

RUGGED COASTLINE



Four Day Tour

- *Bremerton • Poulsbo • Port Townsend • Quilcene • Sequim*
- *Olympic National Park • Forks • Ruby & Kalaloch Beaches*
- *Ocean Shores • Gig Harbor*

RUGGED COASTLINE



Along the Rugged Coastline you will find images from the past.

Surf crashes against jagged cliffs. Glacier-clad mountains rise from their reflections in calm lakes. Rain forests blanket the sun. The rugged coastline of Washington is nature at its magical best. The centerpiece of it all is beautiful Olympic National Park – exciting wherever you make its access. Get ready for an awe-inspiring mixture of land and ocean, full of surprises at every turn of the road.

WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES. You could drive south through Tacoma to bypass the ferry crossing, but then you would miss half the fun. The state ferry system is the largest in the U.S., and bigger than most navies around the world. Allow one hour to relax and enjoy the leisurely sail. Pets and vehicles can be transported too, on the car deck. Information: (206) 464-6400.

BREMERTON. Your ferry docks at this seafaring town, home of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Stroll the ferry terminal boardwalk to the *USS Turner Joy*, (360) 792-2457, a retired Vietnam era destroyer, open to the public. Next door is the *Bremerton Naval Museum*, (360) 479-7447. Chamber of Commerce: (360) 479-3579.

POULSBO. North on Hwy 3 is a village nicknamed “Little Norway” because of its first Norwegian inhabitants in 1883. The downtown still retains its old country charm. The *Marine Science Center* details the biology of the area, along with a touch-tank for the curious, (360) 779-5549. Stop at one of the authentic Norwegian bakeries for a treat and take a boat tour of fjord-like Liberty Bay. Chamber of Commerce: (360) 779-4848.

PORT TOWNSEND. Continue on Hwy 3 to 104 and delight in this winding sea-level valley drive. At Hwy 20, stay right to visit the National Historic District of Port Townsend. This is a great example of a Victorian sea-coast town, featuring more than 200 residences, buildings, old forts and monuments. In September, the town celebrates its *Wooden Boat Festival*, drawing visitors from around the world, (360) 385-3628.

- **Fort Worden State Park.** This handsome park offers lovely views of Puget Sound and the Cascade Mountains. Within the park is the *Coast Artillery Museum*, *Marine Science Center*, (360) 385-4730 and *Chinese Gardens*, (800) 233-0321 or (360) 385-4730.

QUILCENE. Head back to U.S. 101 and turn south for a side trip. Just outside of town, the *Mount Walker Viewpoint* offers a spectacular vantage point for panoramas of Puget Sound, the Olympics and Cascades from its 2,804-foot summit. Enjoy the Olympic Music Festival, (206) 527-8839. Chamber of Commerce: (360) 765-4999.

SEQUIM. Hwy 101 north takes you directly to this popular retirement community. The town is the perfect base for exploration. Chamber of Commerce: (360) 683-6197. Learn about the area at the *Natural History Museum*, (360) 683-8110; or try your luck at the *Seven Cedars Casino*, (360) 683-7777. For seafood lovers the succulent world-famous Dungeness crab is harvested east of town.

- **Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge.** The world’s longest natural sand-spit juts six miles into the Strait of Juan de Fuca and forms a lagoon that’s a haven for birds. Hike or take a boat to the very end of the spit for a breathtaking view from the 63-foot-high New Dungeness Lighthouse. Admission: (360) 457-8451.
- **Olympic Game Farm.** This 90-acre preserve is a retirement village for wild animals featured in movies and television. The road takes you up close and personal with bears, bison, deer, elk, yaks and zebras. There are also movie sets, a studio-barn, and a petting area. Admission: (800) 778-4295.

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK. Port Angeles is also the gateway to this magnificent 923,000-acre park. Within this spectacular wilderness is a pristine ecosystem of glacier-clad mountains, rain forests, lakes, streams and 57 miles of unspoiled coastline. *Mount Olympus*, at 7,965 feet, is the tallest of the park’s mountains. Admission: (360) 452-0330.

