

# Road Art – 1<sup>st</sup> Trip – Days 10-19

Day 10 – 9/02/21, Templeton, CA to Salinas, CA

The day started out foggy, although I was inland



And as I approached the coast, it cleared up and it becomes more beautiful beach scenery.



Some random seagull enjoying the beautiful view as I brew my morning coffee.









And lots of people in flying kites, these were not motorized, just wind driven.



Click image to play.



Since I stayed at an RV site, I cooked more than usual. Closed out the day with a little surf and turf for dinner and my 2 squares of dark chocolate.



### Day 11 – 9/03/21, Salinas, CA to Santa Cruz, CA

Good start to the day with some eggs and fruit.



The drive to Santa Cruz was a short 36 miles. I wanted to shop for a new bike, or at least explore some options. There is a terrible shortage of bikes and because of this, they are selling for full and sometimes over MSRP. I test rode a couple mountain bikes and one electric Trek model, their newest e-caliber. Unlike most e-bikes, this one has no throttle, just 3 levels of



electric assist and it requires you pedal for assist. I have to say it was one incredible bike. It was tempting but at \$6,599+tax, I held off. I also looked at lock options.



I left the bike shop bikeless but with lots of info to process.

Very near the bike shop they has hand crafted charcuterie shop, El Salchichero, what a cool place. I asked the counter person, if he could taste one thing, what would he have? He recommended a smoked 36 month aged Prosciutto de Santa Cruz. It was the best I ever had.







I went to the famous Santa Cruz pier and board walk and spend a relaxing afternoon and to think about what to do about a bike. What an awesome place. Here are some pictures





The famous wooden rollercoaster where the Clint Eastwood Dirty Harry's Sudden Impact movie was filmed, still there and still one of the few in the world made out of a wood trusses.



I did some Craigslist searches for the bay area and I am awaiting some replies to look at some used cheaper options. Enjoyed a quite dinner at Westlake park and a great restful night



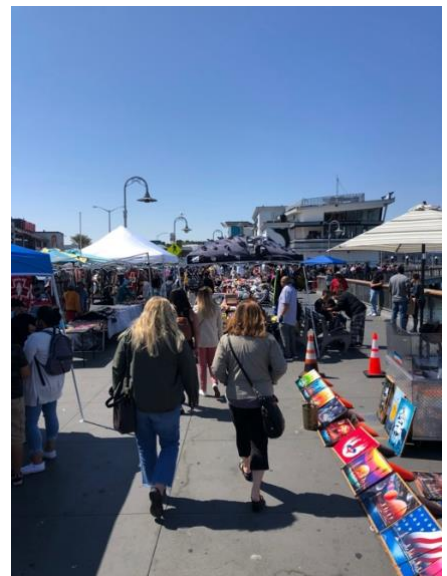


## Day 12 – 9/04/21, Santa Cruz, CA to North of the Golden Gate Bridge, CA

Early in the morning I had a quick breakfast and some coffee and drove to Mountain View to meet a Craigslist bike seller, and actually bought a new “used” bike, for \$250. I will get some minor parts and get it to good riding condition, and make it more my bike. And yes, stopped at Mike’s bike shop in Palo Alto and bought a new lock and steel cable.



I drove into San Francisco and parked near SF Giant stadium and rode the bike along the water front to almost the Golden Gate Bridge. The place was jammed with people.







This is the first time I saw the Golden Gates with fog, it looked ghostly.



I missed my bike, glad I was able to get a new one.





This store brought back lots of Chilean memories, although it was an Argentinian store.



On the other side of the bridge, the house boat communities. I would love to try out that life style.





Of course I bought some Boudin Sourdough bread and enjoyed it with a bit of wine and cheese that evening. Yummy.



### Day 13 – 9/05/21, North of the Golden Gate Bridge to Fort Bragg, CA

CA-1 north of San Francisco is a much smaller road vs San Diego to San Fran. Curvy, narrow but beautiful. Lots of traffic and many Sunday driving clubs. The BMW, Ferrari clubs were well represented as were many motorcyclist and of course us camper vans. The day was packed with beautiful roads, vistas and side excursion. A bike ride around the bay, and me longing a Kayak.





Marshall, CA bay. I did a nice 17 miler bike ride here, feeling so good.



This restaurant was expecting the busiest day of the year, planned on serving 25 bushels of oysters this Sunday, that's about 200 dozens. He had a neat setup, right on the bay.



Marin County's oldest saloon, the William Tell house.





Next, I walked the town and visited a farmer's market. I love this pipe art, I am going to make some when I get home, someday.



On my 2<sup>nd</sup> bike ride for the day, I captured more bayfront scenery and a bird sanctuary



These 2 restaurants right next to each other, were wait in line only, LOL. Busy, busy, busy.





