



SOUTHERN OREGON Wonders Never Cease!



SOUTHERN OREGON CYCLE TOURS

Mobile friendly version: southernoregon.org/cycling

Southern Oregon has some of the best bicycling in the country. Routes will take you through National Monuments, historic wagon trails, alpine meadows, and mountain lakes. They will thrill you with Crater Lake National Park, lush grasslands, birding hotspots, ocean views, lighthouses and pristine beaches. Plus, you can experience some great dining and lodging options. Here are three of our best road routes. There are also dozens of mountain biking trails. Enjoy cycling Southern Oregon!

Cascade Siskiyou Scenic Bikeway

Length: 54.8 miles **Difficulty:** Challenging **Origin:** Ashland
Attributes: Extended climbs, forest, mountain views

Route Description

The Cascade Siskiyou Scenic Bikeway incorporates 5,000 feet of steep and winding climbing through oak savannah into fir forests, showcasing the ecologically diverse ecosystem of the region.



The 55-mile Bikeway starts in Ashland, a town famous for theater and fantastic dining that's also a great base camp for many outdoor recreation opportunities. This region is so ecologically significant that 62,000 acres of it is designated as the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

This route climbs oak-dotted mountainsides, offering spectacular views of the Bear Creek Valley below and of 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, the Bikeway enters the Cascades ecosystem, with tall pines and Douglas firs providing welcome shade on the way to the 4,551-foot Greensprings Summit. Riders can opt for a 5-mile out-and-back to historic **Tub Springs State Wayside**, where they can fill water



bottles from a cold, pure mountain spring, just as emigrants traveling the Applegate Trail did in the 1800s.

Near Hyatt Reservoir you'll see views of 9,000-foot Mount McLoughlin, with glimpses of osprey and bald eagles nesting.

Just when you think the climbing is over, there is one final 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.

Bike campers can plan a two-day adventure by staying at one of several campgrounds near **Hyatt Reservoir** or **Howard Prairie Lake**.

Short variation: A popular locals' variation is to ride the 3,000 feet up to **Greensprings Inn** for brunch and return to the town the same way, a 35-mile ride.

Volcano Legacy Bikeway

Length: 47 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate **Origin:** Klamath Falls
Attributes: 1 Day Rides, Crater Lake National Park, Quiet, Low traffic volumes

Route Description The bikeway is bookended by Crater Lake National Park to the north and the historic town of Rocky Point to the south. The bikeway mirrors the **Volcanic Legacy Byway (VLSBy)**, one of just 31 All-American Roads in the USA. This route is ruled by soaring volcanic peaks, snowcapped mountain views, visual



evidence of active volcanos, the smell of mature forests and fresh water, sounds of nature, including a lot of silence, and a never-ending visual display of beauty, including Oregon's #1 Wonder: **Crater Lake National Park**. Riding beneath mountain silhouettes lies a mosaic



For Southern Oregon itinerary ideas, maps, photos, contact information, and hotel referrals: www.southernoregon.org/tours



www.instagram.com/travelsouthernoregon

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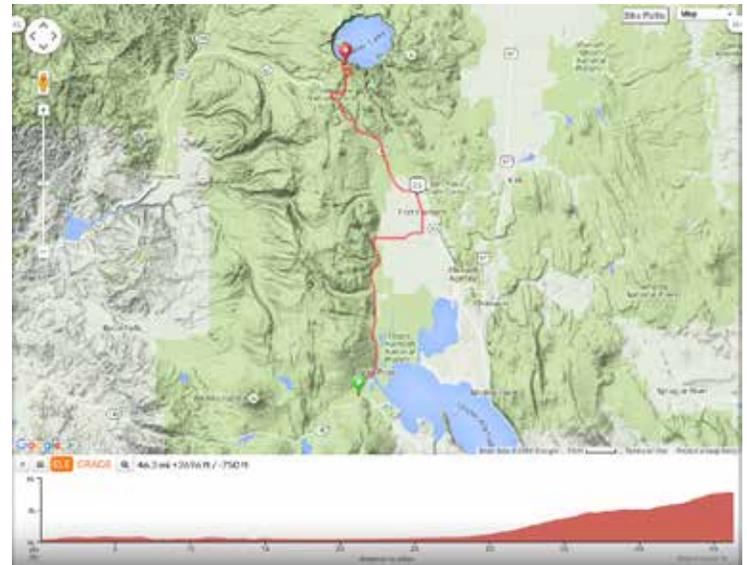
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Volcanno Legacy Bikeway continued



