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TrailLink Unlimited 

Guides



**Historic
Columbia
River
Highway State
Trail**
Oregon



Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail

Oregon

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The Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail is an innovative road-to-trail conversion constructed on portions of the Historic Columbia River Highway. The trail is considered to be from milepost 14.22 at the Sandy River Bridge near Troutdale to milepost 88 near The Dalles.

About the Route

The road connected travelers with magnificent overlooks offering views of the Columbia River Gorge and five waterfalls, including Multnomah Falls (the most visited natural site in Oregon). It also connected Portland to the settlements of Cascade Locks, Hood River, Mosier, and The Dalles. During the construction of Interstate 84 in the 1950s, this engineering marvel was segmented and

partially destroyed, leaving only small scenic loops at both ends.

Today, the Oregon Department of Transportation is working to restore and resurrect the demolished segments as a multi-use recreational trail, enabling bikers and hikers to experience the old highway's dramatic vistas and restored historic bridges, tunnels, guardrails, and beautifully arched rock masonry walls.

The Bonneville Segment of the trail runs from the Elowah Falls Trailhead to the Cascade Locks. Elowah Falls is a short hike and a great start or endpoint to any trip. The trail can be accessed via Toothrock Trailhead, Eagle Creek Day-Use Area, and the Bridge of the Gods Trailhead.

This Mitchell Point section is nearly 6 miles long and connects the Wyeth Trailhead (Milepost 51) and Viento State Park. This section of trail passes four different waterfalls (Starvation Creek, Cabin Creek, Hole-in-the-Wall, and Lancaster Falls) and passes over a viaduct (land bridge). This scenic section provides scenic views of the gorge and surrounding landscapes. The Mitchell Point segment of the trail can be accessed at Starvation Creek State Park.

The 4.5-mile Twin Tunnels section of the trail is universally accessible via trailheads and parking at either end. There are views of the river below and two scenic tunnels that trail users can walk or ride through. This trail can be accessed at the Mark O. Hatfield West Trailhead.

In between all of these bike-only trail sections, they are all connected by sections of the Historic Columbia River Highway, where bikes share the road with cars.

Trail History

The original 75-mile vehicular route was the first major paved highway in the Pacific Northwest and the first scenic highway



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States: Oregon

Counties: Hood River, Multnomah, Wasco

Length: 18.8 miles

Trail end points: Wygant State Natural Area
(Cascade Locks) to Rock Creek Rd. (Mosier)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

The Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail runs between NE Frontage Rd. (Cascade Locks) and Rock Creek Rd. (Mosier).

Parking is available at:

- 62100 NE Frontage Rd. (Cascade Locks)

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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