

Oregon offers some of the most breathtakingly beautiful places in the nation for biking, and is the only state in the country with official Scenic Bikeways.

Oregon State Parks leads the way as the only state park system in the U.S. with staff dedicated to bicycle recreation. These routes are the very best of Oregon road cycling, nominated by locals and selected by Oregon State Parks. Routes are tested, signed and mapped. From family-friendly to remote and challenging, everyone can find a ride that fits their style. Riding a Scenic Bikeway is like having a tour guide set up a perfect route for you—all you need is your bicycle, your gear, and your spirit of adventure.

Visit [RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways](http://RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways) for:

- Detailed, downloadable route maps
- Scenic videos
- GPS
- Guiding and shuttle companies
- Cycling events
- Bike Friendly lodging, dining, breweries and more



Be sure to look for businesses with these signs. They provide a warm welcome and various services for cyclists.



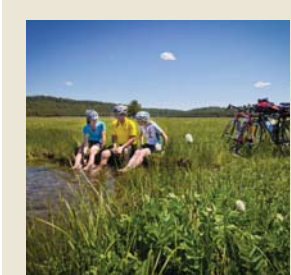
Covered Bridges Scenic Bikeway



A century ride can imply that it can be ridden in one day. This bikeway is not that kind of century. There are plenty of riders and some of the best views of the Blue Mountains, well-maintained roads and barely any vehicle traffic make this bikeway a cycling paradise. The 108-mile bikeway is a scenic loop starting and ending in Heppner—a full service community. The route follows Highway 305, climbing 3280 feet followed by an exhilarating downhill to Ukiah, where you can find overnight accommodations, a grocery store and a cafe. In spring, the green rolling hills ripen to a golden glow throughout the late summer months. Mountain grasses offer a wide array of wildflowers, while the forest is augmented with white in the late summer as the Western Larch trees turn a golden yellow. Forest Service Road 53 is closed in winter due to snow.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available just outside Heppner at Willow Creek Reservoir, and along the route at Cutforth Park and Cosheim Campground. There are limited lodging options in Heppner and Ukiah.

**Distance:** 109 miles (Loop) **Level:** Extreme  
**Best seasons to ride:** Early summer and fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/BlueMtn](http://RideOregonRide.com/BlueMtn)



The **Cascade Siskiyou Scenic Bikeway** incorporates 5,000 feet of steep and winding climbing through oak savannah into fir forests, showcasing an ecosystem so diverse that 62,000 acres is designated as the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. The bikeway starts in Ashland, famous for theater and fantastic dining, climbing oak-dotted mountainsides with spectacular views of the Bear Creek Valley below and Pilot Rock, a 25-million-year-old volcanic plug standing sentinel over the valley. In spring, wildflowers cover this savannah ecosystem as red-tailed hawks soar overhead. Above the oak savannah is the Cascades ecosystem, with tall pines and Douglas firs providing welcome shade on the way to Green Springs Summit. Take the 5-mile out- and-back historic Tu Springs State Wayside and a cold, pure mountain spring that emigrants traveling the Applegate Trail enjoyed in the 1800s. Near Hyatt Reservoir you'll see views of 9,000-foot Mount McLoughlin, with glimpses of osprey and bald eagles nesting. The ride culminates with a 3-mile climb through the wildflower-covered alpine meadows of Lily Glen and Buck Prairie before a thrilling, winding 13-mile descent back to Ashland. A popular locals' variation is to ride the 3,000 feet up to Green Springs Inn for brunch, returning to the town the same way, making it only a 35-mile ride.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available along the route at Green Springs, Hyatt Reservoir and Howard Prairie Lake. There are multiple lodging options in Ashland.

