

READY TO HIKE?

The Columbia River Gorge is a Hiker's Paradise

— readyssetgorge.com —

GET READY

Avoid crowds by following these tips.

1. Go Early – before 10 a.m.
2. Go East – beyond Waterfall Alley
3. Go North – discover Washington
4. Go Midweek – Tuesday-Thursday

HIKING LEVELS GUIDE

EASY: Level to gently rolling terrain and incline. Required limited skill and has minimum physical challenges.

MODERATE: Hiking that involves an increase in mileage and elevation gain.

MORE DIFFICULT: Vigorous hiking with moderate hills and slopes.

NOTE: Changing weather conditions can affect hiking levels for trails. Refer to map on page 46 to assist you in the location of trailheads.

10 WAYS TO LOVE THE GORGE

1. Protect vital habitat by using authorized trails, campsites and boat launches.
2. Leave no trace by packing out your trash and picking up litter you find.
3. Stop the spread of invasive species by using a boot brush, available at many trailheads.
4. Protect wildlife by keeping dogs on leash and picking up their waste.
5. Be courteous. Don't block parking spots or private driveways.
6. Reduce carbon emissions and congestion by carpooling, taking a shuttle or biking.
7. Respect local cultures, practices and resources.
8. Help businesses prosper by shopping locally.
9. Donate time and skills to local nonprofits and agencies.
10. Support maintenance and conservation efforts by paying recreation fees.

DON'T FORGET: A Northwest Forest Pass, Washington Discover Permit and Oregon State Parks Pass is required at many of the trailheads. You may purchase a season pass or day use permit on site. See specific details on page 91.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TRAILS

A universal access trail is a paved trail that has gentle slopes making it accommodating to wheelchairs and people with disabilities. accessiblegorge.com • columbiagorgetomthood.com/universal-access-trails

Oregon

Columbia River Gorge Historic Highway:

Mosier Twin Tunnels in Hood River, Cascade Locks trail to John Yeon State Park and Wyeth Park to Viento Park all offer up to 13 miles of round trip paved accessible trails offering incredible scenery. **NOTE:** There are some hills on the historic highway.

Mitchell Point Tunnel: After four years of construction, the 655-foot long tunnel is now open and available for non-vehicle users to hike and bike. The new tunnel includes five arched windows with expansive views of the Columbia River along with a hand placed stone masonry wall on the trail, plaza with picnic tables, break areas, an overlook and expanded restrooms at the trailhead. **NOTE:** Eastbound exit only at Exit 58.

Starvation Creek Trailhead: This section of the Historic Highway State Trail boasts views of three waterfalls in 1.2 miles. And all paths are paved! The 190-ft two-tiered Starvation Creek waterfall is quite impressive and is tucked away in the woods behind the rest area. To see Cabin Creek Falls and Hole in the Wall Falls, head west from the parking lot on a paved, well-graded universal trail. This is an out-and-back trail. **NOTE:** Eastbound exit only. Traveling east on I-84, take Exit #55: Starvation Creek State Park and Rest Area.

Hood River: The Hood River Waterfront Trail is a 2.8-mile paved path, connecting The Hook on the west end to the Best Western Hood River Inn to the east.

The Dalles: The Riverfront Trail at The Dalles is a scenic paved pathway along the Columbia River from the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center parking lot east to The Dalles Dam allowing for many interesting things to see along the way. **NOTE:** There are some hills on this trail.

Trillium Lake Loop: The Trillium Lake Loop (Trail #761) is a 1.9-mile, universally accessible, and easy trail in Oregon's Mt. Hood National Forest, designed for hikers, wheelchairs, and strollers. It consists of a flat, compacted gravel and boardwalk surface with scenic views of Mt. Hood.

Bridal Veil Falls Overlook Trail: A paved path leads to some gorgeous views over the Columbia River. Catch a glimpse of Beacon Rock, Archer Mountain, and the Pillars of Hercules. The loop is 1/2 mile long and fully paved. People using mobility devices may be able to enjoy some of the views from the path. However, it has experienced some erosion. Some lookout points are missing pavement. You will find a picnic area that is located off the pavement.

Washington

North Bonneville: Explore 12 miles of paved walking trails in a beautiful park like setting located around the town of North Bonneville.

Doetsch Walking Path: Located west of North Bonneville at Beacon Rock Marina, you will find a paved and flat 1.2-mile loop through what was once a pasture of the Doetsch family ranch. View interpretive panels that explain the area's natural and human history dating back to the Ice Age floods.

Washougal: Find paved trails at Marina Park, Parkers Landing and the Washougal Waterfront Park.

Stevenson: Stroll along the paved waterfront path along the river in Stevenson for up close views of the Cascade Mountains along with the windsurfers and kiteboarders.

Rock Creek Pond Trail: Starting at the fairgrounds in Stevenson, you will find a nice paved path along Rock Creek Pond leading towards the Columbia Gorge Museum and Skamania Lodge.

Sam Walker Loop in Skamania: This flat, 1.1-mile gravel riverfront loop offers river viewpoints with mature oak woodlands to cedar forests. It's a gorgeous walk with stops and picnic benches at the overlooks.

Catherine Creek: A 1-mile user friendly trail that is paved with several benches along the way for resting. A waterfall is a must see on this trail.

Balfour-Klickitat Trail: This day use area offers a .75 mile paved loop trail with views of the Gorge, wildflowers and birdwatching opportunities. Balfour-Klickitat is a prime eagle watching spot around February and great for spotting songbirds and waterfowl year-round.



Dog Mountain

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: More difficult**

7 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 2,948 ft

A very popular trail, particularly from mid-April through early June, when the hills are filled with blooming wildflowers. Hikers will see impressive views of Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Adams and Mt. Hood. The trail is somewhat challenging as it gains 2,948 feet and is 3.5 miles to the top. Plan four hours to hike this one and take water and food for the break on top.

