



*The*  
**ROAD  
TRIP  
BOOK**

**1001 DRIVES  
OF A LIFETIME**

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**UNIVERSE**



# Pacific Coast Highway

California, USA

Start Monterey

End Morro Bay

Distance 124 miles (200 km)

Type Scenic

Info [goo.gl/dMilhL](https://goo.gl/dMilhL)

Running a close second to the fabled Route 66, the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) is one of the most iconic US road trips.

Envisaged as part of a more ambitious plan to link Mexico and Canada, California's portion of Highway 1 clings to its rugged western seaboard for 930 miles (1,500 km) from its border with Oregon down to San Diego.

The finest section is the coastal stretch between the old Spanish capital of Monterey and the picturesque haven of Morro Bay—a route National Geographic placed at number one in its Top 10 Motorcycle Rides in the USA.

From the fashionable art galleries, broad beaches, and quaintly painted cottages of Carmel, the PCH winds south for 90 miles (145 km) through Big Sur—world famous for its dramatic coastline and towering redwood forests—and traverses sea cliffs on wide spandrel bridges. Highway 1 is broad and well surfaced, perfect for leisurely cruising on a good day, but watch out for the notorious sea mists.

Passing through San Simeon and Cambria, the PCH eventually drops through oak-covered hills toward Morro Bay; famed for its seafood restaurants, this is the perfect place to refuel after experiencing one of the world's greatest scenic road trips. **DIS**

📍 Bixby Creek Bridge on the Big Sur coast.







## The Cascade Loop Washington, USA

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**Start** Everett **End** Everett **Distance** 440 miles (710 km)

**Type** Scenic **Info** [goo.gl/8ESRZp](https://goo.gl/8ESRZp)

This road trip could be dashed off in a day, but sensible folk will allow at least three days to savor all the mountains, forests, islands, and river valleys.

The city of Everett is a popular starting point on a clockwise loop toward Mukilteo on the WA-526 to catch the ferry over to Whidbey Island. From there the road cuts north past freshwater lakes and unspoiled beaches toward Deception Pass, and several bridge crossings to the smaller islands, before picking up Highway 20 heading east inland past Burlington and the gateway to North Cascades National Park. From there you can pick up guidebooks and the free permits required for overnight camping, if needed.

You'll now be scooting along the fabled North Cascades Highway through jaw-dropping scenery peppered with picturesque bodies of water including Diablo, Picture, and Ross Lakes. Through the Methrow Valley you eventually reach Winthrop, a popular rendezvous for mountain bikers and hikers.

At Wenatchee, the Stevens Pass (Highway 2) brings you back west via the Bavarian village of Leavenworth and the spectacular Tumwater Canyon. It's then a long and wonderful drive on US 2 through the Alpine Lakes Wilderness and Snohomish River Valley back to Puget Sound. **DIS**

**i** Mt. Shuksan, seen from the highway.



## Driving the Adirondacks New York, USA

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**Start** Lake Placid **End** Lake Placid **Distance** 121 miles (195 km)

**Type** Scenic **Map** [goo.gl/sciEa6](https://goo.gl/sciEa6)

Traversing the Adirondacks of upstate New York, this circular route merges a number of smaller scenic drives suggested by Lake Placid's Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism, through mountains, coastline, and freshwater lakes.

From Lake Placid, host of the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympics, your clockwise loop heads first to the picturesque shoreside village of Saranac Lake; voted Best Small Town in New York State, it was once home to author Robert Louis Stevenson.

On a winding Route 18A, cross the forested foothills of McKenzie Mountain to Santa's Workshop, in the hamlet of North Pole, from where an interesting scenic detour up the Whiteface Veterans

Memorial Highway offers great views back over the Olympic Village. For a change of pace, there is also a scenic railway that leaves from near here.

