

# **HERMAN CREEK PINNACLES/DRY CREEK FALLS PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKE**

**WALK COMPLETION AND CREDIT:** Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's Event Bank until they have submitted event completion information including the date the event was done, the distance completed, and the selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded pdf is deducted from the Event Bank when the pdf is downloaded. Later, any pdf fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when they submit the event completion information as a paying for credit participant. Note, however, the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF expires in 60 days.

This hike can be done one-way with two cars – one parked at the Herman Creek Trailhead, the other at the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead. Or, as a round trip from either trailhead.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- 1. Event Information**
- 2. Walk Directions from Herman Creek Campground Trailhead**
- 3. Walk Directions from Bridge of the Gods Trailhead**
- 4. Map of entire route**
- 5. Other Pacific Crest Trail Hikes**

# EVENT INFORMATION

**Point of Contact:** Nancy Wittenberg, [newittenberg@gmail.com](mailto:newittenberg@gmail.com)  
**253-208-1331 (cell)**

This hike from either the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead or the Herman Creek Campground Trailhead is a moderate hike rated 3B. From either trailhead the route is 10K to the other end. The normal turnaround point is the Herman Creek Pinnacles back to the starting trailhead. From the Herman Creek Trailhead this creates an 8K round trip, from the Bridge of the Gods, a 12K round trip. A side trip to Dry Creek Falls is included in routes from the Bridge of the Gods, or the one-way from Herman Creek Campground. The trail is well-maintained and available by June. Hikes from either end have been part of the Columbia Gorge Hiking Festival in the past.

**Restrooms:** There is a pit toilet at the Herman Creek Trailhead. Restrooms are available in Cascade Locks at Marine Park or in establishments in town. No toilets along the routes.

**Columbia Gorge weather can vary, and the trails are popular. Be sure and check the weather report and be prepared for changing weather conditions. Carry snacks and water. Mostly shaded, none-the-less sunscreen, a hat and bug repellent are good ideas. Some parts of the trail east of the Pinnacles are a rougher talus, hiking shoes and a hiking stick are good ideas.**

Cell coverage varies depending on how close to I-84 you are. **Emergency 911 may be possible if there is coverage.**

## Northwest Region Pacific Crest Trail (PCT)

Start from Bridge of the Gods Trailhead Y1677, 10K/12K (6.2/7.4 miles)

Rated 3B

Text Copyright © 2022 Columbia River Volkssport Club and AVA: America's Walking Club

**Driving Directions:** **I-84 eastbound** from Portland, OR, take exit 44 (Cascade Locks). Coming off the exit ramp, turn onto the road toward the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead. **I-84 westbound**, take Exit 44 (westbound only exit). Right at the top of the ramp onto Forest Lane. Continue on Forest Lane to the stop sign at WaNaPa St. Right on WaNaPa St through town. Left on the curved access road to Bridge of the Gods and turn into the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead. Be sure to display your NW Forest Service Pass or equivalent Federal Access Pass.

**GPS: 45.66190 -121.89446**

1. From the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead carefully cross the street to the trail (PCT) going uphill on the left before the bridge tollbooth.
2. Go up this trail, passing under the freeway to a street.
3. **Right** on the street and stay right as it becomes gravel.
4. A short distance past the entrance to the gravel part **turn Left** on the PCT (signed).
5. **Continue** on this trail until you come to an opening in the forest.
6. **Bear Right** crossing under power lines in the cleared area.
7. **Pick up** the trail on the other side of the cleared area. (Do not follow the power lines up or down.)
8. **Continue** on this trail until you come to a footbridge over a creek at a dirt road. (Dry Creek)
9. **Turn Right** on the dirt road to the Falls and return to the bridge. (4K)
10. **Turn Right** over the bridge on the PCT 2K to the Herman Creek Pinnacles – pyramidal rock formations. Explore the formations.
11. **Option 1: To return to the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead**, return on the PCT, crossing over the bridge at Dry Creek, over the cleared area under the power lines and back to the gravel road.
12. **Right** on the gravel road continuing as it becomes a hard surface street.
13. **Left** on the trail you came up on, passing under the freeway to the bridge toll booth road.
14. **Carefully cross** the tollbooth to the Bridge of the Gods trailhead parking lot. For a total of **12K (7.4 miles)**.
15. **Option 2: Continue** east on the PCT to the junction with the Herman Creek Bridge Trail.
16. **Turn Left** on the Herman Creek Bridge trail to its intersection with Trail #406.
17. **Turn Left** downhill on Trail #406 to the Herman Creek Campground for an additional **4K. A total 10K one way hike.**

At your option you may use the Start from the Herman Creek Trailhead directions to return to Bridge of the Gods trailhead for a total 20K hike.

