

Venture to Oregon - Itinerary

Please plan to arrive at Portland Airport late on Sunday, August 28 and transfer to our hotel. (This is included in the Venture cost.)

Day 1 (Monday, August 29) Cascades

On this first full day in Oregon, we travel east to the Mt. Hood area of the Cascade Mountains, where there is a great diversity of birds due to the great diversity of habitat. Logged and burned areas, agricultural and farming areas, natural meadows and flowing streams interrupt the Douglas fir forest offer many opportunities to bird. We plan to spend the afternoon hiking various trails around the Timberland Lodge (at 6,500), where we will spend the night. Birds we hope to see include Sooty Grouse, Hammond's Flycatcher, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Solitaire, Evening Grosbeak, Clark's Nutcracker, Mountain Chickadee, and many others. *Night at the Timberline Lodge*

Day 2 (Tuesday, August 30) Mt Hood

We spend another morning in the Mt. Hood area, exploring clear-cuts and burns for Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpeckers; riverine areas for American Dipper and Harlequin Duck; and high meadows and Alpine areas for Cassin's Finch, and possibly, Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. In late afternoon, we will drive to Sisters. *Night in Sisters*

Day 3 (Wednesday, August 31) Sisters

There is quite a variety of habitats around Sisters, and we will spend most of the day exploring juniper-ponderosa pine forests, lava flows, grasslands, wet meadows, and other areas looking for specialties of the area. Three species of sapsucker, including Williamson's, and seeing many species of woodpecker, including White-headed and Lewis's are possible, along with Green-tailed Towhee, Calliope Hummingbird, and Orange-crowned, MacGillivray's, and Wilson's Warblers. *Night in Sisters*

Day 4 (Thursday, September 1) Malheur NWR

Today we leave Sisters and make our way toward Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, south of Burns, birding along the way. Several areas around the town of Bend offer possibilities for finding Brewer's Sparrow, Sage Thrasher, Pinyon Jay, Pygmy Nuthatch, Anna's Hummingbird, and Black-throated Gray Warbler. *Night in Malheur area*

Day 5 (Friday, September 2) Malheur NWR

Today we spend the day in Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. August at Malheur is going to be extremely hot, but we should be able to see a good number of waterfowl which breed in the extensive wetlands and migrant shorebirds on the alkali flats. Cinnamon Teal, Redhead, and Ruddy Ducks are abundant here, as are California Quail, Sandhill Crane, and Black Tern. Other species we should see are Willow Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe, Cliff Swallow, Marsh Wren, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. Mammals commonly seen at the refuge include Mule Deer, Coyote, Mink, Badger, and Black-tailed Jackrabbit. Time permitting, we will visit Steens Mountain, south of the refuge, where we will look for Rock and Canyon Wrens, Golden Eagle, and Prairie Falcon. *Night in Malheur area.*

Day 6 (Saturday, September 3) Klamath Falls

We leave the Malheur and spend today traveling toward Klamath Falls, looking for birds we might have missed in ponderosa pine/juniper habitats and sagebrush areas. Stops may include Crater Lake NP, or Thule Lake NWR. *Night in Klamath Falls*

Day 7 (Sunday, September 4)**Crater Lake National Park**

Today we explore the beautiful Crater Lake National Park and surrounding areas. Today will be a birding and sightseeing day. We will stop at multiple points in the park to look for high elevation species and take in the beautiful views. We will head over to Roseburg for the night. Night in Roseburg

Day 8 (Monday, September 5)**Cascades and Bandon**

Today we begin our trek over the Cascade Mountains toward Bandon, the coast. En route we will explore various spots, hoping to see Wrentit, and possibly, Northern Pygmy-Owl. Today we will begin our coastal exploration with stops at several hotspots around Bandon. *Night in Bandon*

Day 9 (Tuesday, September 6)**Coos Bay and Newport**

We spend all day today exploring the rocky coast from Coos Bay to Newport. The scenery is spectacular with many rocks, reefs, and islands which make up the Oregon Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Many seabirds nest on these rocks and even though the breeding season is over, we should be able to see many species as they come near the coast to feed. Black Oystercatcher, Pigeon Guillemot, and Pelagic Cormorant are all possibilities. *Night in Newport*

Day 10 (Wednesday, September 7)**Newport**

Today we will spend more time around the Newport area and then travel North. We will bird areas around Tillamook and Cannon Beach. This area has some of Oregon's most spectacular scenery. We will stop off at Ecola State Park. We will also take a little break from birding and tour the Tillamook Cheese Factory around lunch time. We will sample ice cream and cheese at this impressive and delicious site. *Night in Newport*

Day 11 (Thursday September 8)**Astoria**

As we drive back towards Portland, We will chase any rarity in the area, or any bird that we haven't added to our list yet. If time and schedule permit we will travel back up the coast to Astoria and the mouth of the mighty Columbia River. We will enjoy our last full day in Oregon and think back on all the wonderful scenery and birds we have encountered. *Night in Portland*

Day 12 (Friday September 9)**Leave for home**

Please arrange to leave the Portland airport sometime this morning

This itinerary is subject to change due to weather and other factors.