

This drive will take you out Hwy. 26 past Hillsboro and then on up across the Oregon Coast **Range** on a "road less travelled". The pass is a fun curvy drive. In **Astoria** there are a lot of things to do and see. And, you have many choices for a scenic return to the **Portland** area.



Driving = 20% 1, 70% 2 and 10% 4

Total <u>Driving Time</u>: 3.75 – 4.75 hrs. / 91 – 228 miles (depending on your return route)

Head west on Hwy. 26 - the Sunset Highway.

## Portland to Astoria - Driving Time: 1 hr 45 mins / 91 miles



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you pass by the North Plains Exit – **Exit #57** (the mileage points for the drive to Astoria are based on this).



Continue westward on Hwv. 26. Just past Manning (at mile 12) take the Hwy 47 *North* exit. This is where it starts getting fun! At mile **26** you will pass through the quaint town of Vernonia. They are equally proud of their slow speed limit through town and their effective justice system.

Leaving Vernonia, you are off through some scenic areas with great curves. At Mist (mile 43) you will diverge to the left from Hwy 47 onto Hwy 202 to Astoria. (At roughly **mile 61** you will pass the County Sheriff's office on your left).

Finally you will reach your

first pit-stop at mile 61.8 – the Jewell Meadows Wildlife Park and elk viewpoint. It will be a **left** turn <u>directly across</u> from the brown **ELK VIEWPOINT** sign.



There is a large old gray house here and the viewpoint entrance looks like a residential driveway. There is a nice parking area and **restrooms**! You might even be lucky enough to see some elk here.

From this point on over the mountains to **mile 73** the road is twisty, but a little <u>rough</u>. Fun twisties make it worthwhile!

You will approach **Astoria** from the southeast along **Youngs River**. At the *Hwy 101* roundabout (mile 90), you can go left into **Warrenton** and south on *Hwy. 101*, or turn right into downtown **Astoria**.

If you are looking for good seafood, continue into **Warrenton** and turn **right** at the first traffic light (**mile 92.8**). **Dooger's** will be on your **left**. (at the end of a strip mall). [**GPS**: **Dooger's** address is 103 Hwy. 101, Warrenton, OR 97146]



If you are looking a good brewery you can check out the **Rogue Public House** on *Hwy. 30*, just east of **Astoria**. It is out at the end of a pier in the **Columbia River.** [**GPS**: *Rogue Public House* address is 100 39th St. (Pier 39) Astoria, OR 97103]



If you are looking for "fine dining", look no further than **Baked Alaska**. Local seafood is available and the restaurant looks out over the **Columbia River**. [GPS: Baked Alaska address is #1 12th St., Astoria, OR 97103]

There are many things to do and see in **Astoria** – the **Astoria Tower**, **Columbia River Maritime Museum**, etc.



Do a little research before you go. If you cross the **Columbia River**, turn left on *Hwy. 101* for a mile or so to **Fort Columbia State Park**. This is a former military base for the **Columbia River** entrance and still has gun emplacements in place. The old officer quarters are available for rent.

## Astoria to Portland -

You have a number of choices for your return **to Portland**. You can:

- 1. Return the way you came. (1 hr, 45 minutes driving time / 91 miles)
- Head east on Oregon Hwy. 30 (along the Columbia River back to Portland). (1 hr. 50 minutes driving time / 101 miles)
- Cross over to the Washington side, turn right and follow *Hwy. 401* to Naselle and then right on *Hwy. 4* along the north bank of the Columbia back to Longview and *I-5.* (2 hrs, 20 minutes <u>driving time</u> / 123 miles)
- Or you can head south on *Hwy. 101*. If heading south, at Seaside you would head east on *Hwy. 26* back to Portland. If you continue on south to Tillamook, you would head east on *Hwy. 6* which returns you to *Hwy. 26* near North Plains. (2 hrs, 50 minutes <u>driving time</u> / 137 miles)

This is merely a <u>suggested</u> drive. You can shorten it – lengthen it – reverse it – modify it – deviate from it or just stay home and detail your car.

Enjoy and Drive Safely! S2Ki Oregon -



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