

Route Information: *Route:* SR112 • *Length:* 61 miles
Drive Time: 1.5 to 2 hours one way beginning at either end

Follow Highway 101 either east or west over the Olympic Peninsula. If you are approaching from the west, watch for the junction of Highway 101 and SR113 at Sappho, approximately 11-12 miles east of Forks. Follow SR113 north to its junction with SR112 (approximately 10 miles). At that point you can either continue north to Clallam Bay/Sekiu and west to Neah Bay where SR112 begins, or you can proceed east at the 113/112 junction, taking SR112 to Joyce and Port Angeles.

If you are approaching from Port Angeles and Seattle, drive west on Highway 101 approximately 4 miles from Port Angeles to the junction of Highway 101 and SR112. You are now at the eastern entry to the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway – *bon voyage!*

Scenic Byways

Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway SR112 National Scenic Byway

www.highway112.org

National Scenic Byways • www.byways.org/browse/byways/13740/

Washington's Scenic Byways, Washington State Tourism

www.experiencewa.com/scenic-byways.aspx

Tourism and Chambers of Commerce

Olympic Peninsula Visitor Bureau

1-800-942-2339 • www.olympicpeninsula.org

Clallam Bay – Sekiu Chamber of Commerce

(360) 963-2339 • www.clallambay.com or www.sekiu.com

Joyce Community • www.joycewa.com

Makah Nation/Neah Bay Chamber of Commerce

(360) 645-2201 • www.makah.com and www.neahbaywa.com

Public Transportation: Buses

Clallam Transit System • (360) 452-4511 • www.clallamtransit.com

Related Web Links

Clallam County Parks • www.clallam.net/CountyParks

Olympic National Park & Elwha Dam Project • www.nps.gov/olym

Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary • www.ocnms.nos.noaa.gov

Washington State Department of Transportation

www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic (or in Washington: radio dial 511)

Washington State Department of Ecology - Shoreline Photos of Washington

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/shorephotos/>

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife • www.wdfw.wa.gov

The Whale Trail • www.thewhaletrail.org

The Waterfall Trail • www.olympicpeninsulawaterfalltrail.com

The Olympic Discovery Trail • www.olympicdiscoverytrail.com

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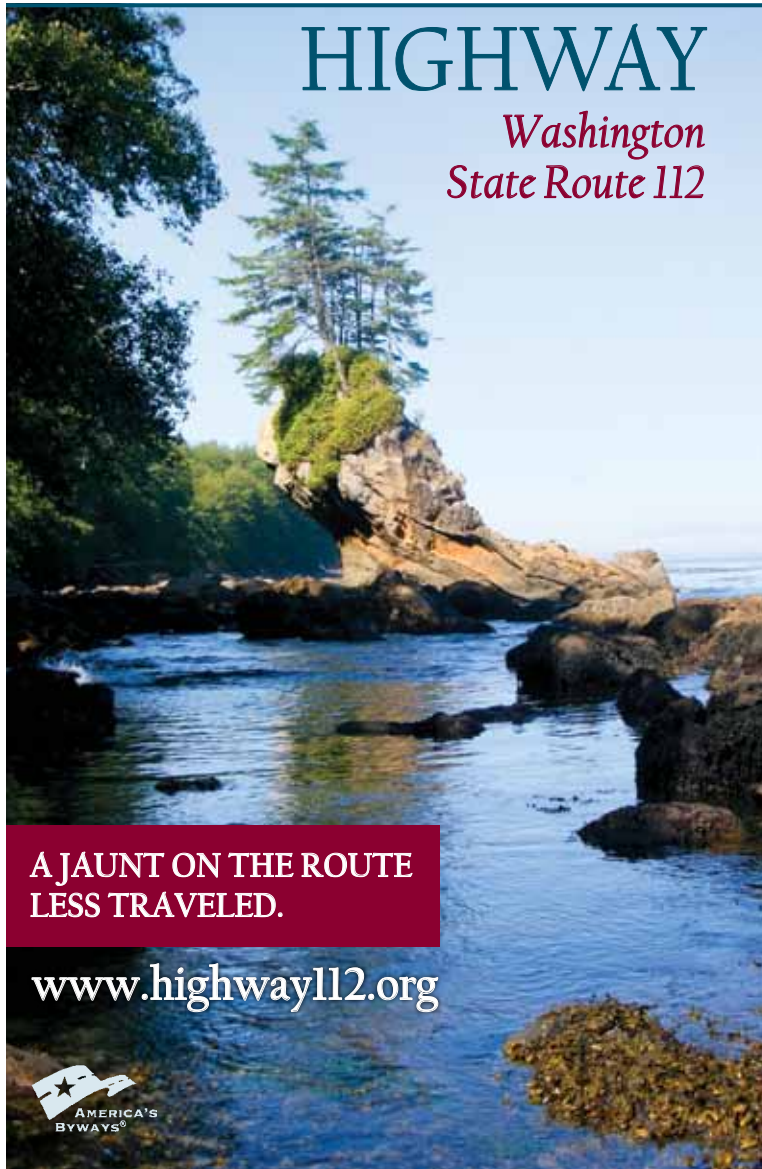
Cover photo: Dave Logan

