

# NFO 2025 Conference

## Portland Oregon Local Sites

(Please check websites for hours and other info before visiting)

### Special Experiences in Portland!



#### Powell's Bookstore

[www.powells.com](http://www.powells.com)

A MUST if you read at all! The legendary Powell's is the largest independent bookstore in the world, offering new, used and hard-to-find books. <7 miles from the Water Tower

#### Portland Saturday Market

(also open on Sundays)

<https://www.portlandsaturdaymarket.com>

Every weekend, Portland's Old Town/Chinatown neighborhood transforms into a thriving arts and crafts open-air marketplace. The market provides a place for artists to have an economic outlet for their work, for customers to gain better access to locally produced items, and for the city to have a new attraction to draw customers into the downtown area. <6 miles from the Water Tower



### Love Science and the Arts?



#### Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI)

<https://www.oms.edu>

From the museum in Portland to the desert and coastal camps to their online learning modules, OMSI spreads STEAM Education across the Northwest. They believe our collective potential can be unlocked when curiosity, learning, and community unite. Our differences make us amazing, and OMSI celebrates those who dare to question: the explorers, tinkerers, storytellers, and innovators.

<6 miles from the Water Tower.

#### Portland Art Museum

<https://portlandartmuseum.org/>

Much of the permanent collection is off view during construction, but special exhibits of *Psychedelic Rock Posters and Fashion of the 1960s* and *Monet's Floating Worlds at Giverny* will be on view during the Conference. <5 miles from the Water Tower



#### The Pearl District

<https://www.pearldistrict.org/>

The Pearl District – “where urban chic meets community heartbeat” – is an area of Portland formerly occupied by warehouses, light industry and railroad classification yards and now noted for its art galleries, upscale businesses, vibrant culinary scene, and residences. (Also the home of Powell's City of Books.) A great area for walking around! <5 miles from the Water Tower

## Love Nature?



### Portland Japanese Garden

<https://japanesegarden.org/?ref=oregonessential>

Top Spot! “Born out of a hope that the experience of peace can contribute to a long lasting peace. Born out of a belief in the power of cultural exchange. Born out of a belief in the excellence of craft. Portland Japanese Garden is a place to let go of worldly thoughts and see oneself as a small but integral part of the universe.” *<5 miles from the Water Tower*

The International Rose Test Garden is very close by, and the view from there is gorgeous, but there will be little to see in the garden at this time of year.

### Lan Su Chinese Garden

<https://lansugarden.org>

One of Portland's greatest treasures and a must-see for visitors! A fantastic, and very authentic, Chinese garden that cultivates an oasis of tranquil beauty and harmony to inspire, engage and educate our global community in the appreciation of a richly authentic Chinese culture. *<5 miles from the Water Tower*



### The Grotto

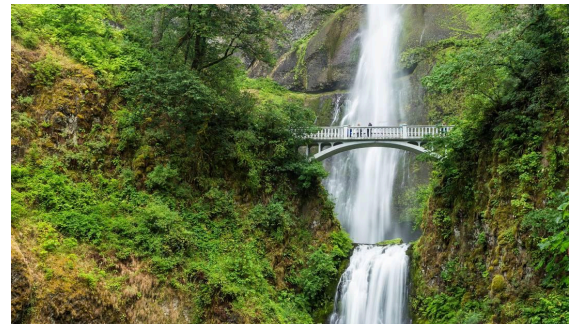
<https://thegrotto.org>

The Grotto, the National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother, is a Roman Catholic ministry of the Order of Friar Servants of Mary, offering a sanctuary of peace, prayer, and natural beauty. In addition to its religious significance, it also the home of a glorious garden open to visitors. *<15 miles from the Water Tower*

### Multnomah Falls

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/crgnsa/recarea/?recid=30026>

Multnomah Falls is one of the tallest year-round waterfalls in the United States and is the most visited natural recreation site in the Pacific Northwest. Wonderful hiking and stunning views! *About 35 minutes from Portland by car; daily bus service also available*

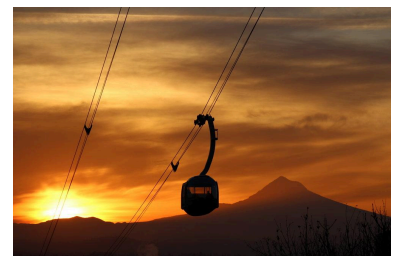


## Love Awesome Views?

### Portland Aerial Tram

<http://www.gobytram.com/fare>

Locally known as the “Silver Twinkie,” the Tram is a five minute ride each way, rising 500 vertical feet and traveling 3300 feet in distance. The cabin will swing slightly at the tower (so first time riders are advised to hold a rail). Views are spectacular, especially at sunset. *<5 miles from the Water Tower*



