill

Lakeview

Sumner Lake

Crane

McDermitt

Burns Junction

Jordan Valley

Ontario

Halfway

Enterprise

Joseph

Ukiah

La Grande

Baker City

Strawberry Mountain Wilderness

John Day

Seneca

Burns

Prineville

Madras

Bend

La Pine

Sumner Lake

Crater Lake National Park

Grants Pass

Port Orford

Gold Beach

Brookings

Jacksonville

Ashland

Medford

Oregon Caves National Monument

Yreka

Mount Shasta

Merrill

Lakeview

Summer Lake

Crater Lake

Crater Lake National Park

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Itineraries



4
WEEKS

Pacific Northwest Grand Tour

Just want to hit the highlights? **Vancouver** (p371) boasts wonderful parks, ethnic attractions and cool neighborhoods. Further south, on Vancouver Island, is charming and picture-perfect **Victoria** (p401). If it's winter, hit the world-class slopes of **Whistler** (p395).

Bustling **Seattle** (p62) offers myriad attractions, a unique skyline and great cuisine. Now head north to the beautiful San Juan Islands, such as woodsy **Orcas Island** (p114) – you can bike around or just relax. Back on the mainland, **Olympic National Park** (p131) is the jewel of the Olympic Peninsula, boasting a unique rainforest ecosystem. For more of the state's gorgeous landscapes, **Mt Rainier National Park** (p172) is a must.

There's no escaping the attractions in **Portland** (p214) – from its landmark Powell's bookstore to its many microbreweries to tax-free (and hip) shopping. Just east are the grand vistas, hiking trails and waterfalls of the **Columbia River Gorge** (p262). Nearby **Mt Hood** (p276) is unbeatable for camping, hiking and skiing. Much further south, **Crater Lake National Park** (p338) is a geologic wonder with supreme scenery. Finally, if you have time left over, there's the grandeur (and seafood cuisine) of the beautiful **Oregon Coast** (p293).



2
WEEKS

Island Hop

Washington's San Juans are an archipelago of hundreds of islands covering some 750 sq miles. Only about 60 are inhabited, and just four are accessible by public ferry. Three of these islands bring thousands of vacationers every year, but each has managed to keep a serene atmosphere and distinct character.

San Juan Island (p108) has the best tourist facilities, along with the archipelago's only sizable town, Friday Harbor. **Lime Kiln Point State Park** (p109) has prime whale-watching; in June, keep a lookout for killer or minke whales feasting on salmon runs. To the north is **San Juan Island National Historical Park** (p109), with old British military facilities and earthwork fortifications and – on clear days – great mountain views.

The largest of the islands, **Orcas Island** (p114) is probably the most beautiful – and the poshest. It's dotted with fancy homes, and the lack of a central town gives it an exclusive neighborhood feel. Check out **Moran State Park** (p114), which offers camping, fishing, hiking and mountain biking. **Mt Constitution**, the archipelago's highest point, is also here, featuring some of the finest views in Washington.

Lopez Island (p118) is the most peaceful island, with friendly locals and pastoral charm. Don't expect too many tourist services – agriculture and farming are the main focus. The mostly flat island is made for cycling, and there's little vehicular traffic.

A much larger island to explore is BC's **Vancouver Island** (p401). Start in lovely **Victoria** (p401), a cosmopolitan city with a variety of ethnic cultures, along with a touch of old Britain. Can't-miss attractions include the world-famous Butchart Gardens and high tea at the grand Empress Hotel. Wine lovers and foodies should head to the **Cowichan Valley** (p412), home to boutique wineries and organic farms. Further west is the coastal town of **Tofino** (p418), where you can go kayaking and spot marine life including gray whales. Nearby is **Pacific Rim National Park Reserve** (p416), with rainforest, crashing surf, islands to explore and amazing hiking. Finally, head to land's end at **Cape Scott Provincial Park** (p423) to explore pristine beaches; outdoor lovers have miles of challenging trails and backcountry camping opportunities.



2
WEEKS

Portland & Oregon Loop

Start your Oregon adventure in **Portland** (p214), well known for its roses, bridges, beer and progressive politics. Be sure to visit downtown's landmarks and the Pearl District's boutiques; Powell's City of Books is one of the world's largest independent bookstores. Over on the east side of the Willamette River are several distinct and fun neighborhoods including Hawthorne, Mississippi and Alberta. Take frequent breaks in the city's excellent coffee shops or microbreweries.

Now drive west towards the coast to **Astoria** (p294), the first permanent US settlement in the west. Today it's a pleasant port city with a restored downtown, historic museums and Victorian houses. Further south are plenty of beach resorts, fishing towns, state parks and scenic promontories that jut out to sea. If it's summer and you like to camp, there are endless opportunities along the Oregon coast. Just south of Florence is the **Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area** (p315), the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in the US.

