ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

By camper down the Pacific coast

Seattle to Los Angeles, from the rainforest past the redwoods to Big Sur, at campgrounds by the sea.

Length	18 days, 17 nights
Distance	2,510 km, 13 driving days
Behind the wheel	43 h
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – Seattle (SEA), Los Angeles (LAX) – Amsterdam

CONTENTS

Seattle	Day 1	**8**
Port Angeles	Days 2–3	**10**
Astoria	Day 4	**12**
Newport	Days 5–6	**14**
Bandon	Day 7	**16**
Eureka	Days 8–9	**18**
Mendocino	Day 10	**20**
San Francisco	Days 11–12	**22**
Monterey	Day 13	**24**
Big Sur	Days 14–15	**26**
Santa Barbara	Day 16	**28**
Los Angeles	Day 17	**30**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		Seattle	20	30 min	
2		Port Angeles	220	3 h 40 min	
3		Port Angeles			
4		Astoria	340	6 h 20 min	
5		Newport	220	4 h 20 min	
6		Newport			
7		Bandon	200	3 h 40 min	
8		Eureka	310	5 h	
9		Eureka			
10		Mendocino	230	3 h 50 min	
11		San Francisco	250	4 h 10 min	
12		San Francisco			
13		Monterey	180	2 h 40 min	
14		Big Sur	50	50 min	
15		Big Sur			
16		Santa Barbara	320	5 h 10 min	
17		Los Angeles	150	2 h 20 min	
18		Flight home from LAX	30	30 min	

2,510 km · 43 h behind the wheel · on average 190 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle · About 20 km (10 mi), 30 min
Day 2	Seattle, drive to Port Angeles · About 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 40 min
Day 4	Port Angeles, drive to Astoria · About 340 km (210 mi), 6 h 20 min
Day 5	Astoria, drive to Newport · About 220 km (130 mi), 4 h 20 min
Day 7	Newport, drive to Bandon · About 200 km (120 mi), 3 h 40 min
Day 8	Bandon, drive to Eureka · About 310 km (190 mi), 5 h

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAY 1

Seattle WA

Pick up the camper

Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle: about 20 km (10 mi), 30 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
- [ ] Staypineapple, Watertown Hotel, University District Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  4242 Roosevelt Way NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

NOTES



DAYS 2–3

Port Angeles WA

Olympic: Hurricane Ridge and the Hoh Rain Forest

Seattle, drive to Port Angeles: about 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 40 min

2 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] 11 Mi to Olympic NP: Port Angeles Retreat w/ Deck · 3★
- [ ] Charming Port Angeles Studio w/ Deck & Views! · 3★
  533 Black Hawk Loop
- [ ] Oceanfront Port Angeles Home w/ Mountain View! · 3★
  924 Gunn Rd
- [ ] Peaceful Home < 8 Mi to Olympic National Park! · 3★
  130 Olympian Way
- [ ] Picturesque Port Angeles Cabin w/ Fire Pit! · 3★
  3578 Monroe Rd

NOTES



DAY 4

Astoria OR

The mouth of the Columbia

Port Angeles, drive to Astoria: about 340 km (210 mi), 6 h 20 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] 'astoria Painted Lady' Historic Apt w/ River View! · 3★
  3391 Irving Avenue
- [ ] Crosby House · 3★
  364 Bond St.
- [ ] Hotel Elliott · 3★ — roughly €160
  357 12th Street
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites Astoria · 3★ — roughly €140
  201 39th St
- [ ] Best Western Columbia River Waterfront Hotel Astoria · 3★ — roughly €120
  3420 Leif Erickson Dr

