

# THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA



## *Spirits In The Mist*

*A photographic journey through the haunting beauty of the rain forests, the wind battered coastal region, and the unique beauty of northwest Washington's...*

## *Olympic Peninsula*

*Photography by Jeff Weinstock*



The **Olympic Peninsula** of northwest Washington is most unique... geographically topographically and climatically. The **Coastal Region** offers miles of warm sunny summer beaches while in winter they are buffeted by constant gale force winds and pounding surf from Pacific ocean storms. The peninsula is home to some of the only temperate rain forests in the world. The **Rain Forests** of the **Olympic Peninsula** are concentrated on the western side created as temperate Pacific moisture is trapped by the **Olympic Mountain Range** in the interior... in turn creating a rain shadow effect in the eastern areas. The **Coastal Region** of the **Olympic Peninsula** is dotted with numerous sea stacks... large columns of rock formed by headland erosion caused by the hydraulic action of the ocean. Located on the **Hoh Indian Reservation Ruby Beach** is but one area on the **Olympic Peninsula** that attracts many visitors who are drawn by it's beauty and it's distinct spiritual essence.



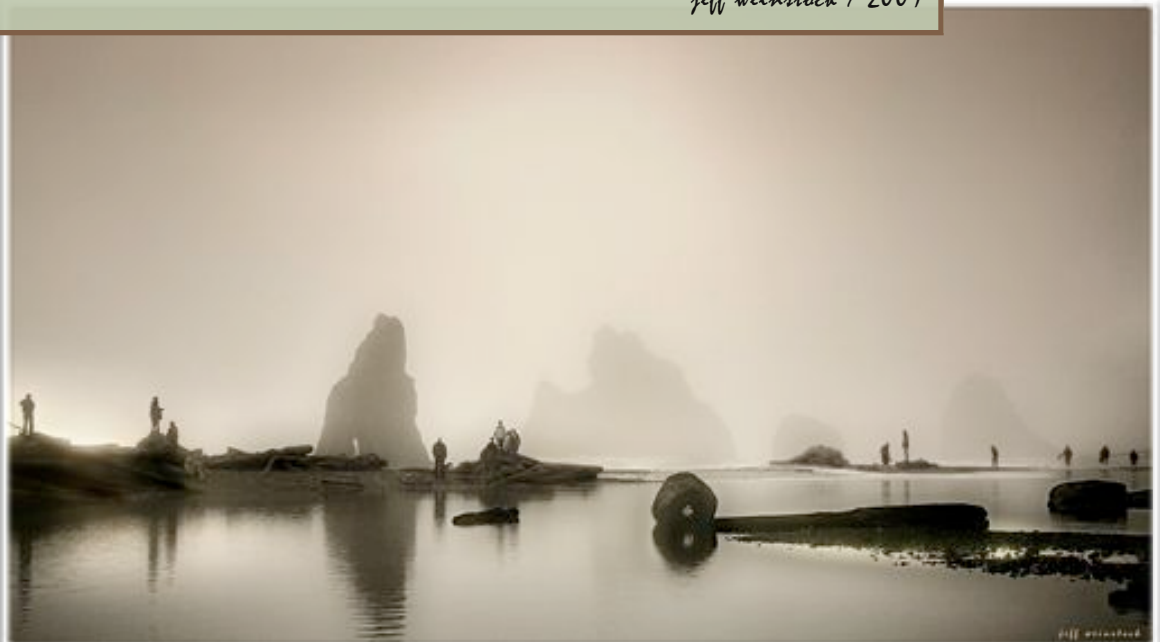


The **Olympic Peninsula Project** was shot in November and December of 2008 while on a photographic and spiritual journey to this unique area of the world. The **Quinault Rain Forest** including **Lake Quinault** is on land that has belonged to the **Hoh people** for countless generations. This area is magical and mysterious and embodies a spiritual consciousness that permeates the land the trees and the mist. Some of the world's few temperate rain forests are located on the western side of the **Olympic Peninsula**. The temperate climate and an average 12 feet of rain each year promote aggressive forest growth of numerous varieties of ferns mosses and coniferous evergreens. A number of the largest specimens of these forest giants such as the **Queets Sitka Spruce** (trunk volume of 11,900 cubic ft) are found in the rain forests of the **Olympic Peninsula**.

When deep within the rain forest one perceives a palpable sense that everything around you is alive... not just as a large biomass but as an ethereal presence. It's a presence of nature of growth and of a thousand years of footprints left by generations of the **Hoh** people who have walked these forests.

The region is physically beautiful mysterious and inspiring in a personal and professional way. The complete collection of **Olympic Peninsula Project** images will be included in the March 5 - April 18 showing at **Gallery263**. Information about this show can be found on the **Events** page of my website. The work is ongoing and the number of images is growing every day... and the magic and beauty of the **Olympic Peninsula** is stunningly apparent in each one. The current collection of images is viewable on the **Olympic Peninsula Gallery** on my website. The completed collection will be available for gallery display after April 15. Limited edition prints from the collection are available for purchase.

*jeff weinstock / 2009*



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