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THE STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA HIGHWAY

*Washington
State Route 112*



**A JAUNT ON THE ROUTE
LESS TRAVELED.**

www.highway112.org



*If you've been searching for a trip
that's truly off the beaten path,*

the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway State Route 112 will take you to some of the most impressive vistas found on the planet.

Located on the north edge of Washington State's Olympic Peninsula, the natural beauty of this National Scenic Byway is as unique as it is spectacular. Its remote stretches of rugged coastline will make your ride along its 61-mile length a stand-out adventure.

The Strait of Juan de Fuca connects the Pacific Ocean with Puget Sound. The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway SR112 parallels the western half of the Strait and traverses the northwestern corner of the United States. Travelers can fish in a lake once thought bottomless, stop at panoramic viewpoints along the way, and hike the trails around Neah Bay and Cape Flattery, the furthest northwest point in the contiguous forty-eight states.

Don't worry, you won't fall off the edge.

Lined by jagged cliffs and working forests, SR112 shows the traveler peek-a-boo views of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Canada's Vancouver Island. The highway serves as a gateway to the outermost rim of the Pacific Northwest, a place teeming with hundreds of fish, bird and mammal species. Along the way, you'll find the coastal communities of Joyce, Clallam Bay, Sekiu and Neah Bay, where friendly people can point you to all that nature has to offer.



Sandpiper

Paul Blake



Who Was Juan de Fuca?

In 1592, a Spanish expedition led by "Juan de Fuca" (actually a Greek navigator named Apostolos Valerianus) believed the waters off the north Olympic Peninsula to be the Straits of Anian, the fabled Northwest Passage long sought by European explorers up to the 18th century. In 1787, English Captain Charles Barclay rediscovered the Strait and named it in honor of its first European explorer.

James Wengler



Fall colors at MP 58

John Gussman



Shi Shi Beach

Randall J. Hodges



Lyre River

John Gussman



Kayaker at Freshwater Bay



Shi Shi Beach

Randall J. Hodges



Clallam Bay Beach

Randall J. Hodges



Log truck on SR112

Randall J. Hodges



Orca whale

Paul Blake



4th of July at Sekiu

John Gussman



John Gussman

What's so special about the Juan de Fuca Highway? Plenty!

The Shoreline

Along the shore, sea stacks shrouded in fog stand oblivious to the pounding surf. Small, secret coves and inlets reveal themselves as you make your way along the route. From the estuaries of the Twin Rivers 12 miles west of Joyce to the Makah Indian Reservation, shoreline vistas ebb and flow as the highway snakes along the coast. Around every bend, there's always another photo op that you won't be able to pass by. You'll want to pull out frequently, but stay alert for other traffic and be mindful of road conditions (see *The Winding Road*).

