

Activities

Hikes	(Estimated time to trailhead from cabin	Drive times	
	Marymere Falls (west)	0:10	Easy, Short
	Storm King (west)	0:10	Short, steep
	Spruce Railroad (Log Cabin resort area)	0:10	Easy
	Olympic Discovery trail (Past Log Cabin Resort)	0:15	
	Pyramid Mountain	0:25	Moderate
	Mount Mueller	0:35	13 miles
	Lake Angeles	0:30	Short, steep
	Elwah - Humes Ranch	0:30	Easy
	Hurricane Ridge	0:50	Many trails
	Sol Duc Hot Springs	0:55	
	Hoh Rain Forest	1:45	
	Tatoosh	1:50	Northern Coast
	Reviews of local hikes		Link to hikes in the area
	http://www.windsox.us/NWEST/nwreviews.html		
Beaches and Tidepools			
	Salt Creek (Joyce area)	0:20	Great tidepools, Straight of Juan De Fuca
	Beach #2 (La Push)	1:15	2 mile walk in to beach, camping, Gorgeous
	Ruby Beach	1:30	Our favorite day-trip beach w/o hike, South of Forks
	Shi Shi (Neah Bay area)\	1:55	World famous as a top ten beautiful beach
Travel Time	Estimated drive time from cabin		
	Port Angeles	0:20	
	Sequim	0:35	
	Hurricane Ridge	0:50	
	Forks	0:55	Twilight Saga (Vampire) locations
	Neah Bay	1:45	Makah Indian Cultural Museum
	Kingston	2:00	(Ferry Terminal on Peninsula)
	Bainbridge	2:15	(Ferry Terminal on Peninsula)
Dining			
	Granny's	3 miles	Café with usual fare
	Lake Crescent Lodge	3 miles	Resort vendor dining
	Blackberry Café	8 Miles	Joyce (on way to Salt Creek), fresh Pie in season
	Blue Flame BBQ	17 miles. PA	BBQ, east of PA open Wed-Sun
	Saba Thai	17 miles. PA	Near Waterfront, PA
	India Oven	17 miles. PA	Near Waterfront, PA
	Sergios Family Mexican Restaurant	17 miles. PA	Multiple, American/Mex
	Pho New Saigon	17 miles. PA	Outside PA on way into town
	Dynasty Chinese Restaurant	17 miles. PA	Downtown
Movies			
	Deer Park Cinemas, East side of Port Angeles	17 miles. PA	
	Lincoln Theater, Downtown	17 miles. PA	



Salt Creek/Tongue Point

Exceptional Tide Pooling

**County park, 20-30
Minutes away**



Hike Of The Week: These Olympic National Park beauty spots will lift your spirits

Last updated May 16, 2007 11:32 a.m. PT

By KAREN SYKES
SPECIAL TO THE P-I

You might need to dig into your piggy bank for this long drive to Olympic National Park on the leeward side of the Olympic Mountains. Yet despite lightening our wallets for gas and ferry fares, the visit to the Elwha River Valley in Olympic National Park gladdened our hearts.

Since the journey is long, it's better to camp or find a motel and spend a weekend. A day truly isn't enough, though even one day is better than not going at all.

After stopping at the Olympic National Park Visitor Center and Wilderness Information Center in Port Angeles, we took the scenic 17-mile drive to Hurricane Ridge. Though there is plenty of snow at the ridge, it's spring at lower elevations, with coltsfoot in bloom and deer grazing beside the road.

At the Hurricane Ridge visitor center, an evergreen bedecked with icicles tinkled like wind chimes in the cold wind. Its still winter there, with subalpine trees coated with rime, but when the sun came out the Bailey Range slowly came into view and we lingered despite the chill.

From there we drove to the Elwha River Valley and stopped at the Madison Falls trailhead just outside the park. This is a paved, accessible trail to a view of Madison Falls, which tumbles down from basalt cliffs.

