

# Coast Weekend Road Trip

## Astoria (Part 1)



A couple walks away from Pier 39.

Photos by Alyssa Evans

BY ALYSSA EVANS

Astoria, Oregon's oldest town, has been a destination for travelers and workers alike for almost two centuries. Spend a few minutes in town and you'll understand why — not only is Astoria rich in history, it's abundant in outdoor recreation, arts and culture and locally-made food and unique events.

But locals know this. Here are a few ways to enjoy our town's beauty during these sunny summer days for those who call the North Coast home and visitors.

### Where to explore

A visit to one of Astoria's many museums is a great way to spend a day indoors. The Columbia River Maritime Museum and the Oregon Film Museum have recently reopened to visitors and are following strict coronavirus precautions.

Astoria is also home to a variety of parks and trails to enjoy. If you're looking to hike, consider trying one of the paths that connects from Clatsop Community College's main parking lot.

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A flower and a bar pilot boat.

## Morning activity: Climb a staircase

BY ALYSSA EVANS

If you've ever walked around in Astoria, chances are you've noticed a hidden staircase or two. Staircases are scattered throughout downtown, plus in some other locations around town.

If you're in the mood to climb a staircase, consider grabbing coffee downtown from one of town's local coffee shops, like Blue Scorcher Bakery & Cafe, Street 14 Cafe, Coffee OR Waffle or Astoria Coffee-house & Bistro. From there, all you'll have to do is start walking.

If you venture toward Jerome, you'll find two sets of stairs. One is off 15th and Jerome streets near a plaque dedicated to the Shively McClure National Register Historic District, while the other is off 11th and Jerome. If you decide to visit the staircase off 11th, make sure to bring a camera with you, as it's one of the best views of Astoria and the Columbia River.

Going west, you can find another staircase off 8th Street by McClure Park. Some other staircases are located by Gray Elementary School and Astoria Mini-Mart.

If you'd rather be surrounded by nature instead of buildings, you can find staircases in Shively Park and on the Cathedral Tree Trail.



A view of the Jerome staircase off of 11th Street.