- **Olympic National Park Visitor’s Center.** Located right in Port Angeles. Ask the rangers to recommend the most scenic drives and favorite spots. The museum displays a slide program and nature trail. Free: (360) 452-0330.
- **Hurricane Ridge.** A visit to the park isn’t complete without this incredible drive to more than 5,200 feet above sea level. You’ll get a 360-degree view of the mountains, the strait and Vancouver Island.



Sea Stack in the Olympic Peninsula

RUGGED COASTLINE



- **Lake Crescent.** This deep freshwater lake is 17 miles west of Port Angeles. It's surrounded by picture-perfect mountains, including the majestic Storm King. Nearby is a one-mile trail that takes you to 90-foot Marymere Falls.
- **Sol Duc Hot Springs.** Take a refreshing break another 13 miles west. Natural mineral water is piped into three large outdoor swimming pools, with temperatures ranging from 101 to 105 degrees F. Admission: (360) 327-3583.

FORKS. On the west side of U.S. 101, this logging town takes its name from the three rivers converging nearby. A popular sport is angling for steelhead trout during their massive summer and winter runs. Chamber of Commerce: (800) 443-6757. The *Timber Museum* recalls the lumber history of Forks. Donations: (360) 374-9663.

- **Hoh Rain Forest.** Just south of Forks, take a tranquil 19-mile drive deep into an old-growth forest. The visitor center is your departure point for several self-guided nature trails through trees towering 200 feet. The *Hall of Mosses* trail has giant ferns and mysterious moss-covered tree limbs. Free: (360) 374-6925.



In the rain forest majestic trees soar into the sky.

RUBY BEACH. This rugged beach at Olympic National Park has stark sea arches personifying the Washington coast. Just offshore is *Destruction Island*, the site of an Indian massacre more than two hundred years ago. Down the coast, watch for signs to *Big Cedar Tree*. Information there tells how the Indians made use of the tree for everyday living.

KALALOCH BEACH. Another inviting beach beckons with wide, sandy beaches and a cliff-top view of the coast. It offers many trails, streams for fishing, and opportunities for beachcombing.

OCEAN SHORES. On S.R. 115 south, this is one of the state's newer resort cities. Enjoy "30 Miracle Miles" of wide beaches, woods and state parks, and two wildlife reserves. *Damon Point* and *Oyhat Wildlife Recreation Area* are the only places in the world where the rare snowy plovers and semipalmated plovers co-exist. Chamber of Commerce: (800) 762-3224.



Where to stay along the way:

OCEAN SHORES - Best Western Lighthouse Suites
(800) 757-7873

QUINULT RAIN FOREST. Encounter lush vegetation and enormous trees in the Olympic National Park. Nearby *Lake Quinault* is three miles long and surrounded by glacier-capped mountains. Visitor's Center: (360) 288-2644.

Stop along Hwy 109 and Hwy 12, in the Grays Harbor area of Aberdeen, Hoquiam, Ocean Shores, and Westport. Quaint towns, whale-watching tours and specialty shopping abounds.

GIG HARBOR. Five miles northwest of Tacoma, on a small bay, the town retains the atmosphere of a fishing village. Rent charters, fishing boats, sailboats, sea kayaks, paddle boats and jet skis. Chamber of Commerce: (253) 851-6865.



Where to stay along the way:

GIG HARBOR - Best Western Inn of Gig Harbor
(888) 462-0002

- **Narrows Bridge.** Cross one of the largest suspension bridges in the world to reach Gig Harbor. For a scenic overlook, drive to the *Living War Memorial Park* at the east end of the bridge.

Spend some time on the water. Participate in the excitement of jet skiing or sea kayaking or just enjoy the serenity of the area. When you leave the Gig Harbor area continue back to Bremerton to complete your circle tour.



Breathtaking views of Gig Harbor.