The trail begins in an open area graced with hardwood trees, where homesteads once stood, and a hollowed-out cedar stump big enough to stand inside.

In the 1800s there was a mine by the falls and a camp where the Press Expedition, 1889-90, spent a week in an empty cabin near Madison Creek. Elk wintered there then, as they do today. As we strolled, we drank in the clean air -- it always seems fresher there than anywhere else, as if the Olympics have just been washed and hung out to dry in the breeze.

We drove to Whiskey Bend, where we planned to hike a 7.8-mile loop described in hiking guides, with stops at Goblin Gates and Humes Ranch. The ranch was homesteaded around the turn of the century by Will Humes and later with Grant, his brother. The brothers cultivated crops and planted orchards, and guided hunters and climbers, including The Mountaineers. Their cabin is the only homestead structure still standing and has been restored and preserved by the National Park Service in a quiet setting of gnarled fruit trees.



 zoom

Karen Sykes / Special to the
Post-Intelligencer


It's still winter in the Bailey Range, which comes into glorious view at Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park.

The hike begins on the Elwha River Trail, a long route that climbs to lonesome Elwha Basin. The trail generally follows the route of the Press Expedition. As soon as we started to hike, we were accompanied by the drumming of grouse -- hence the name Geyser Valley, named by the expedition, which mistook the sound for geysers.

At .8 mile we stopped to visit an overlook used by the expedition as an observation post. They called it Eagle's Nest. A short spur descends to the overlook, where there is a view of the Elwha River and a meadow on the other side, part of the long-gone Anderson Ranch. Roosevelt elk are sometimes spotted here.

We enjoyed the view before returning to the trail and hiking to the Rica Canyon junction at 1.2 miles. The Rica Canyon Trail loses 500 feet in half a mile. Though steep, the trail is in good condition. Just before we reached the Elwha River we turned right at a junction where a spur (right) leads to Goblin Gates. Left, is Humes Ranch via the Geyser Valley and Krause Bottom Trail.



 Karen Sykes / Special to the Post-Intelligencer
At Goblin Gates, the Elwha River flows beside a cliff and abruptly fills a deep basin where the water whirls furiously.

If you have time for only a short hike, Goblin Gates should be at the top of your list. It's one of the most dramatic places you can visit in a day. Here, the Elwha River flows beside a cliff and abruptly fills a deep basin where the water whirls furiously, then makes a turn at a right angle before it glides through a break in the rock wall. Goblin Gates was named by the Press Expedition members as they viewed the gorge from the other side of the river -- from that perspective they imagined faces of goblins in the rocks. According to the late Robert L. Wood, author of the "Olympic Trail Guide," one of the "goblins" has since washed away.

The water at Goblin Gates is so turquoise it almost looks artificial. The view was enhanced with serviceberry in bloom, with its white blossoms, framing the scene. We had lingered too long to complete the loop, so we hiked about 3/4 mile toward Humes Ranch as the trail paralleled the Elwha River in hopes of seeing elk. Just as we turned around to retrace our steps, we were rewarded with a glimpse of Roosevelt elk grazing on the other side of the river in the meadow near Anderson Ranch.

Many wildflowers are in bloom; in addition to calypso orchids we saw vanilla leaf, wild strawberries, fawn lilies, yellow violets, purple violets, trilliums, bleeding hearts, pipsissewa and a single red-orange Indian paintbrush, a tiny flame on the rocky portal of Goblin Gates.

