The Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway Washington State Route 112

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, parallels the western half of the Strait and traverses the northwestern corner of the United States.

Drive Time: 1.5 to 2 hours one way beginning at either end More information: www.highway112.org



1. Elwha Gateway Interpretive Center

This self-guided center presents an overview of the largest dam removal project in the United States occurring on the nearby Elwha River. Nature trails lead from the parking lot to views of the Elwha River gorge and the former Elwha Dam site. (Milepost 60]

2. Elwha Bridge

The Elwha River's glacier-fed waters and deep gorge are exceptionally scenic and can be viewed from the "old" Elwha Bridge on Elwha River Road. The one-lane 1914 bridge was replaced in 2009 with one supporting separate vehicle and pedestrian decks. The pedestrian deck is the river crossing on the Olympic Discovery Trail. [Turn right on Elwha River Road at Milepost 58.5]

3. Mouth of the Elwha River

Two dams on the Elwha River were removed between 2011 and 2014, releasing millions of cubic yards of sediment from their reservoirs. This is creating exciting changes to the area around the river's mouth. Eagles can often be seen flying above the beach. [Turn right on Place Road at Milepost 58 and drive 1.9 miles to day-use parking]

4. Olympic Discovery Trail Adventure Rte.

The Olympic Discovery Trail [ODT] is a non-motorized, multiuser transportation/recreation system that will eventually span the Olympic Peninsula. One portion, connecting SR112 at the Elwha River with Lake Crescent, is the Adventure Route. It is three feet wide, has a dirt and gravel surface, and is open to hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers. [Milepost 59.5] olympicdiscoverytrail.com

5. Freshwater Bay County Park

A concrete launch ramp and beach access are open year round. The protected bay provides an ideal spot for fishing, kayaking, beach combing, crabbing, and birdwatching. The park has an upper picnic area [open May - Sept] located in a natural cedar forest with shelters and restrooms. [Turn off SR112 at Milepost 56.5] clallam.net/Parks/freshwaterbay

6. Salt Creek Recreation Area

Salt Creek includes the Tongue Point Marine Life Sanctuary, a diving site, a saltwater beach, a surfing and paddle sport area, playground, tide pools, a wide variety of bird life, and hiking

trails to Striped Peak. The remains of Fort Hayden, a World War II coastal defense fort, are preserved on the 196 acre site. The park is popular for tent and RV camping. [Turn off SR112 at Milepost 53.8)

7. Joyce General Store & Depot Museum

This historic landmark is a favorite supply stop for locals and tourists. It houses artifacts from the area's logging history and a century-old US Post Office. The Joyce Depot Museum is just east of the store in a log-built former railroad station. Its exhibits tell the story of Joyce's early history. The museum is open Saturdays year round [extended days in summer]. [Milepost 50-51]

8. Lyre Conservation Area

This area features a 1 mile trail to the estuary at the mouth of the Lyre River, streams, tide-flats, kelp beds and a ¹/₂ mile of Strait of Juan de Fuca shoreline. The trail passes through a large diverse upland forest as well as providing an opportunity to view salmon, birds, and other wildlife. It is open for non-motorized recreation such as hiking, horseback riding, surfing, bird watching, and biking. [Turn right on Reynold Rd at Milepost 46.8 and drive 1/2 mile to parking on left]

9. Pillar Point County Park

This wooded 4-acre day-use park has a sandy beach with a concrete launch ramp for small boats. It is a great area for crabbing, shell fishing, and photography. Enjoy scenic views of the Strait, the Pysht River estuary and the imposing profile of Pillar Point. [Milepost 29-30]

10. Clallam Bay Spit County Park

This County day-use park includes picnic sites, rest rooms, an interpretive display and room to roam. In summer months, there is public access to the Clallam Spit with a mile-long sand and gravel beach. [Milepost 16-17]

11. Lake Ozette

Part of Olympic National Park, Lake Ozette offers boating, hiking and camping and access to the trailhead of a 9-mile cedar boardwalk loop to the Pacific shoreline, up the coast and back to the lake. Check with ONP's Wilderness Information Center in Port Angeles for overnight permits, tips, and tide schedules. [Turn at Milepost 12-13 and drive to the end of Hoko Ozette Road]

MP = Highway mile post

12. Sail and Seal Rocks (Sea Stacks)

These twin offshore rocks are feeding grounds for gray whales; sea birds can also be seen. The Strait of Juan de Fuca connects Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean. [Milepost 1]

13. Neah Bay and the Makah Tribe

Discover ancient Makah heritage at the Makah Cultural and Research Center. Explore camping, sports fishing, and hiking 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. A recreational permit is required and can be purchased at several outlets in Neah Bay. [Milepost 0]

Events (More at www.highway112.org) *Julv*

Clallam Bay-Sekiu Fun Days — Combines the best of family, food, fireworks and FUN! See the Grand Parade on Saturday and the famous Fun Run on Sunday. 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 great 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.

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! **www.highway112.org**