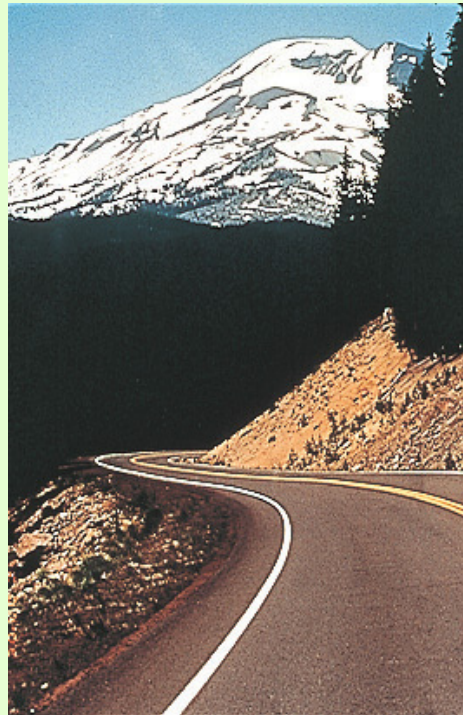


Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway

This byway cuts a path through the mountains, lakes, and forests of central Oregon. Volcanism and glaciation formed more than 150 lakes for which the region is well known. See outstanding examples of lava flows, alpine lakes, and meadows. Cross paths taken by such historic figures as Kit Carson.



Length: 66 miles / 105.6 km

Time to Allow: Take three to five hours to visit this byway.

Local Information

Bend Visitor and Convention Bureau
800-949-6086

Visitor Services

Fees



There are fees associated with parking for more than a few hours near trailhead markers. Also, permits are required.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities



This byway is popular with bicyclists. The more heavily traveled section of the byway from Bend to Mt. Bachelor accommodates bicycles with generous six- to eight-foot paved shoulders, good sight distances, and good maintenance. Although narrower, the remaining portions of the byway are also suited for bicycle travel. Pavement conditions are fair to excellent, traffic is lighter, and speeds are slower. The byway is not suitable for regular pedestrian travel, but the hiking is great. You need to get a permit for your car if you're going to park close to a trailhead for more than a few hours while you're

hiking. Permits can be purchased at most outdoor shops, the Bend Chamber of Commerce, and the National Forest Service.

Camping



For information on camping and hiking trails, please call the Bend Fort Ranger District at 541-388-5664. To reserve a campground, visit [Recreation.gov](http://www.reserveusa.com/jsp/commonpage.jsp?goto=/nrns/or/cpgc/newindex.html)

Food



Bend offers places to buy food and supplies at the start of the byway.

Gasoline



Before starting on your trip, stop in Bend to fill up your gas or propane tanks.

Information



For additional information on services, contact the Visitor and Convention Bureau, Bend Chamber of Commerce at 800-905-2363. There is also information available at the Central Oregon Welcome Center on US 97.

Retail



You may buy supplies or other souvenirs of your trip at one of the many stores in Bend.

Special Considerations

Due to heavy snowfall, the route is closed past the entrance to the Mt. Bachelor parking lot from mid-November until late May each year.

The Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway is a paved, two-lane highway that meets Federal Highway Standards for mountainous conditions. It can accommodate ordinary passenger vehicles at speeds up to 55 mph. Pavement is in good to excellent condition over nearly the entire route.

Restrictions

The first 17 miles of the byway from just outside Bend to Mt. Bachelor are open year-round. The last four miles north of Highway 58 are also open year-round. The remaining 48 miles from Mt. Bachelor to the Cutoff are closed in the winter due to snow.

Seasons

Best Time to Drive

Ideally, plan to drive the byway from June through October. The first 17 miles of the byway from just outside Bend to Mt. Bachelor are open year-round. Closure is weather-dependent but usually occurs in November. The road usually re-opens by Memorial Day.

High Season

The byway has a high volume of visitors from June through October.

Map and Directions



Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

Driving Directions

- From Bend, take Cascade Lakes Highway, also known as Co Hwy 46 west.

- The byway travels through the Deschutes National Forest, turning south near Devil's Lake and continuing on past several other lakes, some of which are Sparks Lake, the Lava Lakes, the Cultus Lakes, Crane Prairie Reservoir, Wickiup Reservoir, and Davis Lake.
- The byway ends at the junction of Co Hwy 46 and SR 58 (near Crescent and Odell Lakes.)

Getting to the Byway



Nearby cities

Portland, OR (178 miles / 286.46 km, 3 hours 35 minutes)

- Start:** ● Junction of I-5 & I-405 Portland, OR
N 45.504° W 122.675° [?]
- Take I-5 south to Salem.
 - Get on OR-22 and go southeast to Bend.
 - Take US-97 south to NW Colorado Ave.
- Directions:**
- Follow NW Colorado Ave. southwest to Century Dr.
 - Continue on Century Dr. southwest out of the city limit where the byway begins.
- Junction with byway:** * Intersection of Century Dr & Bachelor View Dr Bend, OR
N 44.023° W 121.359° [?]



