

# Oregon Coast Road Trip Guide

## A Long Weekend Guide to Astoria, Seaside & the Northern Oregon Coast

### Trip Snapshot

Suggested Length: 3 Days / 2 Nights

Season Visited: May

Route: Portland → Vancouver → Longview → Astoria → Seaside

Best For: Couples, beach lovers, foodies, history buffs, slow travelers

### Helpful Stops Along the Drive

- Bradley State Scenic Viewpoint – quiet stop with picnic tables, trees, and clean public restrooms.
- Stashed Records (Longview) – fun stop for vinyl collectors and music lovers.

### Food & Drink Recommendations

- Seize The Bagel (Vancouver) – vegan bagels and cream cheese options.
- Sleeper Coffee (Astoria) – great espresso stop while exploring downtown.
- Blue Scorcher Bakery (Astoria) – vegan-friendly menu, artisan bread, pastries, and excellent focaccia.
- McMenamins Gearhart Restaurant – breakfast with golf course views.

### Attractions Worth Visiting

- Astoria Riverwalk – waterfront views, shops, restaurants, historic sights, and opportunities to spot sea lions.
- Fort Astoria / Fort George – historic monument highlighting the area's layered history.
- Heritage Museum – local history exhibits, artifacts, Native American history, and a popular Goonies display.
- Astoria Column – iconic landmark with panoramic views of the surrounding area.
- Seaside Beach – beach walks, driftwood, sand dollars, ocean views, and time to slow down.

### Where To Stay

- McMenamins Gearhart Hotel – unique atmosphere, golf course views, restaurant on-site, and rewards opportunities.
- WorldMark Seaside – traditional beach hotel alternative closer to the ocean.

### Ways To Save

- Use hotel rewards and loyalty programs whenever possible.
- Redeem gift cards for meals, lodging, or attractions.
- Look for bundled admissions or passes that include multiple attractions.
- Stop at local bakeries and cafes instead of relying solely on tourist-heavy dining areas.

### Don't Forget

- Binoculars for wildlife viewing.
- Layers or rain gear, even during warmer months.
- Camera or phone with extra storage for photos.

- Comfortable walking shoes.
- Beach gear if you plan to spend extended time by the ocean.

## **Top Planning Tips**

- Leave room in your itinerary for wandering and unexpected discoveries.
- Spend time simply enjoying the beach rather than packing every hour with activities.
- Try local coffee shops and bakeries whenever possible.
- Build flexibility into your plans.
- Slow down and enjoy the journey, not just the destinations.