



## 31 Ways to Celebrate Preservation Month in Weston & Oregon

31 Ways to Celebrate Historic Preservation Month We spend all year advocating for places that matter. During Preservation Month, we flex our preservationist muscles and set aside time to celebrate and explore historic places in innovative ways. This May, [Weston Area Development Association](#) needs your help. Complete the items on the action list below and let us know when you do by tagging #SavingPlacesWestonOregon. We can't wait to see what you accomplish!

### One

#### **Tell a friend #SavingPlaces #TellTheFullStory**

Share this list on social media and compete with your preservation pals to see who can check the most off this list. (And follow us on [Facebook](#), if you aren't already!) Don't forget to follow WADA on [Facebook](#).

### Two

#### **Be the first to know.**

Sign up for email alerts from the National Trust, so you can be among the first to know which places are on 2023's [America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places List \(2025 List\)](#)—the list drops on May 9!

### Three

#### **Shop local.**

Shop your local **Main Street**. From quaint downtowns to bustling city streets, Main Streets and Downtowns offer plenty of character and charm for all who visit. Take a selfie and post it on your Facebook page with #SavingPlaces #TellTheFullStory Don't forget to post it at our [Facebook](#)

### Four

#### **Eat somewhere new in someplace old.**

There are thousands of historic buildings that find new life as restaurants. Today's challenge: Find a new restaurant in an old building, then take yourself out to lunch. Take a selfie and post it on your Facebook page with #SavingPlaces #TellTheFullStory Don't forget to post it at our [Facebook](#)

### Five

#### **Help us #TellTheFullHistory.**

[Get inspired](#) Women have shaped the United States in countless ways, yet only a fraction of mainstream culture recognizes their ever-present role in history. Then, #TellTheFullHistory and share stories of historic buildings that contribute to the diversity of our nation.

### Six

#### **Discover preservation in cities.**

Get the latest news on preservation in cities. Check with your local museum, historical society, chamber of commerce, or visitors center.

### Seven

#### **Tell the world.**

[Share your photos](#) of historic places. We love to see passionate preservationists and place-lovers Instagramming gorgeous old buildings in our neighborhood, so don't forget to use #SavingPlaces Be sure to share them on YOUR Instagram, too! Don't forget to post it at our [Facebook](#)

## **Eight**

Hit the streets.

And while you are representing the **#SavingPlaces** movement, take your **#SavingPlaces** sign with you and start a conversation about historic preservation. [Download sign](#)

## **Nine**

**Take action for historic places.**

[Speak up](#) for places under threat, from the [National Mall Tidal Basin](#) to [Route 66](#), plus all of the invaluable preservation tools that work to protect them. Don't forget to speak up for Weston's and Oregon's historic sites and places by contacting our Congressional Delegation and your Oregon State Legislators.

## **Ten**

**Subscribe to the Spotify channel.**

Did you know we have preservation playlists? Make your ears happy with music connected to San Francisco, road trips to historic places, and the preservation movement by [subscribing to the channel on Spotify](#).

## **Eleven**

**Get connected.**

Join the conversation with other preservationists by joining the local museum or historical society. What is happening in your community? Research how you can help. Check out the resources on WADA's [website](#).

## **Twelve**

**Get inspired.**

We love showing off the rock stars who work to put preservation first in their businesses, organizations, and communities. Who would you recognize as your rock star?

## **Thirteen**

Stay in historic accommodations.

When travelling, [book a historic hotel](#) to find beautiful accommodations surrounded by the past. Or, have a meal or a cocktail at a hotel closer to home to get the change of scenery you want without breaking the bank. Can't find one? Check with the chamber of commerce or visitors center in the community you are traveling to for assistance.

## **Fourteen**

Plan a road trip.

Last year, we took the road trip of a lifetime. [Read about our efforts to preserve Route 66 and about the places we visited](#). Then, start planning your own! While it may be a bit difficult planning a road trip in SE Alaska, you can still plan a fun trip right in your own community.

**Senator Jeff Merkley** has started the **Oregon's Treasures Quest**. Check it out at <https://tinyurl.com/yc7kayyn> Document your visits by sending us selfies with the sites in the background and your name, date of your visit, and name of the location to [OregonTreasuresQuest@Merkley.Senate.Gov](mailto:OregonTreasuresQuest@Merkley.Senate.Gov)

## **Fifteen**

Explore new opportunities.

Get involved! Volunteer for a local preservation organization or, if you're thinking of starting a career in preservation, check out these [job openings in the field](#).

## **Sixteen**

Explore a historic place.

Visit a [National Trust Historic Site](#), [Historic Artist's Home](#), or [Distinctive Destination](#) near you. Did you know that members of the National Trust get deep discounts at our collection of Historic Sites and 200 Distinctive Destinations around the country? There are two such destinations in Oregon!

### **Seventeen**

Contribute to the National Register.

Help protect your community by [identifying a nominee to the National Register of Historic Places](#). It's a great way to let your neighborhood know that this place matters!

### **Eighteen**

Discover your house's history.

