

The Historic Columbia River Highway was constructed between 1913 and 1922 and is the first scenic highway in the country. It is now recognized as an All-American Road, National Scenic Byway, National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, and a National Historic Landmark.

Traffic volumes are moderate:

however, many trucks use this route.

Interstate 84 is built to freeway

standards. It is basically flat and has

a wide, eight to ten foot paved

shoulder, except at most bridge

locations. The Toothrock Tunnel is

located at approximately milepost 41

eastbound; bicyclists should avoid

this tunnel by using the adjacent HCRH

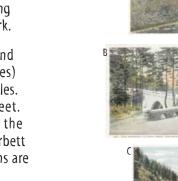
State Trail, accessed at exit 40; volumes

are high, with large numbers of trucks.

Approach to Mitchell's Point

On certain sections (between Troutdale and Dodson and between Mosier and The Dalles) bicyclists share the roadway with motor vehicles. Shoulder widths vary from zero to five feet. Traffic volumes are generally light, with the heaviest traffic along the Sandy River to Corbett section. Grades are moderate. Other portions are closed to motor vehicles.

This route takes you to six waterfalls, including Multhomah Falls, the most visited natural site in Oregon. It also takes you to magnificent viewpoints overlooking the Gorge, including Portland Women's Forum Scenic Viewpoint, Vista House at Crown Point and Rowena Crest. The majority of visitors begin at the city of Troutdale and travel east on the HCRH. Follow the keystone signs along the HCRH.



A: Cascade Locks B: East approach to Eagle Creek C: East of Multnomah Falls D: Cape Horn E: Multnomah Falls F: Benson Bridge, Multnomah Falls



Three sections of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail are now open, with additional sections under construction. This is a separated, multi-use trail. Bicyclists traveling eastbound on I-84 are encouraged to exit at exit 40 and use the trail between Tanner Creek and Eagle Creek, to avoid the narrow Toothrock Tunnel on I-84. A stairway located at Eagle Creek provides a groove to facilitate pushing your bike up or down. A second section of the State Trail is open between Eagle Creek and Cascade Locks. This leads you directly into the city of Cascade Locks, where you can follow the original HCRH alignment along Wa-Na-Pa Street and Forest Lane (pq. 9). A third section, between Hood River and Mosier, includes the Mosier Twin Tunnels.





G: Interstate Bridge, Hood River H: Fish wheels near Beacon Rock I: Vista House at Crown Point



St. Johns Bridge

PORTLAND TROUTDALE

(These sections

open to motor

vehicle traffic)