We hope you enjoyed this hike on the PCT.

**To continue on to the Herman Creek Campground trailhead for a 10K one-way hike, go to Option 2, #15.**

Emergency cell service 911 may be available depending on how close you are to I-84. These directions and map may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

# Northwest Region Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) Start from Herman Creek Campground Y1677, 8-10Km (5-6.2 miles) – Rated 3B

Text Copyright © 2022 Columbia River Volkssport Club and AVA: America's Walking Club

**Driving Directions:** I-84 eastbound from Portland, OR, take exit 44 (Cascade Locks). Continue through town on WaNaPa St to Forest Lane. Left on Forest Lane crossing over the Freeway to the stop sign. Left to the Herman Creek Campground sign. Turn Right and drive up the hill, turning right to the trailhead. I-84 westbound, take Exit 44 (westbound only exit). At the top of the ramp, turn left over the Freeway and left at the stop sign to Herman Creek Campground sign as above. **Be sure to display your NW Forest Service Pass or equivalent Federal Access Pass. Day passes available at the trailhead. GPS: 45.68284 -121.84230**

1. From the Herman Creek Trailhead take **trail #406** and follow it down, then up to the power lines.
2. **Continue** under the power lines and then **bear right**.
3. **Continue** on the trail to a fork.
4. Stay **Right** downhill to continue on the Herman Bridge Trail.
5. **Cross** the bridge and continue on the trail.
6. At the junction with the PCT, **bear Right** onto the PCT.
7. As you cross the small creek, look up at the waterfall to your left.
8. **Continue** another 0.4K to the Herman Creek Pinnacles on your right. Explore the pyramidal rock formations here. There are several trails that take you to views of the Columbia and the back side of the Pinnacles.(4.1K) Then either...

**Option 1:** Turn around and return to the Herman Creek Campground for an **8k hike**:

9. **Turn left** downhill onto the Herman Bridge Trail at the first trail junction.
10. **Cross** the bridge and continue uphill.
11. **Continue straight** downhill at the fence and signpost.
12. Go under the power lines and continue on Trail #406 to the Herman Creek Campground Trailhead and your car.

**Option 2:** Continue on the PCT to the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead for a **total 10K one-way hike**.

13. **Continue** west on the PCT another 2K to the bridge over Dry Creek (not dry).
14. **Cross** the bridge. **Turn Left** uphill on the dirt road to Dry Creek Falls and return to the bridge.
15. **Turn Left** to continue on the PCT 3 K to the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead for a **10K one way hike**.

At your option you may use the Start from the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead directions to return to the Herman Creek campground for a round-trip 20K hike.

We hope you enjoyed this hike on the PCT

Emergency cell service 911 may be available depending on how close you are to I-84.. These directions and map may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

CASCADE LOCKS BRIDGE OF THE GODS T.H. TO HERMAN CREEK CAMPGROUND.



## **PACIFIC CREST TRAIL HIKES**

### **WASHINGTON:**

- 1. Chinook Pass – Sheep Lake and Sourdough Gap - Y2763**
- 2. Mt. Rainier National Park -- Naches Loop and Dewey Lakes - Y2050**
- 3. North Bonneville – Gillette Lake - Y2294**
- 4. Snoqualmie Pass – Kendall Katwalk - Y0786**
- 5. Snoqualmie Pass – Lodge Lake and Mirror Lake - Y3183**
- 6. Stevens Pass – Lake Valhalla - Y3182**
- 7. Stevens Pass – Josephine Lake - Y3184**
- 8. White Pass – North Four Lakes – Y3190**
- 9. White Pass – South Ginnette and Shoe Lakes – Y3191**

### **OREGON:**

- 10. Cascade Locks – Herman Creek Pinnacles - Y1677**
- 11. Eugene, OR – Willamette Pass Rosary Lakes – Y2465**
- 12. Government Camp – Timothy Lake – Y1514**
- 13. McKenzie Pass – Belknap Craters – Y3246**
- 14. Wapinitia Pass – North Twin Lakes – Y3230**
- 15. Sisters, OR – McKenzie Pass Matthieu Lakes – Y2435**
- 16. Willamette Pass – South - Three Lakes – Y3240**

### **CALIFORNIA:**

- 17. Carson Pass – Overviews & Frog Lake -- Y0880**
- 18. Donner Pass – Y1038**
- 19. Round Valley – Castle Valley & Views - Y0983**
- 20. Whitewater – River Trail – Year-round - Y0975**