The Working Forest

As you drive along the highway, you'll see a wide range of working forests in different states of growth and harvest, laid out in a mosaic of varied greens and golds. This is prime country for forestry because the Olympic Peninsula is one of the best places in the world for growing trees, such as Douglas fir, western red cedar, alder and Sitka spruce. As a complement to the wild forest in Olympic National Park, the working forest provides wood products for humans, recreation, clean water and habitat. Much of it has been managed since the 1880's. Learn about forestry on the Olympic Peninsula at the state's oldest working tree farm, the Merrill & Ring Tree Farm, on the Pysht River. Call **360-460-3733** for more information.



Seagull

Paul Blake



Cape Flattery

Randall J. Hodges



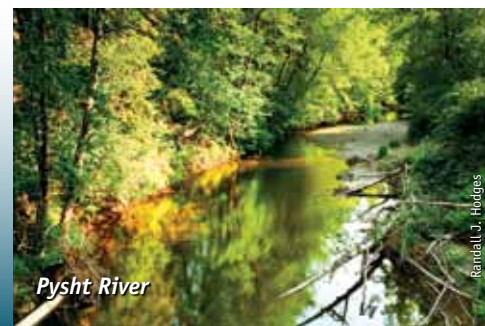
Joyce General Store

Randall J. Hodges



War Veterans Memorial

Sande Balch



Pysht River

Randall J. Hodges



Hummingbird

Paul Blake

The Winding Road

Starting on the west end of SR112, the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway begins at Neah Bay (*Milepost 0*) and ends 61 miles east at its junction with Highway 101 (*Milepost 61*). SR112 is used seven days a week by many industrial and commercial enterprises, so watch for logging trucks, buses and workers on the road. Use pullouts for stopping at views; never stop on the road or partially off the road. Keep alert for bicycles and motorcycles, and if you are riding one of these, also be especially vigilant. There are many blind curves and weather-related hazards, and sometimes very little or no shoulder. The general speed limit on SR112 is between 40 and 50 miles per hour west of Joyce, unless otherwise posted or unless road conditions dictate a slower speed. For complete road information, please visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic, tune to 511 on your car radio or watch for signs.

Special Note: In remote areas, GPS devices can be highly inaccurate. Please make sure of your route for optimum safety.

The Weather

The north Olympic Peninsula has a moderate marine climate with pleasant summers and mild, wet winters. Late June through early September is generally fair and warm, with high temperatures usually between 65°F and 75°F. Summer is the driest season, with heavier precipitation during the rest of the year. Winters usually have temperatures at lower elevations in the 30s and 40s. At any time of year, visitors should come prepared for a variety of conditions. Rain gear and layered clothing are a must. Check current weather at www.wrh.noaa.gov/sew/

Olympic National Park

Olympic National Park, located in the center of the Olympic Peninsula and along its west coast, is recognized internationally because of its exceptional natural beauty and its unique flora and fauna. This International Biosphere Reserve has several distinctly different ecosystems including alpine, temperate rainforest and a stretch of wild Pacific Ocean beaches. Lake Ozette, one of the most popular destinations in Olympic National Park, can only be reached by car from SR112. It is also one of the main access points to the coastal portion of the Park. See Point of Interest No. 10 on the map and visit this site to find out more:

www.nps.gov/olym

Elwha Dam Removal and River Restoration

The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway crosses the Elwha River on the route's east end, and crossing the span over the river's deep gorge is exceptionally scenic. In 2011, the dams that have been in place since the early 20th century are scheduled for removal, thus restoring the Elwha River to its natural free-flowing state. The Elwha watershed is the largest in Olympic National Park. For complete information on this historic process, visit www.nps.gov/olym/naturescience/elwha-ecosystem-restoration.htm/

Events

(More at www.highway112.org)