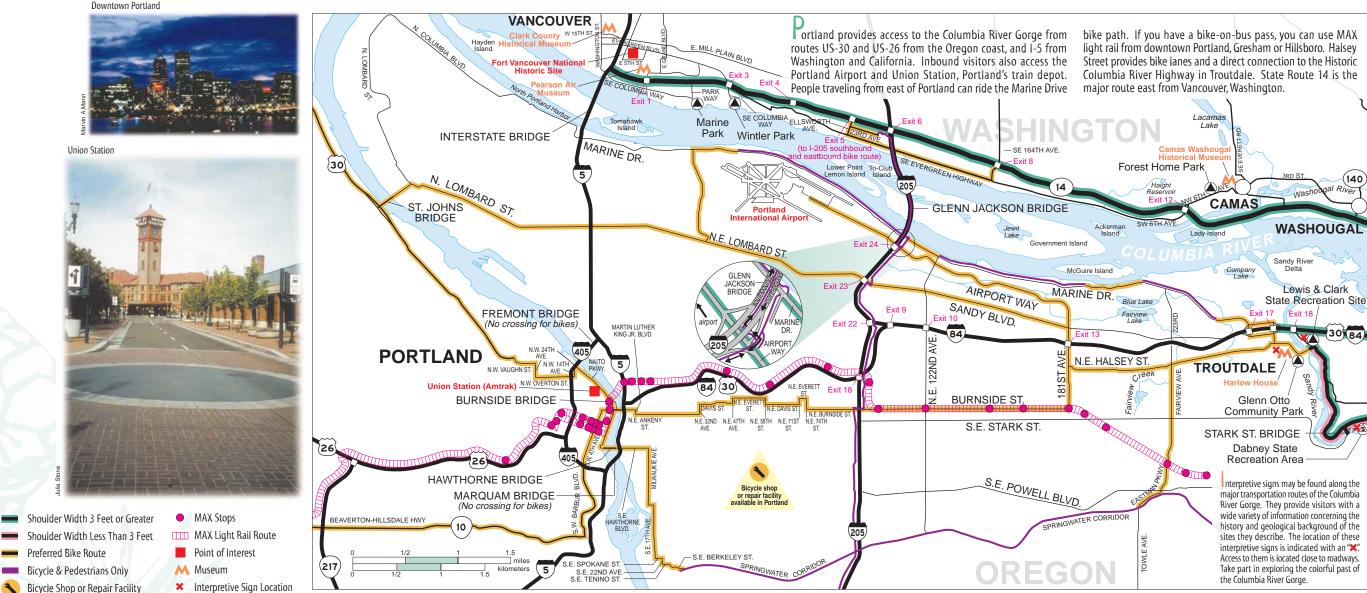
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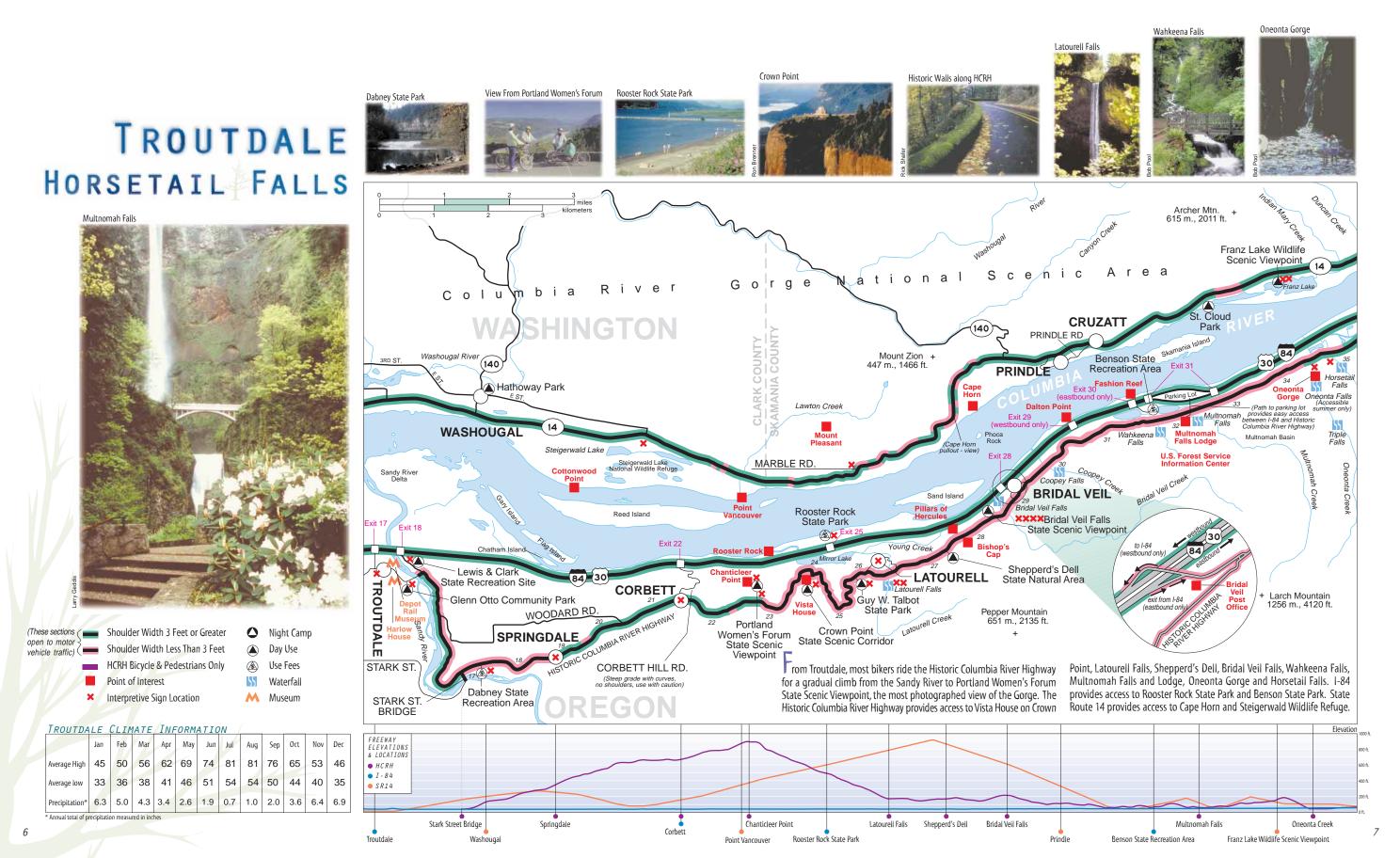


