

Travel Oregon

What's New Media E-news

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Subject: What's New: Oregon Travel Update

We're getting around by bike, boat, board and boot this year. Follow us through Oregon for updates on the longest ski season in the country, the West Coast's first natural whitewater park and beer-focused cycleries. We're not doctors, but we think we may even have a cure for your electric vehicle range anxiety.

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12 Resorts – 17,804 Acres – 3,919 Inches of Fresh Powder

Winter explorers rejoice! The greatest powder stashes in the West have joined forces to create the Powder Alliance™ – twelve signature resorts offering free skiing and snowboarding benefits to anytime season pass holders from other participating Powder Alliance areas. Oregon's [Timberline Lodge and Ski Area](#) (home of the longest ski season in the country) and [Mt. Hood Skibowl](#) are leading the pack, with ten other resorts located in Colorado, Utah, California, Washington, Idaho, Arizona, New Mexico and Montana.

For the price of your local season pass, guests receive three free days at all other participating resorts (up to 33 free days of skiing and boarding!), plus special offers on lodging, rentals, buddy tickets and more. Guests simply show an anytime 2013/14 season pass from their local participating Powder Alliance resort and receive these free skiing benefits at participating resorts across the West.



The West Coast's First Natural Whitewater Park in Bend

A new and exciting project to improve the Colorado Dam on the Deschutes River will not only provide a continuous paddle trail between the Farewell Bend Park and Drake Park, but it will also feature the first [Whitewater Surfpark on the West Coast](#). The Whitewater Surfpark is expected to attract expert and novice kayakers, stand-up paddleboarders, surfers and canoeists from around the country. Preliminary plans also call for a new pedestrian bridge, a left-side channel designed for river user bypass, and a river right channel for improved fish passage. Floating, kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, fishing and bird watching will be enhanced with the proposed improvements. Construction could begin as early as summer of 2014, and the park is slated to be complete and functional by May 2015.



The Newest Gem in the State Park Crown

Opened this summer as part of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission's commitment to open one new state park each year, [Cottonwood Canyon](#) is Oregon's second-largest, but perhaps wildest, state park. Little more than a two-hour drive from Portland, the park is rugged and vast – from the vertical cliffs carved by the John Day River to deep side canyons and arid, rocky grasslands that extend for miles in all directions. Cottonwood Canyon includes a 21-site main campground designed for tents or self-contained RVs. There are also camping facilities for bicyclists and hikers, and a small group camp. The park's 8,000 acres are open for exploring, stargazing and contemplating the elemental forces that carved this unique landscape. Wildlife viewing opportunities abound with elk, bighorn sheep, chukar, snakes, lizards and waterfowl calling the park home.



Plug In. Peel Out. A Trip Down the Electric Highway

Oregon has the most robust and continually-expanding network of Electric Vehicle (EV) fast-charging stations in the U.S. Partly due to affordable electricity, and wholly due to the investment of [the Oregon Department of Transportation \(ODOT\)](#), EV users can recharge every 25 to 50 miles at charging stations located along I-5. This Fast Charging Network ([map here](#)) serves to eliminate "range anxiety" by allowing travelers to plug in, peel out and explore Oregon with no carbon impact. Here are a few [EV itineraries](#) throughout the state.



- [North Willamette Valley](#): The Willamette Valley is the most well-known of Oregon's 17 wine growing regions and is home to more than 225 wineries. This day trip, which stretches more than 100 miles, introduces the wineries and farm-to-table cuisine in the northern tip of the Willamette Valley. Along the way, plan a stop at [The Painted Lady](#) to enjoy a gourmet meal prepared with the freshest local ingredients.
- [Covered Bridges Trip](#): There's a distinct charm to a covered bridge, and Oregon's got 50 of them. Many are on the National Register of Historic Places. Pick your own route to explore the bridges of [Lane County](#), and don't forget your camera. Stop in at [Hop Valley Brewing Company](#) for a sampler of some of Oregon's famous craft beer.

- [Oregon Coast Loop](#): Leave the bustling center of Portland for a journey down the Columbia River, through the Coast Range and out to the beautiful beaches and friendly towns of the Oregon Coast. Stroll the waterfront to see the docked fishing boats, or steep in maritime history at the [Columbia River Maritime Museum](#).
- [Mt. Hood and Columbia River Gorge](#): The Mt. Hood Loop day trip is an excellent way to experience the rugged wilderness, verdant farmland and charming small towns that lie just outside of the vibrant metropolis of Portland. Along the route, visit the Gorge's signature waterfalls, [Hood River Fruit Loop](#) or historic [Timberline Lodge](#). If you need a snack, stop in at [Cascade Locks Ale House](#) for pizza or [East Wind Drive-In](#) for a towering soft serve ice cream cone.

Beer and Bikes: A Love Story

Oregonians are in love with craft beer and bicycles. So much so that throughout the state, entrepreneurs have put beer taps and bars into their bike shops, elevating their establishments from mere retail locations to cultural hubs (no pun intended). Local and traveling cyclists can stop in after a ride, get their bike tuned-up and enjoy refreshing pints of Oregon brew, swapping stories with fellow cycling enthusiasts. The next time you finish a long ride or race, think about stopping in to one of these forward-thinking cyclistries.

- Portland's [Velo Cult Bike Shop](#) has an epic beer list that changes weekly. At last glance, they had 12 craft beers on tap, 10 of which were from Oregon producers – including selections from [Pfreim Family Brewers](#) and [GoodLife Brewing Co.](#)
- Redmond's [Trinity Bikes](#) recently partnered with [Phat Matt's Brewing Co.](#) to offer their beer in the shop.
- Bend bike shop [Hub Cyclery](#) and ski-bike shop [Crow's Feet Commons](#) offer Oregon craft beer to their patrons.
- Southern Oregon's [Flywheel Bicycle Solutions](#) offers local brews as well as a local bike-themed wine called "Velo" from [Velocity Cellars](#)
- Hood River's [Dirty Fingers Bicycle Repair](#) features a delicious, IPA-heavy beer list and stellar \$3 pint happy hour.



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