

Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of Living.” - Miriam Beard

Off the beaten path...

The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway, State Route 112 offers fresh air, natural beauty, and just plain old good clean living to anyone who follows its winding path.

Need a break from the urban scene? Ready to turn around without bumping into anyone? You have arrived at the perfect place.

The beaches and towns on Highway 112 offer room to breathe, decompress, and move at your own pace.

Join us at www.highway112.org for a taste of what there is to see and do on the north coast of the Olympic Peninsula.

Now that you are here...

The Highway 112 scenic byway is a gateway to the bounty of fresh Northwest seafood so prized by culinary fans “in the know”. Fishing, shellfishing, and crab harvesting are popular activities along many of the beaches accessible from the highway. If you have a taste for clams, oysters, crab, salmon, shrimp, ling cod, sea bass, halibut, seaweed, or squid, the Scenic Byway is a good place to be.

For fishing, shellfish harvests, crabbing and a great “day out” in general, Pillar Point County Park at Milepost 29-30 is a popular destination. Its beaches are long and flat. The park has vault toilets, a concrete launch ramp for small boats, picnic tables and fire pits. Generally, there are seasonal opportunities for various harvests all during the year. Seasons, rules, and safety considerations must be observed. Information about licensing, catch limits, and seasons is available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov>.

Catching your own seafood is certainly not the only way to enjoy the “byway’s bounty”. Seafood, groceries, and other goods and services may be purchased at restaurants and businesses all along the byway...all of whom would be delighted to provide for your needs.

A consultation of the byway’s business directory at <http://www.highway112.org/directory.asp> will assist you in finding gear, bait, tackle, freshly caught product, or a “sit-down” meal. If you want a printed copy, drop in to the Joyce Depot Museum MP 50-51 or Chito Beach MP 7-8.

Pillar Point County Park



Getting Oriented

This newsletter utilizes the highway milepost markers (“MP”) to assist you in trip planning and finding your chosen points of interest. Milepost markers are small numbered green signs along the highway. The eastern entrance of Highway 112 is marked with milepost 61, where it connects to Highway 101, west of Port Angeles. The milepost numbers then decrease each mile to 0, where the highway enters the Makah Reservation and continues on to Neah Bay. Points of interest on the Makah Nation are well marked by roadside signage.

Hiking - in General

- * Leave vehicles in designated parking areas, not on the side of the highway, and do not block gates.
- * When beach hiking, be aware of tides which can block your way on most headlands at high tide.
- * Use caution hiking beaches in the winter, as storms can be fierce and unexpected.
- * Tides can also carry large debris (logs) which are very hazardous.
- * Stay on designated trails to avoid harm to sensitive areas such as meadows, lake shores, wetlands and streams.
- * Respect the rights of private property owners, ask permission to access privately owned beaches.
- * Pack out what you pack in.
- * When encountering horses on the trail, move to the downhill side of the trail, stop, and ask the rider the best way to proceed.
- * Pets are welcome on most trails unless otherwise noted. Bring a leash and please pick up after your pet.



artwork by Margaret Owens

What’s Happening...

May - Halibut, shrimp, and lingcod season
openings see <http://wdfw.wa.gov>

May 25th Sekiu Fly-In

BBQ Style Lunch featuring:
Pulled Pork, Beef, and Chicken with Picnic Sides
contact Gary Fernandes at (360)-963-2485

June - Sekiu Halibut Derby

For more information on upcoming fishing derbies, inquire at the Clallam Bay/Sekiu Chamber of Commerce.

July 12th -14th Clallam Bay Sekiu Fun Days

Friday - Community Social w/ Live Music
Saturday - Poker Ride, Grand Parade, Fireworks
Sunday - Fun Run
<http://www.clallambaysekiufundays.com/>

August 3rd Joyce Daze

a Wild blackberry festival

Pancake Breakfast
Parade
Craft Market
Wild blackberry pie bake-off
Salmon Bake
Antique Car Displays
Raffle
<http://www.joycewa.com/joycedaze.htm>

August 23rd -25th Makah Days

Traditional dancing and singing
Craft Market
Canoe races
Slahal games.
<http://www.makah.com/makahdays.html>

54 Years Ago

In 1959 the highway was improved by the elimination of a steep and hazardous loop crossing the Lyre River on a very old wooden bridge. The straightening of the road included the construction of a new wooden trestle bridge over the Lyre and one of its tributaries, Susie Creek. The treated lumber trestles are decked with laminated lumber and still in use today. In 2011 the bridge over the Lyre was upgraded with a steel structure replacing aged portions of the original lumber trestle.





Always Happening

**On the Makah Nation -
Makah Museum, Neah
Bay**

Open 10 am to 5 pm - 7
days a week year round,
except for New Year's
Day, Thanksgiving and
Christmas

<http://www.makah.com/mcrchome.html>

**MP 16-17 Clallam Bay
Visitor Center**

Historic Photo and artifact display
April 1 - September 30
Daily 10AM - 5PM
October 1 - March 31
Open Intermittently

http://www.sekiu.com/visitor_center.php

**MP 50-51 - Joyce Depot
Museum**

Winter (Labor Day to
Memorial Day):
Saturdays 10AM - 4PM
Summer (Memorial Day
to Labor Day): Monday,
Thursday, Friday,
Saturday 10AM - 4PM

Birding

Many sites along the byway have incredible access to the avian world. Regardless of where you are hundreds of species of resident and migrating birds are present. Eagles, ravens, and crows are year round residents. The beaches are often frequented by eagles as they hunt.

