

## VISITING THE OLYMPIC RAIN FOREST

will make your trip to the Peninsula complete. Temperate rain forests, the equivalent of tropical jungles, are characterized by lots of rain—as much as 140 inches each year in some places.



Prime examples of rain forest can be experienced along the Quinault Rain Forest Nature Trail, Maple Glade Nature Trail, and at the Hoh Rain Forest Visitor Center. Campgrounds, picnic facilities and hiking trails are nearby.

### FRESHWATER LAKES

collect much of the rain and snow that fall in the mountains. There are five large lakes on the Peninsula: Lakes Crescent, Cushman, Ozette, Quinault, and Wynoochee. Camping, fishing, boating, picnicking, and hiking are popular activities at each lake.

**AN OLYMPIC BACKCOUNTRY** pack trip begins with a single step. Beyond road's end the rugged interior of the Olympic Peninsula remains undisturbed. Most of the mountain meadows, lakes, and streams on the Peninsula are accessible only by trail. Whether it's a day hike or a week-long pack trip, the nearly 800 miles of trails will challenge and reward every hiker.

For mountaineers, there are more than 130 peaks that rise above 6,000 feet and at least 60 active glaciers.

**THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA** has something for everyone. All around the Peninsula, from sea level to mountain top, there are unique places waiting to be discovered. Come enjoy a memorable "Olympic Experience."

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call, write, or visit a Forest Service or Park Service office in the area you plan to visit for recreation maps, guide books, and the latest information on local weather, roads, trails, and recreation facilities.

### OLYMPIC NATIONAL FOREST

Olympic National Forest  
1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW  
Olympia, WA 98512-5623  
(360) 956-2400

Hood Canal Ranger Station\*  
P.O. Box 68  
Hoodsport, WA 98548  
(360) 877-5254  
(1 block east of Hwy. 101 on SR 119)

Quilcene Ranger Station  
20482 Highway 101 S.  
P.O. Box 280  
Quilcene, WA 98376  
(360) 765-2200

Quinault Ranger Station  
353 South Shore Rd.  
P.O. Box 9  
Quinault, WA 98575  
(360) 288-2525

Soleduck Ranger Station\*  
196281 Highway 101  
Forks, WA 98331  
(360) 374-1200 (Forest)  
(360) 374-5450 (Park)

### OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

Olympic Nat'l Park Visitor Center  
3002 Mt. Angeles Rd.  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
(360) 452-0330

Hoh Ranger Station  
18113 Upper Hoh Rd.  
Forks, WA 98331  
(360) 374-6925

Kalaloch Ranger Station  
156954 Highway 101  
Forks, WA 98331  
(360) 962-2283

Lake Crescent Ranger Station  
103 Barnes Pt. Road  
Port Angeles, WA 98363  
(360) 928-3380

Mora Ranger Station  
3283 Mora Rd.  
Forks, WA 98331  
(360) 374-5460

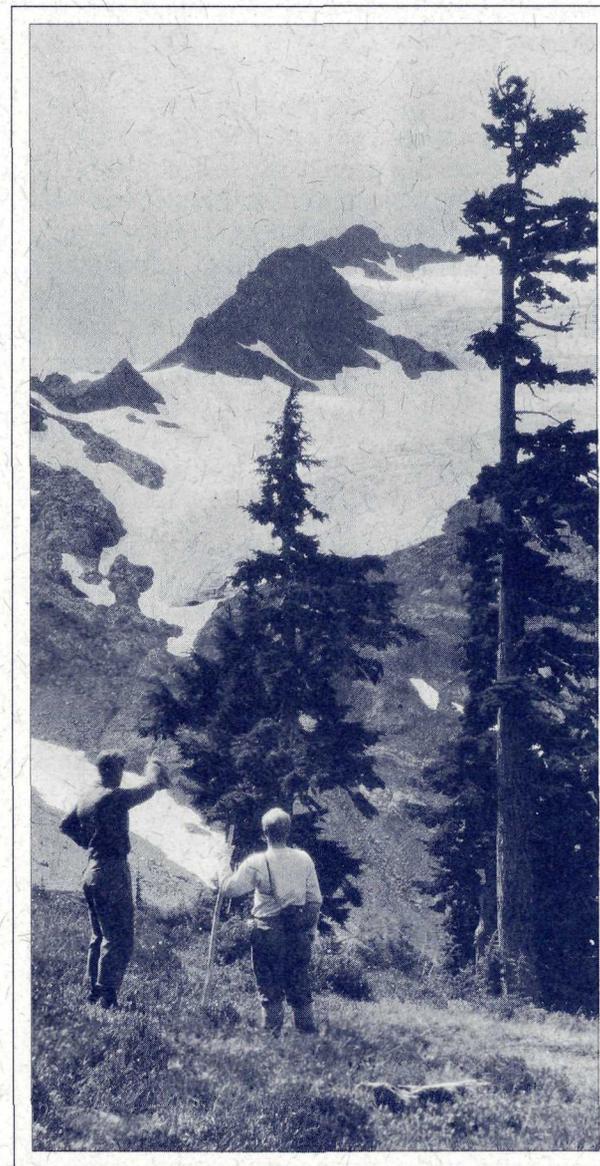
\* Joint USDA Forest Service and National Park Service offices.



