

SKINT

PORTLAND



FOR THE FRUGAL VAGABOND

Keeping pints and pockets full in Portland

Traveling on a dime can be challenging, especially if **dining out**, **live music** and the occasional **night at the bar** rank high on your itinerary for Portland, Oregon.

Skint conquers these challenges, presenting a no-nonsense, inexpensive guide to Portland for travelers and residents alike. Skint Portland stretches your dollar, and your stay.

"...an essential guide through the oceans of hip alcoholic reservoirs, cheap eateries, and the alternative 'entertainments' that Portland has to offer. Keep Portland Skint."

Chris Sutton, of the band **The Gossip**



skintpress.net

TRAVEL

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Alternative Weeklys

Portland is home to three alternative weekly and biweekly rags: the Portland Mercury, the Willamette Week and Just Out. All of the papers are useful in their own regard. Both the Merc, as it's commonly called, and the Willamette Week cover local, topical news. The Willamette Week was first on the scene in 1974, and has a reputation for stellar investigative reporting. The Portland Mercury was founded in 2000 and has a reputation for being popular among the young Portlanders. The Merc is more known for chronicling Portland culture and the music scene. It provides a solid list of shows—big and small—happening around Portland (for a guide to the venues see page 59). The Willamette Week provides similar information but the Merc's is easier to read. The Willamette Week's redemption is the crossword penned by Matt Jones. Just Out is Portland's LGBT biweekly, serving the community since 1983. The biweekly paper's most perused section is the club and events calendar. All papers are available throughout the city in their own boxes and at a variety of restaurants and bars. (ML)

Bike Farm

305 NE Wygant St. 971.533.7428

Mon 4pm-7pm, Wed 4pm-7pm, Fri-Sun 12pm-4pm

Bus #6, 72

The words that describe Bike Farm are the same ones that have come to define Portland culture: non-profit, volunteer-run, sustainable. Bike Farm is one such collective. They are not technically a bicycle shop, and as such, cannot perform repairs. Instead, the knowledgeable volunteers who work there guide you through the repair process. There are four different types of memberships, with the most simple being a drop-in-no-strings-attached rate of five dollars per hour. However, if you cycle inebriated or get hit by cars on a regular basis, it would make more sense to go for a one-month or even a year-long membership—both of which are priced absurdly cheap considering the access to professional tools and sound advice. (ML)

North Portland Tool Library

northportlandtoollibrary.org

2209 N Schofield Ave.

503.823.0209

Tues 5pm-7:30pm,

Sat 9am-2pm

Bus #4

The North Portland Tool Library is a happy byproduct of Portland's emphasis on community and "do it yourself" carpentry. Garden, power and bike tools are all available for loan to North Portland residents over the age of 18. If the Hollywood District is a little closer to home than the St. Johns neighborhood, try the Northeast Portland Tool Library. (ML)

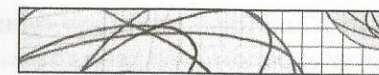
Northeast Portland Tool Library

www.neptl.org

5431 NE 20th Ave. Basement of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Sat 9am-2pm

The Northeast Portland Tool Library provides a tool lending service to the Northeast residents west of 82nd Avenue that the NPTL does not. Pick tools up one Saturday and drop them off the following, but return them



Benson Bubblers

Simon Benson, one of Portland's "First Citizens," moved to Portland from the Midwest in 1880. He accumulated his wealth through logging and he funded, among other philanthropic efforts, the construction of forty constant-flow drinking fountains located throughout downtown Portland. In 1912, Benson donated \$12,000 for the construction of the bubblers. He did so in order to discourage proletarian alcohol consumption—and we can all see how well that worked out. Urban lore about the copper plated quartets is false: the water is not recycled—nor is it drawn from the Willamette River—and the fountains are turned off at night, making it almost impossible for an errant citizen to use them as a bidet or shower. Furthermore, the city installed low flow heads in 2007, making the aforementioned bathing rituals even less possible (anecdotal evidence still endures). (JB)