**Distance:** 55 miles (Loop) **Level:** Extreme  
**Best seasons to ride:** Spring through fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/CascadesSiskiyou](http://RideOregonRide.com/CascadesSiskiyou)

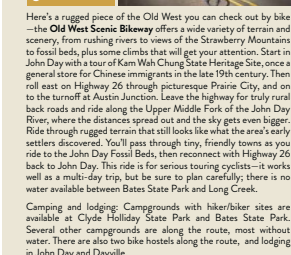


The **Madras Mountain Views Scenic Bikeway** follows the Clackamas and Breitenbach rivers in a 70-mile link on backroads from Estacada to Detroit. Water is the dominant force sculpting this steep volcanic landscape of the West Cascades. All along this route, water and rock interact to create a place of dramatic beauty and inspiration. The bikeway parallels the nationally designated Wild and Scenic Clackamas River along rocky riffles and quiet pools where native chook, chinook and steelhead seek their ancient spawning beds. Time is forgotten as you look up to the sky through ancient forests that line the bikeway. You may experience glimpses of elk and grouse, or rest along the route to a symphony of forest songbirds, as vistas of Mount Hood and Mount Jefferson smile

down. Enjoy a walk through the towns of Estacada and Detroit, which anchor either end of the bikeway.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available in Forest Service campgrounds along the route and at both ends: Milo McIver State Park, outside Estacada, has hiker/biker sites; Detroit Lake State Recreation Area is in Detroit.

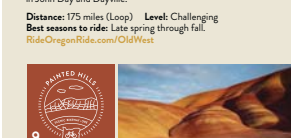
**Distance:** 70 miles (One way) **Level:** Challenging  
**Best seasons to ride:** Late spring through early fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/CascadingRivers](http://RideOregonRide.com/CascadingRivers)



The **Grand Teton Scenic Bikeway** in northeastern Oregon offers cycling opportunities for every rider. Adventure cyclists seeking a challenging ride can try the entire 134-mile "figure-8" route. Cyclists wanting a more leisurely trip can ride segments of the route and can use public transit to return to their start point. All riders will experience Oregon's outback of stunning mountain vistas with views of the Elkhorn Range, the Blue Mountains and the Eagle Caps of the Walla Walla Mountains, clear streams and serene farmlands, scented canyon of Ponderosa pine forests, towering wildflowers and sweeping sagebrush rangelands. The halfway point is picturesque Baker City, a great overnight spot.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available at Catherine Creek State Park. There are multiple lodging options in La Grande and Baker City.

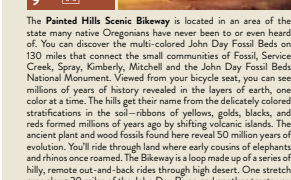
**Distance:** 134 miles (Loop) **Level:** Challenging  
**Best seasons to ride:** Spring through fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/GrandTeton](http://RideOregonRide.com/GrandTeton)



One of Oregon's scenic trademarks is its snow-capped volcanic peaks. The **Madras Mountain Views Scenic Bikeway** delivers no fewer than seven spectacular mountains as a backdrop. Start and end in Madras; within a mile of your start you'll be cruising through

Camping and lodging: Camping is available at Baker Bay Park. There are multiple lodging options in Cottage Grove.

**Distance:** 38 miles (Loop) **Level:** Mild  
**Best seasons to ride:** Year-round.  
[RideOregonRide.com/CoveredBridges](http://RideOregonRide.com/CoveredBridges)



Sisters to Smith Rock Scenic Bikeway

The **Sisters to Smith Rock Scenic Bikeway** provides riders with stunning views of the spectacular Cascade Mountains. Start in downtown Sisters and roll by fertile pastures before dropping into a quiet canyon far from towns and highways. Cross the triangular Deschutes River at Lower Bridge, and then wind your way through the town of Terrebonne and on to the end of the route at the dramatic walls of Smith Rock, where multicolored formations tower above the aptly named Crooked River. Hike along the river, watch rock climbers from all over the world scale the famous Mirror Face, or hike up Misery Ridge for close-up views of rock formations outlined by the Cascades in the distance. This ride is generally downhill from Sisters with some rolling hills; ride it starting from Smith Rock State Park to make it a bit more challenging. It's perfect for a single-day, point-to-point ride; cyclists can also make a round-trip of it in a single day, taking in the great views from both directions.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available in Sisters, which also has multiple lodging options. Bivouac camping is at Smith Rock State Park.