Portland Convention Center

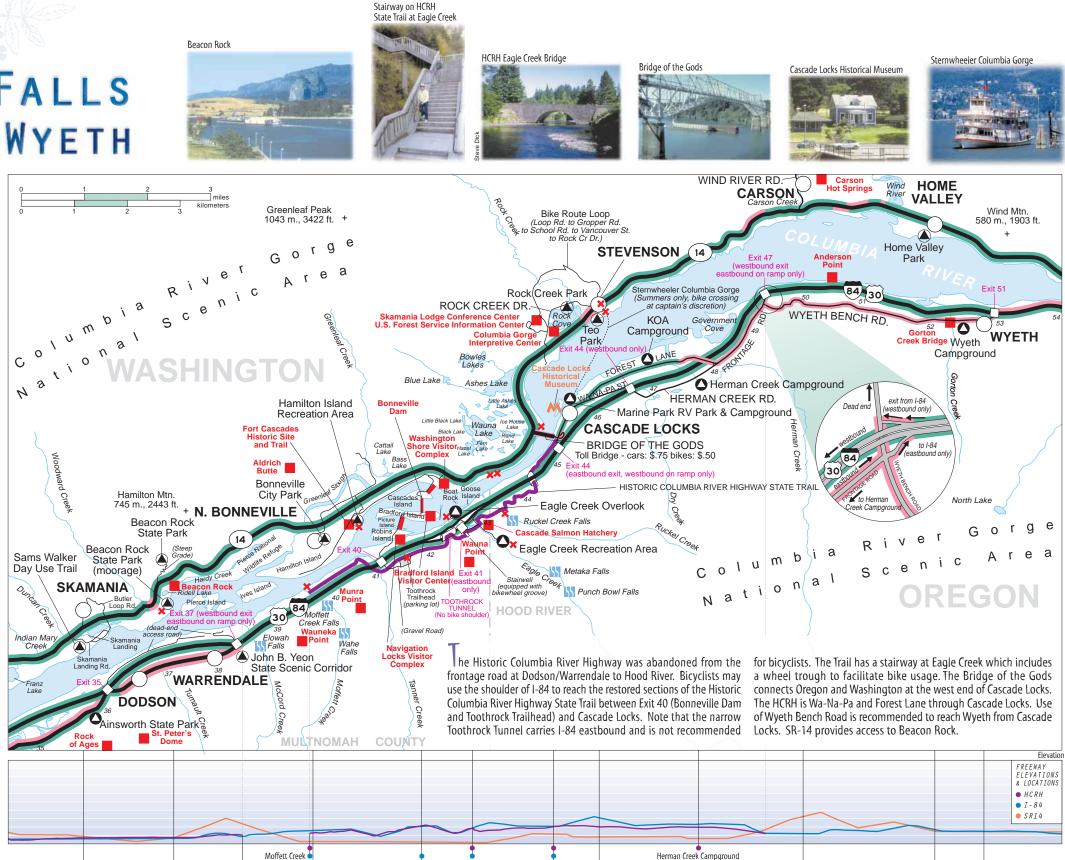


Rose Garden and Mt. Hood





HORSETAIL FALLS WYETH



Eagle Creek

Bridge of the Gods Stevenson

Carson

Home Valley

Wyeth

Bonneville Dam

Mt. Hood and Hood River Valley

Bonneville Dam

(These sections (Shoulder Width 3 Feet or Greater Night Camp open to motor Shoulder Width Less Than 3 Feet Day Use