### Pittock Mansion

<https://pittockmansion.org/>

Built in 1914, Pittock Mansion tells the story of Portland's transformation from pioneer town to modern, industrialized city through the history and legacy of Portland's newspaper mogul. There are Amazing views from the mansion, especially at sunset. *<10 miles from the Water Tower*



## Love Unusual Tours?

### Shanghai Tunnels

<https://shanghaitunnels.com>

In the legendary Shanghai Tunnels, said to have housed kidnapped sailors during the early 1900s, explore more than 14,000 square feet of the Portland Underground, learn about Portland's dark history, and hear stories about the resident ghost, Nina. Brace yourself at the end of the tour with 3 tasters and 1 pint of internationally award-winning beer. <6 miles from the Water Tower



### Portland PDX Joywalk

<https://www.pdxsidewalkjoy.com>

The PDX Sidewalk Joy Map offers a self-guided tour of a group of curated galleries, exchanges, and displays in Portland, Oregon. Installed in curb gardens, front yards or sides of buildings, these projects were created to bring a bit of whimsy and inspiration to the community.

### Chasing Fountains Tour

[https://d3b95xb855kasf.cloudfront.net/thehotelzags.com-4007975922/cms/pressroom/walkingmap\\_zag\\_chasing\\_fountains.pdf?\\_ga=ft=Z3mUhw.AA.AA.AA.AA.DBALY5MzQDyD4gSLeGWX2A..o](https://d3b95xb855kasf.cloudfront.net/thehotelzags.com-4007975922/cms/pressroom/walkingmap_zag_chasing_fountains.pdf?_ga=ft=Z3mUhw.AA.AA.AA.AA.DBALY5MzQDyD4gSLeGWX2A..o)

This self-guided walking tour (durated by the Hotel Zags) will take you by a variety of interactive fountains.

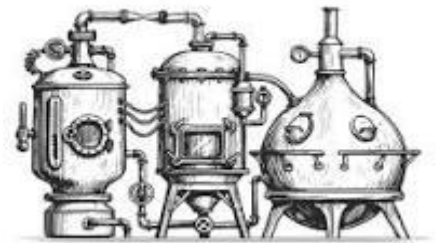


One of the stops on the list – Keller Fountain Park

(<https://www.portland.gov/parks/keller-fountain-park>) – became an internationally acclaimed open space after its 1970 completion. 13,000 gallons of water per minute cascade through its terraces and platforms, suggesting the Northwest's abundant waterfalls.

### Brewery Tours

Portland is well-known for their breweries! Many of the breweries offer tours, and most of the breweries and cideries are family-friendly with food, games, and outside areas. Some microbreweries that may be of interest (but definitely not all of them!) include:



- Hopworks Brewery: <https://www.hopworksbeer.com/>
- McMenamins Kennedy School: <https://www.mcmenamins.com/kennedy-school>
- Deschutes Brewery: <https://deschutesbrewery.com/pages/portland-public-house>
- Double Mountain Brewery and Cidery: <https://www.doublemountainbrewery.com/>
- Ground Breaker Brewing: <https://groundbreakerbrewing.com/>
- Zoiglhaus: <https://www.zoiglhaus.com/>

## Love “Portland Weird”?

Rather than trying to explain Portland-defined “weirdness” sightseeing possibilities, here are some things you may want to look up to see if they are worthy of your daily dose of weird:

- Portland Troll Bridge (Bring your own troll to leave behind): <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/portland-troll-bridge>
- Ole Bolle the Troll: <https://www.nordicnorthwest.org/troll>
- Skeleton Key Odditorium (museum/store of the macabre): <https://www.skeletonkeyodditorium.com/>
- Naked Cyclist Statue (honoring the annual naked bike race): <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/life-sized-naked-biker-sculpture>
- Portland Puppet Museum (small collection): <https://puppetmuseum.com/>
- Simpson drawing in concrete (by Matt Groening): <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/bart-simpson-concrete-etching>
- Hippo Hardware (hardware from 1860-1960): <https://www.hippohardware.com/pages/about-us>
- Weather Machine (predicts and displays the weather every day at noon): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weather\\_Machine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weather_Machine)
- Portland Horse Rings (how many can you spot?): <https://39forks.com/PortlandHorseProject.html>
- Paul Bunyan Statue: <https://savingplaces.org/stories/portland-oregons-massive-paul-bunyan-statue-looks-better-than-ever>
- Yacht Tub (float in a hot tub on the Willamette River): <https://www.yacht-tubs.com/>
- Witch’s Castle (lovely hike to get there): <https://oregonessential.com/witchs-castle-portland>
- Freakybuttrue Peculiarium: (oddities museum, art gallery, ice cream parlor and gift shop): <https://peculiarium.com>