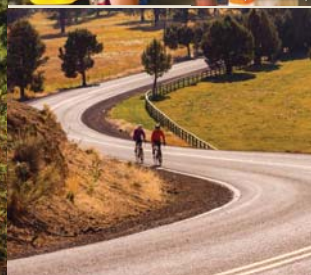
**Distance:** 37 miles (One way) **Level:** Moderate  
**Best seasons to ride:** Spring through fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/SistersToSmithRock](http://RideOregonRide.com/SistersToSmithRock)



Cascading Rivers Scenic Bikeway



Tualatin Valley Scenic Bikeway



Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway

## Safety Tips

Please be aware that the Bikeway information here is advisory only. You assume all risks as far as the quality and accuracy of the information; in other words, you're agreeing to use it at your own risk. Scenic Bikeway routes include roads with car and truck traffic, and are for cyclists that are comfortable riding in some amount of traffic. Cyclists must obey the rules of the road. For car-free riding, check out the Banks-Vernonia State Trail on the Tualatin Valley Bikeway and the Rowe River Trail section of the Covered Bridges Bikeway.

A must-know: In Oregon, a bicycle is legally considered a vehicle (and the same laws apply). Riding with the direction of traffic is the law; it's also the best way to be seen by motorists.

To demonstrate the best riding etiquette and promote good relations with motorists, please ride single-file. Riding side-by-side is legal, but only if doing so does not impede traffic. Be aware that many rural roads are used daily for commerce; there's a good chance you'll encounter large trucks carrying oversized loads.

Never forget about drivers' blind spots—especially when the vehicle is turning right. If you're going straight at an intersection with stopped vehicles, pull in behind the first stopped vehicle in the lane and wait your turn to go, as if you were a motorist.

All bicycle riders in Oregon under 16 must wear a helmet.

For more information on riding safely and legally in Oregon, go to: [oregon.gov/odot/hwy/bikesped](http://oregon.gov/odot/hwy/bikesped)

Please check [RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways](http://RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways) for new routes.



Cover photo: **Wild Rivers Coast Scenic Bikeway**  
ALL PHOTOGRAPHY BY BUS BOGGS/ALLES/OLIVERSONE PHOTO



the bucolic countryside on a smoothly paved road in the midst of an expansive sage-and-juniper ecosystem. As you pedal through the small communities of Culver and Metolius, you'll roll past an agricultural bounty of mixed crops, including grass, onion and carrot seed, garlic, potatoes, wheat and alfalfa, and lavender and mint. Basalt palisades loom above the meandering Deschutes and Crooked rivers, and scenic overlooks of The Cove Palisades State Park and Lake Billy Chinook offer stunning photo opportunities. You may not encounter a passing car for miles while you take in views of the singular silhouettes of Mount Jefferson, the Three Sisters, Mount Hood, Broken Top and Three-Fingered Jack. This relatively flat 30-mile loop is ideal for any cyclist capable of riding for 2 to 3 hours.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available at The Cove Palisades State Park. Multiple lodging options in Madras.

**Distance:** 30 miles (Loop) **Level:** Moderate  
**Best seasons to ride:** Year-round.  
[RideOregonRide.com/Madras](http://RideOregonRide.com/Madras)



The **McKenzie Pass Scenic Bikeway** is simply one of the most spectacular routes in the country, an over-the-top ride both literally and figuratively. This route is best started in the Old West town of Sisters. Ride out of town through the ponderosa pines of the east slopes of the Cascades, rise up through a steady, extended climb, and emerge into a lava-rock moonscape at the top—the result of multiple ancient volcanic events. It's unlike anything you've ever seen. Don't miss the lava-rock-constructed De Witt Observatory at the top. Spin down the well-known through Douglas fir forest to the soothing waters of Belknap Hot Springs on the Wild and Scenic McKenzie River, or turn back toward Sisters. This ride is strenuous and appropriate only for seasoned riders. Most of Oregon Route 242 is closed during winter months, but accessible to bicycles in the spring before it re-opens to cars, providing traffic-free road riding on the top sections. Check [www.ripcheck.com](http://www.ripcheck.com) for current road closures. Always be sure to share the road, and remember that even when the road is closed to vehicular traffic, bicyclists are riding the route in both directions and need to follow traffic laws.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available at either end, in Sisters and Belknap Hot Springs. There are campsites along the route, but they don't have water. There are multiple lodging options along the McKenzie River and in Sisters.