July

Clallam Bay-Sekiú Fun Days

Combines the best of family, food, fireworks and FUN! See the Grand Parade on Saturday and the famous Fun Run on Sunday. More information: www.clallambaysekiufundays.com/index.html

August

Joyce Daze Wild Blackberry Festival

Features its legendary Blackberry Pie Contest, parade, music, antique car and tractor displays, a wacky Beard and Mustache contest, and simply fabulous food. www.joycewa.com

Makah Days

One of the premier annual festivals in the state, Makah Days celebrates the rich heritage of the Makah people. For more information: www.makah.com/makahdays.htm

September

Great Strait Sale

Once a year, SR112 becomes a haven for shoppers and sellers. You might discover that rare ??? you've been trying to find! For more information: www.highway112.org

Activities

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Camping & RV'ing | Tide pool exploring |
| Hiking | Birdwatching |
| Mountain biking | Kite flying |
| Salt/freshwater fishing | Kayaking/canoeing/sailing |
| Hunting | Beach combing |
| Golfing | Whale watching |
| Surfing, diving | Wildlife watching |
| Photography | |

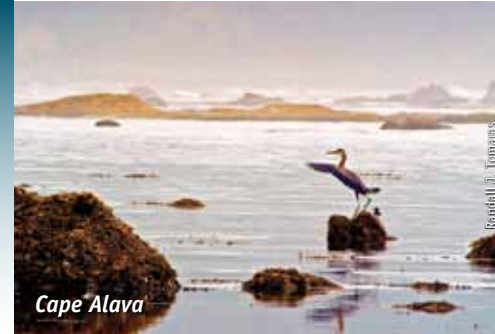
Attractions

- Lake Ozette beach loop hike
- Cape Flattery boardwalk trail
- Native American culture
- Shopping
- Art galleries
- Events (see above)
- Waterfalls
- Museums



THE STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA HIGHWAY/SR112





1. Elwha Bridge & Elwha River Restoration/ Dam Removal Area

The Elwha River's glacier-fed waters and deep gorge are exceptionally scenic and can be viewed while crossing the newly replaced Elwha Bridge (just north of SR112) on Elwha River Road. It replaces the old one-lane bridge and includes a pedestrian deck suspended below the vehicle deck. The river was once home to famous runs of Chinook salmon, prized for their size and flavor. When the river was dammed in the early 20th century, these runs were severely diminished. In 2011, removal will begin on the Elwha and Glines Dams and is expected to continue for up to three years, a historically and environmentally significant undertaking. To learn more, visit <http://www.nps.gov/olym/naturescience/elwha-ecosystem-restoration.htm> (Turn off SR112 at Milepost 60 to Lower Dam Road)

2. Olympic Discovery Trail Adventure Route

The Olympic Discovery Trail (ODT) is designed as a non-motorized, multi-user transportation/recreation system that will eventually span over 100 miles across the Olympic Peninsula, from Port Townsend to the Pacific coast near Forks. One portion is a wilderness trail, situated south of Joyce, connecting SR112 at the Elwha River with Lake Crescent. Called the Adventure Route, this section of the Olympic Discovery Trail is three feet wide with a dirt and gravel surface. It is intended for use by equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers (road bicycles are not appropriate on the Adventure Route). It is approximately 25 miles long, and is now complete. Currently, fifteen miles of the Adventure Route is a traditional trail and ten miles follow gravel logging roads. www.olympicdiscoverytrail.com (Milepost 59.5)

3. Freshwater Bay County Park

This best-kept secret has a launch ramp for small boats, saltwater beach access and a lower picnic area, which are open year round. The 17-acre day-use park also has an upper picnic area located in a natural cedar forest, with covered picnic shelters. This area is open from May to September. www.clallam.net/CountyParks/html/parks_freshwater.htm (Turn off SR112 at Milepost 56.5)

