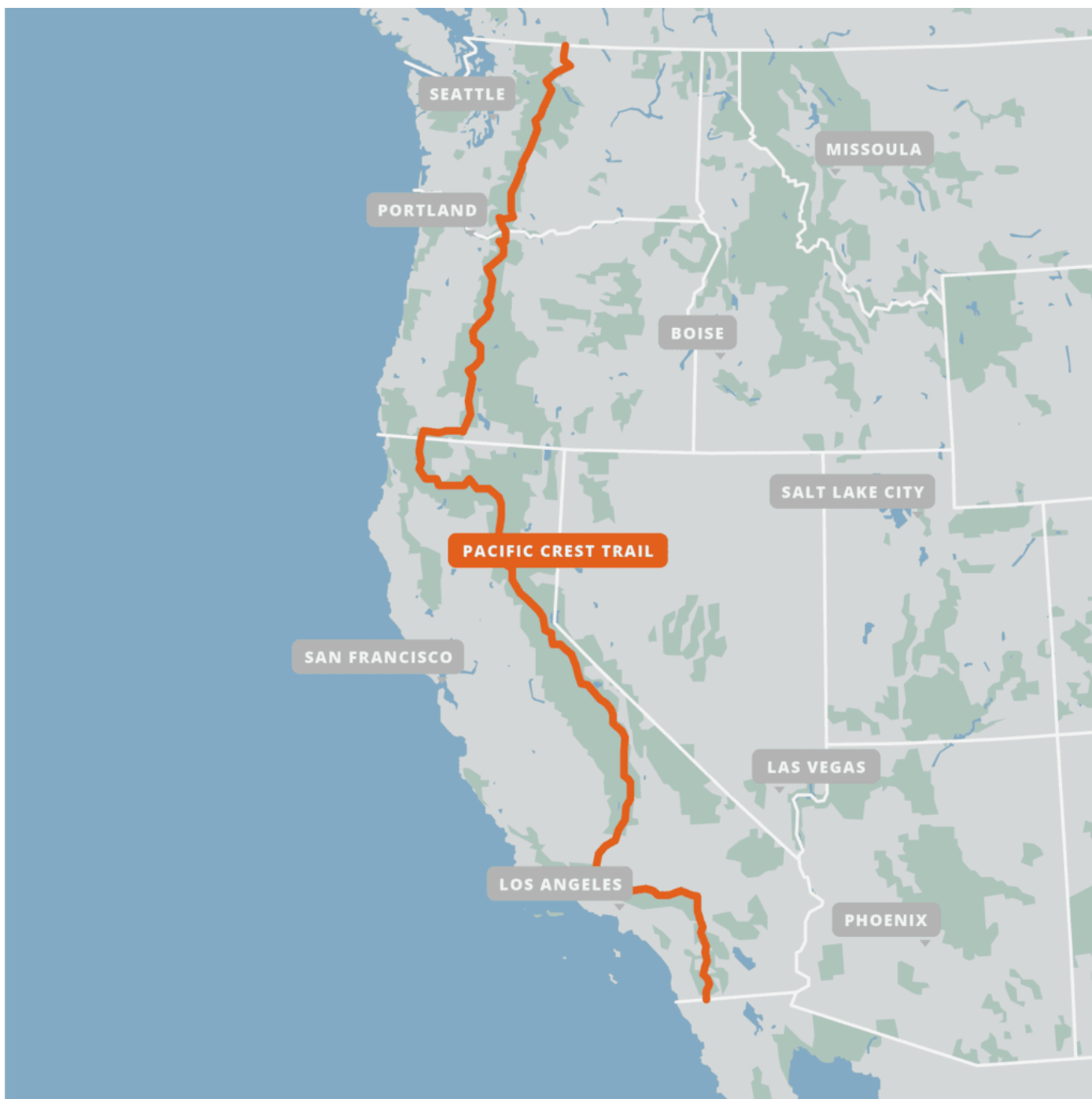




Almost a million people hike portions of the Pacific Crest Trail each year.

SEEKING ADVENTURE (ON FOOT)

We know that our early human ancestors were hunter-gatherers, which required a substantial amount of wandering.¹¹⁸ They kept moving to survive, but it is interesting to speculate if there were occasional prehistoric humans who explored out of curiosity. Although these earliest humans had no alternative means of transportation beyond their feet, there have been many people in the modern era who have

continued to take journeys without vehicles. The Pacific Crest Trail Association estimates that each year as many as a million visitors hike portions of the 2,650-mile trail that stretches from Mexico to Canada, and the Pacific Crest is just one of hundreds of substantial and well-traveled trails that are found around the globe.¹¹⁹ In Europe in 2024, just under 500,000 people traveled portions of the Camino de Santiago, making a pilgrimage to the shrine of the Apostle James.¹²⁰