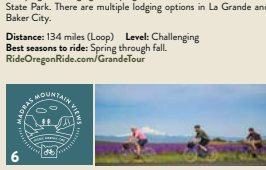
**Distance:** 36 miles (One way) **Level:** Extreme  
**Best seasons to ride:** Summer and fall.  
[RideOregonRide.com/McKenziePass](http://RideOregonRide.com/McKenziePass)



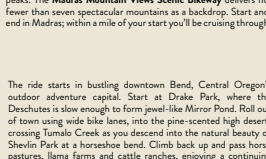
Grande Teton Scenic Bikeway



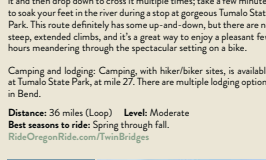
Cottage Grove Scenic Bikeway



Madras Mountain Views Scenic Bikeway



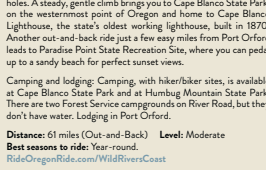
Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway



Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway



Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway



Twin Bridges Scenic Bikeway



Willamette Valley Scenic Bikeway

The original Oregon Scenic Bikeway, this route showcases one of the most productive—and beautiful—agricultural valleys in the world, known far world-class pistachio nuts from many of its 200 wineries. Between the winery views, you'll pass through a series of enchanting small towns and cities along the way. The **Willamette Valley Scenic Bikeway** starts at historic Champagne State Heritage Area. The route follows its namesake river as it winds through the Willamette Valley, shaped by the Coast Range to the west and the towering Cascade Mountains to the east. You'll pass an amazing bounty of crops, from flowers to hops and nuts to berries. The route is ideal for almost any rider; it can easily be split up into short segments, and it has very little climbing.

Camping and lodging: Camping is available at both ends, at Champagne State Park at the north end and Arrimate County Park at the south end. In Brownsville, camping is available at Pioneer City Park, while hiker/biker camping can be found at Wilamette Mission State Park. There are multiple lodging options in several towns along the route, including Keizer, Salem, Independence, Albany and Eugene.

**Distance:** 132 miles (One way) **Level:** Moderate  
**Best seasons to ride:** Year-round.  
[RideOregonRide.com/Willamette](http://RideOregonRide.com/Willamette)