In the Makah Nation - Cape Flattery offers opportunities for rare bird sightings. The end of the .5 mile trail overlooks the cape's cliffs and Tatoosh Island. Keep a lookout for Tufted Puffins. During the fall, Red-throated, Common, and Pacific Loons, Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorants, Pigeon Guillemots, Cassin's and Rhinoceros Auklets, and Marbled Murrelets may be seen. On a winter visit, Western, Red-necked, and Horned Grebes, as well as Surf and White-winged Scoters may be sighted.

Also in the Makah Nation - Hobuck Beach there are thousands of roosting birds. Surfbirds, Glaucous-winged, California, and Thayer's gulls, along with many others are constantly visible. If you stop by the river mouth, you may also see Harlequin ducks.

MP 16-17 - Clallam Bay Park During fall and winter, many species of Gulls, Mews and other marine birds may be found.

MP 29-30 - Pillar Point County Park Great Blue herons and loons can be seen in the shallows. Shorebirds, such as Black-bellied Plovers, Dunlins, Sanderlings, and Whimbrels play out their lives on the beaches. Several species of woodpeckers may be seen or heard. This is also a good site for watching Eagles forage.

MP 53-54 - Salt Creek Recreation Area The shoreline has resident Marbled Murrelets, Harlequin ducks and Rhinoceros Auklets. This is also a good site for watching Eagles forage.

Whale Watching

Some whales may be sighted year round. Good viewing sites and information about these fascinating animals is available on large display panels at:

MP 57 - Follow Freshwater Bay Road to Freshwater Bay County Park.

MP 53 - 54 - Follow Camp Hayden Road to Salt Creek County Park.

MP 15 - The Sekiu overlook just west of the exit to Sekiu.

MP 5 - Just off the highway at Shipwreck Point Natural Resource Conservation Area.

Additional information may be accessed at: <http://thewhaletrail.org/>



Tide-pooling

Warmer weather enhances the exploration of tide pools on the Strait of Juan de Fuca beaches. Sea stars, urchins, anemones, various shellfish, tiny fish, and crabs are hustling about making lives for themselves in the intertidal zones. The systems of tidepools are dynamic ecosystems driven by the constant and quick changes of weather and tides. The residents are very adaptable and tough. Good places to visit tidepools are:

MP 53 - 54 Salt Creek Recreational Area

MP 53 - 54 Tongue Point Marine Life Sanctuary

MP 16 - 17 Clallam Bay County Park

MP 17 - 18 Slip Point



Please keep a tide table with you and stay aware of changing water levels.



Makah Museum



Camp Hayden



Cape Flattery Lighthouse

Historical Points of Interest

- * MP 56-57 Freshwater Bay: Large panels displaying information about the origin of place names and extinct communities along the byway.
- * MP 53-54 Camp Hayden: Now part of Salt Creek County Park, Camp Hayden was active from 1940 to 1947 as part of the Puget Sound harbor defenses, commonly called the coastal defence forts. The 518 acre site concealed two heavily camouflaged, bomb-proofed two-gun batteries: one six-inch installation and a 16-inch battery. The steel-shielded, canopied concrete bunkers are accessible to the public through Salt Creek County Park. Visit www.clallam.net/Parks/SaltCreek.html for more information about hours.
- * MP 50-51 The Joyce Depot Museum: One of the few remaining log built train stations. Built in 1915 and now open to the public as a local history museum. The Depot is open Memorial Day through Labor Day, Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 10am-4pm. The rest of the year; Sat. only, 10am-4pm.
- * MP 50-51 The Joyce General Store: Established in 1911 and although not officially a historical center, to step inside is to step back in time. The wooden structure is original. Keep your eyes open and you will see many items from the early days of logging, the old Post Office boxes still in use, and the original plank floors that have witnessed much in the last 100+ years.
- * MP 16-17 Clallam Bay Visitors Center: A fascinating source of historical and local information. Displayed are many photos of the Mosquito Fleet and Clallam Bay in the early 20th century. Open daily 10am - 5pm from April - November. Open intermittently the rest of the year. www.sekiu.com/visitor_center.php
- * MP 16-17 Clallam Bay County Park: Panels displaying information about the many shipwrecks along this coast and the Mosquito Fleet, the main source of transportation before there was a reliable road from Port Angeles to Neah Bay
- * In Neah Bay - the Makah Museum: a world renowned resource for information about the history and culture of the Makah nation. Open 10am to 5pm, 7 days a week, year round, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day. www.makah.com/mcrchome.html
- * Also in Neah Bay - Follow the signs and a .5 mile heavily wooded trail to an overlook of the Cape Flattery lighthouse on Tatoosh Island, the very tip of the Olympic Peninsula. First lit on December 28, 1857, it enabled vessels to enter the straits day or night.