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An Epic Road Trip Out West

In search of the best national parks, coastal drives, and craft brews, Michaela Trimble takes to the Wild West on an epic road trip from Seattle to Lake Tahoe.

By Michaela Trimble Sep 22, 2016, 3:22 pm

Day 3: Drove 80 miles from Portland to Cannon Beach, OR

Netarts Bay and Jacobsen Salt Co.

I hit the road early for the salty, cold waters of Netarts Bay, nestled along a pristine portion of Oregon's rugged coast. Once there, I took a break at [Jacobsen Salt Co.](#) to tour the first salt factory in the Pacific Northwest. After browsing the varieties, I finally landed on the pinot noir-infused salt (it's heavenly) and the pure Himalayan pink salt as savory souvenirs.



Stephanie Inn

The Pacific Coast Highway may be famous for its SoCal section, but the northern part is just as gorgeous. Bordered by patches of wildflowers, every curve from Netarts Bay to Cannon Beach reveals jaw-dropping ocean views. My destination for the day: [Stephanie Inn](#), a cozy retreat with an oceanfront library, a nautical chart room and a restaurant helmed by resident chef Aaron Bedard. The regional dishes of Dungeness crab cakes and wild King salmon (fished from Oregon's Columbia River and slathered with house-cured bacon puttanesca sauce) were worth the trip alone.



Cannon Beach

Taking advantage of the rare sunny day (it's usually foggy here), I set out to explore the five-mile stretch of sand, which

is punctuated by the striking Haystack Rock, and the charming town, where shingled storefronts, art galleries, and low-key eateries line the streets. I stumbled upon the [Cannon Beach Book Company](#), home to the best travel non-fiction selection I've ever seen, and pocketed a novel to read with a crisp '67 Blonde Ale at [Public Coast Brewery](#).

