

A scenic photograph of Crater Lake National Park, showing the calm blue waters of Crater Lake reflecting the surrounding steep, forested volcanic cliffs under a clear blue sky. Evergreen trees are visible in the foreground on the right side.

cycle  oregon

Classic

SEPTEMBER 7-14, 2019

A RIDE 7,700 YEARS IN THE MAKING

OAKRIDGE
RAINBOW
TUMALO
LA PINE
DIAMOND LAKE
CRATER LAKE
DORENA LAKE

Come September, Cycle Oregon is setting off on a not-to-be-missed ride through the geological wonderland that is Crater Lake and the Central Oregon Cascades. We've handpicked for the pedaling an unforgettable journey through lava-hewn landscapes, cascading rivers, and ever-present peaks. We'll ride through colorful communities that welcome visitors like family on our way to the legendary rim of Crater Lake - the sapphire jewel of Oregon's only National Park. This is our invitation to you. When it comes time to decide how to spend your time off, don't settle for the usual. Choose the extraordinary. Ride with us.



Ride.

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#RideCycleOregon

ADVENTURE AWAITS, BUT IT WON'T WAIT FOREVER.

Oregon is a stunningly diverse place when it comes to geology. Where else can you chart a few-hundred-mile loop that encompasses three of the country's most scenic rivers, a stoic mountain range bedazzled with high country lakes, and a National Park whose crowning jewel is a crater filled with sapphire-blue water? Central Oregon has it all – that's what makes this year's Classic such a unique opportunity. And it's an opportunity not to be missed. Right up there with rafting the Grand Canyon or through-hiking the Appalachian Trail – this is the kind of experience that will forever be a part of you. Are you ready to be a part of it?

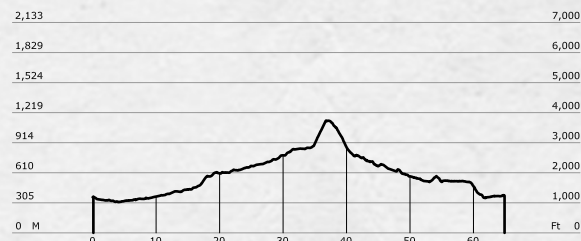


Day 1: Oakridge → Rainbow

TAKE ME TO THE BRIDGE

MILES: 65.8 / ELEVATION: 3,300

And we're off! Day 1 begins with a lovely covered bridge passing en-route to the Aufderheide Scenic Byway. Set your peepers to "awe" as you take in the beautiful scenery along the Middle Fork of the Willamette River to summit at Box Canyon, then along the South Fork of the McKenzie River and past Cougar Reservoir. Today you have to climb for your lunch, but after you eat, the remaining 26 miles are downhill – perfect for those with the need for speed. You'll pass Cougar Hot Springs (clothing optional, wink wink) and ride over the Belknap Covered Bridge before you reach the McKenzie River and our campsite at the edge of Tokatee Golf Course in Rainbow.

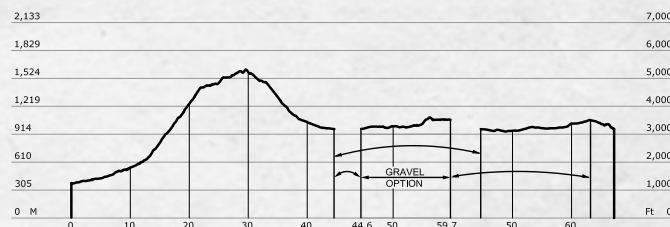


Day 2: Rainbow → Tumalo

SISTERSLY LOVE

MILES: 67.3 (65.8 W/ GRAVEL OPTION) / ELEVATION: 4,786 (5,109 W/ GRAVEL OPTION)

We start off on the nice, wide shoulder of Highway 126 for 8 miles before we turn onto the Old McKenzie Highway. At this point, we start a long, gradual ascent towards the summit of the Cascades and Dee Wright Observatory. The payoff once you reach the top is a spectacular view of the Three Sisters mountain range. On the way back down, you'll cruise on 15 miles of righteous downhill stopping in Sisters for lunch. To wrap it up, you have 22.4 miles of generally flat country roads. Once you cross the finish line in Tumalo State Park, it's time to dip your toes in the river and take 'er easy for the rest of the day.

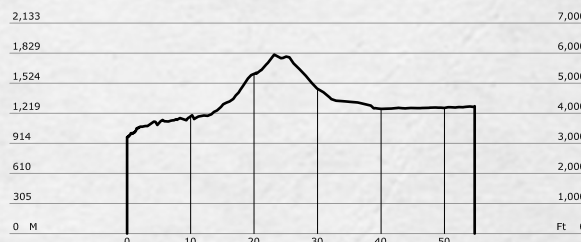


Day 3: Tumalo State Park → La Pine

SCENIC OVERLOAD

MILES: 55.3 / ELEVATION: 3,357

You and your bike tires are both fully pumped as you leave Tumalo State Park and skirt Shevlin Park on country roads, leading the way to Bend. Continue through Bend, fighting the urge to stop for a microbrew every other block as you start your climb up Cascade Lakes Scenic Byway towards Mt. Bachelor. After your 5%-ish 10-mile climb, it's time to sit back and enjoy 15 miles of downhill towards Sunriver, and then cruise 14 more flat, mellow miles on into La Pine.

