

## Portland Swan Island Beach

Walk on the beach...on Swan Island? It's true. Swan Island beaches offer close-ups of resident geese and osprey and the occasional bald eagle, beaver and even river otter. And where else can you find great views of a real working harbor: active docks and shipbuilding, all with Portland's downtown skyline as backdrop?

Begin this 2.2-mile (one-way) walk at the Prescott Street MAX Station on N Interstate Avenue. Walk one block north on Interstate, cross to the north side of Going Street and head west, downhill. Pass under Greeley Avenue, then over the Union Pacific train tracks.

Cross Basin Avenue on the marked crosswalk and pass signs welcoming you to "Port of Portland's Swan Island Industrial Park." Swan Island was once a true island, with the Willamette's main channel on its east side. Its S curve as the river hit the bluff was a navigation hazard, so the current channel was dredged in the 1920s. Adjoining wetlands disappeared under fill and the island became a peninsula joined to the mainland with a causeway.

Cross Port Center Way and Going Street at the light, by a McDonald's; head straight toward the river via the sidewalk and then right on the access trail adjacent the Swan Island Pump Station, the heart of Portland's \$1.4 billion effort to keep untreated sewage out of the river.

At the river, turn left, walking upriver on the North Portland Greenway Trail, planned to ultimately connect the St. Johns Bridge with

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4.4 miles 9292 steps difficulty 45.555, -122.682

## PORTLAND: SWAN ISLAND BEACH

the Eastbank Esplanade. At tall cottonwoods, the trail ends. Turn around and walk downstream; beach access is on the left. Pass office buildings for Freightliner, Swan Island's largest employer. Continue along the river to the arched footbridge at the Ports O' Call building. Here, the trail ends. Reverse direction and turn left onto the access trail and back out to the parking access road. Go left to walk on the sidewalk in front of the Ports O' Call building. It leads to the riverside McCarthy Park. From here, walk north on the Greenway Trail about 0.5 mile.

To return, retrace your steps to the MAX stop. Or, to catch a bus, walk a block inland from McCarthy Park to the TriMet stop 72, with frequent service to the Killingsworth Avenue MAX station.



Overlooking Portland's waterfront





**PORTLAND: SWAN ISLAND BEACH**

0 1/8 1/4 miles  
0 660 1320 feet