

Columbia River Maritime Museum Tsunami Quest

Established: April 2018 by Kelly McKenzie and Oregon Coast Quests

Box Monitor: Columbia River Maritime Museum

When the Oregon coast experiences a large earthquake, a tsunami could flood low-lying areas within minutes. Therefore, it is important for coastal visitors and residents to know what to do to stay safe. On this Quest, you will learn about tsunamis and the hazards they pose, practice an evacuation, and at the same time discover some historical landmarks in Astoria! This Quest takes place outdoors and will take about 45 minutes to complete, roundtrip.

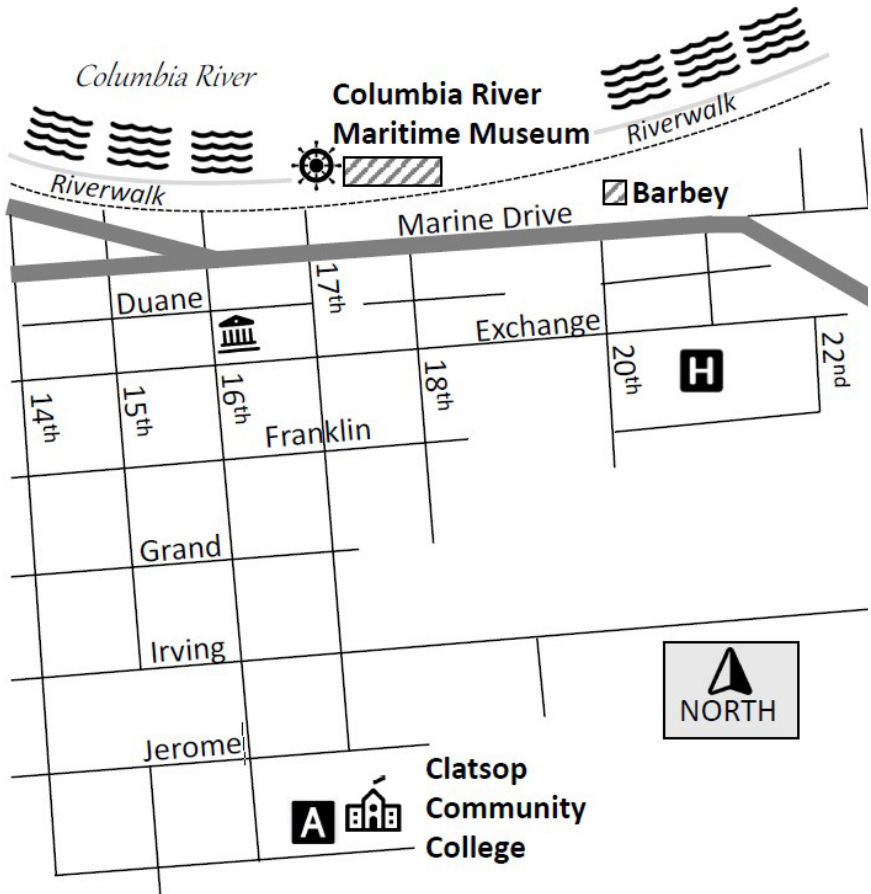
Your Quest begins at the Barbey Maritime Center for Research Industry, which is a free-standing brick building at the east end of the Columbia River Maritime Museum parking lot. The street address is 2042 Marine Drive in Astoria.

Did you know?

A tsunami is a series of ocean waves caused by a sudden large displacement of water. In this area, a tsunami could be generated by a big underwater earthquake, and the tsunami waves coming upriver would inundate (flood) low-lying areas.

If you feel an earthquake, DROP, COVER and HOLD ON to protect yourself. If you are in a tsunami inundation zone, evacuate immediately to high ground. Do not wait for an official warning.

Use this map to help you solve the Quest. Follow the directions and collect the letter clues to fill the numbered squares on the last page of this Quest. The message you complete will help you find the hidden Quest box.



Quest Partners

Columbia River Maritime Museum • Astoria Parks and Recreation

Let's begin!

