



# Seven Wonders of the Olympic Peninsula

Take a self-guided tour around the Olympic Peninsula to visit its seven unique and famous landmarks. The tour of the Seven Wonders of the Olympic Peninsula includes a canal with only one entrance, two islands, the longest spit in the United States, a mountain known as “the home of the gods,” and the deepest natural harbor on the west coast.

The seven landmarks designated as the “Seven Wonders” are Hood Canal, Protection Island, Dungeness Spit, Mt. Olympus, Tatoosh Island, the Olympic rain forests and Grays Harbor.

## *THE OLYMPIC'S EMERALD FIORD*

Hood Canal is nature's waterway that divides the Olympic and Kitsap peninsulas. Over 600 feet deep in places, it is a large producer of salmon, oysters, clams, shrimp and geoducks. Best views are from the Hood Canal floating bridge, which crosses Hood Canal near Port Ludlow.

Protection Island, at the entrance to Discovery Bay, is a national marine sanctuary and home to endangered species of waterfowl and mammals. The island is home to tufted puffins, pigeon guillemots, eagles and seals. Best views are from beaches north of Port Townsend.

The Dungeness Spit north of Sequim is the longest natural sand spit in the United States. Over 6 miles long, it grows 30 feet a year in length. Over 200 species of birds visit the spit. Dungeness, which means “Sandy Cape” protects the Bay, which is the natural habitat of Dungeness crabs.

## *HOME OF THE GODS*

Mt. Olympus, “home of the gods,” is the highest peak (7965 ft.) in the Olympic mountain range. Best views are from Hurricane Ridge in Olympic National Park south of Port Angeles. The mountain's tallest peaks are named for Greek, Roman and Norse gods, such as Athena, Mercury and Thor. It is also home of a native American god, Thunderbird.

## *ENTRANCE TO THE STRAIT OF JUAN DE FUCA*

Tatoosh Island, at the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca, was a sacred fishing ground for native Americans. It is off the coast of the most northwestern point of the contiguous USA. Best views are from cliffs west of Neah Bay, the Makah Indians' fishing village.

The Olympic Rain Forests -- the Hoh, the Quinalt and the Queets -- are the only temperate rain forests in the USA. Best views are at the Hoh Ranger Station in Olympic National Park and around Lake Quinalt. The rain forests are cathedrals of giant trees and hanging mosses where elk and deer live.

Grays Harbor is the largest and deepest natural harbor on the west coast of the United States. Bowerman Basin Refuge in the harbor is a national wildlife preserve and major flyway for the west coast's migrating birds. Best views are along shores of Hoquiam, Ocean Shores and Westport.