

Lake Oswego Millennium Plaza and beyond

Beautiful Lake Oswego has reclaimed its industrial waterfront, turning it into a series of riverside parks. This 2.2-mile (one-way) walk takes you from the gleaming Millennium Plaza Park with its views of Lakewood Bay and adjoining shops and restaurants, back to the origin of the once gritty mining town of Oswego.

Begin at 200 First Street at Millennium Plaza Park, head east to State Street and turn right. Cross State Street at Foothills Road and walk north, then east on Foothills adjacent to the station for the Willamette Shore Trolley, which runs between Portland and Lake Oswego. Past a parking lot on the left, take the Kincaid Curlicue Corridor trail. It leads to Foothills Park along the Willamette River. Follow this trail to Roehr Park and turn right (south), continuing to the Water Sports Center, a recreation facility owned by the city and operated by Lake Oswego Community Rowing.

From the Water Sports Center, walk back to State Street via Oswego Pointe Drive, turning south (left) on State. At Leonard, turn left into Old Town. Beyond the intersection of Leonard and Durham is a giant fir, the Peg Tree. Early settlers hung a lantern on a peg in its trunk to light town meetings held under its branches. From Leonard, turn right at Furnace Street, which leads into the riverside George Rogers Park, site of the only remaining nineteenth century iron furnace on the West Coast.

Return to Millennium Plaza Park by walking northward through Old Town and then north on State Street.

4.4 miles

9293 steps

difficulty

45.418, -122.664

LAKE OSWEGO: MILLENNIUM PLAZA AND BEYOND

A Fiery Past

Albert Durham named Oswego in 1847 after his New York birthplace; he founded a sawmill on Sucker Creek (now Oswego Creek). At George Rogers Park on Oswego Creek is the town's first blast furnace, from 1867, where ore from nearby Iron Mountain was refined.

Foothills Park is located on riverside land that was home in the 1880s to a pipe foundry and a blast furnace that had succeeded the first furnace on Sucker Creek. Cast iron pipe constructed here still carries water from the Bull Run watershed into Portland and nearby cities. The last industrial use was a woodchip processing facility, which closed in the late 1990s. In 2002, the City of Lake Oswego bought the land for a park and construction began in 2005.

In 1960, Oswego merged with Lake Grove; the combined towns were renamed "Lake Oswego."



Foothills Park



