



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Historic
Columbia
River
Highway State
Trail**
Oregon



Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail

Oregon

The Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail is an innovative road-to-trail conversion constructed on portions of the Historic



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 milepoint 14.22 at the Sandy River Bridge near Troutdale to milepoint 88 near The Dalles.

The original 75-mile vehicular route was the first major paved highway in the Pacific Northwest and the first scenic highway constructed in the United States. Following the path of the Lewis and Clark and Oregon Trails, the highway was carefully carved out of the steep cliffs of the south bank of the Columbia River between 1913 and 1922.

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 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 multiuse 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.

Bonneville Segment (John B. Yeon to Cascade Locks):

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

Mitchell Point Segment (Wyeth to Viento):

This section is nearly 6 miles 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.

This section of the trail can be accessed at Starvation Creek State Park.

Twin Tunnels Segment (Hood River to Mosier):

This 4.5 mile section of trail is universally accessible via trailheads and parking at either end. There are views of the



Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail

Oregon

States: Oregon

Counties: Hood River, Wasco

Length: 16.4 miles

Trail end points: Elowah Falls Parking, 62100 NE Frontage Rd to Rock Creek Rd. (Mosier)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Greenway/Non-RT

Trail activities: Bike, Walking

Parking & Trail Access

Parking is available at numerous locations along the trail.

For the Bonneville Section, there is parking at the Elowah Trails parking lot, 62100 NE Frontage Rd and at Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail - Bridge of the Gods Trailhead.

For the Mitchell Point Trail Section, there is parking at the Viento State Park Trailhead.

For the Twin Tunnels Section, there is parking at Mark O. Hatfield West Trailhead and at the easternmost section of the trail, 1547 Rock Creek Rd.

See [TrailLink Map](#) for more detailed information.



Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail

Oregon



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com