Getting there: To reach the trail, travel on Hwy 14 to MP 53. Dog Mountain is halfway between Stevenson and Bingen. Look for a large parking lot on the north side of the highway.

Note: NW Forest Parking Pass required year round. A Trail Pass Permit is required for each individual hiker on Saturdays and Sundays from mid-April to mid-June and Memorial Day, along with the NW Forest Parking Pass. If parking at the trailhead, you will need to have both a per-person trail system permit and a per-car recreation day-use or annual pass. Hikers can reserve a permit through the recreation.gov online reservation system at a cost of \$2 per permit. The number available will be limited to match parking capacity. A hiker permit is available with the shuttle bus from Stevenson, WA.

More shuttle info at ridecatbus.org

Wind Mountain

☞ view

» **Level: Moderate to Difficult**

3 miles round trip | Elevation gain 1,236 ft

Wind Mountain is a relatively short but moderately challenging hike. The summit offers remarkable views of the Columbia River, Beacon Rock and Cascade Mountains. There are some spots on the trail that are rocky, so be cautious, and there can be rattlesnakes and poison oak along the trail.

Getting there: Travel 6 miles east of Stevenson, WA on Hwy 14 and turn left on Wind Mountain Road (1/2 mile past the Home Valley Store). Travel just under 1.5 miles and take a right on Girl Scout Road. Just after the paved road gives way to gravel, you will see the parking area. Walk down the gravel road 200 yards to the trailhead.

Notes: No pass required



River-to-Rock Trail

☞ view ☞ wildflowers

» **Level: Easy to moderate**

1.5 miles round trip | Elevation gain 250 ft

The River-to-Rock Trail adds 1.6 miles to the Beacon Rock climb and offers parking away from the crowds. Wildflowers in the spring and blackberries in the summer make this a nice beginning to your 848-foot climb to the top of the rock. Visit the marina at the day-use area for a picnic and another incredible view of the infamous Beacon Rock.

Getting there: Once you pass Beacon Rock on Hwy 14, you will continue another 0.7 miles and turn left on Doetsch Ranch Road to Doetsch Day Use Area. Go past the Day Use Area and park in the large parking lot. The River-to-Rock trail starts near the railroad bridge and road towards RV camping area. River-go-Rock trail is 11 miles from Stevenson, WA.

Notes: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking

Beacon Rock

☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**

2 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 848 ft

Beacon Rock is the core of an ancient volcano and is a well known landmark that is recommended for the first time visitor to the Columbia River Gorge. The plug is 848 feet high with handrails lining most of the ascent. The trail is 4,500 feet long with a 15 percent grade and takes 45 minutes to an hour to make the round trip. Once on top of the rock, the view of the Columbia River Gorge is breathtaking.

Getting there: Drive west on Hwy 14, 10 miles from Stevenson, WA. You can't miss the rock on your left at MP 35.

Note: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking

Stacker Butte/ Dalles Mountain Ranch

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Moderate**

5.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,500 ft

The best time for this hike is mid-April through May for the wildflower show! A gravel road amongst the wide open field of wildflowers will take you to the top where you will see Mt. Adams, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Hood, Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Jefferson. Stunning!

Getting there: From Bingen, WA travel 24 miles east to milepost 84.5. Turn left onto gravel Dalles Mountain Road. Proceed 3.4 miles on Dalles Mountain Road and turn left just before an old ranch and barn. Pass interpretive displays and continue on this rough dirt road for 1.4 miles to a gate.

Note: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking



RODNEY FALLS

Hardy & Rodney Falls (Pool of Winds)

☞ *waterfalls*

» **Level: Easy to moderate**
2.5 miles round trip
Elevation Gain: 440 ft

This hike takes you up a steep, but beautifully forested, climb to three tiers of waterfalls. Start at the Hamilton Mountain Trailhead and climb up to Hardy Creek. You'll come to a side trail leading downhill to a viewpoint of the lowest tier, known as Hardy Falls. Next, after a short distance past Hardy Falls, you'll see a signed spur heading up to the left leading to Rodney Falls and Pool of the Winds. At Pool of the Winds, Hardy Creek is channeled into a funnel-like chamber in the cliff face. From the Pool of the Winds junction, the main trail switchbacks down to a bridge over Hardy Creek, just at the base of the middle falls of Rodney Falls.

Getting there: From the Bridge of the Gods, head west onto WA Hwy 14 and travel seven miles. Watch for Beacon Rock— it will tower in front of you as you approach the state park which is near mile marker 35. Turn right to the campground into the small trailhead parking lot. The trail starts behind the restrooms.

Note: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking

Hamilton Mountain

☞ *waterfalls* ☞ *view*

» **Level: More difficult**
8 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 2,100 ft

The trail to the top of Hamilton Mountain is a gradual climb offering spectacular views of the Columbia River and Bonneville Dam from the top. The first part of the hike is very popular with the first 1.3 miles taking you to Rodney Falls, Pool of the Winds and Hardy Falls.

Getting there: Driving west on Hwy 14 from Stevenson, turn right at Beacon Rock State Park. Parking area is on your right with trailhead located behind the restrooms.

Note: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking

Cape Horn Trail

☞ *wildflowers* ☞ *view*

» **Level: More difficult**
7 miles round trip
Elevation Gain: 1,300 ft

This hike features gorgeous views, rocky crags, streams and two waterfalls. The full trail loop provides fantastic views of the Columbia River Gorge, an intimate look at Cape Horn Falls and a challenging workout as it climbs and descends the rocky slopes of Cape Horn.