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DAYS 5–6

Newport OR

Lighthouses and sea lions on the Oregon coast

Astoria, drive to Newport: about 220 km (130 mi), 4 h 20 min

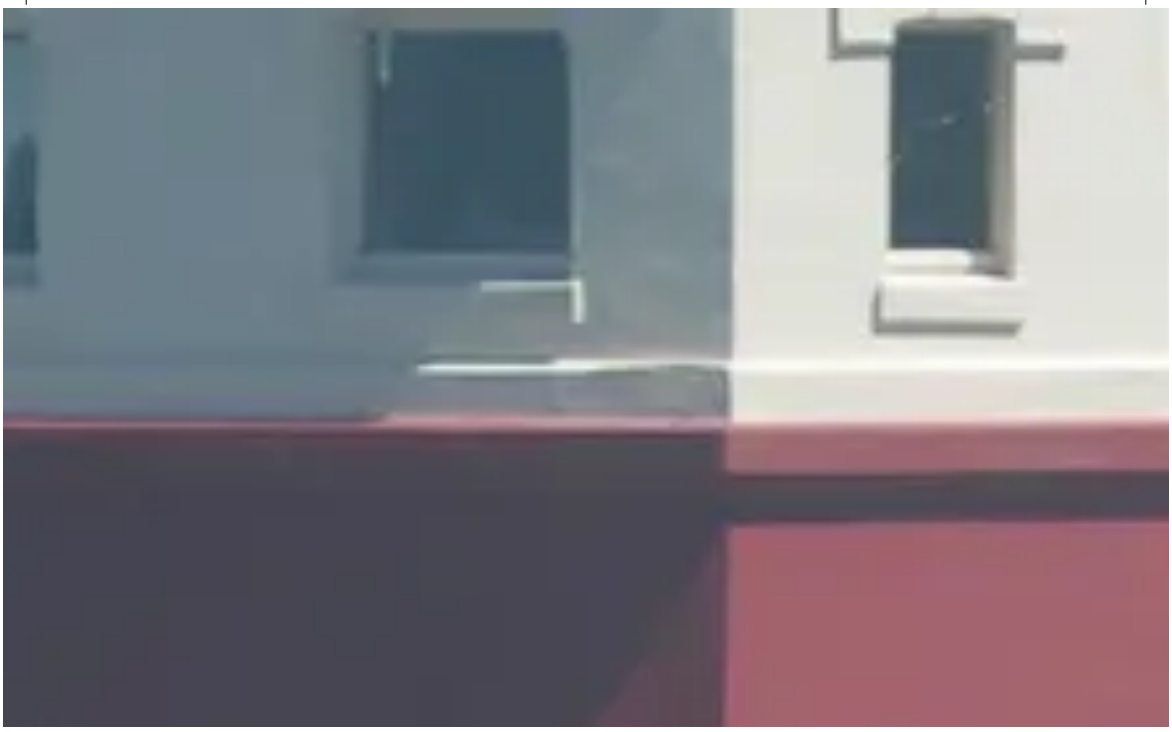
2 nights

NEWPORT · DAYS 5–6

HOTEL

- [ ] Little Creek Cove Beachfront Resort · 3★ — roughly €120
  3641 NW Oceanview Drive
- [ ] Inn at Nye Beach · 3★
  729 NW Coast Street
- [ ] Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn · 3★ — roughly €130
  3019 N Coast Highway
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express Newport by IHG · 3★ — roughly €100
  135 SE 32nd ST.
- [ ] La Quinta by Wyndham Newport · 3★ — roughly €120
  45 Southeast 32nd St

NOTES



DAY 7

Bandon OR

Sea stacks in the surf

Newport, drive to Bandon: about 200 km (120 mi), 3 h 40 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Rustic Bandon Log Cabin on 5 Acres of Woodlands! · 3★
  87290 McTimmons Lane
- [ ] Best Western Inn at Face Rock · 3★ — roughly €130
  3225 Beach Loop Drive
- [ ] Bandon Beach House Rental: Walk to Downtown! · 3★
  55 Cleveland Ave SW
- [ ] Bandon Home w/ Patio, Steps to South Jetty Park · 3★
  1165 4th Street Southwest
- [ ] Beachfront Bandon Vacation Rental w/ Ocean View! · 3★
  646 Madison Ave