4. Salt Creek Recreation Area

Known world-wide for its tide pools, Salt Creek includes the Tongue Point Marine Life Sanctuary, diving sites, a saltwater beach, playground, and hiking trails to Striped Peak. The park was originally a World War II harbor defense site, and the remnants of Fort Hayden and its gun emplacements are preserved on the 196-acre site. The park has 90 campsites, accessible showers and rest rooms, and an RV dump station. Check tide schedules and camping information at www.clallam.net/CountyParks/html/parks_saltcreek.htm (Turn off SR112 at Milepost 53.8)

5. Joyce General Store & Depot Museum

This historic and well-loved landmark celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2011 and is a favorite stop for locals and tourists replenishing supplies and campfire treats. It still has the same false front, beaded ceiling, oiled wood floors and many other original fixtures from back in the day. It continues its service as a US Post Office, with many of the original features from its beginnings a century ago. The store is open seven days a week year round. Call (360) 928-3568 for more information. The **Joyce Depot Museum** is located east of the store in a former railroad station. It

exhibits general store items from the 1920s through the 1940s, logging equipment, historical railroad equipment, old photos of the area, and articles from the former Port Crescent newspaper. The museum is open every Saturday year round, with extended days in the summer. For more information and hours, call the Joyce General Store. (Milepost 50-51)

6. Pillar Point County Park

A day use park, these four acres of woods and sandy beach have a concrete launch ramp for small boats. Users of this park should check tides before boat launching (www.saltwatertides.com/dynamic.dir/washingtonsites.html#defuca). Pillar Point is great for those who want to crab, go shell fishing or take great photographs. Scenic views include the Strait of Juan de Fuca, the Pysht River estuary and the imposing profile of Pillar Point. (Milepost 29-30)

7. Clallam Bay Spit County Park

Located on a beautiful 33-acre parcel on a saltwater beach, this day-use park includes public access to the Clallam Spit and a mile-long sand and gravel beach, access to the Clallam River, picnic sites, accessible rest rooms, an interpretive display and lots of room to roam. It's a great place to picnic, wade or rock hunt on the agate-strewn beach. On a clear day, there are stunning views of Vancouver Island and Sekiu Point. www.clallam.net/CountyParks (Milepost 16-17)

8. Lake Ozette

The area around Lake Ozette is within the boundaries of Olympic National Park. This popular recreation area can only be reached by car from SR112. The lake is the third-largest and second-deepest in the state of Washington.

It is famous for its sockeye salmon (currently listed as endangered) and offers excellent boating, hiking and camping. It is also the trailhead to a 9-mile cedar boardwalk loop that will take you to the Pacific shoreline, up the coast and back to the lake. Be aware of tides (www.saltwatertides.com/dynamic.dir/washingtonsites.html#defuca) and visit www.nps.gov/olympic for up-to-date information on back country rules and tips for visitors. (Turn at Milepost 12-13 and drive to the end of Hoko-Ozette Road)

9. Sail and Seal Rocks (Sea Stacks)

These picturesque twin offshore rocks are popular feeding grounds for gray whales, which are often seen swimming in the area. Various sea birds can also be seen. The Strait of Juan de Fuca is a dramatic glacial fjord connecting Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean. It is exceptionally scenic, with complex rocky shorelines, and the magical combination of soft northwest light and water. A photographer's dream! (Milepost 1)

10. Neah Bay and the Makah Tribe

From camping, sports fishing and sightseeing in the surrounding wilderness area, to discovering the ancient Makah heritage at the Makah Cultural and Research Center (open 7 days a week), there's so much to see and do! Hike the pristine coast to Shi Shi Beach in Olympic National Park. Take the Cape Flattery trail on a 3/4-mile cedar-planked boardwalk to a magnificent view of the Tatoosh Island Lighthouse, one of the oldest operating lighthouses on the west coast. South of Cape Flattery, a newly constructed 3/4-mile cedar plank and gravel trail wanders through the forest on the way to Shi Shi Beach and the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. Shi Shi may also be accessed from the south (see the Lake Ozette section). www.makah.com www.neahbaywa.com (Milepost 0)