Note: The lower trail is closed from February 1st to July 15th to protect peregrine falcon nesting areas. Parts of the trail are narrow, which can be unsafe during heavy snow and ice conditions.

Getting there: Follow State Hwy 14 west from Stevenson about 18 miles, pass Beacon Rock State Park, continue to the intersection with Salmon Falls Road, near MP 26. Turn right on Salmon Falls Road, parking area is on your right.

Note: No pass required

Lower Falls Creek

☞ *waterfall*

» **Level: Easy to moderate**
4.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 800 ft

This waterfall is well worth the hike! Not only do you see a spectacular waterfall but you also are hiking in a beautiful old growth forest. Start the hike by crossing the cable suspension bridge which spans a rock gorge providing spectacular views of the white water of Falls Creek. The trail ends at the waterfall so this is an out and back hike. **Note:** Trailhead is closed December 1 to March 31 (snowfall can affect earlier and later months).

Getting there: Take State Hwy 14 to Carson, Washington. Drive 15 miles north on Wind River Highway. Take a right towards Wind River Recreation Area. Turn right at signs for Falls Creek on FS Road 3062. Follow and stay on road for 1.5 miles. Keep to the right to the parking area for Lower Falls Creek Trail 152A.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Lewis River Trail – Lower Falls Recreation Area

☞ *waterfall* ☞ *view*

» **Level: More difficult**
3.5 miles round trip
Elevation Gain: 974 ft

The Lewis River Trail follows the course of the Lewis River as it meanders through a magnificent old-growth forest of Douglas fir, western red cedar and big leaf maple. Spectacular waterfalls will delight you as you explore this route. The trail leaves the Lower Falls Campground, crosses Copper Creek and comes to Middle Falls. The trail circumvents a cliff above Upper Falls, providing excellent views of the falls. It crosses Alec Creek and terminates on FR 90, near Quartz Creek Trail #5.

Getting there: Follow the Wind River Highway (Hwy 30) 40 miles north of Carson, Washington. Continue up and over Oldman Pass to FR 51 (Curly Creek Rd). Turn left. Stop by McClellan View Point for view of Mount St. Helens. Turn right on FR 90, follow to Lower Falls Recreation Area to Lewis River Trail #31.

Note: Parking at the middle, lower or upper Lewis River Falls parking lot now requires BOTH a parking permit AND Northwest Forest Pass. Tickets are available at recreation.gov.

SQUATCH OUT!

OPEN
NOW

Squatch Out is the newest small business in Stevenson, WA. Offering adventure booking services as well as a small retail space with outdoor gear and Sasquatch themed gifts!

Squatch Out to Stevenson and say hello!

Thursday–Sunday | 194 2nd Street, Unit A, Stevenson, WA 98648
SquatchOut.co | 509.219.5005



CRAWFORD OAKS TRAIL

Catherine Creek Arch Loop

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy**

3.5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 500 ft

Enjoy gorgeous views, astounding wildflowers, oak woodlands and open grasslands. More than 90 varieties of wildflowers bloom here, making this a favorite springtime destination.

Getting there: Traveling 6 miles east of Bingen on Hwy 14, take a left on Old Hwy 8. Follow highway for 1.5 miles to parking area. The universal paved trail takes off to the right, the arch loop hike begins uphill to the left.

Note: No pass required

Horsethief Butte

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy**

2 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 150 ft

Starting from the parking area, take the first grassy path marked with stones to the right. Stay to the right and follow well marked trail on the flat area to the east side of the butte, trail ends here, turn back towards parking lot. Adventure on some of the side trails into rocky canyons to look for Native American art. Views of the river and wildflowers add to this adventure.

Getting there: From Oregon, take I-84 to Exit #87/Hwy 197 north (The Dalles Dam bridge). Cross the Columbia River and continue about 2 miles to WA Hwy 14. Turn right on Hwy 14 and drive about 2 miles to the signed trailhead on the right. From Washington, the trailhead is at about MP #86.

Note: Washington State Discover Pass required for parking

Crawford Oaks Vista Loop

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

Level: Easy to Moderate

5 miles

Elevation Gain: 831 ft

Located as part of the Dalles Mountain Ranch, this five mile round trip trail offers sweeping views of the Columbia River and Mt. Hood.

The area is non-motorized and multi-use, so expect to see other hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians. The location also has a bathroom and covered picnic table. Known as a wildflower WOW in April and May.

Getting there: Drive east of Bingen, Washington 27 miles on Hwy 14 to milepost 87. There is a sign for Crawford Oaks Trail.

Note:

Washington State Discover Pass required



Weldon Wagon Trail

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

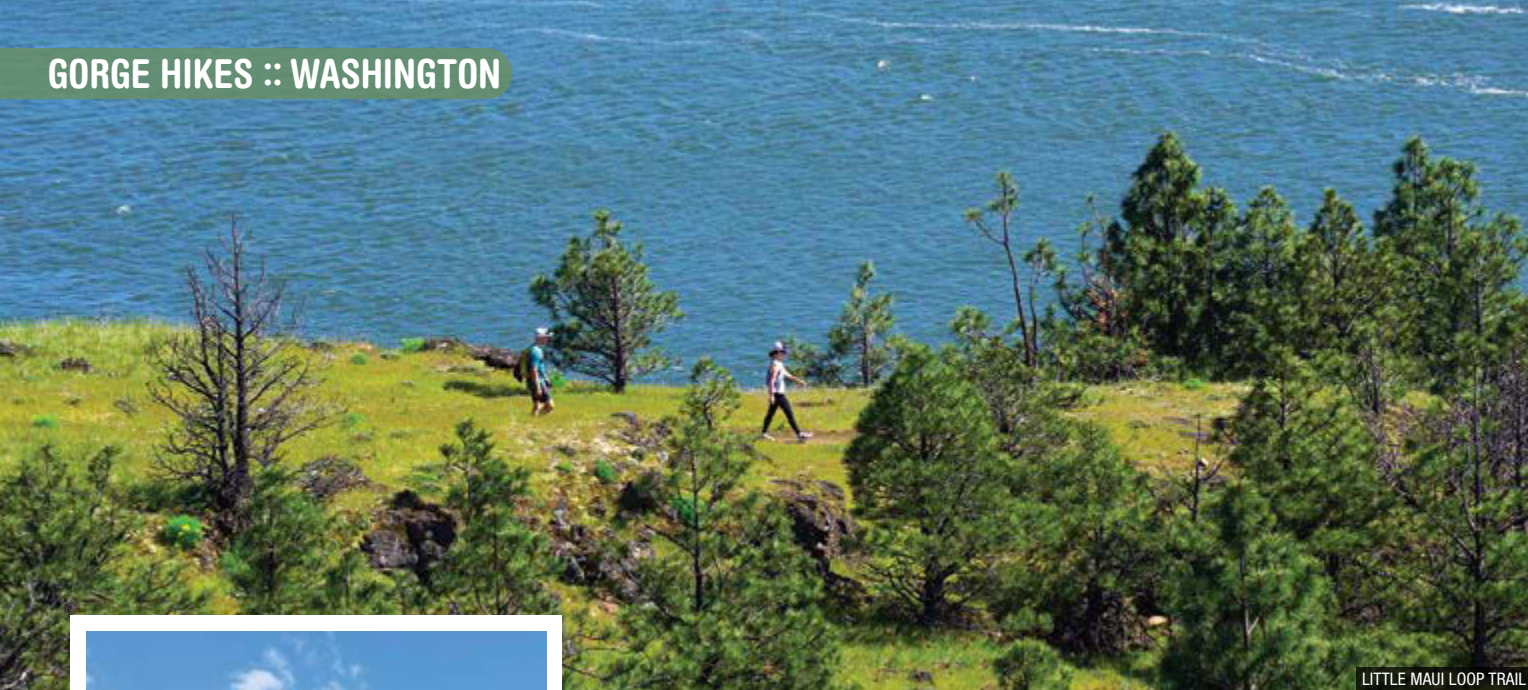
» **Level: Moderate**

5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1340 ft

A hidden gem of a hike with a wildflower show in the spring and great colors of vine maples and oak woodlands in autumn. To find the trailhead, walk 0.15 mile up a 4x4 road to a well marked sign for Weldon Wagon Trail. At 1.5 miles, the trail takes you into the White Salmon Oak Natural Conservation Area. Look for views of Mt. Hood to the south.

Getting there: From Hood River, cross the bridge to Washington and turn left on Hwy 14. Go 1.6 miles and turn right onto State Route 141A. Head north for 2 miles then stay left to continue north on Hwy State Route 141. Go 3.8 miles and turn right onto Indian Creek Road. Follow this gravel road for .6 miles, then go left on Indian Cemetery Road and continue .4 miles further. Look for the unmarked jeep road on your right and a wide spot on the left where you can park.

Note: No pass required



LITTLE MAUI LOOP TRAIL



Labyrinth Falls/Little Maui Loop Trail

☞ waterfall ☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Difficult**

5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,200 ft

You'll find wildflowers, unique changing terrain, cascading waterfalls and gorgeous views on this trail. A great spring time hike but beware of ticks, poison oak and rattlesnakes. Follow the abandoned road and in 0.3 miles you will see Labyrinth Falls. A bit farther down the road, look for obvious path and sign to the right and follow trail to the right at the fork.

Getting there: Travel 5 miles from Bingen to Old Hwy 8. Park immediately on the corner gravel lot. Head west on paved road.

Note: No pass required

Sleeping Beauty

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Difficult**

3 miles round trip

Elevation Gain: 1,500 ft

Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier and Indian Heaven Wilderness await you at the top of this steep rewarding climb. Fortunately, the trail is shaded with a Pacific Northwest mix of firs, maples and hemlocks. As you hike out of the trees, you are almost to the base of the rock slope. The rocky trail will take you to the summit and the site of a former fire lookout.

Getting there: Travel to Hwy 141 on Hwy 14 (25 miles east of Stevenson, WA). Travel north 20 miles to Trout Lake, take 141 west, then turn right on Trout Lake Creek Rd/ FR 88. Drive 4.5 miles and turn right on FR 8810. Follow FR 8810 for 6.2 miles, then turn right on FR 040. In about .6 mile, there's a small pullout for parking on the right with trailhead on left.

Note: No pass required

Lyle Cherry Orchards

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Difficult**

5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,100 ft

This gem of a hike offers dazzling views of the Columbia River, amazing spring flowers and an oak forest full of gnarled old trees. The trail is midway along the Rowena Gap, where the Columbia River cuts through folded layers of basalts. The result is a spectacular scene of multiple basalt flows shorn into 1,000-foot-high cliffs.

Getting there: From the Hood River Bridge (on the Washington side), drive east on SR 14 for 11 miles to Lyle. Continue on SR 14 through two tunnels, about one mile east of town. Immediately past the second tunnel, pull into the wide gravel area on the left (north) side of the highway.

Note: No pass required

Klickitat Trail/Swale Canyon/ Lyle Trailhead

☞ bird watching ☞ river walk

» **Level: Moderate**

Mileage Varies | Elevation Gain: 365 ft

The Klickitat Trail is a 31-mile non-motorized rail trail along the Klickitat River. The cycling and hiking trail offers river and canyon views and starts in one of the nation's only National Scenic Areas, winding along a nationally designated Wild & Scenic River then finishing by going through a remote, beautiful tributary canyon. There are great birding opportunities, including winter habitat for bald eagles near the Lyle trailhead.