Road Trip: Cascade Lakes Must See Tour

Departure: Drake Park, Oregon

Destination: Osprey Observation Point, Oregon

Time to allow: 1 day

As you drive along the Cascades Lakes Scenic Byway, note the beautiful lakes, eleven in all that gives the road its name. There are lush meadows and historic sites to visit, as well as some short hiking trails.

Day 1

- **Start: Drake Park**

Make sure to spend some time exploring the charming downtown Bend which includes beautiful Drake Park.

- **Stop 2: Swampy Lakes**

From previous stop: 25 minutes / 17.12 mi (27.4 km)

Directions: Drive southwest on NW Congress St toward NW Riverside Blvd, turn left onto NW Kansas Ave, right onto NW Wall St, then right onto NW Colorado Ave. After .4 miles, enter the next roundabout and take the 2nd exit onto SW Colorado Ave and then take the next roundabout and the 3rd exit onto SW Century Dr. Pass through 1 roundabout and drive for 13.8 miles. Turn left and drive for 1.5 miles before ending at Swampy Lakes.

Suggested time at this stop: 1 hour

Fifteen miles west of Bend on the Cascade Lakes Highway are hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing opportunities. From the trailhead at the north end of the parking lot, skiers or hikers can enjoy a variety of marked trails from 2 to 10 miles in length. The area provides five shelters that are usually stocked with wood in the winter.

- **Stop 3: Mt. Bachelor Ski and Summer Resort**



From previous stop: 11 minutes / 7.41 mi (11.9 km)

Directions: Drive southeast and drive for 1.5 miles before turning right and then right again onto Cascade Lakes Hwy. After 5.7 miles, end at Mt. Bachelor Ski Area.

Suggested time at this stop: 2 hours

Enormous Mt. Bachelor dominates the horizon of smaller peaks, and is one of the nation's best and most popular ski resorts. Great snow typically lasts through June. During summer, the Summit Express lift takes sightseers to the 9,065-foot peak. The dramatic 360-degree view overlooks a volcanic skyline stretching from California to Washington.

- **Stop 4: Dutchman Flat**



From previous stop: 2 minutes / 0.97 mi (1.6 km)

Directions: Drive southeast on Cascade Lakes Hwy then turn left and drive for .8 miles before ending at Dutchman Flat.

Suggested time at this stop: 30 minutes

Just west of the entrance to Mt. Bachelor, a whole new scenic landscape beckons to be enjoyed and appreciated. By some quirk of nature, the small pumic desert, called Dutchman Flat, has not accumulated enough soil nutrients to sustain the growth of many plants. Pusspaws with pink blooms and sulfur flowers with yellow blooms are a few of the hardy plants that grow in this unique area. Take note of it as you pass by as this was where the movie, 'How the West was Won,' was filmed.

- **Stop 5: Todd Lake**

From previous stop: 4 minutes / 1.7 mi (2.7 km)

Directions: Drive northwest and then make a slight right. After 1.3 miles, end at Todd Lake.

Suggested time at this stop: 2 hours

A short walk from the parking area, this picturesque, small lake is just the place for the visitor looking for a secluded tent camping area without the noise of traffic and motors.

- **Stop 6: Green Lakes Trailhead**

From previous stop: 17 minutes / 5.76 mi (9.2 km)

Directions: Drive northwest and then turn right onto NF-370 and continue for 3.9 miles. Turn left onto NF-380. After 1.8 miles, end at Green Lakes Trailhead.

Suggested time at this stop: 20 minutes

This trail is one of several access points into the Three Sisters Wilderness area. On this trail and other trails in Three Sisters, wildlife is running everywhere and can be seen in abundance along the trails. Most common on these trails are deer, the Golden-Mantled ground squirrel, and the noisy Clark's Nutcracker.

- **End: Osprey Observation Point**

From previous stop: 1 hour 12 minutes / 50.08 mi (80.1 km)

Directions: Drive east on NF-380, after 1.8 miles, turn right onto NF-370. Continue driving for 3.9 miles and then turn left. After 1.4 miles, make another left, then three times more before making a right onto Cascades Lakes Hwy. Continue on the road for 3.1 miles before turning right onto NF-45. After 11.5 miles, turn left onto NF-40 and drive for 4 miles before turning right onto S. Century Drive. Drive for 3 miles before turning right onto CR-42 and drive for another 19.4 miles before making another right then a left to end at Osprey Observation Point.

Suggested time at this stop: 15 minutes

Constructed in 1929, it has become an outstanding fishing area and a breeding ground for the Osprey, identified as a potentially endangered species in 1969. From the parking lot, a short walk takes you to an observation area on the west side of the reservoir. Here you can view snags and artificial nesting poles inhabited by the birds. Many visitors are entertained as Osprey dive for fish from more than a hundred feet above the water.

Totals for Day 1

Total Distance Traveled: 83.04 miles / 132.9 km

Total Travel Time: 2 hours 11 minutes

Total Stopping Time: 6 hours 5 minutes