parks / Olympic

#northwest

- A map guide
- *Last updated: Aug 22*

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NatGeo: Washington's Olympic National Park encompasses three distinct landscapes: wild Pacific coastline, mountains, and temperate rainforests.

Outside's Guide to Olympic National Park

- Kalaloch Lodge: In addition to a location near the park's beaches, this lodge is also a good choice for those interested in visiting the Hoh Rain Forest.
- On the south side of the park, is the beautiful Lake Quinault Lodge, an ideal base camp for lake adventures or exploring the Enchanted Valley, known as the Valley of 10,000 Waterfalls.
- Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort: There's no cell service or Wi-Fi at Sol Duc, so plan to enjoy an unplugged respite, complete with soaking opportunities in three mineral hot spring pools and one freshwater pool.

Things to do

- Day hikes: Sol Duc Falls (1.6 miles round trip), Hole-in-the-Wall from Rialto Beach (3.4 miles round trip), Moose Lake (8.2 miles round trip)
- Lake activities: Rent canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, or stand-up paddleboards at the Log Cabin Resort on Lake Crescent or at the beachside boat hut on Lake Quinault. In July and August, Lake Quinault Lodge—located on the lake on the Quinault Indian Reservation—offers boat tours at daybreak, afternoon, or sunset.
- Some of the most famous trees in Olympic are found in the Hall of Mosses in the Hoh Rain Forest. But if you're driving the whole peninsula loop, you might also want to ogle the world's largest Sitka spruce, located on the (aptly named) Big Spruce Trail by Lake Quinault; the world's largest red cedar, known as the Duncan Cedar, between Forks and Kalaloch; and, at Kalaloch Beach, the Tree of Life, a famous thousand-year-old Sitka spruce whose roots form a cave beneath it.

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Trip ideas

- The Hoh Rain Forest offers easy, moderate, and strenuous hiking options. Hall of Mosses (0.8 miles) and Spruce Nature Trail (1.2 miles) are the most popular.
- Sol Duc Valley is most popular for a visit to Sol Duc Falls (1.8 miles round trip) and the Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort. Ancient Groves Trail is a great easy old growth forest hike (0.5 miles).
- The Mora area offers easy beach access points at Rialto Beach and First Beach. Short hikes through the forest will let you visit Second Beach and Third Beach.
- Kalaloch is great spot to spend some time along the coast. Ruby Beach is an easy destination to see some sea stacks. Beach 4 offers good opportunities for tide pooling at low tide.
- Lake Crescent offers mountain and lake views, a scenic drive along Highway 101, an easy hike to Marymere Falls (1.8 miles round trip) or Devil's Punchbowl (2.1 miles round trip).

Lodging options

- Kalaloch Lodge website
- Lake Crescent Lodge website
- Lake Crescent Log Cabin Resort website
- Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort website

Places to Go

- Kalaloch and Ruby Beach: Kalaloch Beach is a broad sandy beach ideal for walking and beach combing.
- Mora and Rialto Beach: Rialto Beach is a magnificent beach with scenic views of off shore islands to the south and sea stacks to the north.
- Ozette: Ozette not only has stunning beaches, but one of the largest lakes on the Peninsula

Peninsula.

- Hoh Rain Forest: Hall of Mosses and Spruce Nature Trail are two short trails that loop from the visitor center. The trailhead for Hoh Valley and Mt. Olympus
- Lake Crescent: This deep, clear, glacially carved lake is surrounded by old-growth forest and is home to two endemic fish species.
- Sol Duc Valley: The Sol Duc Trailhead offers access to some of the park's most popular wilderness backpacking areas including the Seven Lakes Basin.
- Hurricane Ridge: Accessible mountain destinations. A great location for enjoying scenic vistas.

Things to Do

- Tidepooling
- Wildlife Viewing
- Day Hikes
- Night Sky Programs

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27th July 2026
Saguaro

14th July 2026
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