

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

The walk is 6k and 12k (3C) and are on somewhat difficult terrain with some significant hill and stair climbing. Strollers: difficult, Wheelchairs: No, Pets: No, Restroom: Yes.

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

This trail offers a nice walk along the north shore of Lake Crescent as well as some forest trail. Mostly following the old abandoned railroad grade, the first tunnel has been restored and can be walked through, but skirts the 2nd tunnel, which is dangerous to enter. There are beautiful views of Lake Crescent and a host of other landmarks. There are parts of the trail that are rocky (if you opt to walk the trail around the first tunnel) and sometimes a bit muddy. 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 a little more than three miles and turn left onto Boundary Creek Road,

signed for the Spruce Railroad Trail. Follow Boundary Creek Road for just under a mile to the eastern trailhead.

The Spruce RR trailhead is located at: 48.093257, -123.7982167

**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.

**Table of Contents:**

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

<b>Section Contents</b>	<b>Pages</b>
Introduction, Walk Registration/Completion, and Table of Contents	1
Driving and Walk Directions	2
Maps	3
AVA and ESVVA Special Programs	4

WELCOME TO OUR YEAR-ROUND VOLKSSPORT EVENT  
**HISTORIC SPRUCE RAILROAD TRAIL WALK**  
OLYMPIC PENINSULA EXPLORERS VOLKSSPORT CLUB  
6/12km Rated 2B/3B YRE 1719

**ESVA Challenges:** 39 Counties – Clallam, Rail Trails

**AVA Challenges:** Walk the USA A-Z

**Pets are not allowed in the National Park.** Baby joggers with difficulty, not suitable for wheelchairs

There are Restrooms available at the Log Cabin Resort.

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 on East Beach Road; at 3 miles, you will come to the **LOG CABIN RESORT**. This is a full-service Resort with great food, a lodge, camping, store, RV hookups, marina, boat rentals, clean restrooms and much more. If you stop here, **tell them you are a Volkssporter!** Continue a short distance 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 wooded trail borders 600' deep Lake Crescent and features one renovated and one abandoned tunnel. 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.
2. At about 1.5 Km you will enter the newly opened RR tunnel. A flashlight and reflective device is 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. Continue along the Trail until you find a piece of old iron railroad track (6 Km).
5. Reverse course and return on the same Trail, enjoying the scenery from another perspective.

**6 km Option:**

1. Follow Steps #1 through #2 above. At 3 km, you will come to a rockslide across the trail. 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. 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.

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

©2020 Olympic Peninsula Explorers – All Rights Reserved

Sanction fee kindly paid by Kathy Freeny

These directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses prohibited. Rev: 12/2019

Port Angeles: Spruce Railroad – 6k and 12k Walk



