

2020 Columbia & Snake River Cruise Journal # 4



Our Final Week We were pleased that additional children signed on for the final portion of the cruise which will take us back to Seattle. Our daughter Renee and husband Ron Akin from Kirkland, Washington and daughter Maria Madden of St. Charles, Missouri met us in Portland with fresh provisions and eagerness to spend time together (*photo*).

With so many of our spring family travel plans having been cancelled, this seemed like a great opportunity for all of us to share some quality time.

Not Exactly Wildlife Those who have followed our cruises over the years will remember that we have often featured photos of the wildlife that we encountered.

Carl had mentioned to several friends that they should not expect any bear photos on this trip, and thus far the only mammal we had seen besides humans was a solitary beaver and evidence of its work. Other than that, the closest we came happened the day before we exited the Columbia River when we passed a shoreline of skinny dipping cows (*photo*).



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Maritime Museum

Astoria, Oregon's oldest community, is located just inland from the mouth of the Columbia River.

To visit the museum, we lowered and boarded our shore boat, which had not been used on the trip thus far.

All went well until we reached the museum and found the only dock nearby was reserved for the Coast Guard.

The guys dropped off the ladies, but had to find somewhere else to moor. With Ron's assistance, Carl used the method we normally use when there are no docks available. We simply tied up to the shore. (photo).



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The Longest Bridge

As the Columbia River reaches its mouth, it becomes quite wide. The Astoria-Megler Bridge opened in 1966 as the US 101 final link in the highway system between Canada and Mexico. It is over four miles long, (photo on previous page).

Offshore Stacks

The first half of our extensive 12½ hour run up the coast had quite choppy and confused sea conditions. This was not great for our crew. Later in the afternoon, conditions calmed considerably.

The many massive rock formations along the upper western peninsula were sights that we had missed in the total fog on our earlier trip south (photo).

Once past Cape Flattery (photo), the northwest tip of the contiguous U.S., we were on the final track to complete our summer voyage.

It was not the summer cruise we had planned, but we consider ourselves fortunate to have been able to get out when so many were still restricted at home.

