

## Day Trip with *A Cradle in the Waves*

Do the whole loop, or one area. *You'll need reservations* for the Port Townsend ferry. But start early to avoid waits on all routes. Check maps and online for detailed directions, and take your book! Lots of info in the back of *Cradle*.

**Edmonds to Port Gamble:** Edmonds Ferry to Kingston. From Kingston go west on Hwy 104; watch for the Port Gamble sign (approx. 5 miles). Turn right onto HWY 104. Total 8 miles from Kingston to Port Gamble. (We love the locally roasted coffee at the kiosk in the ferry lot at Kingston.)

**PORT GAMBLE:** The conflict that led to Isaac Ebey's death happened on this beach, outside the mill. Walk to the moody graveyard and find the sailor killed in the skirmish. Stroll under old maple trees and imagine the mill town in its early years, bustling! Or the S'Klallam village here before that.

The doctor's house was built in the time of *Cradle*. You'll also find a quilt store, a nice gift shop, restaurant with the old mill safe inside, a dahlia garden and small theater. Read about Pt. Gamble in the Seattle Times (August 7, 2015) for more.

**CHIMACUM (Bishop Farm):** From Pt. Gamble, cross the Hood Canal Bridge. After about 10 miles, turn onto WA-19 N. We love taking the back way to Port Townsend through the Chimacum Valley (look for buffalo, Egg and I Road, a stream being re-treed for salmon). At the 4-way stop in Chimacum you'll see the Bishop farmhouse (book scenes!) and Finnriver.

Sample fine ciders, visit the old Bishop house with its elegant porch and notice the chimney made of field stones. Admire lavender fields & orchards—rich farmland for over 150 years. A sweet place to put your feet up for awhile, sit on benches made from boards from the old barn, or take a turn in a dance.

**PORT TOWNSEND:** From Chimacum, continue to Port Townsend. As you come into town, there's a Safeway (former lagoon) and boatyard. S'Klallam longhouses and bird nets would have been on this end of town by the lagoon.

At the historic waterfront compare to the 1862 photo in *Cradle*. We love coffee and noodles by the movie theater, sketchbooks at the office supply across the street, and Daily Bird pottery, but find your own great spots. Excellent farmer's market in Uptown on Saturdays in season. (Who knew Paella could be vegan?)

From the movie-theater go up the steps to *Uptown* and find **Rothschild House** (Mrs. Blanc's house), a slice-of-life and still in tact from the time of the book. Walk around the garden (where a significant scene happens!) and gaze across to a green valley on Whidbey Island as Lucy would have—Ebey's farm.

Most buildings are Victorian, later and fancier than the time of the story. William Sr. built the brick Bishop Hotel when he retired. Across the street, the first stone building: The Leader.

**Fort Worden Park (Lucy's House):** Throw a frisbee or fly a kite on the parade ground, walk up the hill to gun batteries. Build a castle on the sandy beach or visit the Marine Science Center. Enjoy clean water, fresh air, kingfishers, seals, otters!

Walk to the lighthouse, which warns ships off Point Wilson. You'll find birds galore in winter. (Dogs ok on leash.) Many scenes in the book take place on this beach. Lucy's house would be wood, but is located at the site of the brick *Castle*.

**Additional spots if you have time:**

**North Beach:** Past the Fort Worden graveyard and through a big meadow. Original portage for canoes and site of Quill, Henry and Lucy's first meeting. Also, you can let your dog off leash to play on the beach. Chester gives it 4 paws.

**Chetzemoka Park:** Named in honor of the chief, a grand old park with huge swings and gardens; beach access.

A few favorite Uptown spots: *Aldrich's* Store, the bakery across the street is fabulous, and *Sweet Laurette's* serves fine lattes and baked goods with seating in a great garden area.

**Jamestown S'Klallam Center:** The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe's cultural center lies west of Port Townsend on Hwy 101. Find artifacts that appear in the book (many made by Quill's namesake Elaine Grinnell) in the library. The center is beautifully designed, with carvings, art and a sweeping view of the bay as backdrop. (Also a store, art gallery, casino.)

**Whidbey Island:** Fort Casey is right by the ferry landing. Find a white lighthouse, big fields, gun emplacements; also the kite-flying! Early scene with Lucy and Katherine on a cliff happens here. My fave: trails through wild rose and long grass with

views of Sound and Straits. Birds and rabbits hide here. (Rabbits inspired a certain catalyst in the book!) Great spot.

**Ebey's Reserve/ Isaac Ebey Farm, Ferry House, Cemetery:**

Just off SR 20 about 8 miles from Keystone ferry landing. Isaac Ebey's death and family are mentioned often in *Cradle*. You'll see the Ferry House on the left side of the road as you near the beach (see back of book). Ebey's claim lies south of the house. On the ridge, visit Sunnyside Cemetery and walk to:

**Ebey's Parents' House:** Walk the ridge to the house. Like Isaac, they traveled by covered wagon to these fertile fields.

Return by the Mukilteo Ferry (short ride), or drive across Deception Pass and down. (We love the Co-Op in Mt. Vernon!)

These spots rich with beauty, space, picnics, coffee. Leave time to sketch, dream, throw a frisbee. A long day trip (with ferry reservation) should be do-able. For a more relaxed day, try one side at a time (Port Townsend side one day, Whidbey another) Enjoy! And send me a note on my author site if you find something new or have a comment or suggestion!

Perhaps I'll put together a guided tour for fall. Contact me on my author site or at: <http://tinyurl.com/gths4g5>  
twitter: @samheckt

For more information, look on the back of the book, or visit:  
<http://anne-marie.heckt.com/>