Do you live in a historic building? Find out how you can [learn more about the history of your house!](#)

### **Nineteen**

Get hands-on preservation experience.

Get involved with hands-on preservation in your community. You can start by reading about our ongoing work at [HOPE Crew \(Hands-On Preservation Experience\)](#). Then, find your own opportunities to get out in the field! There may be projects right in your own community.

### **Twenty**

Find your park.

Did you know there are 419 National Park Service units in the United States? We're sure there's at least [one near you](#), so get out there and visit it! If nothing else, check with your local Parks and Recreation department for parks with a history.

### **Twenty-One**

Meet your dream home.

By this point, we're pretty sure you love old homes ... maybe enough to buy one someday? Meet your next home—or at least dream about it for now—in NTHP's weekly [Preservation Personals](#) series or contact your local Realtor.

### **Twenty-Two**

Plan preservation events.

Preservation doesn't have to be boring (as we hope you've learned from this list so far). Plan a captivating event with other people who care about old places. Your options are limitless, from [historic bike rides](#) and [city tours](#) to [building funerals](#) and more. Historic preservation is FUN!

### **Twenty-Three**

Find a National Treasure.

From a decisive win for [Virginia's James River](#) to the recent success at the [Delta Queen steamboat](#), the diverse portfolio of National Treasures (nationally significant places where the National Trust is taking direct action) has never been stronger. Learn more about old places that define us as a nation by [checking out the complete collection](#).

### **Twenty-Four**

Read the latest issue.

The Winter 2024 issue of *Preservation magazine* In our Winter 2023 issue, go inside a new arts center at a National Trust Historic Site; take a photo tour of Milwaukee's Mitchell Park Domes; and learn about the revival of a Nebraska hospital founded by a groundbreaking Native American woman. To receive *Preservation* in your own home, [join the National Trust](#) and a fresh new copy will arrive each quarter.

### **Twenty-Five**

Tell legislators #SavingPlaces is important to you.

Contact your elected officials to make sure they're prioritizing the preservation issues you care about. You can [get started with our fill-in-the-blank form letter](#). Contact WADA for assistance on current historic preservation concerns.

### **Twenty-Six**

Share Your Memories of Route 66! The Mother Road turns 100 years old in 2026— share your story to celebrate the Centennial! Together, we'll tell the full American story of Route 66! While [Route 66](#) still captures the imagination of people around the world, its historic places—and their stories—continue to be

lost every year. We believe that many of these stories along Route 66 remain untold and we need your help in amplifying them to the wider world!

### **Twenty-Seven**

Encourage the next generation.

It's never too early to start learning why old places matter! Teach the [next generation](#) about [preservation](#) with fun ways to spark their passion for history.

### **Twenty-Eight**

Add to your reading list.

Enough talking about old places! Start reading about them with a preservationist book club. We recommend [Why Old Places Matter](#) by National Trust staffer Tom Mayes. Want more? These [historical fiction books](#) that focus on old places can also kick off your club.

### **Twenty-Nine**

Support us.

[Make a monthly gift](#) to *Weston Area Development Association* and help us save Weston's historic buildings all year long.

### **Thirty**

Take a quiz.

Now take a break from the heavy lifting—take a [quiz](#) to test your preservation smarts (or find your preservation personality). You can learn [which architect you most relate to](#); find the [perfect Historic Hotel for your next vacation](#); and discover [how much you really know about architecture](#) (and many more!)

### **Thirty-One**

Say "cheers" to Preservation Month!

Phew! You did it. [Raise a glass to preservation at your local historic](#) bar. You might not know it, but preservation has a party side—and it's on full display at old, historic, and legacy bars across the country. In Weston, you could consider the **Long Branch Café and Saloon** as an historic bar. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places and a primary building in Weston's Historic Commercial District.

In Astoria, Oregon's Downtown Historic District, Jack Harris and Chris Nemlowill set up their brewery in the 12,000-square-foot Fort George building in 2006. The structure, built in 1924 on the site of the city's original settlement, Fort Astoria, was definitely hurting. "Most of the windows were broken, and there were birds living in it, and standing water," says Harris. But he and Nemlowill could see the potential in the former auto body shop, with its walls of windows and enormous wooden beams. They leased the space and named their company [Fort George Brewery + Public House](#). In 2010, they purchased the building and the former car dealership next door, which now houses a second brewery and a taproom; both buildings are listed in the Oregon Historic Sites Database. "We've really tried to honor what the buildings looked like before," says Harris. "The reason we were able to succeed was because of city leaders in the late 1980s and '90s who had preserved the waterfront and made it accessible, and [because of] the strong historic preservation culture we have in this town."

No matter where you live, we thank you for celebrating Historic Preservation Month with us and toast you with a favorite beverage.

### **Weston Area Development Association**

WADA was organized as a nonprofit to assist in obtaining grants, appropriations, donations, and other types of funding to work on historic preservation, economic development, and more in the Weston area — not just downtown. Weston is in need of funding to restore the downtown buildings as well as develop economic opportunities for the community. WADA will work cooperatively with local, state, and federal government resources. Please join us!

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