NOTES



DAYS 8–9

Eureka CA

The redwoods of Prairie Creek

Bandon, drive to Eureka: about 310 km (190 mi), 5 h

2 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] Peaceful Eureka Beach Cottage w/ 30-foot Dock · 3★
  26 Crab St
- [ ] Home2 Suites By Hilton Eureka · 3★ — roughly €140
- [ ] Carter House Inns · 3★ — roughly €200
  301 L St
- [ ] Eureka Cottage Near Sequoia Park & Old Town! · 3★
  2219 Pine St
- [ ] Best Western Plus Humboldt Bay Inn · 3★ — roughly €110
  232 W 5th St

NOTES



DAY 10

Mendocino CA

Cliffs and a 19th-century village

Eureka, drive to Mendocino: about 230 km (140 mi), 3 h 50 min

1 night

MENDOCINO · DAY 10

HOTEL

- [ ] Mendocino View East · 3★
  44920 Little Lake Road
- [ ] Peaceful Mendocino Cottage Surrounded By Redwoods · 3★
  40300 Comptche Ukiah Rd
- [ ] Joshua Grindle Inn · 3★
  44800 Little Lake Rd
- [ ] Agate Cove Inn · 3★ — roughly €320
  11201 N Lansing Street
- [ ] Inn at Schoolhouse Creek · 3★
  7051 Shoreline Hwy

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DAYS 11–12

San Francisco CA

The Golden Gate Bridge

Mendocino, drive to San Francisco: about 250 km (150 mi), 4 h 10 min

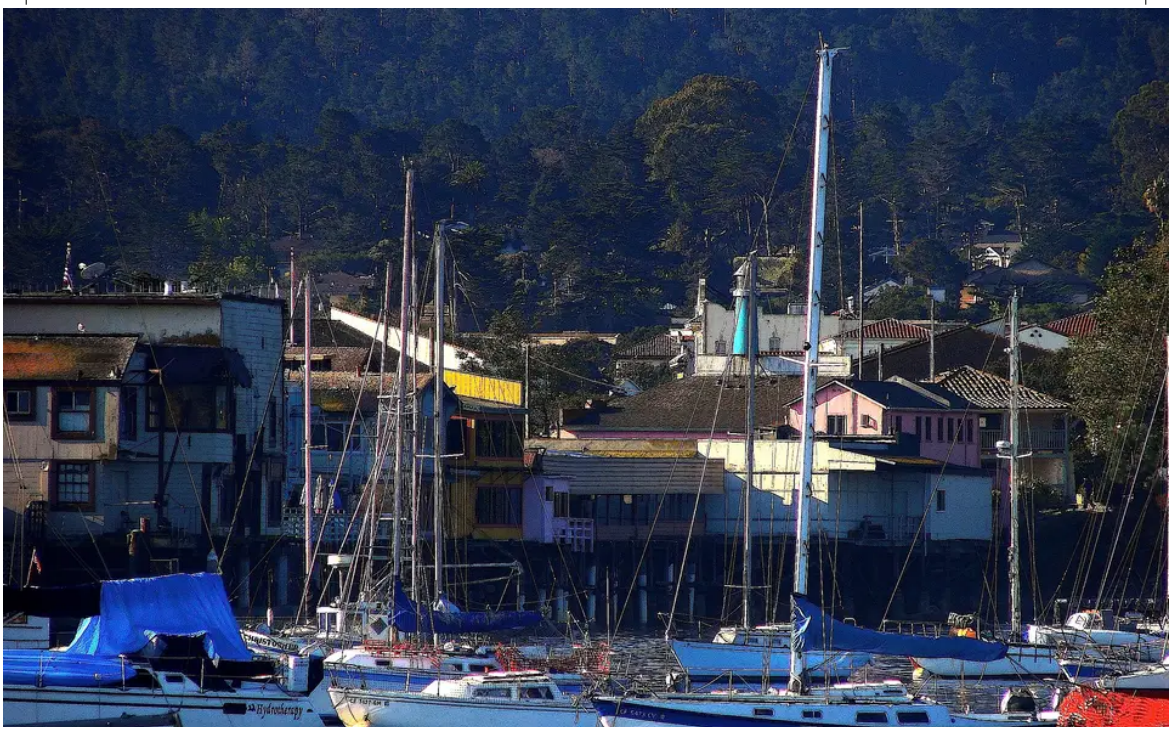
2 nights

SAN FRANCISCO · DAYS 11–12

HOTEL

- [ ] Inn at Union Square · 3★
  440 Post St
- [ ] Chancellor Hotel on Union Square · 3★ — roughly €120
  433 Powell St
- [ ] White Swan Inn · 3★ — roughly €150
  845 Bush St
- [ ] Petite Auberge · 3★ — roughly €190
  863 Bush St
- [ ] Hyatt Place San Francisco/Downtown · 3★ — roughly €190
  701 3rd St