Skamania

Beacon Rock John B. Yeon St. Scenic Corr. N. Bonneville

 vehicle traffic)
 Shoulder Width Less Than 3 Feet
 Day Use

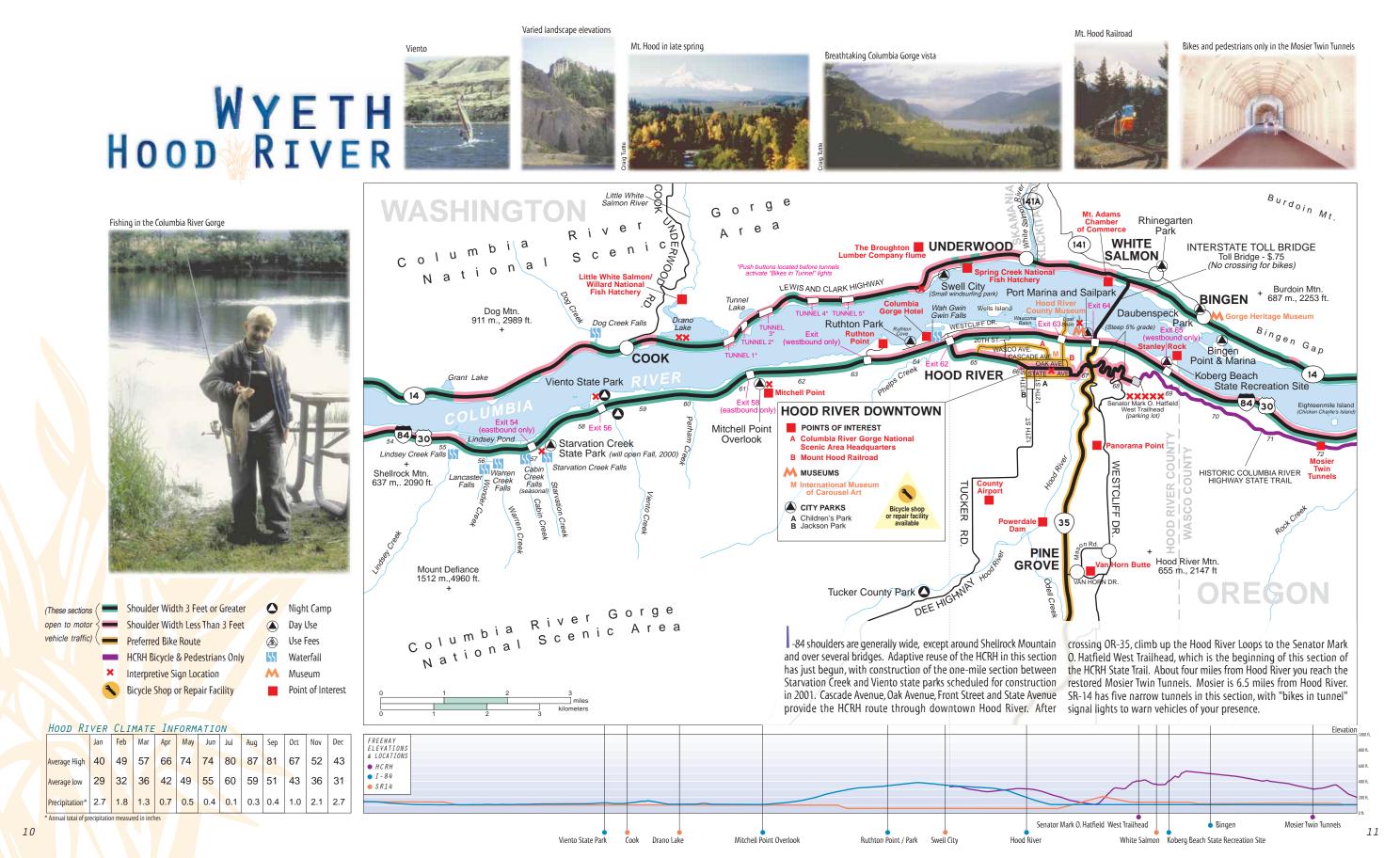
 HCRH Bicycle & Pedestrians Only
 Subscript Use Fees