Getting there: Travel 13 miles east on Hwy 14 from Bingen, WA. Go about 13 miles to the Klickitat River Bridge (the entrance to Lyle). Just beyond the bridge turn left (north) on Hwy 142. Immediately turn left at the trailhead entrance.

Note: The 13 mile Swale Canyon is generally closed from July 1 – October 1 each year because of fire danger. It is closed when the Department of Natural Resources rates the fire danger in Klickitat County as "High." This section is between the Wahkiacus trailhead and the Harms. Be aware that there are rattle snakes, ticks and poison oak that can be a hazard to dogs and people alike everywhere along the trail. Dogs are required to be on leash on this trail.

Note: No pass required

CAUTION

BE AWARE THERE ARE RATTLESNAKES, TICKS AND POISON OAK THAT CAN BE A HAZARD TO BOTH DOGS AND PEOPLE ALONG MANY OF THE TRAILS. THERE ARE ALSO CREEK CROSSINGS, SO USE CAUTION ESPECIALLY IN THE SPRING MONTHS.



FERRY SPRINGS HIKE

White River Falls State Park

☞ waterfall ☞ history

» **Level: Easy to moderate**

1 mile round trip | Elevation Gain: none

The White River Falls plunges 90 feet over two tiers at White River Falls State Park. A short steep staircase-like trail takes you to the viewing area. Continue on this trail for an epic view of the falls. At the bottom you will see the abandoned 1901 power plant building. Farther downstream there are flat ledges and beaches for relaxing in the beauty of this secret hideaway.

Getting there: Travel I-84 east to The Dalles, Exit #87. Turn right, then left onto Hwy 197 towards Dufur and Bend. Follow Hwy 197 for 28 miles to MP33 at flashing light, and follow Route 216. Go 4 miles to the park entrance.

Note: No pass required

PACIFIC CREST TRAIL DAY HIKE

Dry Creek Falls

☞ waterfall

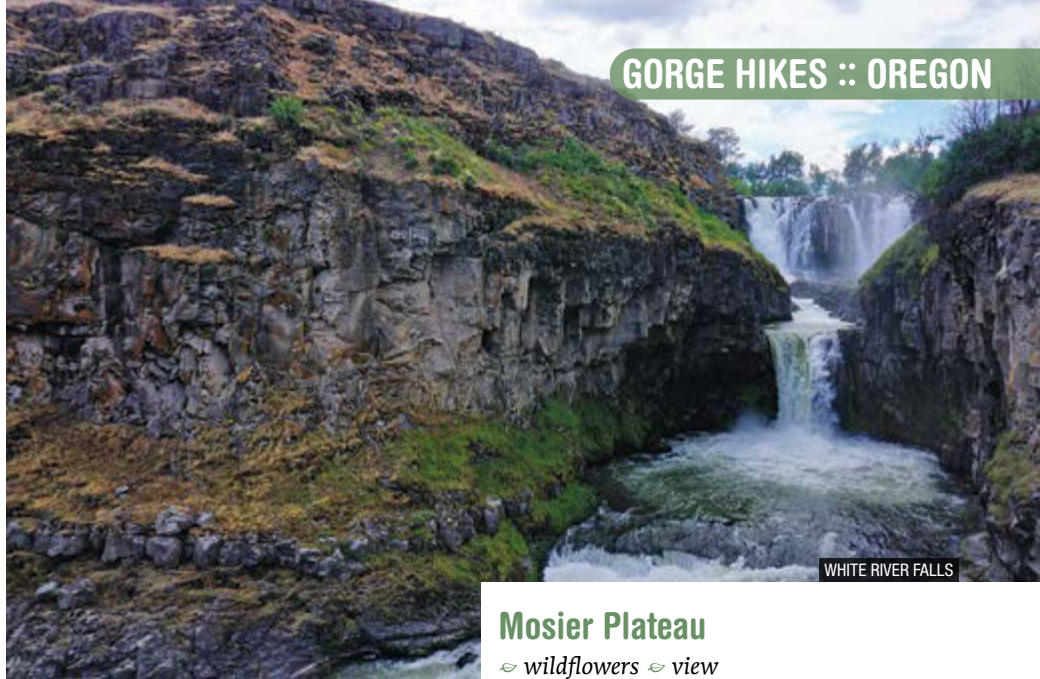
» **Level: Easy to moderate**

4.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 700 ft

Take a tour through lush green forests to the base of 70 foot Dry Creek Falls. This popular out and back starts at the Bridge of the Gods trailhead. From the trailhead, cross the road. At Moody Street, walk uphill to the right. You'll see the signed trail on your left. After a mile or so, you'll come to a powerline access road. Turn right and walk a short distance. Do not cross the bridge, instead turn right toward the falls.

Getting there: Park on the south end of the Bridge of the Gods in Cascade Locks, Oregon at the rest area. The trailhead is located south of the parking area.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking



WHITE RIVER FALLS

Eagle Creek to Tunnel Falls

☞ waterfall

» **Level: More Difficult**

12 miles out and back | Elevation Gain: 1640 ft

This hike travels deep into the Eagle Creek canyon on to a spectacular tunnel carved behind a 172-foot-tall waterfall. The hike to Tunnel Falls is one for the bucket list, but not for young children or dogs because of its narrow passage alongside very high cliffs. This is a challenging hike with beautiful views along the way. The trail is steep and has loose rocks in some sections, so trekking poles and sturdy footwear are recommended.