And for horse lovers, lots of trails.



After all that riding I was ready to eat a cow, so I did. Beautiful bay front meal.



Next up was Bodega Bay, CA, cannot get tired of the coastal views.

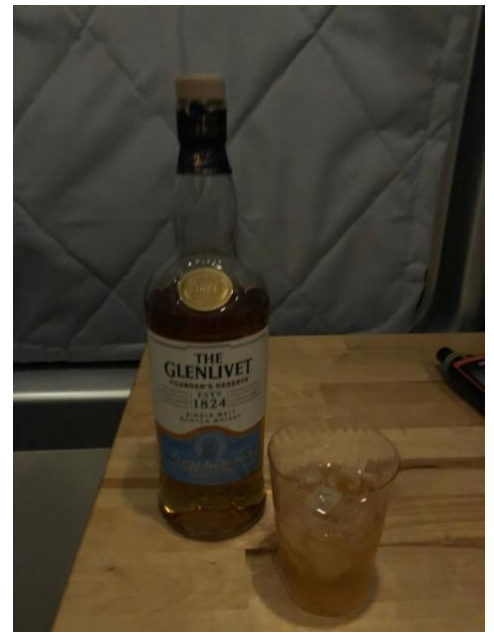




And not so coastal also.



Gassed up in Fort Bragg, 4 something a gallon vs \$6.79 in Bodega Bay, and a nightcap before bed.



**Day 14 – 9/06/21, Fort Bragg, CA to Gaberville, CA**

I awoke energized, content and ready for my morning java, great view and bed made.





Next up was loitering on the beaches along a more bike riding. It did end abruptly when the path was washed away.





Beautiful scenery along the way.





And these humongous redwoods lead to my visit of Redwood National Park tomorrow.





Along the way, the souvenir shop, lots of cool stuff, then appetizers and dinner; and showing off my blinds.



### Day 15 – 9/07/21, Gaberville, CA to Medford, OR

I got a spot at Patrick's Point State Park last night, the scenery beautiful, the camp ground very nice nestled with trees, but the bathrooms and showers horrible and unusable. Shame on Oregon. I am so glad I don't need either and just went about my usual routine in my self-contained van. Funny what you see at state parks, LOL.





Someone challenged me to an “get on the ground photo” of the redwoods, so here is my most creative shot.

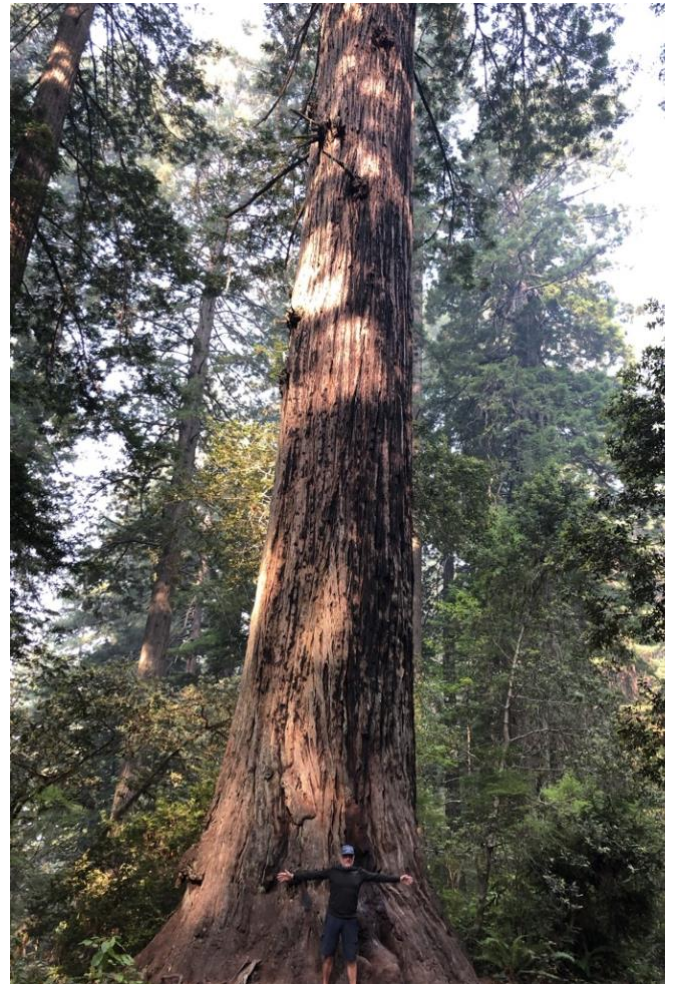




Shortly after leaving the campground, I was at Redwood National Park Visitor Center



After some java, ready to explore, these trees make you feel so insignificant, both their age and stature. Unfortunately, pictures do not bring out the magnitude or sweet smell of these redwoods.