The Barbey Maritime Center
Is where to begin your Quest.
Walk across railroad tracks
And then continue west.

Along the Riverwalk,
An important map you'll see.
This map shows where to go
To escape a tsunami.

If you feel the ground shake,
It would be good for you to know
Whether you're in a low place.
If you are, you'll need to GO!

Look at the evacuation sign along the Riverwalk and find where you are. GREEN areas represent land that is located safely above the highest tsunami inundation zone. What color is the map in the location where you are standing? Put the fifth letter of the color in the squares numbered 2.

That's right:
If there was an earthquake,
We would be much too low.
A tsunami would soon be coming, So
To HIGH GROUND we must go!

Look all around
...can you see?
Where is the high ground
To which you must flee?

That's right, to the south
And up the hill we'll go.

And today, since it's practice,
We can walk nice and slow.

Go to 17th Street
And, at the crosswalk,
Cross Marine Drive
And continue up the block.

Stop at the corner
Of 17th and _____.
Clue #5 is the second vowel
In this street's name.

Find the vessel Nicky.
What type of boat is she?
What was her job,
And in which fishery?



Write the fifth letter of this type of
boat in clue square number 7.

Head west on Duane.
A museum stands tall.
Built in 1904, it was once
Astoria's City Hall.

At the corner, stop and look.
On its sign you'll see
The first letter of the last word
Completes clue square #3.



Photo credit: Clatsop County Historical Society, Astoria, Oregon

Keep going uphill
To 16th and Exchange.
Now you are out of
A tsunami wave's range.

You're now at a place
With sufficient elevation.
You're above the flooding zone.
It's time for celebration!

An Assembly Area lies ahead,
At the top of 16th Street.
The college is a place
For the community to meet.

Did you know?

*Patriot Hall at Clatsop
Community College has been
seismically engineered to
withstand earthquakes.*

QUESTION for the Curious:

*What historic settlement does
the green line mark? The
answer is near the Quest Box at
the end of your journey!*

But we'll turn west on Exchange,
And in about one block
An unusual colored line
Will cross the sidewalk.

This line does not relate
To tsunami safety.
Instead it outlines where
A settlement used to be.

What color is the line?
The color's second letter
Goes in clue square 6.
Now your phrase is looking better.

Did you know?

There are two kinds of tsunamis that affect the Oregon coast. A distant tsunami is generated by an earthquake far away (like Japan or Alaska), the wave takes hours to arrive, and the wave is relatively small, covering the orange areas on the map. In contrast, a local tsunami is generated by an earthquake right offshore, and you would FEEL the ground shake. In a local event, the tsunami wave would arrive here (11 miles upriver) in 30 to 45 minutes, and the wave could cover the orange and yellow areas shown on the map.

Ahead, find a hospital
(Though it's not that anymore).
Put the last letter of its old first name
In clue spaces labeled 4.

Continue on Exchange
To an open park space.
Put the first letter on the plaque
In the clue 1 space.

Now look for the box;
The structure's the key.
Under a green circle
Is where it will be.

It wasn't too hard
to get to high ground.
And while on this Quest,
other fun stuff you've found!



Photo credit: Clatsop County Historical Society, Astoria, OR

Did you know?

Tsunami waves can continue to come ashore for several hours after the initial earthquake. In an actual event, you should plan to **STAY** on high ground at least overnight.

Where could you go to find shelter without going back down into the inundation zone?

Fill in the boxes with the answers to the clues to solve the Quest.

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1 2 6 4

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5 3 4 2 6 7 5

When you've found the Quest Box, sign your name and stamp the back of your book to mark your accomplishment. Don't forget to seal the box tightly and return it to its hiding place for the next person to find!

For more information about tsunami safety on the coast, visit www.oregontsunami.org

If you enjoyed this Quest, check out *The Oregon Coast Quest Book 2023-24 Edition*, which contains maps and directions for this Quest and 29 other clue-directed hunts across seven counties. For more information and to find a bookseller, visit seagrant.oregonstate.edu/quests.