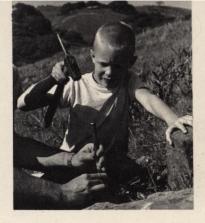
A WEEKEND ADVENTURE DRIVE

Where you can hunt for fossils













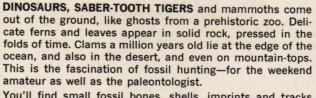


Big bones from an ichthyosaur (a sea-going dinosaur) or mammoth are rare. Most common fossils: clams, scallops, snails and other marine animals ranging down to microscopic foraminifera.



Whalebone fossil runs in broken sections through a sandstone boulder many miles upstream from the ocean. Fossils can be original material like bones or teeth, rock "molds" left after the material has rotted, or "casts" filled in by natural chemicals. Soaking, washing with detergents and gentle boiling will clean most fossils. others need chipping

and scouring.



You'll find small fossil bones, shells, imprints and tracks in sedimentary rocks throughout the West, sometimes exposed by winter storms or high tides. Look for them in roadcuts and canyons, and at the base of cliffs. If you see traces, carefully split off new layers with a chisel or geologist's hammer-and hope for a lucky break.

Whiskbrooms and toothbrushes come in handy for fine cleaning, and a knapsack to carry specimens home. Be sure to report any large fossil, especially of an animal, and collect only outside national and state parks.

Here, from your Union 76 Minute Man, is a guide to the best sites, and the hope you enjoy fossil hunting on your Weekend Adventure Drive.



Eroded sediments mark a promising fossil field, for the heat and pressure necessary to form harder rock will ruin fossils like this trilobite (extinct) and alder leaf (modern).





WHERE TO FIND FOSSILS IN WASHINGTON AND OREGON



WASHINGTON

Strait of Juan de Fuca

Fossil snails, clams and oysters in the sea bluffs east of Pysht—many agatized or silicified.

2) Port Discovery Bay Similar fossils in the east bank of the Bay, plus that rare find—a silicified nautiloid.

3 Porter Bluffs

Along Highway 9 between Elma and Oakville you'll find the same "Strait" fossils plus foraminifera big enough to see and "cannon ball" concretions full of fossil crabs.

4 Bellingham

Leaf fossils, even big palm fronds, south along Chuckanut Drive on Highway 1.

5 Seattle

"Strait" fossils in the Highway 10 roadcut about 7½ miles east of the city.

6 Packwood

Fossil tree cones in the rock quarry a half-mile east on Highway 5.

(7) Spokane

Fossil leaves and insects in the Northern Pacific roadcuts south out of Latah Creek.

O R E G O N

8 Lincoln County beaches

Fossil clams and snails, and sometimes walrus bones, in the cliffs behind the beaches from Fogarty Creek to Yaquina Bay. 9 Coos Bay

Fossil clams, snails, sand dollars, crabs and sometimes the skulls of ancient whales and sea lions. Try Cape Arago, Sunset Bay, Yoakam Point and Fossil Point at low tide.

(10) Eugene

A spattering of fossil leaves and shells, even flowers and salamanders. Check the buff sandstone at the west end of Fern Ridge dam and the dark shale in the roadcut north of the junction of flighways 99 and 58 outside Goshen.

11) The John Day Country

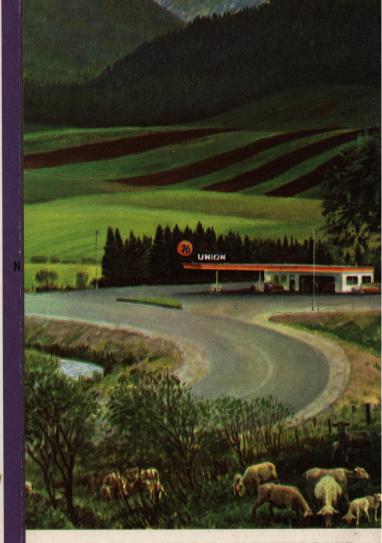
From Mitchell east to Dayville, north to Fossil and west to Clarino—a route. Ittered with fossil nuts, leaves and the preserved bones of such prehistoric animals, as mammoths and mastodons, some on exhibit in state parks, others undiscovered among the diggings. Best collecting—at Turtle Cove north of Dayville and on the bluff behind the high school at Fossil.

(12) Greenhorn

Fossil ferns about a mile northeast of town just east of the old IXL mine toward Olive Creek.

(13) Juntura

Search for fossil plants about eight miles west of town in the Highway 20 roadcut, and fossil animals on the north side of the highway just west of Drinkwater Pass.



ENJOY YOUR WEEKEND ADVENTURE DRIVE

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