



**CASCADE
LAKES
NATIONAL
SCENIC BYWAY**

**Tour of
Interpretive
Sites**

Welcome to Central Oregon's High Country

Welcome to Cascade Lakes National Scenic Byway

This 66-mile historic highway was selected by Scenic America as one of the nation's ten most important byways. It became a National Scenic Byway in 1998 because of its outstanding scenic, natural and recreational qualities. It was also dedicated as a National Forest Scenic Byway in 1989. The byway follows a journey of water through a volcanic landscape accentuated by 14 alpine lakes. Reflected in many lakes are scenic views of Mt. Bachelor, Broken Top, and South Sister. The byway is a great way of getting in touch with cultures and communities of Central Oregon.



The Cascade Lakes have been the ultimate outdoor family adventure for generations of Central Oregon residents and visitors. Most of the fun stories you hear at family gatherings are all about the fishing, camping, boating, and hiking trips made together over the years. To learn more about Central Oregon's high country, see the interpretive sites tour map that provides an ideal way to connect with nature, history and cultural heritage.

CASCADE LAKES NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY



Three Sisters Wilderness



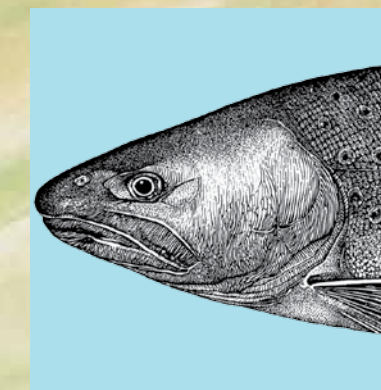
GUIDE TO INTERPRETIVE SITES

These selected interpretive sites were highlighted because of opportunities for conservation education, scenic views, and access to the Deschutes River and Cascade Lakes.

1 North Gateway
Learn about the area's geology, wildlife, native plants, indigenous people, and scenic views at this byway orientation site with its accessible trail and viewpoint.



2 Deschutes River Trail
Witness the journey of water as it ultimately joins the Columbia River to the far north. As a Wild & Scenic River, a variety of trail experiences and water adventures await you.



3 Ryan Ranch Wetland Restoration
Breaching a levy to restore wetlands and reintroduce beaver to river habitat is the perfect laboratory for outdoor education about natural ecosystems.



4 Mt. Bachelor Ski & Summer Resort
For a high altitude outdoor classroom, take a chairlift to Pine Marten Lodge and enjoy the Summer Geology interpretive program and the Whitebark Pine interpretive site.

5 Ray Atkeson Memorial Trail
Visit an accessible scenic viewpoint at Sparks Lake. Oregon's only Photographer Laureate was so taken with this place, he described it as "a place unlike any other with a beauty all its own."



6 Soda Creek
Learn how Soda Creek was destroyed by a glacial "tsunami" and then restored from a straight channel back to its natural meandering flow and habitat.



7 Ray Atkeson Wayside
The photography of Ray Atkeson created a lifelong legacy of preservation of Oregon's beautiful and wild places.



8 Historic Elk Lake Guard Station
The historic red road and guard station site were restored and each summer, Forest Service volunteers provide plenty of stories to byway travelers.



9 Elk Lake Viewpoint
Come to a special place where you'll see migratory birds sharing the same place with resident birds and water birds with land birds. From hummingbirds to cranes, you'll see more diversity at each of the Cascade Lakes.

10 Osprey Point
Incredible birdwatching opportunities are available both on land and water at Crane Prairie. The views to the Cascades from this vantage point are spectacular.

11 Browns Crossing
New homes for fish were created by adding woody debris and fallen trees to the river. An accessible fish-viewing platform awaits you at this peaceful river site.



12 Lewis Roth Dwarf Mistletoe Trail
This trail at North Twin Lake campground is named for Dr. Lewis Roth who pioneered dwarf mistletoe research at nearby Pringle Falls Experimental Forest.



13 Wickiup Dam
When the dam was first constructed, it resulted in Oregon's last big log drive. When the dam was later restored, displaced frogs found a new home.

14 Turn of the Century Forest
This site interprets many years of forest research that have occurred at Pringle Falls Experimental Forest. Roads 42 and 43 are the East Gateways from Highway 97.



15 Davis Lake Wayside
In a short time, the fire of 2003 quickly changed Davis Lake. Learn how fire as a naturally occurring event, once kept the forest floor more open and clear of debris.

16 South Gateway
Discover nature and culture through interpretive art and byway stories about wild animals, native plants, ancient trails, and Indian culture and language.

To access the byway from Bend, follow signs to Mt. Bachelor Ski & Summer Resort and the Cascade Lakes. To access the byway from Highway 58, follow the junction at Road 61 to the junction at Highway 46. Access from Highway 97 is via Roads 40, 42, 43 or 61. June through October is the best time to take this 3-5 hour drive. The byway is closed during winter beyond Mt. Bachelor to south of Davis Lake.


