



Willamette Valley Tour

August 8-16, 2020

Total cost: **\$1,525 if 18-24 Paid Participants**

Total Cost: **\$1,375 if 25 or more Paid Participants**

Single supplement: **\$700** (paid at time of registration)

Deposit: **\$500** (paid at time of registration)

Final Payment: **\$1025/\$875 due by 5/10/20**

Rider limit: **30**

Tour Leaders: Ralph & Carol Nussbaum

Tour Rating: Easy/Intermediate (Read Level of Difficulty below.)

OVERVIEW

We are returning to the Willamette Valley with a fixed base tour to take a **relaxed tour** to some of our favorite places along quiet roads and green scenery. Some of our goals include the Spruce Goose, Oregon Gardens, covered bridges, and wineries. We will be based in Salem, Oregon's capital and take day trips out of this pleasant center spot in the valley. One day we will ride to Silverton to stay at Oregon Gardens Resort and visit the interesting and gorgeous Oregon Gardens in the afternoon. The next day we will return to Salem via Silver Falls State Park, taking time to enjoy the many waterfalls in that park. We will ride up to Champoeg State Park to visit the park's historical exhibits and out to McMinnville to tour the Aviation and Space Museum, home of Howard Hughes' Spruce Goose. Other trips will take us over some of Oregon's covered bridges and to several of the state's renown wineries.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: This tour is rated as Easy/Intermediate. This tour has a 48-mile daily average. Some days are mostly flat but several days we will encounter some short hills that give us a daily average of 1700 feet of climbing. Although the route generally traverses lightly travelled rural roads, there are occasional stretches with no shoulder and/or significant traffic.

WEATHER: Weather in the Willamette Valley area can be very warm in August. Nevertheless, riders should also be prepared for rain and chilly conditions.

MEALS: This tour will provide both snacks and lunch on riding days. Breakfast and dinner are your responsibility; however, we are hoping to find a Salem hotel that provides a complementary warm breakfast.

LODGING: Both our hotel in Salem and at Oregon Gardens Resort are quality resorts with good amenities.

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY (Note: the order of routes is tentative and subject to change)

DAY 0 - Saturday, August 8

We meet the first night in Salem and get to know each other for an orientation meeting at 8:00PM.

DAY 1 - Sunday, August 9 – Champoeg Park – 57 miles, 950'

Our first day we begin the tour riding north through the flatlands at the heart of the Willamette Valley to Champoeg State Park, the location of the first provisional government in the Oregon Territory. Currently, it houses a pioneer museum and a few historical buildings that we will tour. On the return to Salem we will take a short detour through Mission State Park to see some of the buildings still existing from an early mission in Oregon.

DAY 2 – Monday, August 10 – Oregon Gardens Resort – 31 miles, 700'

On this day we will ride in a semi-circle through some of Oregon's oldest towns, including St. Louis and Mt Angel, ending in Silverton at the Oregon Gardens Resort for the night. The resort also houses [Oregon Gardens](#), a collection of the some beautiful and sometimes whimsical gardens. When we stay at the resort, our admission to the Gardens is free. Since the ride is short, you will have an afternoon to tour the gardens at your own pace.

DAY 3 – Tuesday, August 11 – Return to Salem via Silver Falls – 41 miles, 3,000’

Today is a more difficult day as the hill to the park is long – 10 miles – but not steep with an average 3% grade. However, the reward are some easy walks to view of some of the park’s many scenic waterfalls. From the park, the return to Salem is first a great downhill then flat.

Day 4 - Wednesday, August 12 – Rest Day

Spend the day in Salem, visiting the state capital building, carousel and other sights, or, if you brought a car, go out of town to visit one of the farm-based markets that dot the area around Salem.

DAY 5 - Thursday, August 13 – - Covered Bridge Route – 46 miles, 1600’

Today will involves a remote start to Stayton to bring us to a route that will allow us to ride through four of Oregon’s many of covered bridges. Each of the bridges we will see will be a unique style, in a quiet setting so we can enjoy each one.

DAY 6 – Friday, August 14 – McMinnville - 54 miles, 1150’

We head north again to the [Aviation and Space Museum](#) through the flatlands of the Willamette Valley, crossing the river on a ferry and back on Salem’s scenic bike bridge. There will be plenty of time to tour the museum and view the Spruce Goose and the various other planes collected there.

DAY 7 – Saturday, August 15 - Winery and Cheese farm visits – 62 miles, 3200’

Today we venture into the hills to the west of Salem. We go first to a cheese tasting at local organic cheese factory, then to three local wineries. Feel free to taste and buy as you like – our truck will carry your purchases back to the hotel. We will return for a final night in Salem, so plan to leave on **Sunday, August 16th**.

Detailed route maps, cue sheets and GPS files will be provided in advance to tour participants.

For further information about this tour contact: Ralph at 206-713-9417 email: RENussbaum@outlook.com
or Carol at 206-783-6450 email: CANussbaum@outlook.com



SEE OVERVIEW MAP ON NEXT PAGE.

2020 Willamette Valley Tour Overview

