

TIME OUT



Sardine Head



PDX

PORTLAND, OREGON

You've got an extra day to check out the City of Roses. Here's what you do. **BY MJ SKEGG**

ONCE SATIRIZED by the TV show *Portlandia* as the place where young people go to retire, Oregon's largest city is now growing up. A fast-expanding tech sector has aided a boom that has tower cranes crowding the skyline and boutique hotels multiplying across downtown. Its food scene is rightly acclaimed, with kudos going to its award-winning restaurants, hip bars and the annual Feast festival that attracts gourmands from around the world. Urban breweries, distilleries and wineries thrive, while a natural wine craze that's more about fun than pretension has taken hold. It's all situated against a beautiful backdrop of mountains and forests, within an easy drive of wine country and the coast.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Street performers in Pioneer Courthouse Square; Brunch at HunnyMilk; Ardor Natural Wines; A Broder Café breakfast; Dining at Canard; The Danger Zone cocktail at Aviary.

WINE TIME

Portland's known as a beer city, but wine is hot on its heels. **Bar Norman** has affordable natural wines by the glass, while the aptly named **Sardine Head** serves European tinned fish alongside an alluring "natty" (natural) wine list. Vino fanatics and romantics alike flock to **Les Caves**, a candlelit cellar run by two winemakers. For a speakeasy feel, check out **Ardor Natural Wines**, located in the backroom of a women's clothing boutique.

WHERE TO BRUNCH

Brunch is an institution in Portland, and there are lines to prove it. **HunnyMilk** specializes in a prix fixe menu, while **Broder Café** woos sleepy Portlanders with its Scandinavian fare. **Tasty n Sons** is the brunch stalwart that keeps on giving, while **Canard** puts a newer twist on the morning meal by sending out pancakes in duck gravy. You'll find true locals at **Sandy Hut**, nursing their bargain mimosas.

PARK LIFE

Portland is blessed with green space, everything from the world's smallest city park—**Mill End Park**—to the largest urban forested park in the lower 48 states, the 5,200-acre **Forest Park**. Wander through the **International Rose Test Garden** at Washington Park, featuring 10,000 fragrant flowers, or—after a hectic day—relax at the **Lan Su Chinese Garden**. For views of the city, trek to the top of **Mount Tabor**.

HAPPY HOUR

Throw a rock and you'll hit someplace with a happy hour. **RingSide Steakhouse** offers great bargains in its cozy bar, but for fun 'n' frolics (Brussels sprout nachos!), head to **Aviary**. Craft cocktail hangout **Teardrop Lounge** does excellent \$7 drinks, though the ultimate steal is **Enoteca Nostrana**, which marks its wine down to half price after 10 p.m.