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Weekend getaway: Go green and save green in Portland

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Portland is nicknamed the Bridge City, and for good reason

Seattle may be the **Emerald City**, but you can save a lot of green in **Portland**. Our little sister city to the south makes it unbelievably easy for tourists and residents to get around, especially **by bicycle**- easy on your wallet, easy on the environment. The weather is about the same as Seattle, but usually 5-10 degrees warmer, and the **Willamette River** flows through the center of **Portland** making for beautiful views of the city's eight bridges. So if you're headed to the **City of Roses**, here are some tips...

WHERE TO STAY: Comfortably stylish meets affordably hip at the boutique **Hotel Lucia** located in the heart of **Downtown Portland**. Featuring modern yet cozy rooms, chic amenities (LCD flat screen TVs, iPod docking station, a pillow menu, Aveda bath products), and the world's most comfortable beds. The Lucia also doubles as an art gallery, with original photographs by **David Hume Kennerly** adorning the walls. The Lucia staff is superb- they're used to Hollywood stars and musicians, so no request is too outlandish or too trivial. Their location is central, which is helpful if you didn't rent a car or are traveling by public transit- you can literally step outside the front door and explore **Portland** from any direction.

WHERE TO EAT: The crowd outside of **Mother's Bistro & Bar** on Saturday morning could only mean one thing: either someone famous was there, or Mother's is where the locals eat (turns out it was both in our case- our waitress informed us we had just missed **Harrison Ford** by about half an hour). For breakfast, lunch or dinner this is down home comfort food at its best. For something a little sexier, try **Oba!** in the **Pearl District**, serving up a unique Mexican/South American fusion. Drink recommendation: the sweet and spicy **Burning Orange**- orange vodka, fresh citrus and sliced Serrano peppers, which has left my mouth watering ever since. For a cheap and delicious happy hour, try **Saucebox** (near **Hotel Lucia**) which features exotic drink concoctions and