

Smith Rock became world famous in the mid-1980s as a rock climbing destination, and offers routes for beginning to expert climbers. Climbing is very technical and dangerous, and proper instruction is critical. Several guide services operate in the park. Guidebooks with information about climbing can be purchased at local shops.

Rock climbers enjoy their sport year round, but the busiest seasons are spring and fall. Routes are found throughout the park, but the main concentration is ¼ mile downstream from the footbridge. If you make it over to Monkey Face, you might see people climbing the easiest route on the south face, which was first climbed in 1960. Or, you might see someone on Just Do It on the east face: Smith's hardest route, first climbed in 1992. It is also the first 5.14c. rated route in America.

Bivouac Area

A walk-in bivouac area serves visitors who want to stay overnight. Park your vehicles in the bivouac parking area and hike 200 yards west to the tent campsites. RV camping, sleeping in vehicles, and open fires are strictly prohibited.

Geologic Wonderland

The dramatic appearance of the park area is a testament to the cumulative force of vulcanism and the erosive power of running water. Millions of years ago, this area was a center of volcanic activity. After a period of localized eruptions, lava flows entered the canyon and crowded the ancestral river into the flanks of the main volcanic structure. Forced to establish a new channel, the Crooked River eventually eroded the interior of the volcanic vent. The wondrous and multicolored formations are composed of rock known as "welded tuff"—volcanic ash erupted under conditions of extreme heat and pressure.

Trail Network

Several miles of developed trails access the top of Misery Ridge and parallel the popular rock climbing areas of the Christian Brothers, the Dihedrals, and Morning Glory Wall. Asterisk Pass is a "rock scramble."

Please stay on established trails to minimize the effects of foot traffic on delicate soil structure and native vegetation. Sloped areas in the park are especially sensitive to damage. In this region of scarce rainfall, it takes many years for nature to heal damaged or disturbed areas.

Wildlife Viewing

Wildlife is abundant, particularly deer and small mammals. Birds cavort on the rocks and use ledges and overhangs for their homes. Geese nest along the river in the spring. Watch for warning signs about nests inhabited by birds of prey. Please stay away from these areas to avoid disturbing the adults and their young.

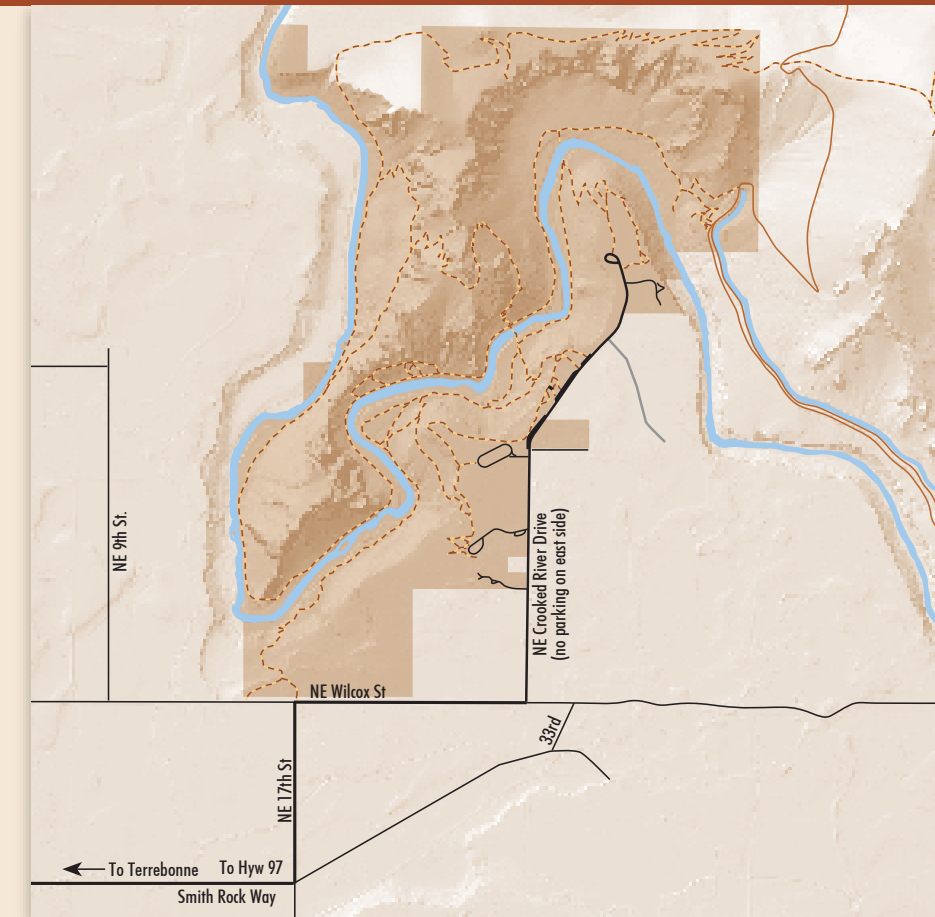
Be alert for rattlesnakes, especially on warm sunny days.

