

Get cracking on the 'urban chickens' craze with these prefab coops **D9**



# OFF DUTY



7 insider wine bars where sommeliers spend their nights off **D7**

EATING | DRINKING | STYLE | FASHION | DESIGN | DECORATING | ADVENTURE | TRAVEL | GEAR | GADGETS

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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## Portland Of Plenty

Oregon's determinedly quirky city makes for a boredom-free long weekend—especially on two wheels



ON THE OREGON TRAIL Clockwise from upper left: Tony Tellin leads the tea-making process at Steven Smith Teemaker; bike-share riders pass by Powell's, one of the country's largest bookstores; a 'seafood tower' at Headwaters restaurant at the historic Heathman hotel; the newly expanded Portland Japanese Garden at Washington Park.

BY LUCY FELDMAN

**B**EFORE PORTLAND, ORE., established itself as a hipster utopia and beleaguered punch line—a land of vegan tattoos, fastidious food-truck chefs and all things crafty and pickled—visitors were already taken with its abundant natural attributes. The Willamette River divides the city, forest trails wind throughout it, and Mount Hood and the coast each sit just over an hour's drive away. A cleverly planned long weekend in Portland will tap both aspects: sampling urban obsessiveness and the abundant verdure of the Pacific Northwest.

On the city's east side is the stuff of "Portlandia"—a cluster of crafting collectives (Welding Basics, anyone?) and shops selling everything from Feminine Divine Tea to taxidermed antelopes. On the tonier west side, you'll find discerning boutiques, stately watering holes, lush gardens and forested parks. Don't miss the riverfront and its 12 bridges, many of which are pedestrian-friendly. In fact, much of the city ministers to pedestrians and cyclists, thanks to extensive public transit and bike lanes, and an enduring small-town ethos. Stand at a crosswalk and just try to wave a car past—you've initiated a stand-off of politeness. Here's our recommended three-day itinerary.

DAY ONE // FRIDAY

**5 p.m.** Land at Portland International Airport and make note of its oddly high-profile teal carpet (know of any other airport rugs with a fervent Instagram following?) before hopping on the Metropolitan Area Express (MAX) train. It's a 40-minute ride into the city to the cheap-and-cheerful **Society Hotel**, housed in a recently reclaimed 1880s lodging house (from \$135 a night for a private room, [thesocietyhotel.com](http://thesocietyhotel.com)). For more luxurious digs, ride the MAX 10 minutes far-

ther to **Sentinel Hotel**, an elegant mash-up of two historic buildings (from \$185 a night, [sentinelhotel.com](http://sentinelhotel.com)).

**7 p.m.** Dinner time. The Portland Streetcar loops around the busiest areas of the city on both sides of the river. Hop on a blue line train (pay the \$2 fare with the PDX Streetcar Mobile app), grab a window seat and ride across the water to SE Grand Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard. An 8-minute walk east brings you to **Teote Areperia**, where a La Cena Carne platter loaded with spicy,

saucy Latin-American shredded meats, beans, fried plantains and hot buttered arepas awaits. Dig in on the patio near the fire pit (1615 SE 12th Ave., [teotepdx.com](http://teotepdx.com)).

**9 p.m.** All that feasting calls for a little healthy movement. Walk 10 minutes to **Pips & Bounce**, a ping-pong social club. Rent a table for 30 minutes for \$15, and have yourself a volley while sipping a "Pong-tail" or an Oregon beer on tap. Friday night is Cosmic Pong—expect black lights (833 SE Belmont St., [pipsandbounce.com](http://pipsandbounce.com)).

DAY TWO // SATURDAY

**8:30 a.m.** Start your Saturday with a jolt to-go, practically de rigeur in this caffeine-addicted city, from **Case Study Coffee Roasters** (802 SW 10th Ave., [castudycoffee.com](http://castudycoffee.com)), then wander south through downtown for about 15 minutes to the **Portland Farmers' Market** at Portland State University, a year-round destination with over 140 vendors at the height of the summer season ([portlandfarmersmarket.org/our-markets](http://portlandfarmersmarket.org/our-markets)). Please turn to page D4

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## ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

# THREE FREEWHEELING DAYS IN PORTLAND

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**9:15 a.m.** You may have noticed searing-orange bicycles racked around the city. Nike's **Biketown bike share** program allows you to rent one for \$2.50 per 30-minute ride, or \$12 for the day ([biketown-pdx.com](http://biketown-pdx.com)). Pick up your ride outside the Smith Memorial Student Union (between SW Mill St. and SW Harrison St.). Ride over Tilikum Crossing—the newest of Portland's bridges, accessible only to pedestrians, cyclists and mass-transit vehicles—to Clinton Street on the east side.

