



Photo by Lynette Rae McAdams

Street 14 Cafe is located at the corner of Commercial and 14th streets in Astoria.

BEST COFFEE

Street 14 Café

Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: 3 Cups Coffee House, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro

By LYNETTE RAE McADAMS

In a region practically awash with great coffee, it's an exceptional thing to be singled out as the best; this year, Coast Weekend readers tip their highly caf-

feinated hats to Street 14 Café.

Owned by Micha and Jennifer Cameron-Lattek, this downtown shop blends old-world style with innovation, making perfect sense: He's a German with a master's degree in American studies, and she's an American who holds a doctorate in German literature. Together, they add European flair to Astoria's ride on the wave of New American cuisine.

"We were living in Berlin at the time," Micah says, "and we discovered that neither of us liked the long-term prospects of working in academia — we were really wanting something different." More and more,

they realized their attraction to opening a small cafe. Thinking they'd set up shop in Berlin, they forged a relationship with Stumptown Coffee Roasters of Portland, becoming the company's first purveyors in Germany, selling fresh coffee from a stand at the Berlin farmers market. At the same time, they searched for real estate that could accommodate their dream; unfortunately, it wasn't to be found.

At least not in Berlin.

"I was searching coffee blogs one day, and there it was," Micha says. "The title of the blog was literally, 'You should buy this awesome coffee shop.' And that's what we did. Being from Portland, Jennifer knew and loved it here already, so it felt right. Almost immediately, we left Germany to buy Street 14 and live in Astoria, and we haven't looked back."

Today, their busy shop offers the same Stumptown roasts they fell in love with while abroad, and the couple is pleased to offer hand-crafted coffees from a company that prides itself on building Direct Trade relationships with growers all over the world — a practice that aligns perfectly with Street 14's commitment to responsibly-sourced coffee and cuisine.

Street 14 Café is open 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily for coffee, breakfast, lunch and pastries. Thursday through Saturday, the café also offers dinner from 5 to 9 p.m.

BEST HIKING TRAIL

Fort to Sea Trail

Fort Clatsop
to Sunset Beach

Runner-up: Discovery Trail,
Long Beach Peninsula

Honorable Mention:

Saddle Mountain

The Fort to Sea Trail is a 6.5-mile hiking trail that connects Lewis and Clark National Historic Park's Fort Clatsop to the Sunset Beach State Recreation Site.



Photos by Rebecca Sedlak

The Fort to Sea Trail offers hikers several terrains to enjoy: forest, pasture, beach and more.

The easy-to-moderate trail travels through a succession of different terrains: forest, bogs, pasture, beach pine and finally, the gentle dunes of the beach.

Two miles into the hike, the view from Clatsop Ridge offers a glimpse of the ocean. Later, hikers cross under U.S. Highway 101 via a tunnel.

BEST TOURIST ATTRACTION

Astoria Column

Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: The Beach

Honorable Mention:

Astoria Trolley



Photo by Joshua Bessex

Visiting the Astoria Column itself is free, but there is a \$5 annual parking pass.

The Astoria Column, a 125-foot pillar whose spiraling mural depicts the city's early history, underwent its first major restoration in 20 years in 2015. A restoration team removed biological growth, repaired the cupola

and repainted the 1926 frieze.

Even though the landmark on Coxcomb Hill was closed to visitors from June to October,

it still took home Best Tourist Attraction by more than 20 votes in this year's Readers' Choice contest.



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