



Mt. Rainier

The Oregon S2000 Owner's Forum: [HTTP://OREGON.S2KI.COM](http://OREGON.S2KI.COM)

This drive will take you around the east side of **Mt. St. Helens** and then on up to **Rainier National Park**. Here you will travel up the south flank to **Paradise**! Your return will be by way of **Elbe, Morton** and then back on *I-5* to **Portland**.



Driving = 40% 1, 10% 3 and 50% 4

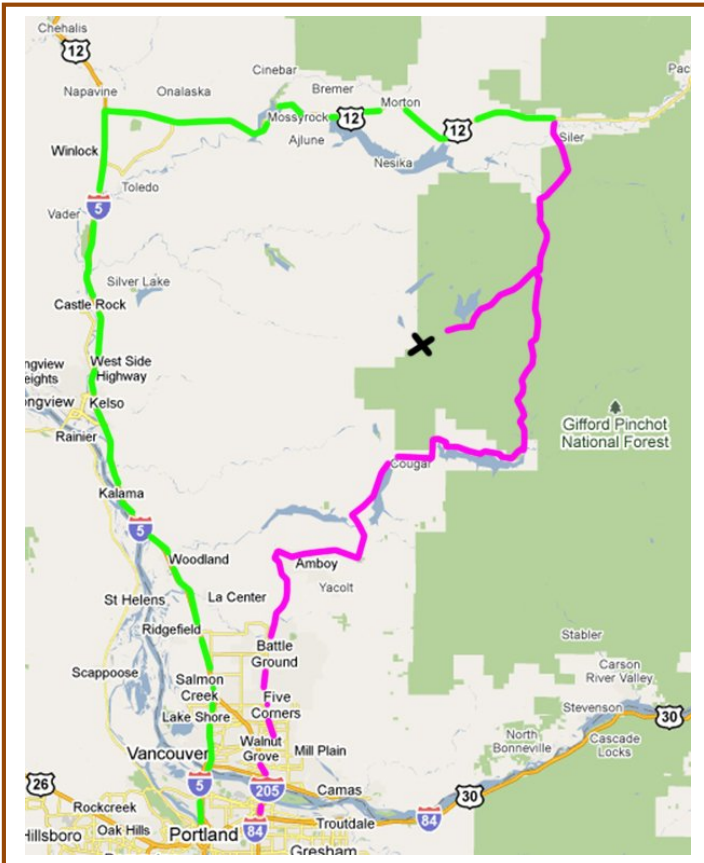


Scenery = 4

Total Driving Time: 5 hrs. 30 mins. / 310 miles

Find your way to *I-205* on the **Washington** side of the **Columbia River**. From the **Portland** area take *I-205* north across the river.

Portland to Paradise - Driving Time: 3 hrs. / 154 miles



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you leave or pass by the **I-205 / Hwy. 14 interchange** (the mileage points are based on this).

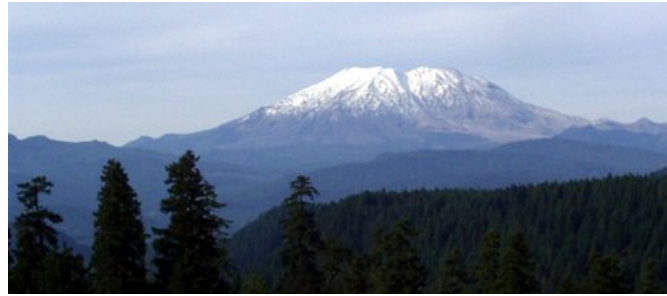
Continue north on *I-205* for **3.5 miles** and take the *Hwy 500* exit (**Exit #30A**). Follow the signs to *Hwy 500 EAST*. Once on *Hwy 500* get into the center or left lane - both become *Hwy 503*. The signs say "to **Brush Prairie** and **Battle Ground**".

Stay on *Hwy. 503* through **Brush Prairie** and **Battleground** to **Amboy (mile 26)**. At **Amboy** turn **right** / east on *Hwy 503*. *Hwy 503* will dead-end into *Hwy 503/Lewis River Road (mile 36.1)*. Turn **right** / east on *Lewis River Road*. Just east of **Yale (mile 39.4)** is **Yale Park** on your **right**.

You will want to stop here for a pit-stop (nice facilities) as the next rest stop is 1-1/2 hours away! This is a day-use area, but if you tell the entrance guard you just want to use the facilities there is no charge. **Yale Lake** is a beautiful setting!

Leaving the park, turn **right** / east on *Lewis River Road*. You will pass through **Cougar** and the road becomes *FS 90*. The highway

winds along and above **Yale Lake and Swift reservoir**. You will enter the *Gifford Pinchot National Forest* and turn **left** /north on *FS Road 25* (**mile 64.1**). There are a lot of hills and nice winding roads – with little traffic. You will pass by the back-side of **Mt. St. Helens**.



At **mile 84** you will come to the turn-off (*FS Road 99*) for the **Windy Ridge Observation Center**. Turn **left** / west and then **right** into the **Wakepish Trailer Drop** to use the restrooms. Return to *FS Road 25*. Turn **left** / north. Continue north to **Randle**. *FS Road 25* becomes *Washington Hwy. 131* as you approach **Randle**. At **Randle (mile 103.8)** you will find a couple of gas stations. You will want to refuel here before heading into **Rainier National Park**.

Leaving **Randle**, head east on *US Hwy. 12*.



At **mile 127.3** turn **left** / north on *Hwy. 123*. You will enter the **Rainier National Park** just ahead. There is a **\$15.00** fee per vehicle to enter. At **mile 132.8** turn **left** / west on *Stevens Canyon Road*. This winding road will take you up through **Box Canyon** and on to **Paradise**.



Continue on up to **Nisqually Vista**:



And then on to the **Paradise Inn (mile 154.1)**:



Spend some time here enjoying the vistas, having lunch or hiking a trail. [GPS: Paradise Inn address is 55106 Kernahan Road East, Ashford, WA]

Paradise to Portland - Driving Time: 2 hrs. 30 mins. / 156 miles

Return to *Stevens Canyon Road* and turn **right** / west on *Paradise Road*. *Paradise Road* becomes *Hwy. 706*. Continue west on *Hwy. 706* to **Elbe (mile 185.4)**. Turn **left** / south on *Hwy. 7*. Continue through **Morton (mile 202.1)** and turn **right** / west on *Hwy. 12*.



Continue west on *Hwy. 12* to *I-5 (mile 233.5)*. Follow *I-5* south to **Portland (mile 310)**.

Mt. Rainier Information: <http://www.nps.gov/mora/playourvisit/index.htm>

Paradise Inn Information: <http://www.mtrainierguestservices.com/accommodations/paradise-inn>

This is merely a suggested 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 -  The fun starts here!