**10:15 a.m.** Since you'll be biking around for the balance of the day, carbo-load at **Off the Waffle**. Try the signature Liege waffle, crisply caramelized on the outside (2601 SE Clinton St., [offthewaffle.com](http://offthewaffle.com)).

**11:15 a.m.** Five minutes on your bike brings you to the east side's Division Street, a strip of cult coffee shops, boutiques and a slew of popular dining spots, including **Tidbit Food Farm**, a cluster of food trucks in a charmingly scruffy garden (SE 28th Place and Division St.). Lock up your bike at one of the public racks (locks provided; press "hold" so no one else takes it). Grab another coffee—or at least snap an Instagram—at **Stumptown Coffee's** first location, a landmark in Portland's coffee culture (4525 SE Division St., [stumptowncoffee.com](http://stumptowncoffee.com)), then scope out stationery shop **Little Otsu**, catnip for paper hoarders (3225 SE Division St., [littleotsu.com](http://littleotsu.com)) and nearby art gallery **Nationale** (3360 SE Division St., [nationale.us](http://nationale.us)).

**1 p.m.** Once you hit 38th Avenue, cycle north about 10 blocks to Hawthorne Boulevard, one of the original meccas for the plaid-shirted and wool-beanie-topped natives. **Jackpot Records** carries a vast collection of rock, jazz, hip hop and soul vinyl (3574 SE Hawthorne Blvd., [jackpotrecords.com](http://jackpotrecords.com)), while quirky little **Perfume House** stocks nearly as many fragrances (3328 SE Hawthorne Blvd., [theperfumehouse.com](http://theperfumehouse.com)). Finally, check out **Tender Loving Empire**, both a record label and a retail shop with locally made jewelry and beauty products (3541 SE Hawthorne Blvd., [tenderlovingempire.com](http://tenderlovingempire.com)).

**2 p.m.** For lunch, head to **Fried Egg I'm in Love**, a food 'n' roll-themed egg-sandwich rock truck, featuring local farm eggs and sourdough bread from Portland French Bakery. Order the Yoko Ono—homemade pesto, the parko and a sausage patty all sandwiched around an expertly fried egg—and take a seat at one of the picnic benches (3207 SE Hawthorne Blvd., [friedegglove.com](http://friedegglove.com)).

**3 p.m.** Follow that cheesy sandwich with a stop at nearby **Commons Brewery**, which offers 13 beers on tap; typically all but one are made on-site. Sip your way through a flight, with a view of the city from a work (630 SE Belmont St., [commonsbrewery.com](http://commonsbrewery.com)).

**4:30 p.m.** Hop on the bike for a five-minute ride to Stark Street, where you'll find the "vegan mini-pea" featuring vegan **Sweetpea Baking Co.** (1205 SE Stark St., [sweetpeabaking.com](http://sweetpeabaking.com)), vegan grocery store **Food Fight!** (1217 SE Stark St., [foodfightgrocery.com](http://foodfightgrocery.com)), vegan boutique **Herbivore Clothing Co.** (1211 SE Stark St.; [www.herbivoreclothing.com](http://www.herbivoreclothing.com)) and vegan tattoo parlor **Scapgoat Tattoo**. If you're wondering what makes a tattoo vegan: Scapgoat's inks, unlike standard ones, contain no bone char or other animal products (1223 SE Stark St., [scapgoattattoo.com](http://scapgoattattoo.com)).

**5 p.m.** Feeling inspired by all this local industry? Around the corner is the "maker space" **Art Design Portland**, aka **ADX**, a multiroom jungle of equipment, including tablesaws, torches, a laser cutter, jewelry tools and a screen-printing press. Your mission: Build and wire a one-of-a-kind Edison-bulb lamp with the help of an instructor—or dream up a project of your own. Schedule private classes in advance (417 SE 11th Ave., [adxportland.com](http://adxportland.com)).

**8 p.m.** Dinner is only a 12-minute ride away, at Pine Street Market in Old Town, on the west side, where the vendors include some of the city's most crowded-about chefs. Ditch today's bike on the rack at SW 2nd Avenue and head inside. Try **Marukin Ramen**, one of the famed Japanese chain's hot bowls, or **Pollo Bravo** for rotisserie chicken and tapas. For dessert, scoop up a



SOAK IT ALL IN Knot Springs spa, with its various hot and cold pools, overlooks the Willamette River.



STUFFED TO THE GILLS From above: Paxton Gate, a taxidermy and gift shop; Tidbit Food Farm and Garden, one of Portland's many food-truck 'pods'; Blue Star Donuts are flavored with seasonal and local ingredients.