of shallow lakes, rivers, marshes and grasslands forming one of the nation's top birding hotspots: The **Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge**. Offering diversity, this bikeway traverses dense forests, broad wetlands and pastoral farms and ranches. The

diversity of scenic landscapes, wildlife, and access to large expanses of public lands are primary reasons we've applied for Scenic Bikeway status. The route includes strategically located VLSBy interpretive centers at **Pelican Guard Station**, **Crystal Springs** rest area, **Annie Creek** sno-park, and Crater Lake National Park. These architecturally attractive portals offer toilets, interpretive panels, and picnic facilities. Low traffic volumes translate to a nearly-vehicle-free, quiet, and importantly safe ride for all. The sounds include abundant nature, and the silence of riding through scenic lands. Road surfaces receive praise from cyclists as do the wide, well-marked shoulders. This route is already known among active cyclists. Most of our area's cyclists originate in California. We envision future expansion to connect with established touring



routes in Northern California, eventually connecting the entire 500-mile VLSBy from Mt. Lassen to Crater Lake. We have an established partner in the Volcanic Legacy Community Partnership.

Wild Rivers Coast Scenic Bikeway

Length: 60.9 miles **Difficulty:** Moderate **Origin:** Port Orford
Attributes: 1 Day Rides, Coastal, Ocean views, Road, Rural

Route Description

A Wild and Scenic river, lush cranberry bogs, towering basalt sea stacks and vast ocean views await riders on the Wild Rivers Coast Scenic Bikeway.

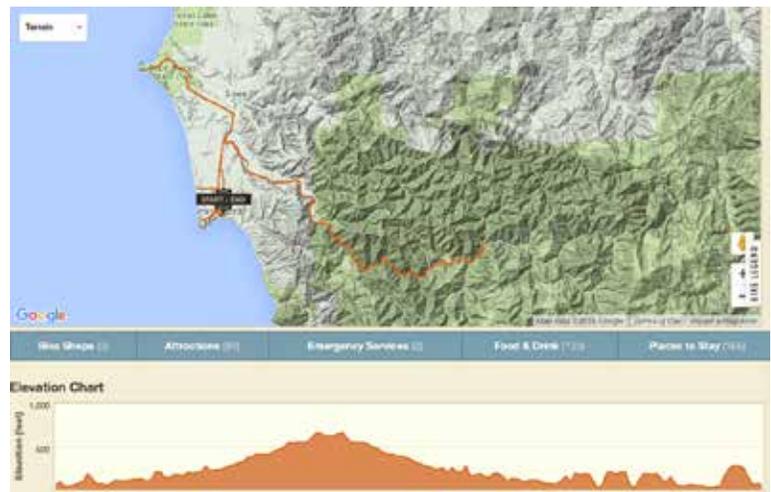


The 60-mile ride is anchored in the quaint fishing hamlet of Port Orford, the oldest town on the Oregon coast. Here you can count on a great cup of coffee, and you'll find quiet, locally owned hotels and eclectic art galleries.

You can complete the route in one day or take your time with several out-and-back rides. A perfect start point is the historic **Battle Rock Park** in Port Orford, where you'll enjoy views of Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve, a protected habitat for marine mammals and nesting shorebirds.

A 17-mile stretch of the Bikeway travels through the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and along the Elk River, a nationally designated Wild and Scenic River, past pools teeming with native salmon and trout and a beautiful old-growth forest in the Grassy Knob Wilderness. Visit the Elk River Fish Hatchery or cool off at one of many swimming holes.

A steady, gentle climb brings you to **Cape Blanco State Park** on the westernmost point of Oregon. At the tip of the cape stands Cape Blanco Lighthouse, the oldest working lighthouse in the state, built in 1870.



Another out-and-back ride just a few easy miles from Port Orford leads to **Paradise Point State Recreation Site**, where you can pedal up to a sandy beach with sunset-worthy ocean views. If your legs are up for a very steep 1-mile hill challenge, a climb to Port Orford Heads State Park will reward you with history and scenery. Short trails lead to remnants of the town's history as a Coast Guard lifeboat station. Inspiring panoramic views of the rugged coastline show how far you've come — on a clear day, you'll see Paradise Point, Cape Blanco and the **Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve**.



For other lodging and attraction ideas go to Southernoregon.org

For more information on lodging, camping and dining options: AshlandChamber.com, TravelMedford.com & DiscoverKlamath.com