You also can visit Humes Ranch by following the Elwha River Trail past the Rica Canyon junction. This is a shorter hike, about 4.4 miles round trip, and easier than the loop described in hiking guidebooks -- just follow the signs. If you opt for the 7.8-mile loop, there are several junctions but they should be signed. Study the map for other possibilities. (

Getting there

- **Elwha River trails:** Take the Edmonds ferry and follow state Route 104 west and U.S. Route 101 to Port Angeles. After stopping at the Wilderness Information Center in Port Angeles, continue on U.S. 101 to the Elwha River turnoff (signed Olympic Hot Springs Road) just past milepost 240, then bear right onto Elwha River Road. The Madison Falls trailhead is just outside the park entrance station. (No pass needed. For hikes beyond the entrance station (if closed), display your pass in your windshield. From the Ranger Station, follow Whiskey Bend Road (gravel) 5 short miles to the trailhead, elevation 1,198 feet.
- **Olympic National Park Visitor Center and Wilderness Information Center:** On U.S. 101 in Port Angeles, turn left on South Race Street and continue 1.5 miles to the visitor center. Stop at the Wilderness Information

Center next door for permits (required for overnight trips).

- **Hurricane Ridge:** From the visitor center, continue on the Hurricane Ridge Road to the park entrance at Heart O' the Hills Campground and continue to Hurricane Ridge, elevation 5,242 feet (about 17 miles from the Port Angeles).
- **Elwha River Trails:** From Seattle it is approximately 200 miles round trip to Whiskey Bend, excluding Hurricane Ridge. Plan for a long day, a long drive and/or an overnight stay.
- **Trail data** -- Madison Falls is .2 mile round trip, no gain. Goblin Gates from the Elwha River Trail is roughly 3 miles round trip with about 500 feet of gain. The map is Custom Correct Map Elwha Valley, Washington.
- **Information** -- Call the Olympic Park Wilderness Information Center at 360-565-3100 for trail conditions and/or to get a permit (required) for an overnight stay or visit the Web site at [nps.gov/olym](https://www.nps.gov/olym). There are several guidebooks on the Olympics, but my favorite is "The Olympic Mountains" by Robert L. Wood (Mountaineers, 350 pages, \$18.95). For ferry schedules and fees, visit [wsdot.wa.gov/ferries](https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries).

Day Hikes

Day Hiking



Before hiking you should know...

1. Even on short hikes, be prepared for changing weather. Carry food, water, hat, gloves, layers of warm clothing and a raincoat. Please use Leave No Trace techniques to help preserve the wilderness. Stay on trails to avoid trampling vegetation and use pit toilets where available, or use the cathole method and pack out toilet paper.
2. **Pets are not allowed on park trails or beaches** *except* on leash (up to 6-foot) from Rialto Beach to Ellen Creek (0.5 mile north), Kalaloch beaches, and on the Spruce Railroad and Peabody Creek Trails. This helps protect you, your pet and wildlife. Leashed pets are allowed in campgrounds, parking areas and on roads. Pet rules differ on neighboring national forest and state lands.
3. Pack out everything you pack in (including food waste and garbage).

Wheelchair accessible trails are noted with *. *Accessible with assistance trails* are noted with **. Other trails are not recommended for wheelchairs. The term accessible with assistance means trails do not meet ADA standards, but may be passable by individuals with sufficient upper body strength and balance, or a friend to help.



Temperate Rain Forests

Hoh

****Mini Trail** is a paved 0.1 mile loop trail near the Visitor Center.

Hall of Mosses Trail is a 0.8 mile loop trail beginning near the Visitor Center.

Spruce Nature Trail is a 1.2 mile loop trail beginning near the Visitor Center.

Queets

Sam's River Loop is a flat 2.8 mile trail through different ages of temperate rain forest. Watch for damage from severe winter storms.

Quinault

****Maple Glade Trail** is a 0.5 mile loop beginning at the bridge next to the Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station.

Cascading Terraces Trail is a 1.0 mile loop trail beginning at Graves Creek campground.

Irely Lake Trail is a 1.2 mile trail beginning 0.7 miles before the North Fork campground entrance.

Quinault Big Cedar Trail is a 0.2 mile trail gaining 80 feet in elevation. The trailhead has minimal parking and is located 2.0 miles up the North Shore Road across from the Lake Quinault Resort.