NOTES



DAY 13

Monterey CA

17-Mile Drive

San Francisco, drive to Monterey: about 180 km (110 mi), 2 h 40 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Spindrift Inn · 3★ — roughly €270
  652 Cannery Row
- [ ] Victorian Inn · 3★ — roughly €200
  487 Foam St
- [ ] Stage Coach Lodge · 3★ — roughly €130
  1111 Tenth Street
- [ ] Hampton Inn Monterey · 3★ — roughly €220
  2401 Del Monte Ave
- [ ] Ramada by Wyndham Monterey · 3★ — roughly €120
  2058 N. Fremont Street

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DAYS 14–15

Big Sur CA

Camp under the Pfeiffer redwoods

Monterey, drive to Big Sur: about 50 km (30 mi), 50 min

2 nights

BIG SUR · DAYS 14–15

HOTEL

- [ ] Big Sur Campground and Cabins · 3★
  California 1
- [ ] Big Sur River Inn · 3★
  46800 Highway One

NOTES



DAY 16

Santa Barbara CA

Camp on the beach

Big Sur, drive to Santa Barbara: about 320 km (200 mi), 5 h 10 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Avania Inn of Santa Barbara · 3★ — roughly €210
  128 Castillo St
- [ ] Harbor House Inn · 3★ — roughly €300
  104 Bath Street
- [ ] Pacific Crest Hotel Santa Barbara · 3★ — roughly €130
  433 Corona Del Mar Drive
- [ ] Marina Beach Hotel · 3★ — roughly €240
  21 Bath St
- [ ] The Eagle Inn · 3★
  232 Natoma Avenue

NOTES



DAY 17

Los Angeles CA

Return the camper

Santa Barbara, drive to Los Angeles: about 150 km (100 mi), 2 h 20 min

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] FOUND Hotels, Santa Monica, Series by Marriott · 3★ — roughly €200
  12311 Santa Monica Blvd
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Los Angeles LAX/Century Boulevard · 3★ — roughly €150
  5933 W Century Blvd
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express Hollywood Walk of Fame by IHG · 3★ — roughly €220
  1921 N Highland Avenue
- [ ] Holiday Inn Express West Los Angeles by IHG · 3★ — roughly €350
  11250 Santa Monica Blvd
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE · 3★ — roughly €190
  901 W Olympic Blvd

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	Seattle	€80	–	€200	**€270**
2	Port Angeles	€20	–	€240	**€260**
3	Port Angeles	€20	–	€190	**€210**
4	Astoria	€50	–	€260	**€310**
5	Newport	€40	–	€240	**€280**
6	Newport	€40	–	€190	**€230**
7	Bandon	€40	–	€230	**€280**
8	Eureka	€40	–	€260	**€300**
9	Eureka	€40	–	€190	**€230**
10	Mendocino	€50	–	€240	**€290**
11	San Francisco	€100	–	€240	**€340**
12	San Francisco	€100	–	€190	**€290**
13	Monterey	€90	–	€230	**€310**
14	Big Sur	€50	–	€200	**€250**
15	Big Sur	€50	–	€190	**€240**
16	Santa Barbara	€60	–	€260	**€320**
17	Los Angeles	€70	–	€220	**€290**
18	Flight home from LAX	–	–	€200	**€200**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€920
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€3,970
Total	**€7,640**
	€3,820 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

Notes

About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.roundtrip.expert/tours/camper-pacific-coast/

PHOTOS

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MAP AND TYPE

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