ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

The Pacific Northwest

Seattle, rainforest on the Olympic Peninsula, the Oregon coast and Mount Rainier.

Length	13 days, 12 nights
Distance	1,090 km, 7 driving days
Behind the wheel	16 h 20 min
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – Seattle (SEA), Seattle (SEA) – Amsterdam

CONTENTS

Seattle	Days 1–3	**8**
Port Angeles	Days 4–5	**10**
Astoria	Days 6–7	**12**
Portland	Days 8–9	**14**
Ashford	Days 10–11	**16**
Seattle	Day 12	**18**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		Seattle	20	20 min	
2		Seattle			
3		Seattle			
4		Port Angeles	220	3 h 10 min	
5		Port Angeles			
6		Astoria	340	5 h 20 min	
7		Astoria			
8		Portland	140	2 h 20 min	
9		Portland			
10		Ashford	210	2 h 50 min	
11		Ashford			
12		Seattle	130	2 h	
13		Flight home from SEA	20	20 min	

1,090 km · 16 h 20 min behind the wheel · on average 160 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle · About 20 km (10 mi), 20 min
Day 4	Seattle, drive to Port Angeles · About 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 10 min
Day 6	Port Angeles, drive to Astoria · About 340 km (210 mi), 5 h 20 min
Day 8	Astoria, drive to Portland · About 140 km (90 mi), 2 h 20 min
Day 10	Portland, drive to Ashford · About 210 km (130 mi), 2 h 50 min
Day 12	Ashford, drive to Seattle · About 130 km (80 mi), 2 h

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAYS 1–3

Seattle WA

Pike Place Market and the Space Needle

Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle: about 20 km (10 mi), 20 min

3 nights

SEATTLE · DAYS 1–3

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
- [ ] Staypineapple, Watertown Hotel, University District Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  4242 Roosevelt Way NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

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DAYS 4–5

Port Angeles WA

Hurricane Ridge and the Hoh Rainforest

Seattle, drive to Port Angeles: about 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 10 min

2 nights

PORT ANGELES · DAYS 4–5

HOTEL

- [ ] 11 Mi to Olympic NP: Port Angeles Retreat w/ Deck · 3★
- [ ] Charming Port Angeles Studio w/ Deck & Views! · 3★
  533 Black Hawk Loop
- [ ] Oceanfront Port Angeles Home w/ Mountain View! · 3★
  924 Gunn Rd
- [ ] Peaceful Home < 8 Mi to Olympic National Park! · 3★
  130 Olympian Way
- [ ] Picturesque Port Angeles Cabin w/ Fire Pit! · 3★
  3578 Monroe Rd

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DAYS 6–7

Astoria OR

Where the Columbia meets the Pacific

Port Angeles, drive to Astoria: about 340 km (210 mi), 5 h 20 min

2 nights

ASTORIA · DAYS 6–7

HOTEL

- [ ] 'astoria Painted Lady' Historic Apt w/ River View! · 3★
  3391 Irving Avenue
- [ ] Crosby House · 3★
  364 Bond St.
- [ ] Hotel Elliott · 3★ — roughly €160
  357 12th Street
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Astoria · 3★ — roughly €140
  201 39th St
- [ ] Best Western Columbia River Waterfront Hotel Astoria · 3★ — roughly €120
  3420 Leif Erickson Dr

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DAYS 8–9

Portland OR

Food carts and the Columbia River Gorge

Astoria, drive to Portland: about 140 km (90 mi), 2 h 20 min

2 nights

PORTLAND · DAYS 8–9

HOTEL

- ☐ Inn at Northrup Station · 3★ — roughly €120
  2025 NW Northrup Street
- ☐ The Mark Spencer Hotel · 3★ — roughly €80
  409 Sw 11th Ave
- ☐ The Paramount Hotel Portland · 3★ — roughly €90
  808 SW Taylor St
- ☐ Hampton Inn And Suites By Hilton Portland-Pearl District · 3★ — roughly €110
  354 NW 9th Ave
- ☐ Embassy Suites by Hilton Portland Airport · 3★ — roughly €120
  7900 Ne 82nd Ave

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DAYS 10–11

Ashford WA

Mount Rainier's Paradise meadows

Portland, drive to Ashford: about 210 km (130 mi), 2 h 50 min

2 nights

ASHFORD · DAYS 10–11

HOTEL

- [ ] Cozy Cabin - 5 Miles to Mt Rainier National Park! · 3★
  108 Osborn Rd
- [ ] Cozy Hikers Getaway, 5 Mi to Mt Rainier Natl Park · 3★
  102 Stevens Place
- [ ] 'elk Hideaway:' Ashford Cottage w/ Hot Tub! · 3★
  33823 State Route 706 E
- [ ] Hikers Haven w/ Hot Tub - Near Mt Rainier! · 3★
  55509 317th Ave E
- [ ] Owls Nest Studio w/ Hot Tub: Hike Nearby! · 3★
  33823 WA-706

NOTES



DAY 12

Seattle WA

A last evening on the waterfront

Ashford, drive to Seattle: about 130 km (80 mi), 2 h

1 night

SEATTLE · DAY 12

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
- [ ] Staypineapple, Watertown Hotel, University District Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  4242 Roosevelt Way NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
2	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
3	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
4	Port Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
5	Port Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
6	Astoria	€160	–	€60	**€220**
7	Astoria	€160	–	€60	**€220**
8	Portland	€160	–	€60	**€220**
9	Portland	€160	–	€60	**€220**
10	Ashford	€160	–	€60	**€220**
11	Ashford	€160	–	€60	**€220**
12	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
13	Flight home from SEA	–	–	€60	**€60**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€1,920
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€780
Total	**€4,400**
	€2,200 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

Notes

About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.rondreis.expert/en/tours/pacific-northwest/

PHOTOS

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Astoria	Oregon Responder in 2018.jpg · Public domain
Portland	Portland Oregon Aerial, June 2025.jpg · Spicypepper999, CC0
Ashford	Small tree-lined lake (Unsplash).jpg · adrian aows, CC0
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MAP AND TYPE

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