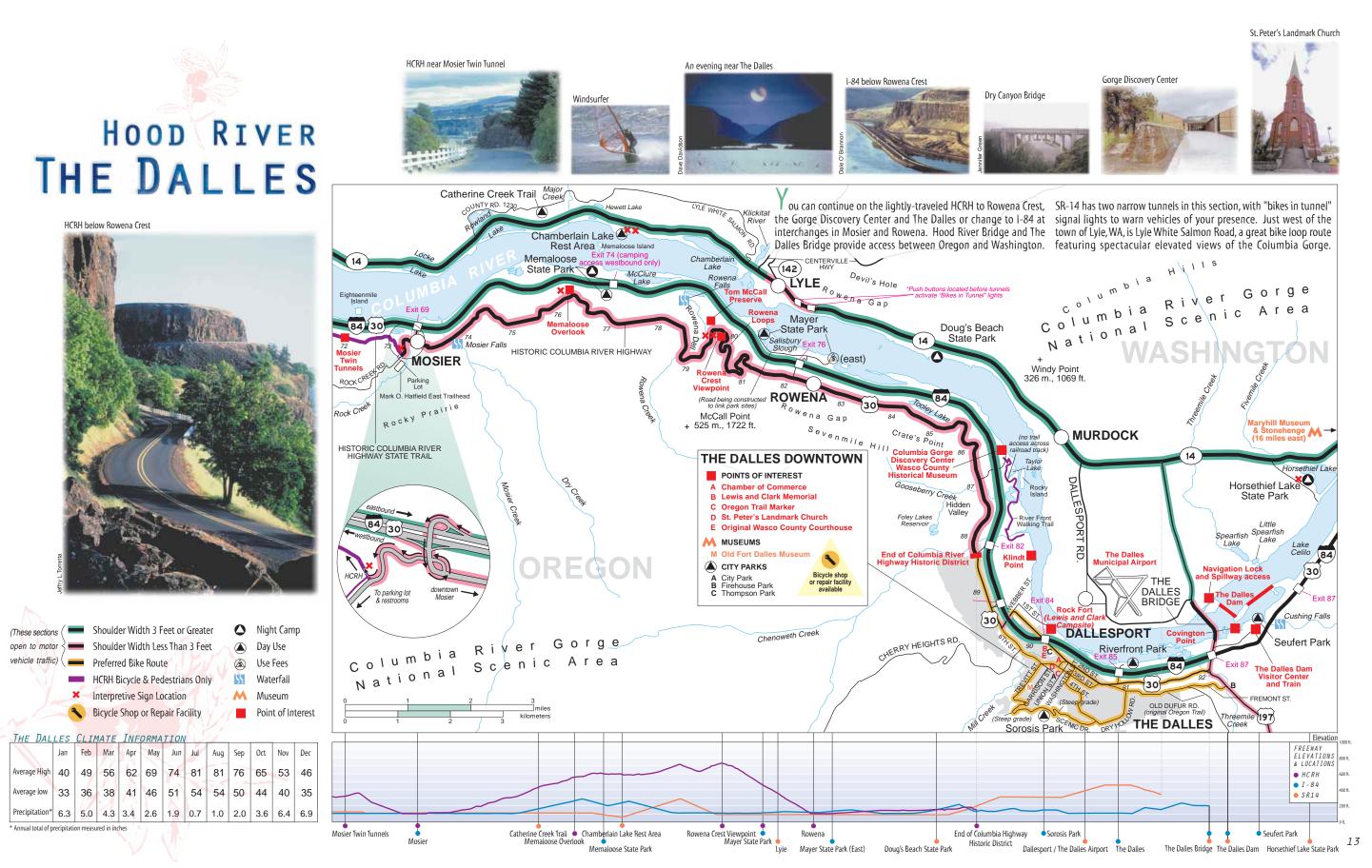
 Interpretive Sign Location
 Iss

 Point of Interest
 Museum

8

9





TIPS FOR A SAFE RIDE

Please: ride carefully, be courteous of other roadway users, and follow the rules of the road. Ride with the normal traffic flow, as far to the right side of the roadway as practicable. Bicyclists may ride two abreast, but should only do so when it is safe and will not impede traffic.