Getting there: Eastbound I-84: Take exit 41/Eagle Creek. At the end of the ramp, turn right, and drive 0.6 mile along Eagle Creek to the parking area and trailhead at road's end. Park only in designated spaces. If the parking area is full, turn around and park in the large lot near the restroom and fish hatchery. This will add about 1 mile (round trip) to the hike.

Westbound I-84: There is no exit, so take exit 40/Bonneville Dam; turn left to cross over I-84 and then left onto the eastbound ramp to I-84. In 1 mile, take exit 41/Eagle Creek, and follow directions above.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking



Mosier Plateau

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Moderate**

3.5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 600 ft

This trail begins in the town of Mosier and then ends up on Mosier Plateau. The trailhead is actually 1,000 yards east up the road from the parking lot, just over the historic bridge. You'll see a bench just after crossing the bridge and a trail. This is the beginning of the hike. After a series of switchbacks and four sets of stairs, you'll find yourself at the view point, soaking up the outstanding Gorge views. The peak of the wildflowers being mid-to-late April where you will find over 30 different flower species!

Getting there: From I-84, take Exit #69/Mosier. Follow the Historic Columbia River Highway into town. Park at the Mosier totem pole located mid-town on left/north side of road. Park here in the gravel or below the totem pole between Hwy 30 and the railroad tracks.

Note: No pass required

Ferry Springs Hike

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Moderate**

4.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 500 ft

This wildflower hike is best in spring months as the summers are very hot. You will bask in the smell of sagebrush, grassy hillsides and lots of sun. The Ferry Springs Hike climbs up to great views of the Deschutes River as it enters the Columbia River. The first 0.9 miles follows along the Deschutes River, coming to a sign indicating the Ferry Springs Trail. The trail to the springs is a single-track trail for 0.8 miles, then 0.9 miles back down to where it joins the main Deschutes River Trail, and another 1.9 miles back to the trailhead.

Getting there: Take I-84 East, travel 10 miles east of The Dalles to exit #97 for Celilo/Deschutes State Park. Turn left on Frontage Rd. for 3 miles to the State Park. Drive to the very end of the campground for parking and trailhead. Start the hike by crossing a grassy field to sign for Ferry Springs. Take a photo of map at trailhead for assistance.

Note: Oregon State Parks Pass required for parking



Tom McCall Nature Preserve / Rowena Plateau

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Trail across plateau to river viewpoint**
» **Level: Easy**
2.2 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: none

» **Trail to McCall Point** » **Level: More difficult**
4.0 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,100 ft

The Tom McCall Nature Preserve overlooks the Columbia River and provides gorgeous scenery and wildflower viewing. More than 200 plant species live here including grass widows, prairie stars, shooting stars, balsamroot, lupine and Indian paintbrush. Dogs, horses and bicycles are not allowed. Please do not pick the flowers and off trail hiking and camping are also not allowed. And remember to wear long pants if you're taking the upper trail, as it passes through poison oak.

Getting there: From Hood River, drive I-84 east to Mosier/Exit 69 and follow signs for 6.6 miles to the Rowena Crest Viewpoint.

From The Dalles, take Rowena/Exit 76 and follow the old Columbia River Highway west to the viewpoint.

Note: No pass required

HISTORIC HIGHWAY STATE TRAIL Cascade Locks to John Yeon State Park

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to intermediate**
13 miles out and back | Elevation Gain: 1100 ft
Beautiful car-free paved trail with optional stops at Bonneville Dam and Eagle Creek Fish Hatchery. Waterfall hikes at John Yeon State Park.

Getting there: In Cascade Locks, park under the Bridge of the Gods next to the mural. Start on the upper trail near the road. Or take exit 31 off I-84 coming from PDX or exit 35 from Cascade Locks to start the walk at John Yeon State Parking Lot which is located 8 miles west of Cascade Locks.

Note: No pass required

IMPORTANT NOTE: As of press time for the magazine this trail is closed due to a massive landslide, there is a chance it may be closed throughout the summer months. For more information check readyssetgorge.com.

Angels Rest

☞ view

» **Level: Moderate to more difficult**
5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,500 ft

The trail to Angels Rest takes you to the top of the world with a spectacular 270 degree view of the Gorge, including many landmarks like Beacon Rock and Silver Star Mountain. It's somewhat steep going up, so you'll get a workout, but coming down is so much easier and quicker. Keep your dogs on a leash and kids close by on top, the cliffs are huge and steep.

Getting there: From the west, take I-84 east to Exit #28/Bridal Veil. Follow the road to the stop sign and turn right onto the Historic Columbia River Highway. The parking lot is immediately on the right. From the east, take I-84 west to Exit #35/ Ainsworth State Park. Follow the historic Columbia River Highway for 7.1 miles to Angels Rest.

Note: No pass required

Tamanawas Falls

☞ waterfall

» **Level: Easy**
4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 500 ft

Tamanawas Falls is another gorgeous waterfall in the Gorge and great for families. The two mile hike takes you through lush forest along Cold Spring Creek with the destination ending at the 100 foot waterfall. An ideal hike for cooling down on a hot afternoon!

Getting there: Follow Hwy 35 south of Hood River for approximately 22 miles. Look for a parking area a few miles past Cooper Spur turn off just before Sherwood Campground. Follow the path to the footbridge crossing of the East Fork of the Hood River.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Memaloose Hills

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**
3 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 460 ft

The trail begins across the road from the Memaloose Hills Lookout parking area. There are no signs at the beginning of the trail; just a path. Hike through a moderate oak forest and evergreens. Stay right and head to Chatfield Hill where you will switchback to the top for a spectacular wildflower show and views of Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams and the mighty Columbia River. The best time to hike is April and May.

Getting there: Take the Mosier exit off I-84 and head east on Hwy 30 (old Columbia River Highway) to the Memaloose Overlook. Park at the Memaloose Overlook area. Hike begins south of parking area.

