

The Bowline Hotel

Oregon's natural wonders are majestic in any season, but autumn is prime time for adventures marked by crisp, clear days and golden hours. This season brings new retreats, attractions and culinary hot spots around the state. Add in expanded food and ale trails, guided tours, art-inspired road trips and BIPOC changemakers, and there's plenty of cool-weather inspiration to explore Oregon.

NEW HOTELS

Break routine along the scenic Columbia River with a getaway at one of two new and noteworthy stays. At the **Bowline Hotel** in the historic port town of Astoria, riverfront rooms include a private balcony — perfect for spotting sea lions. **The Knot Bar**, located in the lobby, serves creative cocktails and Scandinavian-inspired plates. In Eastern Oregon, the renovated and rebranded **River Lodge + Cabins** in Boardman also offers a riverside retreat with an outdoor pool and a private beach. The on-site **Two Barrels Taps + Grill** dishes up classic comfort fare.

Portland's artsy Central Eastside neighborhood has added two new hotels with a fresh and energetic vibe. At Hotel Grand Stark, the stylish setting includes vintage furnishings and modernist art, a light-filled lobby lounge with study, and Grand Stark Deli, serving seasonal spins on deli classics. The second buzzy newcomer to the neighborhood is Lolo Pass, a hip hostel-hotel hybrid with a mix of private and shared bunk rooms. Added perks include a lobby gallery and a lively rooftop bar.

FOOD, WINE AND BEER

Proof that Portland is still a craft-beer paradise,

Steeplejack Brewing opened to those eager to raise a
pint in the grand centenarian chapel turned brewery.

Stunning stained-glass windows stretch above the
brewery's tanks and a refurbished bar, and pews serve
as banquettes for the wooden tables. Head brewer Anna
Buxton focuses on English- and Scottish-style pub beers
and cask-conditioned ales, while the chef integrates beer
into dishes like the popular fried-chicken sandwich.

Beer and adventure enthusiasts can hop back on what's dubbed the "largest beer trail in the West" with the revamped **Bend Ale Trail** — now spanning seven distinct communities in the Bend area, including Sunriver, Sisters, Redmond and Prineville. Also not to miss, is the new **Tualatin Valley Ale Trail** — a passport program to introduce beer lovers to the wealth of craft beer in Tualatin Valley.

In July the **Willamette Valley** wine region received formal recognition and protection from the European Union through Protected Geographical Indication status approval. The PGI system protects iconic names of agricultural products, spirit drinks and wines with a link to their geographical origin, including prestigious products such as Champagne and Barolo. The Napa Valley is the only other American wine region that carries this distinction. On the evolving and scenic Umpqua Valley Wine Trail in Southern Oregon, there's a new stop at the Black-owned Meadows Estate Vineyard & Winery, where a sense of adventure led owners Dexter and Marilyn Meadows to put down roots after retirement. History enthusiasts will appreciate that the location was once used by Native Americans as a winter basecamp and later, a stage coach stop between Portland and San Francisco.

Cheese aficionados can indulge on the **Oregon Cheese** & Food Trail with a visit to the new **Don Froylan**Creamery in Salem. While the Ochoa family has been producing an award-winning line of Mexican cheeses for nearly 20 years (including queso fresco, queso panela and their distinguished hand-stretched queso Oaxaca), the new creamery includes a cafe kitchen serving quesadillas, nachos, taquitos and more.



Steeplejack Brewing

ourtesy of Steeplejack Brewin

Explore the ever-expanding cocktail scene in Portland at Raven's Manor, the city's only haunted mansion-themed bar. This one-of-a-kind lounge celebrates the spooky and theatrical with several interactive mixology experiences from smoking drinks to glowing elixirs that pair with ghost-shaped beignets.

GUIDED EXPERIENCES

For an enhanced sense of place, visitors can ride the wind and waves of the mighty Columbia River aboard the *Arrow No. 2*, a historic 53-foot tugboat that spent most of her career transferring pilots to guide ships across the Columbia Bar and upriver. Led by owner and captain Mark Schächer, **Arrow Tugboat & Tour Company** explores the working waterfronts along the lower Columbia and dives deep into the maritime history of Astoria.

In Eastern Oregon, **Go Wild: American Adventures** recently launched a self-guided tour of historic Baker City. In addition to narrating the rich history of the town that was a central hub for trading in the 1900s due to gold and timber, the **Baker City Walking & Tasting Tour** provides extensive written and visual content about the evolution of the town, as well as exclusive deals to popular local restaurants and cafes.

ARTS, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

Sporty travelers can lace up their running shoes and follow in the speedy footsteps of a growing number of endurance runners pursuing FKTs, or **fastest-known times**, on the state's backcountry trails and mountain summits. Oregon runner Mario Mendoza has set many FKT records in the state and fuels his motivation by raising funds for the **Central Oregon Running Klub's youth running camp**.

In July 2022, the city of Eugene (also known as TrackTown USA) will make history again when it hosts the **World Athletics Championships Oregon22**. Since 1983 this 10-day event has showcased the world's greatest track and field athletes. Next year marks the first time a U.S. city will broadcast this prestigious event and welcome athletes from more than 200 nations. Don't forget to get your tickets to Oregon22, which are on sale now.

New additions to the **Central Oregon Mural Trail** beckon road-trippers to visit the high desert with a series of vibrant pieces in the communities of Maupin, La Pine and Redmond. The recent mural project was inspired by the cheery "Greetings from..." vintage postcards from the 1930s. The two local artists took inspiration from the towering canyons, speckled sagebrush and white-capped rivers of the terrain.

A recent spotlight on **Pendleton changemakers** explores the lives of **Pendleton Round-Up** legends like George Fletcher, one of the greatest Black rough-stock riders in the early days of rodeo. He's most famous for the pivotal World Title saddle bronc-riding contest at the 1911 Round-Up and paving a path for Black rodeo competitors. Fletcher is one of many real-life legends brought to life in the latest whimsically animated "**Oregon, Only Slightly Exaggerated**" campaign, spotlighting people and cultures across the state for the fall season.



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George Fletcher



La Pine mural



Arrow Tugboat & Tour Company