When riding after dark, the bicycle or its rider must be equipped with a white light visible at least 500 feet to the front and a red light or reflector visible at least 600 feet to the rear.

Wear bright or light-colored clothing. Wear a helmet. Stop off the roadway. Beware of strong wind gusts. The seven tunnels on Washington's State Route 14 have "Bicycles in Tunnel" warning lights installed for your protection.

BRING ALONG ITEMS

• Helmet• Water• Sunscreen• Camera/extra film• Tire Repair Kit• Food/Energy Bars• Insect Repellant• Binoculars/Compass• Map• Extra Clothing• First Aid Kit• Flashlight/batteries• Sunglasses• Backpack• Pocket Knife• Whistle/bell

LODGING

The Portland metropolitan area has many: hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts as well as two hostels (Northwest International Portland Hostel, 1818 NW Glisan Street and Portland International Hostel, 3031 SE Hawthorne Blvd). Motels are located in Oregon at Cascade Locks, Hood River and The Dalles, and in Washington at Skamania, Stevenson and Carson. Several of the original road houses along the HCRH are now bed and breakfasts, including Bridal Veil and Forrest Hall. Camping is available in Oregon at Ainsworth, Viento and Memaloose state parks; Eagle Creek, Herman Creek and Wyeth Forest Service facilities; Corbett RV Park and Cascade Locks KOA; in Washington: Beacon Rock and Horsethief Lake state parks. For information on campgrounds, contact Reservations Northwest at (800) 452-5687.

WEATHER

Weather in the Columbia Gorge varies tremendously from west to east. Rain is most prevalent at the crest of the Cascade Mountains, just west of Cascade Locks. Ice and snow are common throughout the Gorge in January and February, occasionally resulting in road closures. Spring rains are common. Summer temperatures east of the Cascades often reach over 100 °F (38 °C). Be sure to carry sufficient water - public drinking fountains are scarce, particularly in the east. During the fall, wet leaves on HCRH pavement can present slippery travel conditions. The Columbia River Gorge

RESOURCES & REFERENCES

- Mountain Biking Opportunities in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
 902 Wasco Ave., Suite 200 Hood River, OR 97031
- (541) 386-2333 www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia
- The Oregon Bicycling Guide, Oregon Department of Transportation (free)
- The Official State Map of Oregon, Oregon Department of Transportation (free)
- Historic Columbia River Highway, Oregon Department of Transportation (free) (503) 986-3200 www.odot.state.or.us
- Historic Columbia River Highway web site www.odot.state.or.us/hcrh
- Washington State Hwy Map, Washington State Department of Transportation (free) (360) 705-7075 • www.wsdot.wa.gov/
- Oregon State Parks Guide, Oregon Parks and Recreation (\$1 plus \$1 shipping)
- Columbia River Gorge State Parks, Oregon Parks and Recreation (free) (800) 551-6949 • www.prd.state.or.us
- Mt Hood/Columbia River Gorge Travel Guide, Mt Hood Infomation Center (free) (503) 622-4822 • www.mthood.org

concentrates prevailing winds which blow east in the winter and west in the summer. While these winds help make the Gorge the windsurfing capital of the world, bicyclists should check weather forecasts and try to avoid the most windy periods.