Note: No pass required

HISTORIC HIGHWAY STATE TRAIL Mosier Twin Tunnels

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**
9 miles out and back | Elevation Gain: 400 ft

Walk through the Mosier Twin Tunnels on a paved road, which is part of a car-free section of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail. Views on the trail are spectacular, which runs 4.5 miles between Mosier and Hood River, are spectacular in any season.

Getting there: To start in Mosier: Take exit 69 off I-84 and turn left onto Rock Creek Road. Pass under the freeway ramp and stay on Rock Creek Road 0.7 mile to a parking area on the left. To start in Hood River: Follow the road east from Hindustani restaurant in Hood River to the Mark Hatfield West Trailhead parking lot.

Note: Oregon State Park Permit required for parking. Dogs must be on a leash.

HISTORIC HIGHWAY STATE TRAIL Mitchell Point Tunnel

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy**
1.5 miles out and back | Elevation Gain: 500 ft

After 4 years of construction, the 655-foot long tunnel is now open and is available for non-vehicle users to hike and bike on this 1.5 mile segment of the Historic State Trail. The new tunnel includes five arched windows with expansive views of the Columbia River along with a hand placed stone masonry wall on the trail, plaza with picnic tables, break areas, an overlook, and an expanded restroom at the trailhead.

Getting there: The Mitchell Point Tunnel is only accessible from I-84 eastbound Exit 58. There is no access from westbound I-84. From Hood River, use the Exit 56 interchange to turnaround and head east to Exit 58.

Note: No pass required

HISTORIC HIGHWAY STATE TRAIL Viento to Wyeth State Park

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**
12 miles out and back | Elevation Gain: 800 ft

This car-free section on the Historic Highway offers incredible views of the Cascade Mountains and the Columbia River along with three featured waterfalls: Cabin Creek Falls, Hole in the Wall Falls and Starvation Creek Falls. Three miles were added to this trail in 2023, just east of the Viento parking area.

Getting there: To start at Viento parking lot, take I-84 to exit 56, park on the south side of the highway once you enter the park near the trailhead. To start from Wyeth State Park, take exit 51 off I-84. The trailhead is east of the campground.

Note: No pass required at the south parking of Viento Campground or Wyeth State Park. Parking pass is required at North section of Viento.



Umbrella Falls

☞ waterfall ☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Moderate**

4.6 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 820 ft

In July and August, the Umbrella Falls loop offers all of the best that Mt. Hood has to offer with expansive wildflower displays, tumbling waterfalls and huge views of Oregon's tallest mountain. Enter at the trailhead parking area and follow the Elk Meadow Trail, #645, about .25 mile to the Umbrella Falls junction.

Getting there: Travel 30 miles south on Hwy 35 from Hood River. Turn right at the Hood Meadows Nordic Ski Area sign. Drive to the trailhead parking area on the right.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Mt. Hood Meadows

☞ wildflowers ☞ view» **Level: Varies**

Mileage varies | Elevation Gain: Varies

Mt Hood Meadows offers several miles of hiking trails that are perfect for families to experienced hikers. Along the trail you will discover waterfalls, creeks and wildflowers along with great views of Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson and the Three Sisters. There is a fee for those wanting to ride the chairlift for higher elevation hikes or you can start your hike from the lodge. Have fun exploring your favorite ski runs in the summertime!

Getting there: From Portland - Take Hwy 26 east to Government Camp, then north on Hwy 35 for 10 miles to Mt. Hood Meadows. From Hood River - Take Hwy 35 for 35 miles south to the Mt. Hood Meadows entrance.

Note: No parking permit required after ski season end (mid-May)



Little Zigzag Falls

☞ waterfall

» **Level: Easy**

1.5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 50 ft

This trail follows Little Zigzag Creek to Little Zigzag Falls. This trail is inviting on warm summer days as it stays cool in this small canyon. This is a very kid-friendly trail. It's a gentle uphill trail located in a narrow canyon next to the Little Zigzag River.

Getting there: From Rhododendron, take Hwy 26 east for 5 miles. Then turn left onto Forest Road 2639 (Kiwanis Camp Road) and continue to the end of the road to a large parking area.

Note: No pass required

Mirror Lake

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**

2.9 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 780 ft

This beautiful hike takes you to Mirror Lake and offers fantastic views of Mt. Hood. There is a 3 mile loop that takes you around the lake. The Mirror Lake trail is one of the few hikes accessible directly from Hwy 26, and thus is very busy on weekends. The best time to hike Mirror Lake is mid-week and early mornings to avoid crowds in order to have a good hiking experience.

Getting there: From Rhododendron, take Hwy 26 east for 8 miles. Turn right (south) into the Skibowl West/Mirror Lake Trailhead parking area.

Parking: Parking is no longer available off of Hwy 26, but only in the new parking plaza area that was finished in the fall of 2018 located immediately adjacent to Skibowl west along Hwy 26 near Government Camp. The trailhead is located behind the toilet facility.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Tom Dick and Harry Mountain

☞ wildflowers ☞ view

» **Level: Difficult**

6.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,600 ft

Just before Mirror Lake, you intersect the trail for Tom Dick and Harry. Keep to the right and you will pass by the north side of the lake. The trail to the top of Tom Dick and Harry Mountain climbs gently over the next mile with amazing views of Mt. Hood. The final climb is a bit rocky. Wildflowers are blooming in summer months.

Getting there: Follow Mirror Lake's directions and parking instructions.