****Kestner Homestead Trail** is a self-guided 1.3 mile loop trail starting at the Quinault Rain Forest Ranger Station.



Mountains

Hurricane Ridge

****Meadow Loop Trails** begin from the parking lot. There are several 0.25 to 0.5 mile trails.

****Hurricane Hill** is 1.6 miles one way and begins at the end of the Hurricane Ridge Road. The rough paved trail gains about 700 feet in elevation, giving panoramic views. (Wheelchair accessible first 0.5 miles only.)

Klahhane Ridge begins near the Visitor Center. The first 2.8 miles brings you to a junction with the Switchback Trail. You may continue or return to the Visitor Center.

Deer Park

Rainshadow Loop: self-guided 0.5 mile loop to summit of Blue Mountain. Starts at the end of Deer Park Road, a steep, one-lane gravel road not suitable for RVs or trailers.





Hurricane Ridge
12/24/11



Lowland Forests

Sol Duc

Ancient Groves Nature Trail: 0.6 mile loop beginning 9 miles up Sol Duc Road.

Sol Duc Falls is 0.8 miles one way from the end of the Sol Duc Road.

Lover's Lane Loop is a 5.8 mile loop connecting Sol Duc campground, Sol Duc Falls and the Resort.

Mink Lake Trail: 2.6 miles one way from Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort.

Lake Crescent

****Moments in Time Nature Trail:** a flat 0.6 mile loop trail beginning at Lake Crescent Lodge.

****Marymere Falls** is 0.9 miles one way from Storm King Ranger Station. (The first 0.5 mile is accessible.)

Mount Storm King Trail: 2.1 miles one way from turnoff on Marymere Falls Trail. It climbs 2,100 feet!

Pyramid Peak Trail is 3.5 miles one way and begins near the North Shore Picnic Area. It climbs 2,350 feet!

Spruce Railroad Trail is 4.0 miles one way and begins near the North Shore Picnic Area or the east side of the lake. It is a designated bike trail.

Heart O' the Hills

Heart O' the Forest Trail is 2.3 miles one way and starts at Loop E in Heart O' the Hills campground.



Park Visitor Center

Peabody Creek Trail is a 0.5 mile loop trail beginning in the Visitor Center parking area.

****Living Forest Trail** is a 0.4 mile loop trail behind the Visitor Center.

Elwha

NOTE: As of fall 2011, the road and area beyond Altair Campground are closed for Glines Canyon Dam removal. The following trails should remain available:

***Madison Falls Trail** is a paved 0.1 mile one way trail to a waterfall; starts near the Elwha Entrance Station.

Cascade Rock Trail: a steep 2.1 mile one way forest hike, or take the level 0.6 mile loop. Both begin behind the picnic shelter in Elwha campground.

West Elwha Trail is 3.0 miles one way in old-growth forest near the river; starts at Altair Campground.

Geyser Valley Loop is a 6.0 mile loop trail beginning at the end of the Whiskey Bend Road. The trail can be broken down into shorter loops. During Glines Canyon Dam removal, Whiskey Bend Road is subject to temporary closures.

Staircase

Shady Lane Nature Trail is 0.9 miles one way and begins across the bridge from the ranger station.

Staircase Rapids Loop Trail has a bridge out, but two 0.9-mile trails explore both banks of the river from near the ranger station.

Dosewallips

(As of 2011 access road washed out) **Terrace Nature Trail** is a 1.2 mile loop trail from near ranger station.



Coast

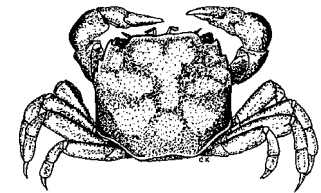
Be aware of tides when hiking the coast. Pick up a tide chart at a ranger station or visitor center.

Ozette

Cape Alava Trail is 3.3 miles one way mostly on boardwalk from near the ranger station to the coast.

Sand Point Trail is 2.8 miles one way mostly on boardwalk from near the ranger station to the coast.