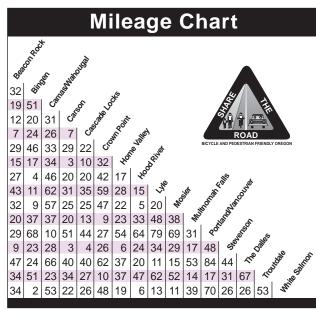
WIND INFORMATION AT CROWN POINT

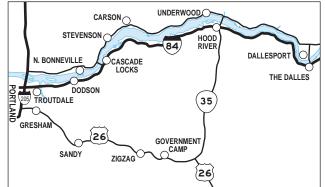
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	0ct	Nov	Dec	
Wind Direction	NE	NE	SW	NE	NE								

MUSEUMS ALONG THE GORGE

- Harlow House and Rail Depot 726 E Historic Columbia River Hwy, Troutdale (503) 661-2164. 1900 farm house with local artifacts. Hours: June–Sept, Wed–Sat 10am–4pm; Sun 1pm–4pm. Winter, Sat–Sun 10am to 4pm, Sun 1pm–4 pm.
- Cascade Locks Historical Museum Port Marine Park, Cascade Locks (541) 374-8535. Exhibits of the western Columbia Gorge with special focus on historic paddleboats. Hours: May–Sept, Mon–Thurs noon to 5pm; Fri–Sun 10am–5pm. Closed Oct–Apr.
- Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center 990 SW Rock Creek Dr., Stevenson (509) 427-8211/(800) 991-2338. Excellant new cultural & natural history interpretive center. Hours: Open daily 10am–5pm. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.
- Hood River County Museum Port Marina Park, Hood River (541) 386-6772. Wide-ranging collection of pioneer tools and artifacts from the early history of this region. Hours: Apr 1–Oct. 31, Mon–Sat, 10am to 4pm; Sun, 12pm–4pm.
- Gorge Heritage Museum 202 E Humbolt, Bingen (509) 493-3228/ (509) 493-3573. Museum of local west Klickitat county history. Hours: May–Sept, Thurs–Sun, 11am–4:30pm.
- Fort Dalles Historical Museum 15th and Garrison, The Dalles (541) 296-4547. Military displays and artifacts from US Army garrison based in The Dalles in the 1860s. Hours: May–Sept, daily 10am–5pm.
- Columbia Gorge Discovery Center/Wasco County Historical Museum Just west of The Dalles on Historic Columbia River Hwy (541) 296-8600. Wonderful new interpretive center, museum complex and living history presentations. Open daily except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.
- Original Wasco County Courthouse 409 W 2nd Place, The Dalles (541) 296-4798. This wood-frame, two-story building once was the seat of government for the largest county in the United States. Hours: Tues–Sat 11am–4pm.
- Maryhill Museum 16 miles east of The Dalles on Hwy 14 (509) 773-3733. Art collections, Rodin sculptures, Native American basketry and much more. Hours: Mar 15–Nov 15, 9am-5pm.
- Oregon Campground Guide/ Forest Service Publication (free)
- Oregon Tourism Commission (800) 547-7842 www.traveloregon.com
- "Traveler's guide to the Historic Columbia River Hwy" (\$7.95 includes shipping) M+A tour books (make out check to "Manske & Associates") 3951 SE El Camino Dr., Gresham, Oregon 97080
- "Blke There!" (Portland Area Bike Map) (\$6 plus \$1.00 S/H) Metropolitan Service District, Transportation Dept., NE Grand Ave., Portland OR 97232 www.metro-region.org/drc
- "Oregon Routes of Exploration," Historic Preservation League of Oregon (\$3.35 includes shipping) (503) 243-1923
- The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, USDA Forest Service (free)
- Trails of the Columbia River Gorge, Bridal Veil to Viento State Park (\$5) Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Waucoma Center (541) 386-2333
- Romance of Waterfalls by Barbara L Bloom & Gary W Cohen Outdoor Romance Publishing, Portland, OR 1998
- Gorge Guide, Gorge Publishing Association (free at visitors centers) or (\$4.95 includes shipping) Gorge Publishing Inc. (541) 386-7440