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Timberline Trail

☞ view

» **Level: Easy to advanced**

Optional miles | Elevation Gain: varies

Timberline Trail, which takes off from Timberline Lodge, circles all around the mountain requiring multi-days to complete the entire route. There are options for day hikes as far as you like from either direction at Timberline Lodge. This particular hike travels what is known both as the Timberline Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail. Timberline Lodge has easy-going hiking trails accessible around the lodge for overnight guests and day visitors to enjoy throughout the summer. For a slightly more challenging hike, you can walk a mile up Mt. Hood and enjoy the views from Silcox Hut and the Palmer chair lift.

Getting there: Drive south on Hwy 35 from Hood River for 38 miles. Merge onto Hwy 26/ Mt. Hood Hwy via ramp to Portland 2.4 miles. Turn right on Timberline Road, travel 6 miles to Timberline Lodge for parking.

Note: No pass required



LATOURELL FALLS

NEW PERMIT INFORMATION 2026: Multnomah Falls requires a permit to park at Exit 31 and visit during the peak season. A timed use permit will be required for each vehicle accessing Multnomah Falls from Exit 31. The Gateway to the Gorge Visitor Center in Troutdale and the Cascade Locks Historical Museum each have 25 free in-person permits available daily on a first come, first served basis. Permits are also available online for a \$2 transaction fee per vehicle. For more information see [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and [readyssetgorge.com](https://www.readyssetgorge.com). **NEW:** IF parking at the lot across from the lodge on the historic highway, there is a fee year-round. **For fee schedule:** [sasquatchshuttle.com/sasquatch-parking-lots](https://www.sasquatchshuttle.com/sasquatch-parking-lots). WE ENCOURAGE USING A TOUR BUS TO AVOID PARKING HASSLES. For a list of shuttles and guided tours, see page 53.

Lower and Upper Latourell Falls

↻ *waterfall* ↻ *view*

» **Level: Moderate**

1.6 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 500 ft

Lower Latourell Falls is a unique Columbia Gorge waterfall due to the fact it drops straight down from an overhanging basalt cliff. From the Latourell Falls parking lot, follow the paved path to the upper viewpoint, then pick up the path as it reverts to dirt and climbs to the upper falls in a little over .75 mile. The trail loops back to the highway on the opposite side of the creek. You can walk back to your car on the highway or cross the highway down the steps to Guy Talbot State Park and take the paved trail east of the picnic area to the lower part of the lower falls leading you back to your car.

Getting there: From the west, take I-84 to exit 28, turn west for 3 miles to trailhead. From the east, take exit 35 and travel 10 miles to the trailhead. To feel the mist from the base of the falls make sure to walk down the short path to the right of the parking lot.

Note: No pass required

Multnomah Falls · Wahkeena Falls Loop Trail

↻ *waterfall* ↻ *view*

» **Level: More difficult**

5 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 1,500 ft

This is a waterfall lover's dream! There are eight waterfalls on this trip including well known Fairy Falls and Wahkeena Falls. Although Multnomah Falls is the Gorge's signature icon and the most visited attraction in Oregon, don't let this hike scare you away. Once you reach the top of Multnomah Falls the crowds will fizzle and this hike is well worth it. The hike is steep at times and is paved near Wahkeena and Multnomah Falls.

Getting there: Traveling on I-84, take Exit 28 or Exit 35 for the Historic Highway and drive to start the hike either at Wahkeena Falls or Multnomah Falls.

Note: Pass required for parking / *See note above



MULTNOMAH FALLS

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Wahkeena Falls · Fairy Falls

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Moderate**

2 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 800 ft

The trail starts at a wooden bridge over Wahkeena Creek. Make sure you take the trail to your right. It is a short hike to the falls and you can enjoy the cool spray on the trail here year-round.

From here, the trail starts up a pretty steep section, climbing about 600 feet in about half a mile. Follow the pavement out to the point, called Lemmon's Viewpoint. The trail switches back before you reach Fairy Falls.

Getting there: Traveling on I-84, take Exit 28 or Exit 35 to the Historic Highway. Travel .5 miles west from Multnomah Falls to Wahkeena Falls parking area.

Note: No pass required

Bridal Veil Falls

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Easy**

1.4 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 205 ft

A short hike takes you to a majestic waterfall and then to clifftop overlooks offering views up and down the Columbia River Gorge. Bridal Veil State Park offers a nice parking area, picnic tables, restrooms and nice grassy areas for relaxing.

Getting there: From the west, take I-84 to Exit #28/Bridal Veil. Turn south onto the Historic Columbia River Highway and drive 0.75 miles to Bridal Veil Falls State Park on the left/north side of the road. Coming from the east on I-84, take exit 35 (Ainsworth Park) and drive 8.3 miles west on the Historic Highway to reach Bridal Veil Falls State Park.

Note: No pass required

Wahclella Falls

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Easy**

**2 miles round trip
Elevation Gain: 440 ft**

Wahclella Falls is a 350-foot two tiered plunge, with the final 60-foot section providing a horsetail fall into an enormous splash pool.

The easy, well graded trail climbs moderately along Tanner Creek for 0.9 mile, splitting into a loop about three quarters of the way and ending at the base of the falls.

Getting there: Take Exit 40 off I-84 for Bonneville Dam. Head south to the trailhead called Tanner Creek Trail (Wahclella Falls).

Note: NW Forest Pass required for parking

Upper Horsetail Falls

☞ waterfall ☞ view

» **Level: Easy to moderate**

1.6 miles round trip | Elevation Gain: 440 ft

Begin at the base of beautiful Horsetail Falls on the Historic Highway. A nice trail takes you to the upper falls, which flows over a cavern for relaxing and taking in the view.

Getting there: Travel west on I-84 to Exit 35 for Ainsworth State Park to the old scenic highway. Parking lot is on your right at the base of Horsetail Falls.

Note: No pass required



HORSETAIL FALLS



BRIDAL VEIL FALLS



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