

If you're new to Oregon: Things to Do, Places to Go

PORTLAND METRO

First Thursdays in the Pearl

The art galleries in downtown Portland, Oregon, invite you to join them on the "First Thursday" of every month for an evening of art, wine and music. Walk from gallery to gallery to view all of the new art exhibits. Generally the hours are 6pm to 9pm, but please check each gallery's website for more information and to view other artists' works that they represent.

<http://www.firstthursdayportland.com/>

Last Thursdays on Alberta – A less sophisticated but exponentially more funky version of First Thursdays. Alberta is a blossoming arts district in Northeast Portland. A portion of the street gets shut down every last Thursday of the month.

Grown Up Only Night at Oregon Museum of Science & Industry (OMSI) – This museum is like a giant playground for adults (and I guess kids too). 2 story, large museum that's very hands on. Enjoy it in the evening with no kids allowed at OMSI After Dark. 21+.

<http://www.oms.edu/afterdark>

Portland Art Museum - Free Days

The Portland Art Museum offers free admission on the fourth Friday of every month from 5-8 p.m. The Museum also offers four free Sundays a year scheduled in conjunction with Museum Family Day.

<http://portlandartmuseum.org/>

Farmer's Markets – There is at least 1 farmers market a day in Portland in summer.

Most farmer's markets accept SNAP benefits with most vendors thanks to [Fresh Exchange!](#)

- This website lists the ones downtown : <http://www.portlandfarmersmarket.org>
- There is also a St. Johns (N. Portland) market on Saturday's 9am-1pm:
<http://www.sjfarmersmarket.com/>
- SE Portland (Sellwood) market - [Moreland Farmers Market](#) Wednesdays 3:30pm-7:30pm, May 12th – October 13th 2010; September and October hours are 2:00pm-6:30pm; Located at SE Bybee/14th

McMenamin's – An Oregon institution. Pubs, movies, gardens, golf, spas, Turkish baths, and so much more... you just need to explore their website. I highly suggest the Edgefield location, however. <http://www.mcmenamins.com/>

The International Rose Test Garden

Portland is the City of Roses. It is an absolute must to visit the Rose Garden (not the basketball arena) right when you arrive so you can catch the roses at their absolute best. The view from the park is the best in the city, too. <http://www.rosegardenstore.org/directions.cfm>

If you're without a car, you can take MAX there. Check the link above.

Beer

Portland is the American mecca for micro-brews, check out these deals and websites:

- Cocktail Compass (app)- provides a live happy hour map!
- PortlandBeer.org (great events sections including all fests & other beer events!)
- 2 for 1 growler = \$7 at Pyramid Brewery, amazing deal
- Almeda Brewing=\$10 growlers on Saturdays

Some breweries to check out include Cascade Brewery, Deschutes Brewery, Rogue Brewery, and Lucky Lab. There are a billion more, but those are some of the best, in my personal opinion.

Movie Theaters

Theaters in Portland are like Portland itself – funky, fun and mostly 21+

- Bagdad – this is a McMenamins location but shows new and old movies, and also one time events for special documentaries or especially good t.v. shows (i.e. LOST was played there every week during the final season) 21+ in the evening and you can order food and beer to be delivered to brought out to you in the theater (there's tables).
<http://www.mcmenamins.com/?loc=9&id=176>
- Laurelhurst Theater - \$3, Enjoy microbrews, wine, pizza, salads, wraps, popcorn and candy. All of which may be brought into the auditoriums to enjoy at your table while you watch your movie. www.laurelhursttheater.com
- Hollywood Theater – Portland's only non-profit historic theater. \$3 tickets. All ages all the time, so no beer. <http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org/engaging/index.html>

Other Resources/Guides

- [Zinester's Guide to Portland](#) is a low/no budget guide to visiting and living in Portland, Oregon, the *Zinester's Guide to Portland* breaks down the PDX grid by neighborhood with descriptions of good restaurants, thrift stores, bars, bridges, places to loiter, etc. (lots of etc.).
- And just as a last random thought for Portland, follow this: <http://twitter.com/PdxPipeline>. It's kept updated with all kinds of Portland events including sweet deals all the time.

NEWPORT, OR

Rogue Garage Sales: Every month rogue brewery has a garage sale where you can buy cheap beer for anywhere between 15 to 30 dollars a case.

Local Wednesdays at the Aquarium: Every Wednesday the local aquarium in Newport lets locals visit for only \$5. All you have to do is show proof of local residency such as a piece of mail.

Best Clam Chowder: for the best clam chowder in town, I highly recommend the Chowder Bowl in the Nye Beach district.

Crabbing: Newport is the Dungeness crab capitol of the world and it's super easy to do. For about \$20 you can buy a crap pot and just buy chicken legs for bait and you're ready to go crabbing.

Hiking, Camping and Exploring: Newport is surrounded by so many amazing places to hiking, camping and explore the great outdoors! Some of the best places to go camping are Beverly Beach and South Beach state park.

Farmers Market: There is a great Farmers Market in Newport where you can buy a bunch of healthy food options. They will also match up to 6 dollars worth of food stamps. So if you spend 6, they will give you another 6 for a total of 12 dollars to use at the Farmers Market!

Nye Beach and the Bayfront: There are so many little stores and shops to visit on both the Bayfront and Nye Beach. Also on the Bayfront there are several places where you can buy fresh seafood literally right off the fishing boat.