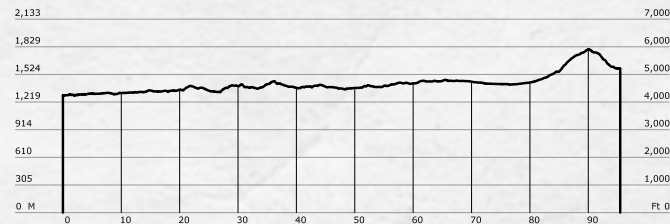


Day 4: La Pine → Diamond Lake

GOING THE DISTANCE

MILES: 94.1 / ELEVATION: 3,951

Hope you got a good night's sleep last night because today is a long haul, but it's also a relatively flat one. We start by rejoining the beautiful Cascade Lakes Highway as we pass Wickiup Reservoir, Davis Lake and near Crescent Lake, and the day's only big hill. This 6-mile climb is on one of the straightest highways in Oregon, but don't let it get in your head – it's only a 5-6% grade. After summiting, it's a pleasant four-mile cruise downhill to Diamond Lake where a hot shower and a cold beer will be waiting lakeside.

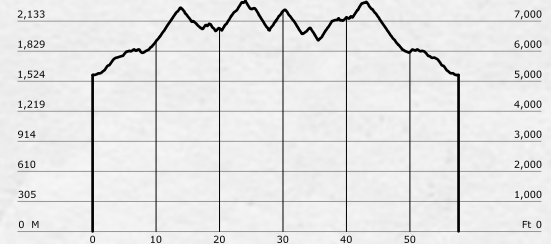


Day 5: Layover Day: Crater Lake

BLUE WATERS RUN DEEP

MILES: 58.8 / ELEVATION: 6,470

You've enjoyed a heaping helping of miles over the last four days and deserve a break, but we know riders love to ride, so we planned some killer options to make the most of this location. Option one: Hang out at Diamond Lake and chill. Option 2: Ride the paved 11-mile loop around Diamond Lake catching glimpses of diamond-shaped Mt. Thielsen and mountain-shaped Diamond Peak. Option 3: We highly recommend this option. For just a glimpse of Crater Lake, it's 13 miles uphill from camp to the rim of the lake. From there you can return to camp or ride to Rim Village and the lodge (6 miles out and back) or you can ride around the entire rim of Crater Lake. This last option is a bucket list ride – the most spectacular 32 miles of bike riding on earth, but also one of the most challenging. There are no flat places on Rim Drive.



Day 6: Diamond Lake → Dorena Lake

DESCENT INTO RADNESS

MILES: 90 / ELEVATION: 3,916

Back in the saddle, hopefully feeling rested and reinvigorated, today's route is a real treat. Four miles from Diamond Lake, you hop on Highway 138 for 40 (count 'em-4-0) miles of glorious downhill. This stretch is a National Scenic Byway and follows the Wild and Scenic Umpqua River. It's also prime waterfall country. Take a mental note and save the waterfall chasing for another day because today is all about bagging miles. After a quick lunch, you'll tackle a 13-mile, sometimes steep climb, before finishing up the day on 10 miles of the Row River Trail, a revived railroad track- turned-trail along the shoreline of Dorena Lake.

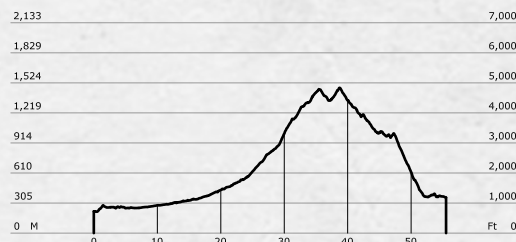


Day 7: Dorena Lake → Oakridge

TRAILS, TIMBER AND TRIUMPHS

MILES: 56 / ELEVATION: 5,227

By now you've ridden yourself into tip-top cycling condition and your bike welcomes you like an old friend. From camp at Dorena Lake, it's back along the Row River Trail for 11 miles, then around mile 19, you enter Umpqua National Forest where you'll ride for most of the day. Count the shades of green as you work the logging roads, climbing towards the first of three summits. After the final small climb of the day at mile 39, it's 20 miles of downhill into Oakridge and the culmination of an incredible week of riding. Once you hit Oakridge, peel off your bibs and put on your party pants, because it's time to celebrate!



ELEVATION + TOTAL MILES

MILES: 428.5 (485.8 W/ OPTIONS) / ELEVATION: 24,537 (31,330 W/ OPTIONS)



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Ride.