Although foggy, the view at the various turn ins continued to impress.





California's coastline is 840 miles long, although CA-1 is 655 miles. Finally in Oregon.



I headed to Medfort to do some utilitarian stuff. ROAD ART maintenance, wash and oil change, some knobbier tires for the bike, some shopping, a load of laundry and meet a lady selling an Advanced Elements Kayak.

Got everything done including buying this little portable oven, kind of like a portable 12V crockpot.

Originally, I was going to head northeast to visit Crater Lake National Park, but because of the fires, the air was so laden with ash, it rivaled the foggy coastline. I didn't even want to breath that air.

Found a nice quiet place to boondock in Medfort, had a beer, ate some of that smoked prosciutto and worked on my trip report before turning in. I had a restful sleep.





## Day 16 – 9/08/21, Medford, OR to Alsea OR

Originally, I was going to stay in Medford, but after getting a deal on the Kayak, I found some energy and I headed north on I-5 toward Eugene to shorten the drive to Newport tomorrow. I boondocked in Central Point,





## Day 17 – 9/09/21, Alsea, OR to Newport, OR

I am very much looking forward to trying it when I meet Nick in Newport. I have not seen him since our trip to Cabo San Lucas, in Baja, Mexico. Although we Facetime a few times, it is not the same. Last year, at about this time, Nick and I were supposed to ride out motorcycles to South America, Ushuaia, Argentina, the south most town in the Americas. Because of Covid, our plans were put on hold. We are now contemplating traveling the east and west coasts of Mexico.

Good morning coffee and sunshine, both on the way to Eugene, OR



Ever since my bike got stolen, I had been thinking to perhaps get a folding bike. I have heard and read quite a bit about Bike Friday, so it became my first stop. I test rode a couple of models and got a quote on a build. They mostly do custom builds, right in their factory adjacent to the sales room. The bikes are expensive, so perhaps a Christmas present for myself in case I go that route.





The road west to Newport was mostly farms and then passes, very well maintained



Foggy as usual, but nice temperatures and no rain. Newport Harbor and more sealions





Meet Nick, we stopped at Bier One for a beer.



Waterfront walk scenery





## Day 18 – 9/10/21, Newport, OR

What a blessed day. Started with a Nick breakfast special, over easy eggs, potatoes, onions and veggies, toast and coffee. Forgot to take a picture, but yum, yum.

The morning started with a paddle on Beaver Creek. This was my first time setting up the kayak and didn't really know what to expect. It says to pump it to 2 PSI, but without a gage, how much is 2 PSI? I guess-timated and tried it out. Inflating helps the body warm up and loosen up, haha. Add video link



Did a short paddle to the dead end and decided to add more air, sagging in the middle





Now time to enjoy the beauty of this creek. Pictures speak for themselves.



Plenty of fish jumping and birds





The creek went on and on, just peaceful quiet and relaxing.



My favorite picture





All deflated and packed back in the case, SUCCESS!



A walk on the Yaquina Bay Jetty





Next up we went for a hike on Depoe Bay's Salmon River. Good place to kayak.



Unfortunately, the trail, but from the northern trail head, it was open. What a view!





And to cap the day off, for the first time on my trip I was rewarded with a stunning sunset.



