



# Seven Wonders of Oregon plus Las Vegas and Grand Canyon

11 days/10 nights

Portland – Pendleton – Baker City – Bend – Medford – Eugene – Newport – Portland – Las Vegas/Grand Canyon

There are Seven Wonders of the World, and (surprisingly) not a single one is in Oregon. Explore majestic Mt. Hood and the grandeur of the Columbia River Gorge. Experience the picture-perfect Oregon Coast, exposed earth of the Painted Hills, towers of volcanic ash at Smith Rock State Park, and alpine peaks of the Wallowas. Enjoy the views at Crater Lake, the deepest lake in America. Fly to Las Vegas, the Entertainment Capital of the World, and visit the Grand Canyon Skywalk where a billion years of geologic history are exposed in the soaring walls of the canyon.

*Note: The following itinerary is designed to be customized. Accommodations and other inclusions will be recommended after learning about budget, travel dates, and traveler preferences.*



## Day 1: Portland to Pendleton

Welcome to Portland, a city that blooms not only with roses - which inspired its nicknamed City of Roses - but with world-class culture, cuisine, and attractions. Drive east from Portland to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, where verdant mountainsides and waterfalls meet the Columbia River, one of the West's largest rivers that flows to the Pacific Ocean. The scenic area is filled with hiking trails, picnic spots and viewpoints.

Stop at Hood River, a town famous for its strong winds - which give kiteboarders and windsurfers some real thrills - and easy access to outdoor adventures in the Mt. Hood area. Don't miss the galleries, restaurants and breweries in Hood River's historic downtown. Continue east to the more arid climes of Eastern Oregon. Your final stop of the day is Pendleton, home of the annual Pendleton Round-up rodeo, one of the largest and oldest rodeos in the world. You can feel the town's Old West roots while sauntering through Pendleton's saloons and steakhouses. Overnight in Pendleton.



### Day 2: Pendleton to Baker City

Today you'll discover stunning waters and untouched vistas. Take the highway to Wallowa Lake, a deep, clear, glacier-carved lake surrounded by the dramatic peaks of the Wallowa Mountains. During the summer, the lake is a popular place to swim, boat, and have beach picnics. So stunning in its beauty, many artists have found the Wallowa Mountain scenery inspiring and have chosen to live and work in the nearby town of Joseph. Stop by to check out their creations at numerous bronze foundries and galleries, which sell locally made jewelry, metalwork, paintings, and sculptures.

Take in the arid forests and mountain views as you make your way on the scenic drive to Baker City - a former gold rush boomtown. Just outside of town, the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center helps visitors imagine walking the Oregon Trail, a 2,000-mile pioneer route, through an extensive collection of artwork and exhibits. Overnight in Baker City.

### Day 3: Baker City to Bend

Head west on Oregon Highway 7 and you'll find yourself in the town of John Day, a former gold rush town that had one of the largest Chinatowns in the West. The Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site provides a vivid portrait of many Chinese immigrant lives. The 1870s building was once a Chinese apothecary, grocery store, and trading post. Sealed for decades, the building was reopened and the original artifacts were perfectly preserved.

Keep heading west to the Painted Hills, where barren hillsides look brushed with eye-catching hues, from ochre and blazing yellow to green, if you catch them in the right light. On the way to the outdoor mecca of Bend, stop at Smith Rock State Park, a destination for rock climbers who arrive ready to conquer the 800-foot cliffs rising above the lazy Crooked River. Nearby Bend is perfectly situated near world-class skiing, fly-fishing hot spots, kayaking rapids, rock-climbing routes, mountain-biking trails and golf courses. Discover Bend's booming beer scene on the Bend Ale Trail, which includes 19 breweries.

End your day at nearby Sunriver Resort, where vacation properties are interspersed with 63 holes of championship golf, a spa, tennis courts, swimming pools, 35 miles of bike paths and a marina on the Deschutes River. Overnight in Sunriver.





#### **Day 4: Bend to Medford**

Follow the Cascades Mountains as you head toward Crater Lake National Park. The lake was formed 7,700 years ago, when a volcanic peak erupted then collapsed. The remaining caldera filled with water, creating the deep azure-blue lake you see today. Rim Drive offers dozens of lake viewpoints, and the grand 1915 Crater Lake Lodge offers another spectacular scene. Head through the lush Applegate Valley, a collection of rolling hills outside Medford. The valley has become yet another burgeoning Oregon wine region that's producing cabernet sauvignon, merlot and chardonnay. Nearly 20 top-notch wineries - many with tasting rooms - are scattered among farm stands, creameries, lavender farms and hiking trails.

In the former gold rush town of Jacksonville, many original buildings from the 1880s still line the historic main street. These days the tiny downtown holds art galleries, boutiques and winetasting rooms. Just south of Medford is the cultural center of Ashland, home of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Every year the theater draws nearly half a million theatergoers to the 11 plays it produces. On summer nights, the outdoor Elizabethan Stage crackles with some of Shakespeare's finest works. End your day in Medford, one of the largest cities in Southern Oregon. Overnight in Medford.