A Fun Place to Learn

Regular interpretive presentations and special events help adults and youngsters learn about the park's rich natural history. In September and October, the park is a prime setting for Oregon Archaeology Celebration activities.

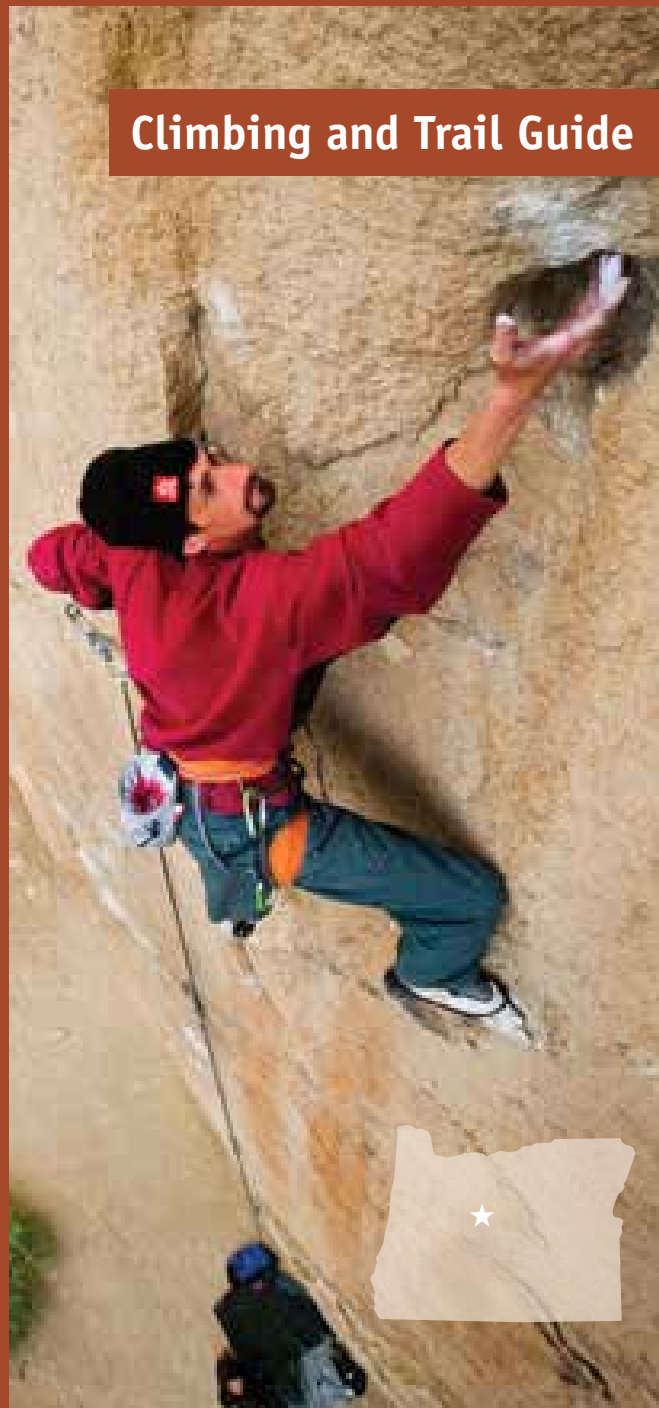
Day-Use Area Fees

Day-use parking permits are required year-round. You may purchase a daily permit from a yellow vending machine near the park entrance. Twelve-month and 24-month permits are sold by Smith Rock park hosts, at major state park offices and by selected area merchants. Your camping receipt also is accepted as a daily permit for the days you are registered.



Smith Rock State Park

Climbing and Trail Guide



Smith Rock State Park protects a sanctuary of majestic rock spires that rise above the winding Crooked River in central Oregon's high desert. It is an internationally renowned destination for rock climbing.



Located off US 97, 9 miles NE of Redmond
9241 NE Crooked River Dr., Terrebonne OR 97760
541-548-7501

Latitude: 44.365891 N
Longitude: 121.137377 W

COVER: Ian Caldwell on Big R (5.14a) on Picnic Lunch Wall
PHOTO: TYLER ROEMER



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
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Check out other Oregon State Parks by visiting
www.oregonstateparks.org



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