**Headwaters.** James Beard Award winner Vitally Paley's fourth and newest restaurant in the city, it's embedded in the historic Heathman Hotel. Start with diving fresh from the sea bar, like former scallops served with foie gras, or smoked fish with herring schmear (recipe courtesy of Mr. Paley's grandmother). Follow with halibut en papillote or grilled octopus (1001 SW Broadway, [headwaterspdx.com](http://headwaterspdx.com)).

**9:30 p.m.** A lazy 10-minute stroll will bring you to another of Portland's oldest restaurants, established in 1879: **Hubb's Cafe**. Order a "Spanish Coffee," which comes with a fiery show—the bartender will fling and light your rum, triple sec, kahua and coffee cocktail aflame and top it with cream and a dash of nutmeg before sliding it your way (411 SW 3rd Ave., [hubbs.com](http://hubbs.com)).

**DAY FOUR // MONDAY**

**9 a.m.** After two nonstop days, you've earned a little R&R. Report to the new **Knot Springs** spa first thing in the morning for a Thai massage. Plan to spend time before or after the massage in the pools, where floor-to-ceiling windows overlook the river and the city skyline (book a week in advance; 33 NW 3rd Ave., [knotsprings.com](http://knotsprings.com)).

**12:30 p.m.** Next up: **Steven Smith Teemaker's** tasting room. Curate your own tasting flight from a list of over 30 varieties made on-site, such as Astoria's Amaro, a combo of cascara, honeybush and other botanicals, or order a tea on tap, served chilled (510 SE Washington St., [smithtea.com](http://smithtea.com)).

**1:15 p.m.** Just across the street, settle in for a cozy lunch at **Olympia Provisions**. Surround yourself with boards piled high with charcuterie and cheese, served with house-made pickles and other trimmings (107 SE Washington St., [olympiaprovisions.com](http://olympiaprovisions.com)).

**2:30 p.m.** At the cavernous **Grand Marketplace**, an eight-minute walk away, drift among the vintage wares and 100s of Street Typewriter's grand furs (1005 SE Grand Ave., [grandmarketplacepdx.com](http://grandmarketplacepdx.com)).

**3:30 p.m.** Pick up a new bike at SE 6th Avenue and SE Alder Street for a scenic riverside ride to Mississippi Avenue. Don't miss **Paxton Gate**, a taxidermy specialty shop artfully crammed with curios, from shark eyeballs to hanging heads galore (4204 N. Mississippi Blvd., [paxtongate.com](http://paxtongate.com)).

**4:30 p.m.** Before heading to the airport, grab a final beer and a burger at **Ecliptic Brewing**—maybe the farro burger with pickled carrots, since you're unlikely to find one back home (825 North Cook St., [eclipticbrewing.com](http://eclipticbrewing.com)).

Portland (explorewashingtonpark.org). Start at the **Portland Japanese Garden**, which recently underwent a \$33.5 million renovation featuring a new cultural village designed by renowned Japanese architect Kenzo Kuma (611 SW Kingston Ave., [japanesegarden.com](http://japanesegarden.com)).

**12:45 p.m.** Just below the Japanese Garden is the **International Rose Test Garden**. Sniff around the rows of over 10,000 rose plants (and 650 varieties), and pause on a bench to take in the city views (400 SW Kingston Ave.).

**1:30 p.m.** A quick downhill ride drops you at **Verde Cocina en la Perla** for lunch. Return the bike at NW Flanders Street and NW 14th Avenue, a block away, before setting down for a Mexican brunch featuring generous portions of local vegetables, handmade corn tortillas and farm-fresh eggs. Whatever you're getting, add the bacon—or, as they call it, "smoked candy" (524 NW 14th Ave., [verdecocinamarket.com](http://verdecocinamarket.com)).

**3 p.m.** Stroll around the Pearl District, a former warehouse zone turned stylish retail destination, and pop into **Hunt & Gather**, an art and

**4:30 p.m.** Make your way to **Powell's**, an iconic bookstore that occupies an entire city block. Duck into the rare book room; at least one title dates back to 1480 (1005 W Burnside St., [powells.com](http://powells.com)).

**6 p.m.** Just up the street is the **People's Bike Library of Portland**, a public art piece featuring a pole stacked with children's bicycles (corner of SW 13th Ave. and W Burnside Ave.). The tower is dedicated to Portland's bike culture and specifically the Zoombomers, a cycling group. Every Sunday, the Zoombomers unlock the mini bikes from their pedestal, hop on the MAX train to the top of Washington Park, then speed down through the hills after dark. If you're feeling adventurous, skip the rest of the day's plan and hang around to join up at around 8:30 p.m.

**7 p.m.** For dinner, head several blocks south for a seafood feast at

The Sentinel Hotel, a mash-up of a 1923 Elks Lodge and a 1902 hotel.



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