For more information, contact the Deschutes National Forest, Bend/Fort Rock District at (541) 383-4000 or go to www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon and to www.byways.org



The Cascade Lakes

Todd Lake

A short walk from the parking area will take you to a small alpine lake nestled within a protected and peaceful forest setting framed by mountain slopes. A plethora of wildflowers color the meadows spring through fall. Walk-in only camp sites have no drinking water.

 (no motors allowed)

Sparks Lake

Most loved by Ray Atkeson, Oregon's photographer laureate, wildflower bouquets spring from lava formations surrounded by water. Known for its peaceful canoeing and kayaking, the views are a photographer's dream with geological discoveries to be made on the Ray Atkeson Memorial Trail. Camp sites have no drinking water.
















 (motors - 10 mph)

Devils Lake

The glacial source of these turquoise green waters is as well known for its cooler temperatures as its striking appearance. This shallow protected lake is ideal for peaceful paddling and picnicking and is the jumping off point for hiking South Sister. Camp sites have no drinking water.



Legend

-  Accessible Trail
-  Boats No Motors
-  Fishing (fly, barbless)
-  Picnicking
-  Swimming
-  Biking
-  Canoeing
-  Fishing
-  Sailing
-  Water Skiing
-  Boating
-  Cross Country Skiing
-  Hiking
-  Snowmobiling
-  Windsurfing

Elk Lake

This is the ultimate gathering place for those who love to be in or on the water. The views to Mt. Bachelor and South Sister are incredible and Elk Lake Resort is open year-round for both summer and winter recreation activities.


Amenities: Cabins, Restaurant, Grocery Store, Boat Rentals, Gas, Trailhead

Rentals: Canoes, Fishing Boats (motors)

 (motors – 10 mph)

Hosmer Lake

Originally known as "Mud Lake," Hosmer has become a sportsman's paradise because of its barbless hook catch and release fly fishing. The serenity of the shallow marsh areas surrounded by forest make this place a birdwatcher's dream. Osprey, bald eagle, beaver, and otter live in these waters.

 (no motors allowed)

Lava Lake and Little Lava Lake

Lave Lake is known for its resort which provides supplies for summer camping and fishing expeditions. Little Lake Lake is the source of the Wild & Scenic Deschutes River.

Amenities at Lava Lake: RV Sites, Lodge, Grocery Store, Gas

Rentals at Lava Lake: Canoes, Fishing Boats (motors)

 (motors – 10 mph)

Cultus Lake

Cultus Lake seems to have it all with high altitude white sandy beaches, dense and towering forests full of ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, spruce, white pine, white fir, and sugar pine. Cultus Lake Resort has a picture perfect view of the lake from its restaurant and cabins.

Amenities: Cabins, Lodge, Restaurant, Grocery Store, Gas, Trailhead

Rentals: Canoes, Fishing Boats (motors)



Little Cultus Lake

Little Cultus Lake provides a low-key outdoor experience. Located in the shadow of Cultus Mountain, this is a great place to escape to. Camp sites have no drinking water.

 (motors – 10 mph)

Crane Prairie

First created in 1922 for irrigation purposes, this reservoir has become a popular boating and fishing destination. During spring migration, a high concentration of waterfowl can be seen. The Crane Prairie Resort has had an interesting history with some high-profile visitors.

Amenities: RV Sites, Lodge, Grocery Store, Gas

Rentals: Fishing Boats (motors)

 (motors – 10 mph)

North & South Twin Lakes

These twin lakes are symmetrical in shape and about 60 feet deep. They are unique geological formations known as volcanic maars. North Twin has a more primitive level of camping with tent sites while Twin Lakes Resort at South Twin has cabins including one named for President Hoover who once stayed there.

Amenities at South Twin: Cabins, Lodge, Restaurant, Grocery Store,

Showers & Laundry Facilities (open to the public)

Rentals at South Twin: Fishing Boats

 (no motors allowed)

Wickiup Reservoir

Wickiup is a place for camping, fishing, boating, and water sports. Named for "wickiup" shelters made out of poles and covered with brush or tree limbs, Indians used to camp here while fishing and hunting seasonally each year.




Davis Lake

This large shallow lake was formed about 6,000 years ago when a large lava flow cut off Odell Creek. Historically known for large rainbow trout, there is currently no limit on largemouth bass at this popular flyfishing lake. The area experienced a large fire in 2003.



Recreation Pass required to park at trailheads.

Camp sites are available at all locations.

 Ray Atkeson Memorial Trail is an accessible trail.

History of the Red Road

Cascade Lakes Highway was paved with red volcanic cinders in the 1950s. This provided a unique experience for Deschutes National Forest visitors exploring the beautiful Cascade Lakes area. Red roads became a Central Oregon landmark. The red road was paved over with black asphalt in the 1980s. This historic once red road was called Century Drive because it was about 100 miles round-trip from Bend to Elk Lake.



Historic Elk Lake Guard Station



A historic guard station at the heart of the byway is where volunteers share stories about the forest guard and the surrounding area. The log cabin was built in 1929 and served as a base for a forest guard. Restored as a visitor information center in 1997 and rededicated in 2001, additional funds from the Federal Highway Administration in 2006 were used to rehabilitate the grounds and restore the road to the site. The guard station is now included on the National Register of Historic Places.