

Riverboat Cruise

Columbia & Snake Rivers

Also, California & Oregon Coasts

From San Francisco to Portland

April 15 to May 1, 2007



American Airlines, April 15, Flight #3162
Depart Santa Ana 11:45 am, arrive SF 1:05 pm

AA Record Locator: FUBJVK
1-800-433-7300 – Cost: \$997.60

Alaska Airlines, May 1, Flight #488
Depart Portland 1:35 pm, arrive Santa Ana 4 pm

Jackson Sellers, FF#: Y009F72
Yoshiko Sellers, FF#: Y009F84

HERTZ Auto Rentals. Reservation #D5284196958. Pick up at San Francisco airport on April 15, return at Portland airport on April 21. Approximate cost: \$326 plus gasoline.

Mileages:

April 16 - San Francisco, CA, to Mendocino, CA, 128 Miles

April 18 - Mendocino, CA, to Eureka, CA, 143 Miles

April 19 - Eureka, CA, to Gold Beach, OR, 137 Miles

April 20 - Gold Beach, OR, to Newport, OR, 176 Miles

April 21 - Newport, OR, to Portland, OR, 135 Miles

Stopover in San Francisco

Mark Hopkins Hotel

Confirmation # 60506697

California & Mason, 1-415-392-3434

Check-in **April 15**, check-out **April 16**

Superior Room w/2 Double Beds, Smoking

Cost: \$319 plus \$45 tax, Parking \$51

We will stay only one night, then drive to Mendocino. As a young Navy officer in 1955, I viewed San Francisco from the Top of the Mark on Nob Hill. Yoshi and I will do it together in 2007.



Stanford Inn by the Sea, Mendocino

Comptche Ukiah Road & Coast Highway One
(707) 937-5615, 1-800-331-8884

Two nights, **April 16 & 17**. We will be guests of Bill & Sandra McIver, who live on a point that juts into the Pacific, as seen below, about a half mile away. The Stanford Inn is nonsmoking and vegetarian, but it offers eggs for breakfast, which should be good enough since Bill says we won't be eating any other meals there.



Bill's Directions to His Home

Our physical address is 45350 Chapman Raod. After turning north on Hwy 1 you'll pass Albion, cross Albion River, pass Little River Inn and Little River, S-Curve will head you straight on to our driveway that is a mile or so down the road. The first road you pass after passing three inns at the top of the S-Curve, the next street sign you will see is Gordon Lane on your right, continue past Gordon Lane about 1/4 mile will be Chapman Road on the left. Unless it is raining you will see my flag at our road on our newspaper boxes. Turn Left, go straight to gate at end of driveway. (Yes we're a gated community and we're the only residents on the 35-acre point.) There is a telephone keyboard on driver's side by gate. Punch in our numbers (I think you can read them) and it will ring us. If you have problems, our housekeeper lives in the white house you pass just before reaching the gate. If she's there she can help you in. If all else fails, punch in #1031 and the gate will open.

Bill's Directions From SF to MCW, Then to Mendocino

I'm sending you the back way to the Matanzas Creek Winery. You'll be happy to miss the sluggish traffic from Petaluma to Santa Rosa on 101. Mary Anne will expect you at the winery. Get her to show you our former home and the "old winery." The landscape around our house came from a defunct nursery that we bought its plant stock. The place has grown up so much that you'll barely be able to see it from the winery. If no one is there, Joanne, who was our housekeeper, might be able to give you a tour there too. Get directions from winery back to 101 when you leave. I suggest you drive to Healdsburg for lunch. Park around the downtown plaza. There are a number of good wine country restaurants there – Ralph's on the east side of the plaza and Zin a block east. There is also the Oakville Grocery catty-corner to the plaza on west side. It has a fine deli, takeout food and a warm outdoor eating area. (Next door to Oakville Grocery is Anne Marie's fine jewelry store if Yoshi would like to look at jewelry by Anne Marie. If you stop in, ask for her and say hi for us – she's an old friend and has done many pieces for me for Sandra.) After lunch, get back on 101 and continue north past Cloverdale to Hwy 128 exit. You'll drive through Sonoma County's largest wine valley, Alexander Valley, that produces some of the world's best wines. The drive over the mountains is curvy but beautiful – sorry, you'll miss much behind the wheel, Jackson, but Yoshi can tell you all about it. About midway is the quaint little town of Boonville. There are two nice places to stop. The first is about midtown on the right. That place has a deli with nice sweets and good coffee and is next door to a crafts shop run by a local friend (last name Bates is on a sign in front). Further down the street on the right is large yellow building (next door to a building construction site) that has good treats. You have now entered Mendocino's central wine country, Anderson Valley. You'll see a lot of vineyards along the road until you reach the redwoods. The drive through the redwoods is beautiful but curvy. You'll enjoy views of the Navarro River as you drive to the coast where the road will blend into Hwy 1. Up, up the long twisting bluff to the coast line and you're just a few miles from Albion.

