A national park, a premier archaeological site, the region's first military post, one of the nation's oldest operating airfields and a waterfront trail and environmental education center are featured at this unique historic site located on the northern bank of the Columbia River in Vancouver, Washington. The historic site's array of museums, public programs and recreational opportunities create a dynamic, fun and unique destination for people of all ages.

Visitor Center
The Visitor Center is the place to start a visit to the Fort Vancouver National Site; it offers orientation films, maps, brochures and other information about the attractions and activities to help visitors make the most of their stay. The Visitor Center, which may soon be renovated to add new exhibits and visitor services, currently includes the Fort Vancouver Historical Society exhibits about Fort Vancouver and exhibits on other aspects of the history and culture of the historic site. Admission to the Visitor Center is free.

For information on summer and winter hours: 360-816-6230 www.nps.gov/fova

Amenities
Trails
Fort Vancouver National Site has a well-developed trail system including a trail along the Columbia River waterfront.

Interpretive Panels
Outdoor informational panels located throughout the site provide information about the buildings, cultural landscape and stories of the historic site.

Public Restrooms
Available at the Visitor Center, Fort Vancouver, Pearson Air Museum, the Marshall House, the O.O. Howard House and the Restaurant/Grant House.

For more information: 360-992-8100 www.FortVan.org

The Village
The Hudson's Bay Company Village was home to workers and their families who supported the operations of Fort Vancouver. Residents included trappers, blacksmiths, carpenters and other laborers. In its heyday, the Village housed over 500 people from diverse ethnic backgrounds including Hawaiians, French-Canadians, English, Scottish and members of more than 30 Indian tribes. The Village included a variety of small dwellings, with styles reflecting the diversity of its inhabitants. Today, the reconstructed Engage Houses 1 and 2, along with fence lines and trails, give visitors a sense of the vibrant and complex life of this multicultural community. The houses are open during special events and for pre-arranged tours.

For information on summer and winter hours and reservations: 360-996-1101 www.thegranthouse.us

George C. Marshall House
Built in 1880

Built as quarters for the post commander, the house was named for General George C. Marshall who served as Commander of Vancouver Barracks from 1919-39. This elegant Queen Anne Victorian features an exhibit on General Marshall and is available for weddings, receptions and other special events, open to the public for tours when not in use for special events.

For information on hours and reservations: 360-691-0031

O.O. Howard House
Built in 1879

The home of General Oliver O. Howard, the Commander of the Department of the Columbia, the Howard House was converted to a noncommissioned officers (NCO) club during World War II. The home was restored to its former elegance in 1994 and now houses the offices of the Fort Vancouver National Trust.

For more information: 360-992-8100 www.FortVan.org

Land Bridge
Built in 2007

Designed by noted landscape architect Johnpaul Jones in consultation with artist Maya Lin, the Land Bridge, a Confluence Project, features native plants and artwork highlighting Native Americans' connection to the land and water. The trail, named for Vancouver's Mayor Royce Pollet, winds past Fort Vancouver and the Hudson's Bay Company Village to the 40-foot-tall bridge over Highway 4 which features sweeping views of the Fort and the Columbia River. The half-mile trail is open year-round from sunrise to sunset.

For information on hours and reservations: 360-816-6230 www.nps.gov/fova

Pearson Air Museum
Enter Pearson Air Museum at the Jack Mundell Aviation Center and you enter a world of daring aviation history, experimental aircraft, and the World Wars. Learn about the first dirigible landing in Vancouver in 1907, the beginning of Pearson Field's rich aviation history. View the Russian memoirs from the world's first trans-polar flight which landed at Pearson in 1937. Watch a movie in the Tex Rankin Theatre, browse through exhibits in America's second oldest wooden hangar built in 1917, or enjoy the museum's replica of a rare 1935 Voisin Type-3 French Bomber.

For hours and admission fees: 360-894-7026 www.PearsonAirMuseum.org

Pearson Field
For information on special event rentals in the West Barracks: 360-838-9377
For general information: 360-992-8100 www.FortVan.org

One of the oldest operating airfields in the United States, aviation "Bezo" at Pearson Field include the landing site for the first aerial crossing of the Columbia River in 1907 and for the first transpolar flight in 1937 by Russian pilot Valery Chkalov. Today Pearson operates as a busy general aviation airport that also offers scenic flights and airplane rentals.

For rates and availability: 360-735-9444 www.aermot.com

Water Resources Education Center
Created in 1996

A riverfront environmental education center, the Water Resources Education Center's mission is to teach people to better care for and make wise decisions about water. Visitors can enjoy the hands-on activities at the Water Center, an art work that also offers scenic views of the Columbia River. Welcome the caretaker of 50 acres of adjacent wetlands, one of the most productive of Bay's few remaining natural Columbia River riparian areas.

For hours of operation and a schedule of events: 360-417-7111 www.cityofvancouver.us/watercenter

Vancouver Barracks
Established in 1849

The U.S. Army arrived in Vancouver in 1849 to ensure the orderly settlement of the Oregon Territory. Vancouver Barracks was an active military post for 150 years, closing in the year 2000. Army Reserve and Washington National Guard units moved out in September 2001, and the East and South Barracks are in the process of transferring to the National Park Service. The West Barracks includes six buildings built between 1887 and 1939 that are in various stages of rehabilitation. The beautifully restored U.S. Army Coast Guard House featuring E.B. Hamilton Hall is available for meetings, receptions and other special events.

For information on special event rentals in the West Barracks: 360-838-9377
For general information: 360-992-8100 www.FortVan.org

Pearson Field
For more information: 360-838-9377 www.aermot.com