

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

The Heart of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve



2009 Programs and Events Calendar

All programs and events take place at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site unless otherwise stated and are subject to change. Fort Entrance Fees: \$3/adult, \$5/family, & free for children 15 years & under. For additional information about these and other programs offered by the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, visit our website at www.nps.gov/fova or call Vancouver National Historic Visitor Center at 360.816.6230

January

Saturday, January 10 & 24 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Join in a wonderful opportunity to tour the Fort at night. Each adult attending the program will carry their own lantern and tour with the Park Ranger through the Fur Store, the Counting House, and Bake House. You will learn what activities would have occurred once the sun set at Fort Vancouver. The 1 ½ hour tour meets at the Fort. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children under 15 years of age. Reservations required by calling the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Visitor Center at 360.816.6230.

Daily, (Ongoing each day through the year): Cultural Demonstrations - The Blacksmith Shop, Carpenter Shop, Kitchen, and/or the Bake House come to life at the fort as staff and volunteers, in period clothing, share with visitors the hard work the company employee did and how it supported the Hudson's Bay Company enterprise here at Fort Vancouver. Victorian hand crafts done by the ladies will also be done located in the Chief Factor's House or Barclay Quarters. One of six locations will be open daily for the visitor to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the work done at fort.

February

Saturdays, February 7 & 21 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Refer to January description

Saturday, February 14 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Spinning* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Before you can knit or crochet, you need to spin yarn! Learn how to create yarn from wool.

Saturday, February 21 (1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.): Lincoln Birthday Bicentennial at Pearson Air Museum

Details forthcoming.

March

Saturday, March 14 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Hair Work* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Hair jewelry was the ultimate token of affection. Come see how this delicate art form is done!

March-June: Public History Field School

A hands-on immersion into how history is incorporated into the National Park Service mission and shared with the public. Through actively applying the knowledge gained through group discussion, practical exercises, peer review, and class instruction, students' practical insight in the field of public history.

April

Saturday, April 11 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-*Shell Work* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Nature crafts of all sorts were enjoyed by Victorian ladies. Come and try your hand at this delightful craft.

Saturday, April 18 (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.): Nez Perce Chief Redheart Ceremony (TO BE CONFIRMED)

A traditional memorial to remember Chief Redheart's Band, including singing to honor of their ancestors, the Riderless Horse (Empty Saddle) Ceremony, and the Sacred Pipe Ceremony, and recognition of veterans. Ceremony takes place on the lower Parade Ground, across the street from the Fort. Free of charge.

Saturday-Sunday, April 18-26: National Park Week

National Park Week is an annual Presidentially proclaimed week for celebration and recognition of Your National Parks. Your National Parks are living examples of the best this Nation has to offer - our magnificent natural landscapes and our varied yet interrelated heritage. Parks provide recreational experiences, opportunities to learn and grow, and places of quiet refuge.

- National Park Family Day
- Junior Ranger Day- Explore, Learn, Protect: Be a Junior Ranger

Friday-Sunday, April 24-26: Discovery Walk

The City of Vancouver will be hosting the tenth annual Discovery Walk Festival. The festival celebrates fitness and promotes international friendships. A portion of the walk takes place at Fort Vancouver, where participants will be greeted by costumed interpreters as they walk inside perimeter of the Fort.

Friday, April 24 (9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.): 8th Annual Children's Cultural Parade

Celebrating the diversity of Vancouver, this event combines classroom instruction where children study cultures from around the world and share what they have learned in a parade. The parade provides an opportunity for each child to share with the community his or her own unique culture. The parade begins along 5th street in front of Pearson Air Museum and ends inside the Fort. Free of charge.

Saturday, April 25 (11:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.): National Park Family Day

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site is the gateway to the Pacific Northwest national parks and the only national park in the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area. In the heart of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve, the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver invites its community to Family Day. Family Day participants have the opportunity to meet park rangers, and learn about park wildlife, and natural and cultural history. Educational activities and entertainment are designed to create an awareness and interest in the national parks. Free of charge

May

Saturday, May 9 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-Antique Button Display & Lecture at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Plain or fancy, buttons have an interesting role in the history of fashion. Join us for a fascinating display and lecture!

Monday, May 25 (1:30 p.m.): Memorial Day 1860's Cannon Salute

Memorial Day was established to honor our nation's war dead. A military salute of arms is a tradition. Come view this 1860's weapons salute. The Black Powder demonstration will take place on the Parade Ground across from the Howard House. Free of charge.

June

Saturday, June 13 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Quilling* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Dainty strips of paper are transformed into a lovely garden. Join us and try this form of creative expression for yourself!

Sunday, June 14: Flag Day

Join us for Celebrate Freedom's patriotic Flag Day Ceremony held at the Bandstand on the Historic Reserve Parade Ground. During this ceremony the community gathers to participate in the Annual National Pause for the Pledge and pay their respect to our country's national symbol. Free of charge.