A 2.9 mile beach walk connects the two trails making a 9.0 mile loop.



Mora – La Push

Rialto Beach: 1.5 mile hike to arch and tidepools at Hole-in-the-Wall. Use caution if continuing north.

Second Beach: 0.7 mile hike to tidepools and seawalls from La Push Road, 14 miles west of Highway 101.

Third Beach Trail is a 1.4 mile hike to a sandy beach from La Push Road, 12 miles west of Highway 101.

James Pond is a 0.3 mile loop to a shallow beaver pond.

Kalaloch

****Beach 4:** 0.2 mile one way walk from Highway 101 to a beach and tidepools (only viewpoint accessible).

****Ruby Beach:** 0.2 mile one way hike from Highway 101 to the coast and seawalls (only viewpoint accessible).

Kalaloch Nature Trail: 0.8 mile loop through coastal rainforest from near Kalaloch campground.





Storm King Trail, view of Lake Crescent



**Beach # 2, North of Forks toward
La Push**



Ruby Beach south of Forks



Mount Olympus from High Divide Hike

2-3 day hike, permit needed. Access via Sol Duc



Mount Muller

View of Lake Crescent

13 Mile hike, Pets OK



RECREATION OPPORTUNITY GUIDE

Olympic National Forest

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/olympic>



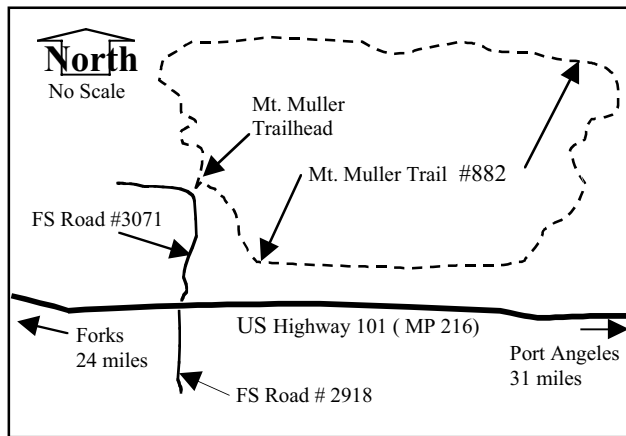
Mt. Muller Trail #882

Pacific Ranger District – Forks Office
437 Tillicum Lane
Forks, WA 98331 (360) 374-6522

Recommended Season
SPRING SUMMER FALL WINTER



ACCESS: Travel US Highway 101 to F.S. Road #3071 (near MP 216), approximately 24 miles east of Forks and 31 miles west of Port Angeles.



Some sections have grades of 20%. Horses and mountain bikers should be in good condition.

Destination	Miles	Elev.
Trailhead (FS Road #3071)	0.0	1,000'
Jim's Junction	3.0	3,200'
Mount Muller Summit	5.3	3,748'
Panorama Point	5.5	3,550'
Rock House	8.6	2,000'
Trailhead (FS Road #3071)	12.8	1,000'

OPPORTUNITIES: Hiking, riding, mountain biking and viewing scenery. Ever-changing colors of flowers. Carry adequate drinking water and be prepared for bad weather. The flower meadows are very fragile. Please stay on the trail. Tether stock in designated areas only or in the trees below the meadows. Practice LEAVE NO TRACE techniques during your trip.

FACILITIES: The trailhead is located 0.5 mile from the Highway on the right side of Road #3071. Trailhead has a toilet, bulletin board, and ample parking. A nearby stream serves as a water source for stock.

CLOSURES: Motorized vehicles are prohibited.

SETTING: From a lush temperate forest valley, the trail climbs 2,200 feet in three miles to Snider Ridge. It weaves four miles through Douglas-fir trees on the north side of the ridge and rocky points and high meadows to the south. The trail meanders along the ridge top between Jim's Junction and Mosley gap. It offers spectacular views of Mt. Olympus, Lake Crescent, the Straits of Juan de Fuca, and the Sol Duc Valley below. The trail descends to the valley floor through boulder formations and overhanging moss. The loop trail returns to the trailhead through beautiful stands of maple, Douglas-fir and western hemlock.

