

Great Explorations



Trip Dates

2012
Jun 10-16

2013
Jun 9-15

Custom trips available
and can start any date.
Call or email for details

Trip Size

8-16 participants

Total Days:

7 days/ 6 nights

Arrive/Depart:

Astoria/Brookings

Activity Level:

Moderate-intermediate
44 -60 miles daily
van supported

Terrain:

Mixed with some reward-
ing hills

Oregon, Biking

Astoria, Oregon to the California Border

Rated by many as one of the classic bike routes in North America, the Oregon Coast deserves this praise. With spectacular ocean views, beautiful beaches as well as quiet farmlands and forest, it's a rite of passage for every touring cyclist. Beginning in Astoria, we'll ride south, visiting Tillamook, the Three Capes Scenic Route, the Oregon Dunes and more, finishing with some of the most breathtaking scenery of the entire Pacific coast.

Only Great Explorations:

- Small groups, extraordinary guides, and authentic experiences.
- A ride you will never forget: the whole route!
- Healthy cuisine, prepared and served in style.
- Campsites with hot showers, and breath-taking views.
- We design and operate our own trips so there are only good surprises.

Itinerary



Getting there :

Astoria: You'll want to arrive the evening prior to our departure (Astoria is a beautiful town to spend some time in). You may choose to stay in a hotel here or to camp at Fort Stevens State Park, near our morning departure point. If you prefer to stay overnight in Portland (where you can leave a car if driving), we offer transportation to Astoria

DAY 1:

Astoria to Nehalem Bay State Park 44 miles

For those arriving from Portland, we offer a private transfer, departing from a hotel downtown at 8:00 am with a planned arrival in Astoria by 9:30. Our tour begins from the Maritime Museum in Astoria, from which we'll begin our bike journey south along a section of coast that is ideal for cycle touring. Our route includes rolling terrain through farm country, historical landmarks and a scenic coast road high above the pounding Pacific surf. Optional side trips could include Fort Clatsop, where the Lewis and Clark expedition spent the winter of 1805. Another side trip to Escala State Park at Cannon Beach allows you the chance to enjoy the view to Tillamook Head Lighthouse. Farther south, the highway climbs over a large shoulder of Neahkahnie Mountain, with breathtaking views. We overnight at Nehalem Bay State Park, with its long sandy beaches.

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Cost

Land Cost (current year):

US \$995 (Camping)
US \$1495 (Yurts)
Includes 6B/6D

Bike Rental:

US \$140

Optional Private Transfers:

Portland to Astoria: US \$35
Brookings to Portland: US \$65



DAY 2:

Nehalem Bay State Park to Cape Lookout State Park 47 miles

Our route from Nehalem heads inland taking quiet back roads through lush valleys following the coast around Tillamook Bay. We'll sample cheese in Tillamook before following the Three Capes Scenic Route with spectacular ocean views. We'll overnight at Cape Lookout State Park, where you can hike a trail

to the end of Cape Lookout for outstanding views of the coast.

DAY 3:

Cape Lookout State Park to Beverly Beach State Park 62 miles

Our ride today includes a stop at Cape Kiwanda, one of the most photographed places on the coast with hang gliders taking off from the sand dunes. We'll pass through Lincoln City and Depoe (a whale-watching area) en route to the Otter Crest Loop over Cape Foulweather on a road that hangs on a cliff high above the ocean.

DAY 4:

Beverly Beach State Park to Honeyman State Park 60 miles

Our first stop today is to Yaquina Lighthouse Wildlife Refuge, where you can watch sea lions sunbathe on rocks near shore. There are many other interesting sites along today's route including Oregon University's Marine Science Center, Cape Perpetua and Devil's Elbow State Park to name a few. We'll camp at a park located on the edge of the Oregon Dunes Recreation Area.

DAY 5:

Honeyman State Park to Sunset Bay State Park 55 miles

Our route leaves Highway 101 at North Bend for a tour of Coos Bay, Charleston and Cape Arago remaining on backroads for some 30 miles. Cape Arago, with three state parks along a 2.5 mile stretch of scenic coast is a superb site to overnight.

DAY 6:

Sunset Bay State Park to Humbug Mountain State Park 56 miles

We are again on backroads today, preferred to 101 for several sections. Our route offers several diversions including Bullards Beach State Park, a tour of the old town of Bandon or a visit to the cheese factory. We overnight in Humbug State Park.

DAY 7:

Humbug Mountain State Park to the California Border 56 miles

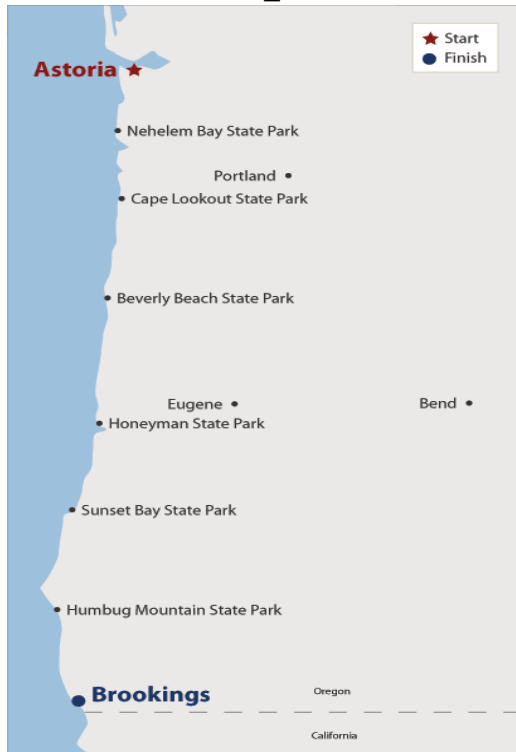
The Oregon Coast ride finishes with some of the most breathtaking scenery of the entire Pacific Coast. You'll want to stop at Arch Rock, Thunder Rock Cove, Natural Bridge Cove, Whalehead Beach and Harris Beach Park. We'll finish in Brookings at Harris Beach State Park, 6 miles north of the California border. After a celebratory lunch, our van will begin the drive back to Portland, arriving that night.

Camping or Yurts



Camp sites include State and private parks with forest-sheltered campgrounds with easy access to the beach and breath-taking views. If you prefer to sleep in yurts with beds, this is an option at a supplement.

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What's Included in the Cost of Your Trip?

- services of one or more experienced Great Explorations guides and support vehicle
- 6 nights camping
- all breakfasts and all dinners but 1
- entrance fees for selected historical sites and museums
- detailed map and route instructions
- all baggage transportation
- all transportation from initial meeting point to final drop-off (see arrive/depart cities)

Please note: Final itinerary is subject to revision; any changes made are done so in an attempt to provide the best possible trip given route conditions and available services. Due to the nature of our business and exchange rates, prices are subject to change. All prices quoted are U.S. dollars but we gladly accept payment in Canadian dollars also. Due to cancellations and waiting lists, trip availability fluctuates daily. If you have any questions or would like to confirm space on this trip before making your reservation, please contact us at info@great-explorations.com or by telephone at **604.730.1247**