	Index to Parks, Waysides and Campsites along the Gorge	Water	Restrooms	Showers	Viewpoints	Swimming	Hiking Trails	Camping	Picnicking	Phone
ş	Ainsworth State Park	•	٠	٠			٠	٠	٠	
ar	Benson State Recreation Area	•	٠			•			٠	
Ē	Bridal Veil Falls State Scenic Viewpoint	•	٠		٠		٠		٠	
Oregon Parks	Children's Park, Hood River	•	٠							
Jre	City Park, The Dalles	•	•						٠	
0	Crown Point State Scenic Corridor				•					•
	Dabney State Recreation Area	•	•				٠		٠	
	Eagle Creek Campground	•	٠		•		•	•	٠	•
	Eagle Creek Overlook	•	٠		٠		٠	٠	٠	
	Glenn Otto Community Park, Troutdale	•	٠							•
	Guy W. Talbot State Park	•	٠		٠		٠		٠	
	Herman Creek Campground	•	•				•	•	•	
	Jackson Park, Hood River	•	•						•	
	John B. Yeon State Scenic Corridor				•		•			
	KOA Campground, Cascade Locks	•	•	٠		•	•	٠		
	Koberg Beach State Recreation Site	•	•			•			٠	
	Lewis & Clark State Recreation Site	•	٠				•		•	
	Marine Park, RV/Campground, Cascade Locks	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
	Mayer State Park	•	•		•	•	•		•	•
	Memaloose State Park	•	•	•				•	•	•
	Mitchell Point Overlook		•		•		•		•	
	Multnomah Falls and Lodge	•	•		•		•			•
	Panorama Point County Park, Hood River	•	•		•				•	
	Port Marina & Sailpark, Hood River	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
	Portland Women's Forum State Scenic Viewpoint	•			•					
	Riverfront Park, The Dalles		•		•					
	Rooster Rock State Park	•	•		•	•	•		•	•
	Seufert Park, The Dalles	•	•				-			-
	Sheppard's Dell State Natural Area	•	•		•		•		•	
	Sorosis Park, The Dalles	•	•		•		•		•	
	Starvation Creek State Park	•	•		•		•		•	_
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	Tucker County Park, south of Hood River	•	•	•		•		•	•	
	Viento State Park	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
	Wyeth Campground				٠			_		
sy	Beacon Rock State Park	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•
Par	Bingen Point & Marina, Bingen	•	•			•			٠	
ington Parks	Bonneville City Park, N. Bonneville	•	•				•		•	
gtc	Catherine Creek Trail		٠		•		•			
	Chamberlain Lake Rest Area	•	•		•		•		•	
Wash	Daubenspeck Park, Bingen	•	٠						٠	
Ň	Doug's Beach State Park		٠		٠	•				
	Forest Home Park, Camas								٠	
	Franz Lake Wildlife Scenic Viewpoint				٠					
	Hamilton Island Recreation Area		٠				٠		٠	
	Hathoway Park, Washougal		٠	٠						
	Home Valley Park, Home Valley	•	٠	٠	٠	•	•	•	٠	
	Horsethief Lake State Park	•	٠		٠	•	•	٠	٠	
	Marine Park, Vancouver	•	٠		٠		٠		٠	
	Rhinegarten Park, White Salmon	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•
	Rock Creek Park, Stevenson	•	•	٠	٠	•				٠
	Sams-Walker Day Use Area		٠		•	•	•		•	
	St. Cloud Park		•		٠	•	•		٠	
	Swell City		•		•	•			•	•
	Teo Park, Stevenson	•	•		٠	•		٠	٠	
	Wintler Park, Vancouver	•	•		•	•	•		٠	





BICYCLE LOOP ROUTES

Several loop routes are possible. Portland residents often use the western section of the HCRH as a half-day training ride, beginning and ending in Troutdale. Some travel both directions on the HCRH, while others begin on the HCRH and return on I-84. A day ride could incorporate the western section of the HCRH, I-84 from Dodson to Cascade Locks, travel over the Bridge of the Gods to SR-14 for the return trip to the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area via the I-205 bikepath over the Glen Jackson Bridge. Loops are also possible on the eastern sections. (The Dalles to Mosier or Hood River and return; Cascade Locks to The Dalles Bridge to Dallesport to Skamania and the Bridge of the Gods).



For Oregon highway and weather conditions phone: 800-977-6368 or 541-889-3999 www.odot.state.or.us/travel

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