Snowshoe Tour

Oregon's trailblazing and creative spirit thrives in every season, but this winter brings an impressive crop of new leaders to the adventure scene, along with forward-thinking tours, fresh-powder trails and culinary hubs around the state. Add in moto-fueled road trips and BIPOC changemakers, and there's plenty of people and places to inspire a meaningful sojourn in Oregon.

# FRESH TRACKS: GUIDED SNOW ADVENTURES FOR WINTER LOVERS

When silvery snowflakes drift across the mountains, it's time for an OOO snow day. Fortunately, wintersport enthusiasts can pick from a flurry of guided snow tours, many providing instruction, rental gear and transportation — all with COVID safety protocols in place. Experience the majesty of snow-capped **Salt Creek** Falls, the second tallest waterfall in Oregon, on a beginnerfriendly snowshoe tour in the Willamette National Forest with the Cascades Outdoor Center. Mt. Hood Outfitters leads wintry adventures around Oregon's tallest mountain spanning from snowshoeing and cross-country ski tours to magical sleigh rides with beautiful Belgian horses. Thrill seekers can try snowmobiling, as the outfitter holds the only permit for guided snowmobile tours in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Near Bend, join Wanderlust Tours for a naturalist-led snowshoe getaway that winds through the wilderness around Mt. Bachelor and the surrounding Cascade Range. Wanderlust also offers two nighttime treks, the Moonlight & Starlight Snowshoe Tour and Bonfire on the Snow (both fueled by hot chocolate). For the ultimate snowcation the adventure group leads naturalist guided snow-camping weekends that include snowshoeing and snow cave building.

Proof that Oregon ranks high on the skiing bucket list, **Timberline's Summit Pass** (formerly known as Summit Ski Area) is now officially part of **Timberline Ski Area**, which increases its vertical terrain to 4,540 feet, the longest in the U.S. With generous snow flurries this year, the state's mountain resorts are open with expanded hours, along with a series of popular slopeside events like the **Winter PrideFest at Mt. Bachelor** (March 3-6) and **Banked Slalom at Mt. Hood Meadows** (April 2).

## BIPOC BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS MAKING WAVES

At Kahawa Roasting Company, the goal is that every cup of coffee makes a difference. The new Salem-based

coffee roaster launched their business with a mission to support refugees as they transition into their new community. The roastery offers employment, job skills, English language classes, and additional support through partnerships with local agencies.

The Shops at 10Y, a group of creative pop-up shops, recently opened in downtown Portland. The inventive retail hub was designed to support BIPOC entrepreneurs and includes a mix of fashion, wellness and design stores. Anchoring the collective is The Crick PDX, a new tasting room for Abbey Creek Vineyard, a popular winery owned by Oregon's first Black winemaker, along with Orox Leather, a fourth-generation business with roots beginning in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Founded in 2020, the Black-owned, Portland-based outdoor adventure group **Camp Yoshi** launched with the vision to create a space for BIPOC travelers and their allies to reconnect with the wilderness. In 2022 the collective is scaling up after two successful years and will offer over 22 multiday adventures from **Oregon's Outback** to Utah's Canyon Country. The immersive experiences balance off-the-grid travel with gourmet meals and curated cocktails.

**Strides for Social Justice** — a **PeaceHealth** initiative developed in partnership with the **Eugene Marathon** — recently launched as an inclusive, family-friendly app



Stop on the Strides for Social Justice tour

available on both iOS and Android app stores. The app engages and educates participants with four different routes that highlight Black-history landmarks and milestones throughout Lane County.

# THE STATE CAPITOL WELCOMES OREGON'S NEWEST FOOD HALL

Food-hall fever takes root in Salem at Fork Forty, the city's first food hall, located downtown in the historic Gray-Belle Building. Go for the top-notch brisket from Uncle Troy's BBQ, popular Asian-fusion plates cooked up by Chubby Panda Bao House and delicious tostones montaditos de camarones from Mr. Coqui Puerto Rican Cuisine. More options from the buzzy food hub span from delicious Aleppostyle cuisine from The Syrian Kitchen to classic pies from La Lucciola Pizzeria to standout burgers courtesy of Rex Prehistoric Patties. A scoop from Slick Licks ice cream, small-batch and scratch-made, is the perfect dessert. IPA fans can grab a pint at The Best Goose, a lively bar located in the back of the building.

### TOP FEMALE GUIDE BRINGS SUSTAIN-ABILITY AND HERITAGE TO FLY FISHING

Oregon's pristine and wild rivers entice anglers from around the world, and the state has many women guides making waves. Alysia Littleleaf, a descendant of the Wasco Tribe of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, has been guiding for over nine years. She and her husband own Littleleaf Guide Service, and they take fly-fishing enthusiasts casting for steelhead and trout on a private section of the Lower Deschutes River on the Warm Springs Reservation. In addition to sharing her culture and heritage on the trips, she partners with local nonprofits to give back, and she is currently replanting trees to help restore habitat lost in recent forest fires.

## NEW BOUTIQUE LODGING IN OREGON'S CLASSIC WESTERN TOWN

Moto enthusiasts will be thrilled to discover **BackFire Station** in the classic western town of Pendleton. Opened

by a husband-and-wife riding team, this visionary business includes the Infernal Combustion Lounge, a casual restaurant/biker bar with an Instagram-worthy wall of vintage motorcycles, and their comfort lodging that's set in a renovated 1950s fire station and scheduled to open in late spring 2022. The couple also plans to begin renting adventure bikes with preloaded maps to explore the scenic roads of Eastern Oregon from the Wallowa Mountains to the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument.

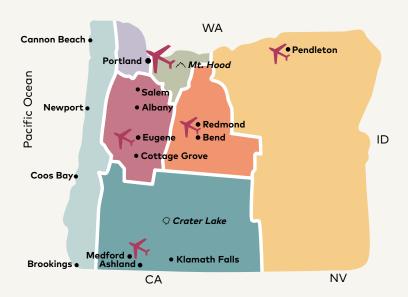
Another new spot for travelers to stay when exploring this town steeped in western heritage also opens in spring 2022. Conveniently located near the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport, a new-build **Radisson** will feature 75 stylish guestrooms and suites along with amenities that include an onsite restaurant and lounge, fitness center, business center and meeting space.



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Fork Fortu



Alysia Littleleaf



BackFire Station

