

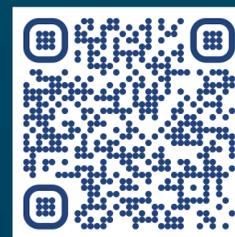


There are two types of tsunamis, ones that start as earthquakes in distant places (such as Alaska for the 1964 tsunami) and ones that are triggered by a local earthquake. Remote earthquakes generate a set of waves that can travel thousands of miles across the ocean. For these tsunamis, there may be hours and even days of advanced warning. When an earthquake is localized and can be felt, you will have only minutes to respond. In the event that you feel an earthquake along the coast, go to high ground immediately. This may be best to do on foot.

The number at the top of each kiosk indicates the height of the water at that location as the tsunami swept over the town. The blue “flag” helps you visual the height of the water as you are standing at that location. Although the high water is terrifying, it is the speed of the water that does the damage. Even if the water is only 2-3 feet high, it can travel up to 35 mph. That is enough to lift buildings off their foundations and move them, often resulting in the structure’s collapse.

As you walk from kiosk to kiosk, a QR code is available to access real-life accounts from the 1964 tsunami survivors. The audio recordings are 1-10 minutes in length.

Each kiosk also features a map with the walking tour and tsunami safety information.



Scan the QR code to learn more

Want to learn more local history?
Visit our website at
<https://www.crescentcity.org>

Welcome to the Tsunami Walking Tour

The Tsunami Walking Tour is a 1/2-mile walking route in and around Crescent City’s waterfront and downtown. Nine interpretive kiosks feature stories detailing the dramatic events during and after the 1964 tsunami. The kiosks are numbered to help you find them on the map, but there is no particular order to the stories. You can walk the tour in any direction that suites you.



Tsunamis in Crescent City

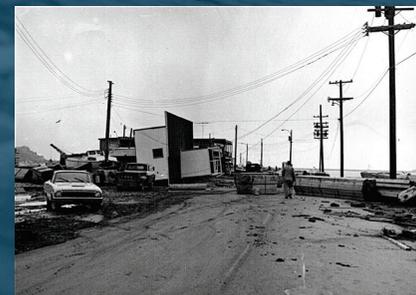
Crescent City is highly susceptible to tsunamis. This is due to an underwater ridge, just offshore, known as the Mendocino Fracture Zone, which funnels tsunamis into deeper water where they pick up speed before they hit Crescent City.

Forty-one tsunamis have been observed or recorded since the first tide gauge was installed in Crescent City in 1933. Oral history of local native peoples, geologic evidence, and the written records of people elsewhere in the Pacific Rim suggest that tsunamis have battered this shoreline for centuries.

This map shows the location of nine kiosks that tell the story of the 1964 tsunami inundating downtown Crescent City. All the kiosks are located within a five-minute walking radius.



Redwood Highway



Citizens Dock Road



3rd & K Street