Saturday and Sunday, June 20-21(10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Brigade Encampment

Again the brigades of fur trappers return to Fort Vancouver. They will share their stories of adventure and life in the wilds with those they have not seen in close to a year and this time you are invited. Encampment takes place outside the fort. Event is free of charge. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Saturdays-Parade Ground and Sundays-Fort, June 27- September 7 (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons Program (Small Arms and Cannon)

Learn more about the weapons in use at both the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver and the U. S. Army's Vancouver Barracks. On Saturdays meet on the parade ground for historic weapons firing demonstrations using military arms; on Sundays meet in the courtyard of Fort Vancouver for historic weapons demonstrations of the weapons of the Hudson's Bay Company, unless a weekend event is scheduled. Black Powder programs on the parade ground are free of charge. Entrance fees to visit the fort apply.

July

July 5 –September 7: Summer Programs

Schedule will be available in late spring.

Saturday, July 11 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-*Lucet Cord-Making* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Come and learn this ancient technique for making braided cord.

Saturday and Sunday, July 18-19 (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Soldier's Bivouac- 160th Anniversary of the US Army at the Vancouver Barracks

Much of the news today is about soldiers in battle. However much of their time is spent at camp and in the community. Explore the camps of soldiers from Vancouver Barracks' past and present. Visitors will see what life was like in the military from a soldier's point of view. Bivouac takes place on the Parade Ground. Free of charge.

Saturday, July 18(6:00 p.m.): 1860's Vintage Base Ball

The first vintage base ball game of the season, this gloveless game with wooden bats is played by very different rules! Bring a picnic and watch staff and volunteers recreate a game, playing by the rules established in 1860. The 1st Oregon Volunteers will once again play the Vancouver town team. Come and cheer for your favorite team, but beware... the umpire can fine the audience for "ungentlemanly" or "unladylike" behavior. All games take place on the Parade Ground next to the Bandstand. Free of charge.

August

Saturday, August 8 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Ribbon Flowers* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Flowers were very important to Victorian ladies. Try your hand at creating lovely blossoms from ribbon!

August: Annual Reserve Trust Dinner

Details to be announced

Saturday, August 15 (6:00 p.m.): 1860's Vintage Base Ball

Refer to July description

September

Monday, September 7-Labor Day (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons: Important Tools of the Past

The soldiers of the US Army used black powder weapons for sport and for military purposes. Join rangers and volunteers as they explain the role of various weapons used by the soldiers at the Vancouver Barracks. Free of charge located on the Parade Ground.

Saturday, September 12 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Potpourri* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

What Victorian home would be complete without a bowl of fragrant potpourri? Learn the secrets of making it yourself!

Saturday, September 12 (5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.): Campfires and Candlelight

Stroll back in time and experience the night life of U.S. Army soldiers, Oregon Trail immigrants, and the residents Fort Vancouver Village. Once inside the Fort, visitors have the opportunity to observe life evening activities by campfires and candlelight.

October

Washington and Oregon Archaeology Month: Collection Tours

Celebrating archaeology by raising awareness about archaeology and cultural heritage, both states offer a number of activities for everyone. Fort Vancouver provides Kids Dig and Collections Tours. To learn more about this year's archaeology month celebrations please go to www.oahp.wa.gov. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Saturday Date TBD (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.): Kids Dig

Children ages 8-12 are introduced to archaeology by participating in a "mock dig", mapping their artifact finds, and recording their data. As they excavate and screen with the help of park staff and volunteers, participants will discuss how we learn from archaeology, and why we should preserve these pieces of our past. Each two-hour session is limited to 20 children, on a first-come, first-served basis. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply. Program is free.

Saturday, October 10 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration-*Teneriffe Lace* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Learn how this unique form of needle lace is created!

Saturdays, October 10 & 24 (7:00 p.m.): Tales of the Engagé

Step back in time with a "campfire program" of the 1840's. Join the Engagés of the Hudson's Bay Company as they share their stories of life at Fort Vancouver. The 1hour program will take place just outside the fort walls. Free of charge.

Saturday, October 24(6:00-9:00 p.m.): Spirits of Oregon City-McLoughlin House in Oregon City

The Spirits of Oregon City is a mobile theater tour that takes you back in time to several of the heritage sites in town, including the Mountain View Cemetery. You'll see living history vignettes about the characters of Oregon City's past. Reservations are strongly recommended - call the Rivershore Hotel at (503) 655-7141 to reserve your space. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. It's a little spooky, but not scary - an interesting and fun event for all ages!

November

Saturdays, November 7 & 21(7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Refer to January Description

Saturday, November 14 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Ribbon Trims* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Ribbon trims are the perfect finishing touch for a day dress or a ball gown. Come and learn how it is done!

Wednesday, November 11: Veterans Day (Free Fee Day for Veterans and their families)

Honoring those who have served and who are serving, military personnel and their families are admitted free into Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

December

Saturdays, December 5 & 19 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Refer to January description

Saturday, December 5: Heritage Holidays at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Step back in time, to the 1850's. The holiday season is approaching, and everyone is preparing for the festivities. Learn what it might have been like to celebrate Christmas with the McLoughlin Family.

Saturday, December 12 (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.): Christmas at Fort Vancouver

Experience first hand the festive traditional sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season at Fort Vancouver. Visitors will be able to view and participate in activities undertaken by residents at the fort during the holiday season. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Please remember to visit the other venues within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve. For more information regarding their hours of operation and events please contact:

Pearson Air Museum- 360.694.7026

Officers Row

Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust located in the
Howard House- 360.992.1800

The Restaurant located in the
Grant House-360.906.1101

Marshall House-360.696.3103

Water Resources Education Center- 360.487.7111