Next Comes Eureka, California

Super 8 Motel Eureka

1304 4th Street on coast-hugging US 101

April 18, Two Double Beds, Smoking

\$77.41 prepaid 2/22/07 to *Bill Me Later*

Hotels.com Booking # **042282277**, 1-800-403-4176

Eureka is a convenient stopping point on the coast, about a half day's drive from Mendocino. The Super 8 Motel represents a sharp drop in class for us, but I had trouble finding a Eureka hotel that offered a smoking room. The Red Lion and Best Western hotels ban smoking completely, so I passed them up in favor of the Super 8. At this pedestrian hotel, we won't have to go outside to smoke. And anyway, it is near Humboldt Bay and downtown Eureka shops and restaurants.



North to Oregon's Gold Beach

Gold Beach Inn

Confirmation # SL858, 1-888-663-0608, \$79
Off Highway 101, north of Rogue River

April 19 - Two-bed oceanfront room on 3rd floor, with smoking permitted on a private balcony.



Our room at the Gold Beach Inn will look something like the one shown at left. Above, the Rogue Reef Islands, as seen from the balcony. Reminds me of islet views in Japan.

Hugging the Coast to Newport

Agate Beach Inn

Confirmation # 388538492, 1-541-265-9411
3019 N. Coast Highway, Newport, OR

April 20 - 2 queen beds, ocean view, balcony, costing \$143.10 plus 10.5% tax.

No smoking in the room, but I took it anyway, because Rookie's Sports Bar in the hotel, below, allows smoking. I verified with the hotel that those glass containers are ashtrays and not peanut dishes. It looks like a well-lighted place in which to read, write and smoke.



Inland to Portland

Embassy Suites - Portland Airport

Confirmation # 83417609, 1-503-460-3000
7900 NE 82nd Avenue, at Airport Entrance

April 21, 2-Room Suite, 2 Double Beds, Smoking, \$139.50

This won't be an exciting hotel destination, but there are two good reasons for spending a night here. 1) The airport is where I will return the rental car. 2) This is where we will be picked up for our one-week riverboat cruise.



7 Nights on the *Queen of the West*

April 22 - Dinner Cruise on Willamette River

April 23 - Columbia Gorge, River Discovery Center

April 24 - Pendleton, Woolen Mills Tour

April 25 - Clarkston, Hells Canyon Jet Boat Ride

April 26 - Columbia River Cruising, The Dalles

April 27 - Longview, Mount St. Helens

April 28 - Astoria, Columbia River Maritime Museum

April 29 - Portland, Departure



Our assigned state-room is CC214 on the Pioneer Deck. Smoking allowed on private verandah. Cost: \$5,556.40

2 Days in Downtown Portland

Embassy Suites - Downtown

Confirmation # 84052169, 1-503-279-9000
319 SW Pine Street, near everything

Two Nights, **April 29 to May 1**

2-Room Suite, 2 Double Beds, Smoking

\$398 plus \$49.75 tax

This is more like it. We won't have a car, but we won't need one for these final two days of our vacation. The Willamette River is nearby, and everything we need is within walking distance.

