

Portland Comes up Roses 芳香弥漫波特兰：波特兰玫瑰节

“Of all flowers, **methinks** a rose is best,” wrote [Shakespeare](#). It’s a **sentiment** that many share, for the noble rose is indeed most beautiful in **bloom, putting** other flowers **in the shade**. But nowhere is the rose better appreciated than in [Portland, Oregon](#), as every year, the townspeople of the “City of Roses” come together to celebrate the flower **in all its glory**.

莎士比亚写到：「在所有的鲜花之中，我认为玫瑰是最好的」。这也是大家有志一同的看法，因为高贵的玫瑰绽放时确实是最美丽的，使得其他花卉相形失色。但是，没有一个地方比得上俄勒冈州的波特兰市更懂得欣赏玫瑰的好；如同往年一般，「玫瑰之城」的人民聚集在一起赞颂玫瑰花的美好。

Portland’s **love affair** with roses has its roots back in 1888 when a group of **green thumbs** established the [Portland Rose Society](#). Its members planted roses everywhere, and by 1905 the city boasted 200 miles of rose-lined streets! Later! When World War I **raged** across the Atlantic, Portland became a **sanctuary** for **breeds** of European **hybrid** roses that people feared could be destroyed. The rose garden, set up in 1915, received roses from overseas and saved them from extinction.

波特兰对于玫瑰花的热情源自于 1888 年时，一群擅长植物培植的人士成立了波特兰玫瑰协会。其成员种植的玫瑰随处可见，到了 1905 年时，波特兰市以长达 200 英里的玫瑰街为傲！当第一次世界大战席卷大西洋的彼岸后，波特兰成为可能会被摧毁的欧洲混种玫瑰之庇护所。此玫瑰庇护园成立于 1915 年，接收来自海外的玫瑰花和保存它们免于绝种。

The first [Portland Rose Festival](#) was held in 1907 and featured a parade of horse-drawn **floats**. These days, two million people **descend on** Portland at festival time. They are treated to the Grand Floral Parade, the **highlight** of the festival and the second largest floral parade in the U.S. The Rose Festival also features beauty queens, marching bands, dragon boat races, and firework displays. And, as roses are the **ultimate** symbol of love, the Friday before the Grand Parade has become the time when men traditionally **propose** to their loved ones.

第一届的波特兰玫瑰节于 1907 举行，以马拉花车游行作为号召。现今，200 万游客在此节庆时莅临波特兰。观光客将欣赏玫瑰节的高潮——花卉大游行，和美国第二大的游行花车。玫瑰节还以选美皇后、军乐队、龙舟竞赛以及烟火秀为其特色。因为玫瑰是爱情的终极象征，在大游行举行之前的那个周五，已成为男人向自己心爱的人求婚的传统时刻。

The 104th Rose Festival takes place in May and June this year, and the fragrant, white-petaled [Sweet Spotlight](#) takes center stage as the event’s official rose. For these few weeks in Portland, life really is **a bed of roses!**

今年五月和六月是第 104 届玫瑰节举行的时刻，而芬芳、有着白色花瓣的 Sweet Spotlight 被选为今年活动重点的官方花卉。这几个星期的波特兰，生活可真的称得上是安逸又舒适啊！

Vocabulary

methinks [mɪ ˈ θ ɪŋks] v.我想；据我看来

sentiment [ˈ sɛntəmənt] n.意见，观点

rage [redʒ] v. 激烈进行

sanctuary [ˈ sæŋktɪʃ, ɛrɪ] 庇护所，避难所

breed [brɪd] n.品种

hybrid [ˈ haɪbrɪd] n. 杂交植物

float [flot] n.（游行时用的）花车

ultimate [ˈ ʌltəməɪt] adj.最大的，极限的

propose [prə ˈ poz] v.求（婚）

petal[ˈ pɛt!] n. 花瓣

Idiom

in bloom [blum] 盛开

put people or things in the shade: 使...相形失色 to be so interesting or so good that other similar people or things seem less important by comparison

in all its glory: 在一个非常美好、快乐、成功的状态 containing the best qualities of that certain something

love affair: （对某物的）强烈兴趣，热爱，酷爱 a strong enthusiasm

green thumb: 栽培植物的特殊才能(的人) an extraordinary ability to make plants grow well.

descend on: 向.....涌来..to arrive or come to someone or something in great numbers

take center stage: 成为公众瞩目的焦点 to be the center of interest

a bed of roses: 快乐人生，悠哉游哉的生活 a luxurious situation; an easy life