



Day Trips From Bend

Bend and the immediate surrounding areas are absolutely fantastic and full of adventure. You can easily spend a week in Central Oregon and not even come close to experiencing all we have to offer. That being said, 5 of the 7 “Wonders of Oregon” are a day trip away from Bend.

Crater Lake

When the ancient volcano Mt Mazama collapsed, the deepest lake in American was formed. Crater Lake’s sparkling blue water and amazing vistas leave all those who visit in awe. You can bike or drive the 33 miles rim drive, hike up the fire lookout tower or down to the water. During summer months you can take a boat tour of the lake. While it’s tougher to access in the winter, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing on the rim is an amazing experience. All this is about a 2.5 hour drive from Bend (depending on road conditions).

Painted Hills

Less than 2 hours east of Bend, the Painted Hills are one of the 3 units that make up the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. Named for vibrant layers of red, yellow, gold, and black soil, the Painted Hills are a beautiful peek into earth’s history. The sunsets are never the same and are always awe-inspiring.





Mt. Hood

The second most climbed mountain in the world, Mt Hood is home to the only year-round ski resort in North America. Timberline is the only place to ski and hike on the same day in the summer. The rest of Mt. Hood consists of 3 other ski hills (Meadows, Ski Bowl, and Cooper Spur) for winter fun and miles of colorful trails filled with wildflowers in the summer. A day in the Fruit Loop allows for visits to working farms consisting of thousands of acres of orchards, wines, lavender, and wildflowers.

Columbia River Gorge

Waterfalls, hiking, wines, craft beers, bikes rides, and farm fresh dining all along the banks of the Historic Columbia River. Hood River and The Dalles are the 2 more well known towns on the Oregon side of the Gorge, there are plenty of smaller quaint areas to visit as well.

Smith Rock

Only 40 minutes from downtown Bend, Smith Rock boasts Thousands of climbing routes that bring in climbers from all over the world. This includes more than a thousand bolted routes. The terrain is ideal for rock climbing of all difficulty levels from sport climbing to traditional climbing to bouldering. Hiking and mountain biking along with the opportunity to spot golden eagles, prairie falcons, river otter and beaver in the park make this an ideal stop even for those who aren't looking to climb.

