

The Olympic Peninsula Explorers Volkssport Club  
Welcomes You to the  
Port Angeles – Spruce Railroad Walk

The walk is 8k and 12k (2A) and is on a wide paved trail on previous railroad route.

Strollers: Yes, Wheelchairs: Yes, Pets: Yes, Restroom: Yes.

<https://www.nps.gov/olym/planyourvisit/visiting-lake-crescent.htm>

This trail offers a nice walk along the north shore of Lake Crescent mostly following the old abandoned railroad grade. There are two tunnels: the first tunnel has been restored and can be walked through and a flashlight is recommended for the dark middle and the second tunnel is short. There are beautiful views of Lake Crescent and a host of other landmarks. Restrooms at the trail head and Log Cabin Resort.

The walks start and end at the Spruce RR trailhead. Approaching from Port Angeles, proceed along Hwy 101 west for 17 miles to the Olympic National Park boundary. Turn right onto East Beach Road, which will be signed for the East Beach of the Log Cabin Resort (3183 E Beach Rd, Port Angeles, WA). Follow road for around four miles to the Spruce Railroad Trail parking area.

The Spruce RR trailhead is located at: 48.09335, -123.80246 or

**Walk Registration:**

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box, on <http://my.ava.org>. Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods.

**Walk Completion and Walk Credit:**

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account click on the “My Start Box” tab, then the “Finish Table” tab, then click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped “virtual” insert cards that you may choose to print out.

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Use the following table to guide what portion of this document you may wish to print out.

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WELCOME TO OUR YEAR-ROUND VOLKSSPORT EVENT  
**HISTORIC SPRUCE RAILROAD TRAIL WALK**  
OLYMPIC PENINSULA EXPLORERS VOLKSSPORT CLUB  
6/12km Rated 2A YRE 1719

**ESVA Challenges:** 39 Counties – Clallam

**AVA Challenges:** 50 States/51 Capitals, Walk the USA A-Z, Rails to Trails (Spruce Railroad Trail)  
Pets, baby joggers and wheelchairs okay.

Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match. For example, if you register using the OSB, do not complete your event by using the PSB (nor sign the PSB log sheet). The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.

There is a pit toilet at the trailhead parking lot. Bring a flashlight or a fully charged camera with a flashlight as first tunnel is unlit in the middle and very dark.

You must **drive** to the Spruce Railroad Trailhead. From Port Angeles, drive (west) onto **US 101** toward Lake Crescent. After about 13 miles you will see SHADOW MOUNTAIN STORE on your **RIGHT**; continue about another mile and turn **RIGHT** onto **EAST BEACH ROAD**. Continue 3+ miles to the Spruce Railroad Trail Road and turn **LEFT**. It is less than a mile to the Trailhead and parking. There is a “rustic” toilet here, and none on the Trail.

This paved trail borders 600’ deep Lake Crescent and features two renovated tunnels. The RR was built during the First World War to ship Sitka spruce east to build airplanes for the war effort. It was completed in only six weeks but not before the war ended. Trains used the railway until the 1950’s.

**12 km Option:**

1. Leave the parking lot, cross the road and read the Park regulations pertaining to the Trail. The trail follows an old logging grade briefly through what was once an orchard area before dropping down to the lake. Watch for an old growth stump with springboard logging marks. **Mount Storm King** is visible across the lake. Watch for bicycles and horse traffic.
2. At about 1.5 Km you will enter the McFee tunnel. A flashlight and reflective device are highly recommended as there is only natural light in the tunnel. The tunnel is very dark even on the sunniest days. You can also go around the tunnel using the primitive trail on the “water side” to get a good look at the bridge and Devil’s Punchbowl.
3. Continuing down the Trail, look at the pillow basalt rock formations (geological evidence that the basalt cooled underwater). The second tunnel is at about 4.5 Km. Here the views across the lake are of the **Lake Crescent Lodge and Barnes Point**.
4. About one mile past the Daly-Rankin Tunnel, walk until a dirt road joins from below the paved path nearer to the lake. You will see both the backs of signs indicating the Spruce Railroad Trail entrance and a small mile marker 31 sign – this is the turn-around point. If you reach mile marker 30 or the Pyramid Peak trail, you have walked too far. (6 Km).
5. Reverse course and return on the same Trail, enjoying the scenery from another perspective.

In case of emergency: Dial 9-1-1 - Event related assistance: Todd Oberlander: 360-620-0810

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These directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses prohibited. Last Updated: 01/2026

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**6 km Option:**

1. Follow Steps #1 through #3 above.  
At the Daly-Rankin tunnel, turn  
around and reverse course here,  
following the trail back to your car.

Be sure to log back into the OSB system ([my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org)) to “finish/complete” your online registration after doing the walk if that is how you registered. The OSB system does not deduct any walking fee from a walker’s Event Bank until they have submitted walk completion info including the date the event was walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that walker is participating in. (Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded pdf is deducted from the user’s Event Bank when the pdf is downloaded. Later, any pdf fees are credited back to a walker’s Event Bank when he/she submits the walk completion info as a paying for credit walker.) Note however that the \$2 “coupon” for the downloaded PDF expires in 60 days.

# Spruce RR - Lake Crescent, Olympic National Park