#### **Day 5: Medford to Eugene**

Head north to the Willamette Valley through Grants Pass, the starting point for adventures on the Rogue. The Rogue River is a wild and scenic source that runs from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. Popular for jet boating, white-water rafting and fishing, the river is home to bald eagles, salmon, river otters, and black bears. As you near the town of Eugene, stop at numerous award-winning wineries, where pinot noir and pinot gris vines cover Oregon's cool hills. From the wineries' tasting rooms, you'll begin to understand the region's distinct terroir. Make your way to Eugene, a vibrant college town that's home to the University of Oregon. The town feels connected to the outdoors thanks to numerous parks and pathways, and a vibrant culinary scene features top-notch restaurants and a dedication to local wines. Overnight in Eugene.



### **Day 6: Eugene to Newport**

Head as far west as you can go, to the Oregon Coast, and then north. In Florence, a serene town where the Siuslaw River meets the sea, the beach can be cloaked in mist or gleaming with sunshine. The nearby historic Heceta Head Lighthouse is a good place to spot sea lions and migrating whales.

Drive north along a stunning stretch of coastline to Newport, an active commercial fishing hub with a waterfront area lined with shops, restaurants, and barking sea lions. The historic bayfront is a great place to eat locally caught seafood and watch the fishing boats come and go. Climb aboard a boat for a bay and ocean tour from Marine Discovery Tours in Newport. Naturalist guides educate landlubbers about wildlife spotted during the cruise - which hopefully includes a whale sighting. Leave the bayfront area and cross the 1930s Yaquina Bay Bridge to reach the world-class Oregon Coast Aquarium, where you can watch sea otters crack open mollusks and a giant octopus unfurl its arms. Overnight in Newport.

### **Day 7: Newport to Portland**

Head north to the Depoe Bay Whale Watching Center, another great place to see one of the thousands of whales that pass by each year. Then stop in Lincoln City, where you can learn to blow glass at the Jennifer Sears Glass Art Studio or enjoy a game at the casino. Drive through Willamette Valley Wine Country with a stop at Sokol Blosser winery in Dayton where you will experience Oregon's world-class pinot noir. Continue north for an afternoon of tax-free shopping at Woodburn Premium Outlets before arriving back in Portland. Overnight in Portland.

### **Day 8: Portland to Las Vegas**

In the morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Las Vegas. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. Las Vegas is the Entertainment Capital of the World. In little over a hundred years, Las Vegas has grown from a small town in the "Wild West" of the United States into a metropolitan area with over 2.2 million residents and the largest concentration of mega-resorts and gaming, dining, and entertainment options found anywhere in the world. This evening, enjoy an orientation tour to see the sights and lights of Las Vegas, including the beautiful fountains of Bellagio. Let your imagination take you on a fantastic trip around the world via the Strip's themed resorts fashioned after Egyptian pyramids and icons of New York City, Paris, Rome, and Venice. Overnight in Las Vegas.





### Day 9: Las Vegas/Grand Canyon

Las Vegas is surrounded by the mountains and natural beauty of its Mojave Desert environment. It is the closest major city to the Grand Canyon, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most incredible natural spectacles on Earth. After breakfast at your hotel, travel to the Grand Canyon West to view this awe-inspiring sight and take a thrilling walk on the Grand Canyon Skywalk, a glass-floored, horseshoe-shaped bridge suspended hundreds of feet over the cliffs below and thousands of feet from the bottom of the canyon and the Colorado River.

The Grand Canyon is 277 miles long, up to 18 miles across and a mile deep! It was formed over the last six-million years by the uplift of the Earth's crust, erosion, and the forces of the Colorado River as it makes its way westward from its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains of the Central U.S. Over a billion years of geologic history are exposed in the soaring walls of the canyon.

The Grand Canyon West is the nearest section of the Grand Canyon to Las Vegas, and is located on the traditional homelands of the Hualapai Native American tribe. The Hualapai built the Skywalk and operate the Grand Canyon West, so in addition to the Skywalk and amazing Grand Canyon views, you can enjoy Native American displays, crafts, and performances, and even a playful "Old West" village. Lunch is included. You also have the option to add to your experience by taking an exhilarating helicopter or small plane flight over the canyon. Return to Las Vegas and overnight.

### Day 10: Las Vegas

Day at leisure to enjoy all that Las Vegas has to offer. You might be interested in taking a chance at winning big in the casino, or choose to attend a spectacular Las Vegas show. You have all day to do as much or as little as you wish – relax at the pool or one of the many world-class spas, shop until you drop at factory outlets and luxury malls, dine at exceptional restaurants, enjoy sweeping and romantic views from the largest observation wheel in the world or the top of the Eiffel Tower, ride the highest thrill rides in the world at the Stratosphere Tower, toss a coin into Caesars Forum Shops' Trevi Fountain (ensuring you will return to Las Vegas), speed around a racetrack in a Lamborghini, or delve into Las Vegas' unique history and culture with a visit to the Springs Preserve, Mob Museum, Neon Museum, or Atomic Testing Museum.

### Day 11: Departure

Today, transfer to the airport for your onward flight. Bon Voyage!



### Inclusions

- ⦿ 10 nights of hotel accommodations
- ⦿ Daily breakfast buffet
- ⦿ Economy airfare from Portland - Las Vegas
- ⦿ Transport by private A/C vehicle
- ⦿ Local English-speaking guides and entrance fees
- ⦿ Grand Canyon West Rim
- ⦿ Airport transfers in Las Vegas
- ⦿ Vehicle taxes and fuel surcharges
- ⦿ Hotel taxes

### Exclusions

- ⦿ International Airfare
- ⦿ Any items of a personal nature
- ⦿ Gratuities
- ⦿ Travel Insurance
- ⦿ Passport and Visa Fees