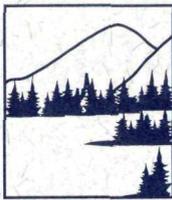
Published by  
Northwest Interpretive Association  
in cooperation with  
Olympic National Forest and  
Olympic National Park

Printed on recycled paper.

# Visitor's Guide to the Olympic Peninsula



*Mount Christie from Martins Park, 1927*

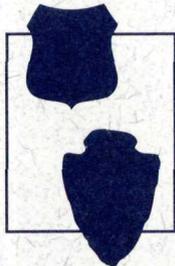


## WELCOME TO THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA!

Some of America's most spectacular lakes, mountains, and coastline are awaiting your visit. The Olympic Peninsula is a unique and priceless combination

of nature's finest: scenic beauty that inspires awe, some of the world's largest trees surrounded by lush rain forest, snowcapped mountains, and saltwater beaches.

You can get to know this place on foot, in your vehicle, from a boat, or by bicycle. Take time to walk its beaches, explore tide pools, or watch whales migrate along the coast. Fish for steelhead in a river or coax a rainbow trout to take a fly in a mountain lake. Visit the backcountry and find an alpine meadow bursting with wildflowers. See the rain forests with their carpets of moss and fleeting rays of sunlight. The opportunities are endless.



## OLYMPIC NATIONAL FOREST AND OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

share in managing a portion of the natural resources of the

Peninsula. During your trip you will likely stop at both Forest and Park facilities so you should be aware that the missions of the USDA Forest Service and National Park Service differ.

The National Park Service was established "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife...by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The USDA Forest Service is responsible for managing the Forest's renewable resources: water, forage, timber, recreation, and wildlife. Under the principles of Multiple Use, resource management is coordinated so that these resources are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people.

Some activities are permitted in the National Forest that are not allowed in the National Park. Be sure you are familiar with the activities that are appropriate for the area you plan to visit.

### Olympic National Forest

NO	Backcountry permit required
YES*	Backcountry limit on party size
SOME**	Open fires in backcountry
YES	Firearms allowed
YES	14-day limit in campgrounds
YES	Pets allowed on trails
SOME**	Trails open to pack stock
SOME**	Trails open to motorized vehicles
YES	State fishing license required
YES**	Shellfish limit and season
YES**	Berry and mushroom picking
YES**	Collecting plants with permit
YES**	Firewood cutting with permit

- \* Maximum limit is 12 persons and 8 pack stock.
- \*\* Contact the nearest ranger station for information, closures, permits, and additional restrictions.
- \*\*\* Catch record cards are required for salmon and steelhead.



**START EXPLORING** the Olympic Peninsula anywhere. The Peninsula is encircled by Highway 101, Highway 12, and State Route 8. From this main "Olympic Loop Highway," there

are numerous side roads to explore and several Washington State Ferry connections to the Seattle area and British Columbia, Canada.

Allow at least three days to stop and enjoy the sights while making your way around the Peninsula (approximately 300 miles). Of course, to have a true "Olympic Experience," you will want to take extra time to leave the loop, drive the side roads, hike some trails, spend a night or two at a rustic lodge, stop at museums to learn about the early loggers and Native Americans, or tour some of the Peninsula's historic sites and towns.



## THE OLYMPIC COAST

boasts beautiful sandy beaches and sea stacks. The easiest beach accesses are at Rialto Beach, Ruby Beach, and Kalaloch. If you have more time, there are many trails in the Ozette

area and between Kalaloch and Ruby Beach where the scenery is outstanding. Use extreme caution when near drift logs during high tides.

The Olympic coast has a wide variety of camping from which to choose. Trailer and RV facilities are provided at Kalaloch and Mora, while Erickson's Bay Campground on Ozette Lake is a boat-in site.

**HOOD CANAL'S** twisting shoreline is followed closely by Highway 101. The public beach at Seal Rock Campground provides saltwater access for seasonal activities, including clamming, shrimping, crabbing, oyster picking, and fishing. The Hamma Hamma, Duckabush, North and South Fork Skokomish and Dosewallips river drainages also provide a broad range of outdoor recreational opportunities. Campgrounds are available in each of these drainages.

For a panoramic view of Hood Canal, Puget Sound, and the Cascade Mountain Range, drive just five miles off Highway 101 over a gravel road to the top of Mount Walker. Vehicles pulling trailers are not recommended on this road.



## THE OLYMPIC MOUNTAINS,

featuring glacier-covered Mount Olympus and Mount Carrie, can be viewed from Hurricane Ridge. This lofty viewpoint can be reached by driving 17 miles on a paved road

from Port Angeles. Weather permitting, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the North Cascade Range are visible to the north and east. Deer Park also offers a spectacular view into the rugged Olympic interior, but the gravel road is not recommended for large RVs or trailers.