A long leg east arrives at the magical Ausable Chasm, a sandstone gorge whose river empties into nearby Lake Champlain, before an hour-long scenic coastal drive via Essex and Westport. From there another fifty-minute drive wings you west on the pretty and twisty Route 9-N via Elizabethtown to Lake Placid, through an area known as Pleasant Valley. The fall, or "leaf-peeper season" as some folks call it, is the best time to visit if you can. **DIS**

📍 **The Ausable River gorge.**

# Seven Mile Bridge

Florida, USA

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**Start** Marathon

**End** Little Duck Key

**Distance** 7.5 miles (12 km)

**Type** Culture

**Map** [goo.gl/OLtHqW](https://goo.gl/OLtHqW)

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No matter how many years pass, if you have driven Florida's Seven Mile Bridge, you will never forget what it felt like. One of the longest overwater bridges in the world when it was completed in 1982, it replaced the original Seven Mile Bridge, built and completed in 1912 by oil tycoon Henry Flagler. The new bridge runs parallel to the old one, linking Knight's Key in the Middle Keys with Little Duck Key in the Lower Keys, an intrinsic part of the southernmost section of US Highway 1, the road that binds the Florida Keys together. Unlike the old bridge, it bypasses Pigeon Key.

A precast, prestressed, segmented box girder bridge, the new Seven Mile Bridge has a whopping 440 spans that rise in a gentle arc near to its center to reach a height of 65 feet (20 m) above the water, in order to allow for the passage of boats. And although its precise length is 6.79 miles (10.9 km), which makes it shorter than the original bridge, the new model is far closer to the water. To look either side of you as you drive and see nothing but water is an unusual and invigorating sensation. (The trip's additional overall distance is accounted for by the approach roads on either side.)

If you want to extend this short discovery road trip into a much longer scenic tour, then the Florida Keys Scenic Highway runs for 110 miles (177 km), linking forty-three keys all the way to Key West. **BDS**



**i** An aerial view of a section of the Seven Mile Bridge in Florida Keys.





## Oregon National Historic Trail Massachusetts to Oregon, USA

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**Start** Plymouth, Massachusetts **End** Oregon City, Oregon **Distance** 3,300 miles (5,310 km)

**Type** Culture **Info** [goo.gl/7atwnS](https://goo.gl/7atwnS)

In the first decades of America's westward expansion, no trail symbolized the aspirations of the nation more than the Oregon Trail. From the Missouri River, west to Oregon, 400,000 pioneers, their families, ranchers, miners, and dreamers followed the trail and its numerous shortcuts and offshoots in search of new lives. Their journeys can now be retraced by car along an array of connecting highways from Plymouth, Massachusetts.

This road trip will take you through Boston, Concord, New York, along the Mohawk Trail (the nation's first Scenic Byway), and up into New York's Adirondack wilderness. Picking up US 20 you pass through Buffalo and enter Ohio along the southern

shores of Lake Erie. Next you go through Indiana, and Illinois, leading up to Chicago. Still on US 20, you cross the Mississippi River into Iowa, then Nebraska, South Dakota, and central Wyoming. Make a detour on US 287 to the Grand Teton Mountains before hitting Yellowstone Park. Idaho is next, then the Snake River, and at last you're in Oregon.

The journey is long and demanding, even if you stop, which you will because between Missouri and Oregon alone there are more than 125 designated historic sites. So you might want to plan this one for your gap year. **BDS**

📍 **Bison grazing below the Grand Teton Mountains.**



## Outer Banks National Scenic Byway North Carolina, USA

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**Start** Whalebone Junction **End** Beaufort **Distance** 138 miles (222 km)

**Type** Scenic **Info** [goo.gl/EfQh45](https://goo.gl/EfQh45)

The barrier islands that protect the coast of North Carolina, guarding the mainland from fierce Atlantic squalls, were formed between 3,500 and 5,000 years ago. There are nine of them—Currituck Banks, Bodie Island, Pea Island, Hatteras Island, Ocracoke Island, Portsmouth Island, Core Banks, Shackleford Banks, and Bogue Banks.

They have survived a gradual rise in sea levels by slowly migrating landward, as much as 50 miles (80 km) since their formation. They may look fragile, but they are tough natural sea defenses, and together they comprise the Outer Banks, an American landfall rich in birdlife, marshlands, dunes, and tales of pirates and ghosts that rose up

from beyond shifting sands out of sunken ships in the so-called Graveyard of the Atlantic.

The William B. Umstead Bridge first brought the mainland's US Route 64 to Whalebone Junction in 1955, and now a series of bridges and car ferries takes you through the Outer Banks' wildlife refuges, past beaches and the nation's tallest brick lighthouse (Cape Hatteras). Visit the site where the Wright Brothers made their first controlled powered airplane flight near Kitty Hawk, and see the twenty-one communities on the salty road that runs flat and straight through a bygone world. **BDS**

**i** Bodie Island Lighthouse on the Outer Banks.