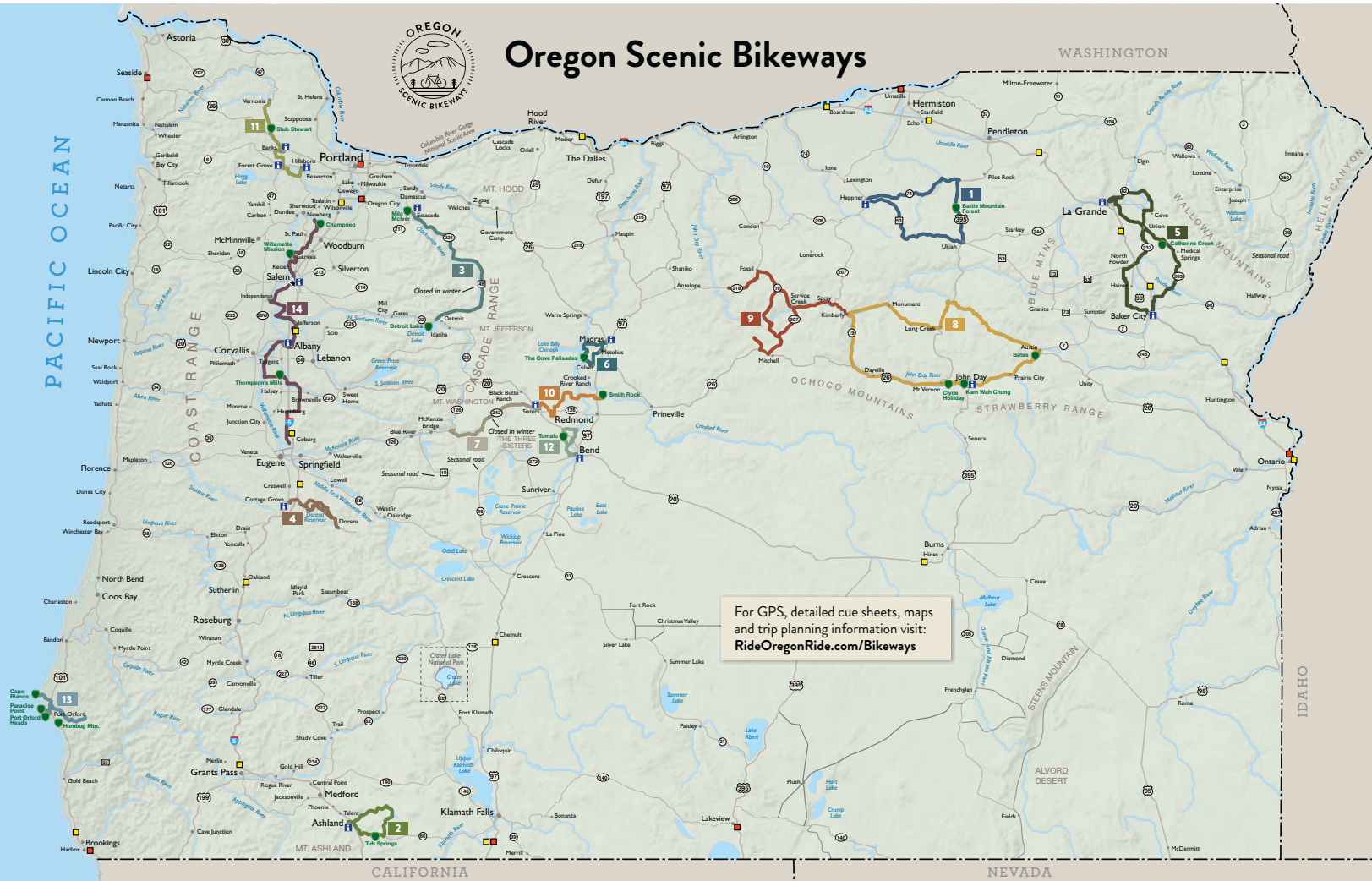


Willamette Valley Scenic Bikeway





# Oregon Scenic Bikeways



For GPS, detailed cue sheets, maps and trip planning information visit:  
[RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways](http://RideOregonRide.com/Bikeways)



- |                                |                                 |   |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> Blue Mountain Century | <b>7</b> McKenzie Pass          | <b>13</b> Wild Rivers Coast   |
| <b>2</b> Cascade Siskiyou      | <b>8</b> Old West               | <b>14</b> Willamette Valley   |
| <b>3</b> Cascading Rivers      | <b>9</b> Painted Hills          | Oregon State Park   |
| <b>4</b> Covered Bridges       | <b>10</b> Sisters to Smith Rock | State Welcome Center  |
| <b>5</b> Grande Tour           | <b>11</b> Tualatin Valley       | Rest areas with traveler information<br>For additional rest areas visit: <a href="http://TripCheck.com">TripCheck.com</a> |
| <b>6</b> Madras Mountain Views | <b>12</b> Twin Bridges Loop     | Visitor Information Center  |



Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway

Covered Bridges Scenic Bikeway

Tualatin Valley Scenic Bikeway

Old West Scenic Bikeway