

# OREGON OVER & BACK TOUR

## 7-DAY C.O.G.S. TOUR

**August 15 – August 22, 2015**

**Meet Saturday, 8/15; Ride 8/16-8/22**

Non-refundable deposit: **\$225**

Total cost: **\$895**

Single supplement: **\$475**

**Final Payment (\$670) due by May 15, 2015**

Rider limit: **30**



**Tour leaders:** Ralph & Carol Nussbaum

### OVERVIEW:

This tour takes in the heart of Oregon, enjoying some of the best scenery Oregon has to offer on both sides of the Cascade Mountains – hence the name Oregon Over and Back Tour. We start in the beautiful Willamette Valley in Salem Oregon and head up to Silverton on the slopes of the Cascades staying at the gorgeous Oregon Gardens Resort. We then pass through Silver Falls State Park on our way to start our climb up Santiam Pass and stay at Detroit Lake before heading across the pass to Sisters where we will take a day off. On Day 5 we return to the west side of the state, going over the lightly travelled and beautiful Old McKenzie Pass to Eugene. The last two days have us exploring the Willamette Valley as we first ride to Corvallis and finally back to Salem. The daily distances average 65 miles, but varies from 40 to 96 miles. Elevation gains vary from 1100 feet to about 4000 feet. All told, we should end up with nearly 400 miles and 15,000' of climbing.

Download the [route map](#) (PDF).

### WHAT TO EXPECT:

**LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:** The ride is intended for riders with moderate biking skill levels or better. Everyone can ride at their own comfortable pace. Be aware, though, that there is a 90 mile day and we will be climbing 3,000 – 4,000' on four days. There will be a day off in Sisters. Although the route generally traverses lightly travelled rural roads, there are occasional stretches with no shoulder or significant traffic.

**WEATHER:** Weather in the Oregon Cascades 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 some of our accommodations provide a complementary warm breakfast.

**LODGING:** Quality of lodging varies from basic to traditional motel chains such as Holiday Inn Express and Best Western. In one place we find ourselves limited as to what is available and will be split between two lodgings.

**Sunday, August 16: Salem-Silverton, 40 miles, 1100 ft. climbing:** We cross the Willamette River leaving Salem and ride to a dairy farm with a cheese store with their own delicious cheese products, cross back across the Willamette on one of the three ferries on the river and cross the valley to Silverton, home of Oregon Gardens. By staying at the Oregon Hotel at the gardens, we get a free entrance to these interesting and beautiful gardens. The day is short so that there is plenty of time to wander through their many interesting exhibits.

**Monday, August 17: Silverton-Detroit Lake, 65 miles, 4,000 ft. climbing:** We leave Silverton and ride up to Silver Falls State Park, home of over 10 waterfalls. We will stop at two of them. We then coast downhill for a while in preparation for starting the climb up to Detroit Lake, a small town part way up Santiam Pass.

**Tuesday, August 18: Detroit Lake-Sisters, 57 miles, 3700 ft. climbing:** We continue up Santiam Pass and cruise down into Sisters, one of the nicest towns in Eastern Oregon, with lots of shops and restaurants to choose from.

**Wednesday, August 19: Day off in Sisters** – you can choose to shop, swim, go for a bike ride (road or mountain bike), or take a relaxing walk.

**Thursday, August 20: Sisters-Eugene, 96 miles, 3,000 ft. of climbing:** We leave Sisters and go up the Old McKenzie Pass highway through pine forests to the top of the pass which is covered with lava fields from the eruption of Mt. Mazama (now Crater Lake). This is one of the prettiest mountain passes in the Cascades. From the top it is a long beautiful downhill run to Eugene, first through lush forests and then farmland.

**Friday, August 21: Eugene-Corvallis, 75 miles, 3,000 ft. climbing:** From Eugene, we will head west along the foothills of the coast range. This is the heart of the Willamette Valley and offers us rolling verdant farmlands with a wide variety of agriculture. We will be sure to stop by a couple of the famous Oregon wineries and end the day on a fun bike trail into the heart of Corvallis.

**Saturday, August 22: Corvallis-Salem, 70 miles, 1100 ft. climbing:** We take the long way to Salem, wandering around the countryside in search of covered bridges. We will find 3 to admire and compare and then will wend our way back to Salem and our tour's end.

For more information contact Ralph and Carol at: [RENussbaum@outlook.com](mailto:RENussbaum@outlook.com)