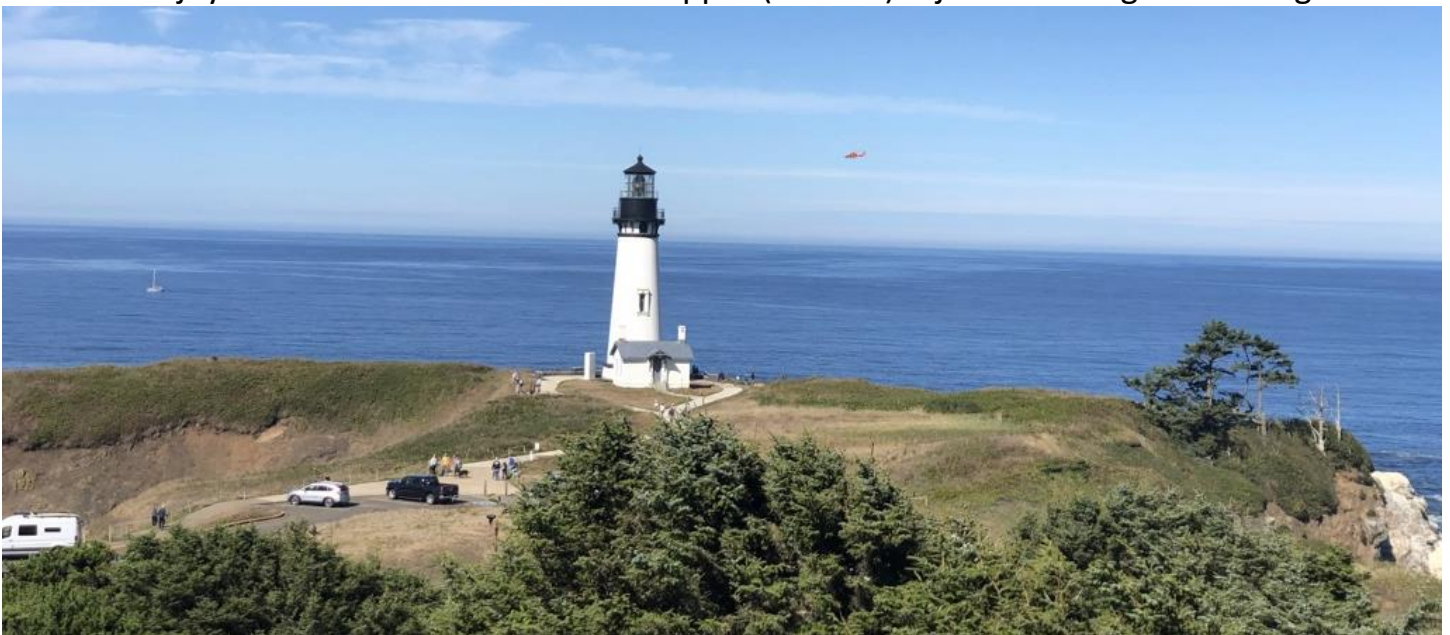


Wrapped up the evening with a juicy burger, with real cut potatoes.



### Day 19 – 9/11/21, Newport, OR

The day started with breakfast leftover and over-easy eggs, leftovers were even tastier. After 2 cups of coffee, we started to plan our next motorcycle trip. As I mentioned before 2 years ago, we were supposed to ride to Ushuaia, a Covid-19 misfortune. Next trip itinerary will be revealed shortly. To get some exercise, we biked to the Yaquina Head lighthouse, did a small hike and enjoyed the views. Coast Guard chopper (red dot) is just to the right of the light.







From the top of the hill, and from the beach below.



A bit about the lighthouse built in 1873.

**NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS**

**Yaquina Head**  
Outstanding Natural Area

## The Changing Light Station Community: A Technology Story

For more than 140 years, Yaquina Head Lighthouse has graced this headland. While the lighthouse structure has endured, the technology of the lighthouse lamp has evolved and directly influenced the community.

**1873-1930s**

Yaquina Head Lighthouse required three lighthouse keepers to tend its oil-burning lamp. The keepers hauled oil up the lighthouse stairs to supply the lamp, and took shifts to ensure the flame burned throughout the night. Because of the difficulties in getting supplies at such a remote location, keepers and their families tended a garden and raised livestock to help meet their own needs.

**1930s**






The lighthouse converted to an electric light bulb, requiring maintenance by only two keepers. A smaller home for a single family replaced the original two-story dwelling. With improved roads, the keepers could drive to Newport for groceries and no longer needed to tend a garden and raise livestock.

**1966**

The U.S. Coast Guard automated Yaquina Head Lighthouse. The agency installed a battery backup system, a spare bulb switching device, and an electronic modern to notify the Coast Guard if the light stopped blinking. With no duties required, the lighthouse keepers moved away, and the houses were boarded up. The dwellings and other structures were removed in 1964.

**2005**

The Bureau of Land Management and its partners began a top-to-bottom restoration of the lighthouse tower and oil house. The restored exterior and interior now match the condition and appearance of the 1873 lighthouse. Today, the community at Yaquina Head changes daily as visitors arrive to experience this historic lighthouse.



Tons of places to explore, Cummings Peak



And out PM destination, Devils Churn, the waves keep on carving the inlet.





Someone tried to jump where I drew the circle a few days ago, missed and died.





Nearby was Spouting Horn, when the waves come in, the perforation in the rocks imitated a whale spout., watch the video.



After all the biking, hiking and touring around, I was a bit worn. The late PM ended with Nick fixing my bike, new shifter cables, brake pads and truing the wheels. It now rides great. Thank you again Nick.





## Day 20 – 9/12/21, Newport, OR to Tillamook, OR

This morning we said our goodbyes, Nick had to work and I wanted to continue making my way north. After tidying up the van, I stopped at the Ace Hardware store where Nick works, bought a few things and said our bye until our trip on 2 wheels.

As I headed up the coast, I stopped at Otis Bay, did a bit of window shopping



Found this great postcard with lots of info on Oregon





Did a hike at Siuslaw National Forest, was very tempted to drop my kayak, but the tide was receding and one can get stuck in the mud at low tide.



That night I found a quiet spot and parked for the night, I felt a bit alone and missed having someone to have dinner and good convo with.

**To be continued ...**