

These are the photos that Brenda & I took on our recent trip to the Northwest. Very different NOT having to change clock time on this vacation.

## **DESTINATION: VICTORIA**

Took 2 day Amtrak from Tucson before leaving **Thursday, April 19, 2017**

Overnight to Los Angeles. Sleeper car was the best Amtrak offered, but still uncomfortable sleeping. Private toilet is a PLUS.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157692701409242>

## **Friday (4/20)**

from Los Angeles to San Jose (when it got dark). Loved all the sights that one does not see in a vehicle.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157668069100938>

## **Saturday (4/21)**

woke up at Mt. Shasta and asleep in Seattle. Watched the snow.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157668069169648>

## **Sunday (4/22) in Seattle**

Very comfortable room in Embassy Suites last evening. Bed didn't move like a train, plus it was soft.

Rented a Land Rover Discovery with Canadian plates; I guess they wanted the car back in Canada since I was returning to Vancouver anyway.

Found the Ferry to Bainbridge and waited no time before crossing. Very smooth ride at \$17.05.

Drove to Port Townsend to see the house my neighbor built. The current owners invited us in; those photos are in this album.

Continued to Port Angeles and drove towards Hurricane Ridge Visitor Center (but they were closed today).

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157695959857305>

## **Monday (4/23)**

Another beautiful sunny day here. Left Port Angeles by 7:15 driving west on US-101. Needed to get here early because construction will close 101 near Lake Crescent between 9am-1pm.

Spent several hours looking at 'sea stacks'. These are the large rocks along the coast.

Went to Rialto Beach, First Beach, Ruby Beach and Kalaloch.

Video of the waves at Rialto.

Also drove to Hoh Rain Forest. Very tall Spruce and Cedar trees. A tall spruce was named Big Sitka.

Saw a Shay type steam engine in the park in Forks, WA.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157690229127320>

## **Tuesday (4/24)**

Visiting Brenda's niece near Vancouver, Washington near Portland, Oregon.

## **Wednesday (4/25)**

After finishing great visit with niece of Brenda, we travelled to Mount Rainier. The town of Longmire is at Visitor Center. Apparently Craig Johnson used that as name for Sheriff Longmire with his Rainier beer.

Terrible drive through Tacoma and Seattle at rush hour. HOV worked for sometime, but those lanes transitioned to Toll Express Lanes at Seattle. Cost was \$10 to drive in those lanes on I-405N to I-5. But HOV returned after I-5 on way to Burlington, Washington.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157695412506904>

## **Thursday (4/26)**

Left Burlington and drove to North Cascades National Park. Visitor center closed until mid-May; Cascades Loop road closed between Ross Dam and Rainy Pass. Winter is ending.

Saw many mountains with snow, green fields, and a deer crossing the road. Not many vehicles which makes it real easy to stop and take a photo.

Waited about 20 minutes crossing the Border. Changed speedometer back to km/h. Fuel costs about 1.50 per liter here. Last time in Saskatchewan, Canada (Sep 2015) cost was about 1.01.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157696133224035>

## **Friday (4/27)**

We finally made it here today after missing it last year on the Alaska Cruise. Weather is gorgeous now and no wind like a year ago, May 23, 2017.

Crossed from Vancouver on BC Ferries. Trip took about 2 hours plus 40 minutes waiting and cost only \$89.20 Canadian. Back to Vancouver tomorrow leaving for

home Sunday morning.

Trip has been truly delightful with the near perfect weather.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157693040380212>

## **Saturday (4/28)**

Rainy today, but we drove into City Centre Victoria before seeing Butterfly Gardens. Our vehicle was the very last one loaded on ferry back to 'mainland'. Several more cars had to wait 1 hour for next ferry.

Hampton Inn shuttled us back from airport after returning rental vehicle. Shuttle tomorrow for 8:15am flight to Phoenix. Should return to Tucson by 2:40pm; arrived just before 3pm as we had to wait for flight attendant.

Awesome trip. We did everything that was planned (and a few bonuses).

Next long trip in September.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157694456195411>

## **Sunday (4/29)**

Beautiful flight home seeing Mounts Rainier, St. Helens, and Hood.  
Added bonus of Columbia River and Grand Canyon.

Resting up now

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157696253091595>