Heading inland, you'll soon hit **Eugene** (p255), a liberal and fun-loving city famous for founding Nike and putting out track-and-field champions. Drive further south on mountainous Rte 58 to **Crater Lake** (p338), Oregon's only national park, offering supreme views of an old volcanic caldera; the water here – fed only by rain and snow – is some of the clearest and purest in the world. Going north on Rte 97 will bring you to **Bend** (p285), a city tailor-made for outdoor lovers. Nearby you can go hiking, skiing, fishing, golfing, biking, kayaking, rafting and rock climbing.

Driving north you'll branch off onto Rte 26, ending at **Mt Hood** (p276), the state's highest peak at 11,240ft. While summiting the volcanic cone is only for hardy mountaineers, there are countless beautiful hikes on Mt Hood's flanks, along with plenty of campsites. Be sure to stop in for a drink (or meal) at the historic Timberline Lodge. Now head north again on Rte 35 and you'll come to the **Columbia River Gorge** (p262). Cruise through this amazing geologic feature, stopping for lovely waterfalls and hikes along the way, and you'll eventually finish your loop back where you started – Portland.



2
WEEKS

Seattle & Washington

The Pacific Northwest's largest city, **Seattle** (p62) has plenty going for it – a great location on Puget Sound, myriad dynamic neighborhoods, interesting sights and attractions, lots of first-rate coffee and beer, and – looming over it all – the lofty peak of majestic Mt Rainier. Must-sees include Pioneer Square, Pike Place Market, the Seattle Aquarium and the Space Needle, but there's plenty more to keep you busy.

Get out of town by hopping on a ferry to Bainbridge Island, then heading north to **Port Townsend** (p126). With its Victorian architecture and location on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, this picturesque little town is a magnet for artists and eclectic personalities. From here you can take a bicycle on a ferry to the San Juan Islands, though if you want to drive you'll have to access them via Anacortes (more on this later). Work your way east along the Olympic Peninsula, perhaps stopping in Port Angeles for a quick day trip to Vancouver Island's pretty capital, **Victoria** (p401).

Olympic National Park (p131) can't be missed. Its coastal strip includes 57 miles of remote beaches with pounding waves and wild scenery; visit Rialto Beach for amazing views. Inland, the Hoh Rain Forest is a prime destination with its famous Hall of Moss Trail. Now head further south to **Lake Quinault** (p136), a gorgeous glacier-fed lake boasting a historic grand lodge. This is the place to go fishing, boating or swimming. Then pack it up and drive to **Olympia** (p122), Washington's lively capital that's full of music culture.

If you like volcanoes, **Mt St Helens** (p179) should be on your itinerary; she blew her top in 1980, losing 1314ft of elevation. Not to be outclassed, Mt Rainier is another can't-miss geologic landmark. Hope for good weather and go hiking among glaciers, alpine meadows and old-growth forests in **Mt Rainier National Park** (p172).

Looping back to I-5, drive up to Anacortes and take a ferry to the beautiful **San Juan Islands** (p107). There are three distinct main islands to explore. San Juan Island has undulating hills and a scenic west coast where you can spot whales; upscale Orcas Island claims the area's highest peak; and Lopez Island is flat, laid-back and great for cycling.



Brendan Sainsbury

Seattle An expat Brit from Hampshire, England, now living near Vancouver, Brendan is a Nirvana-loving, craft beer-appreciating, outdoors-embracing, art-admiring, bus-utilizing coffee addict who had no problem finding like-minded souls in the city of Seattle. He has been writing books for Lonely Planet for the last nine years and collecting notes on Seattle since 2009. He is the author of Lonely Planet's current *Seattle* city guide and a contributing

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OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse.'

OUR WRITERS



Sandra Bao

Coordinating Author: Portland, The Willamette Valley & Wine Country, Columbia River Gorge, Central Oregon & the Oregon Cascades, Oregon Coast, Ashland & Southern Oregon, Eastern Oregon Sandra has lived in Buenos Aires, New York and California, but Oregon has become her final stop. Researching the Beaver State has been a highlight of Sandra's 14-year-long Lonely Planet career. She's come to appreciate the beauty of her home state, how much it has to offer and

how friendly people are in tiny towns in the middle of nowhere. Sandra lives in Portland with her husband, Ben Greensfelder. They've embraced the local green culture by installing rain barrels and solar panels, recycling nearly everything and running a community compost bin. When Sandra's not traveling she's obsessed with floating down the Clackamas River, growing the perfect tomato and trying to get her California friends to move up to her little paradise.

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Celeste Brash

Northwestern Washington & the San Juan Islands, Olympic Peninsula & Washington Coast, Washington Cascades, Central & Eastern Washington Locals have a hard time believing it, but the beauty of the Pacific Northwest is what coaxed Celeste back to the US after 15 years in Tahiti. She was thrilled to explore and imbibe the treasures of her new backyard for this book, hike snowy peaks, look for orcas and get in touch with her cowboy and Indian roots.

Read more about Celeste at:
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John Lee

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OVER MORE PAGE WRITERS

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