TOPO MAP: Pysht-Lake Crescent USGS Quads.

A hiker enjoys a panoramic view of the Sol Duc Valley and Lake Crescent.



PASS REQUIRED: A NW Forest Pass or Golden Passport is required on each vehicle parked at trailhd. Day & Annual NW Passes are available at FS offices and vendors but not available at trailheads.

TRAIL INFORMATION: 12.8 miles in length.

Mount Muller (The Olympics)

[Click here to submit a picture of this location](#)

This is a loop that goes up along the ridge providing some great views. I recommend taking the left hand trailhead rather than going straight, unless you want a more difficult hike. Going straight provides longer uphill milage, and I personally believe the switchbacks aren't as brutal the other way. Be sure to bring an extra coat as the trail goes in the woods at times and there is a cruel, biting wind that comes off the strait. There is water at the beginning of both ends of the loop, but that is all there is, though there may be more in the spring during the melt.

[\[edit\]](#)

Driving Directions:

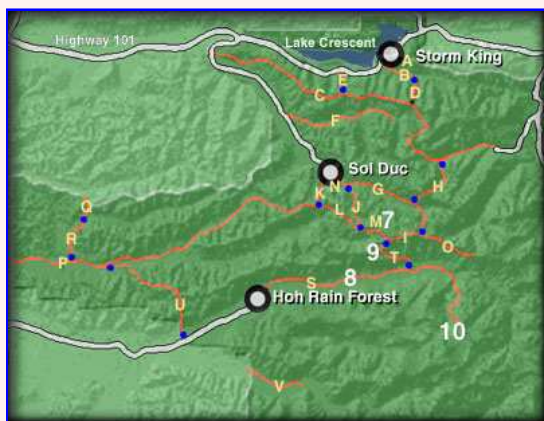
From Port Angeles, head west on highway 101 for 31 miles. About 3-4 miles from Lake Crescent turn right on FS Road 2918. It is well marked. Trailhead is under 1 mile in.

[\[edit\]](#)


NORTHWEST TRAILS



CLICK ON MAP OR INDEX FOR TRAIL REVIEWS



- (H) APPLETON PASS TRAIL
- (E) AURORA CREEK TRAIL
- (C) AURORA DIVIDE TRAIL
- (C) AURORA RIDGE TRAIL
- (B) BARNES CREEK TRAIL
- (P) BOGACHIEL RIVER TRAIL
- (O) CAT BASIN PRIMITIVE TRAIL
- (J) DEER LAKE TRAIL
- (L) LITTLE DIVIDE TRAIL
- (N) LOVER'S LANE TRAIL
- (M) LUNCH LAKE TRAIL
- (I / 07) HIGH DIVIDE / 7-LAKES BASIN
- (T / 09) HOH LAKE TRAIL
- (08 / 10) HOH RAIN FOREST / MT. OLYMPUS
- (S) HOH RIVER TRAIL
- (K) MINK LAKE TRAIL
- (K) MOUNT STORM KING TRAIL
- (A) NORTH FORK SOL DUC TRAIL
- (F) NORTH JACKSON-SNIDER (RUGGED RIDGE) TRAIL
- (R / Q) SOL DUC RIVER TRAIL
- (G) SOUTH FORK HOH RIVER TRAIL
- (V) SOUTH SNIDER-JACKSON (INDIAN PASS) TRAIL
- (U) UPPER BARNES CREEK TRAIL
- (D) HIGH DIVIDE - HOH RIVER TRAVERSE
- () MISCELLANEOUS TRAILS

The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute. 

[SEARCH SITE](#) [TRAIL REVIEWS](#) [MAIN MENU](#)