



Ashland & Southern Oregon

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Why Go?

With a warm, sunny and dry climate that belongs in nearby California, Southern Oregon, the state's 'banana belt,' is an exciting place to visit. Rugged and remote landscapes are entwined with a number of designated 'wild and scenic' rivers, which are famous for their challenging white-water rafting, world-class fly-fishing and excellent hiking. There's good birding in the area – especially for bald eagles – and exceptional lakes to visit, including spectacular Crater Lake.

Gold and timber originally brought pioneers to Southern Oregon cities, and today the migration continues with families and retirees seeking affordable housing. Towns have been revitalized, and there's plenty of culture: Ashland is home to the renowned Oregon Shakespeare Festival, while nearby Jacksonville hosts the music-lovers' Britt Festival. The region is also an up-and-coming destination for wine lovers.

Best Places to Eat

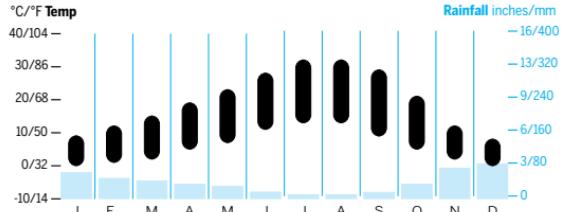
- ➡ New Sammy's Cowboy Bistro (p325)
- ➡ Crater Lake Lodge Dining Room (p336)
- ➡ Steamboat Inn (p333)
- ➡ Morning Glory (p324)
- ➡ Smithfields (p325)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➡ Crater Lake Lodge (p336)
- ➡ Jacksonville Inn (p327)
- ➡ Country Willows (p323)
- ➡ Out 'n' About Treosort (p330)
- ➡ Steamboat Inn (p332)

When to Go

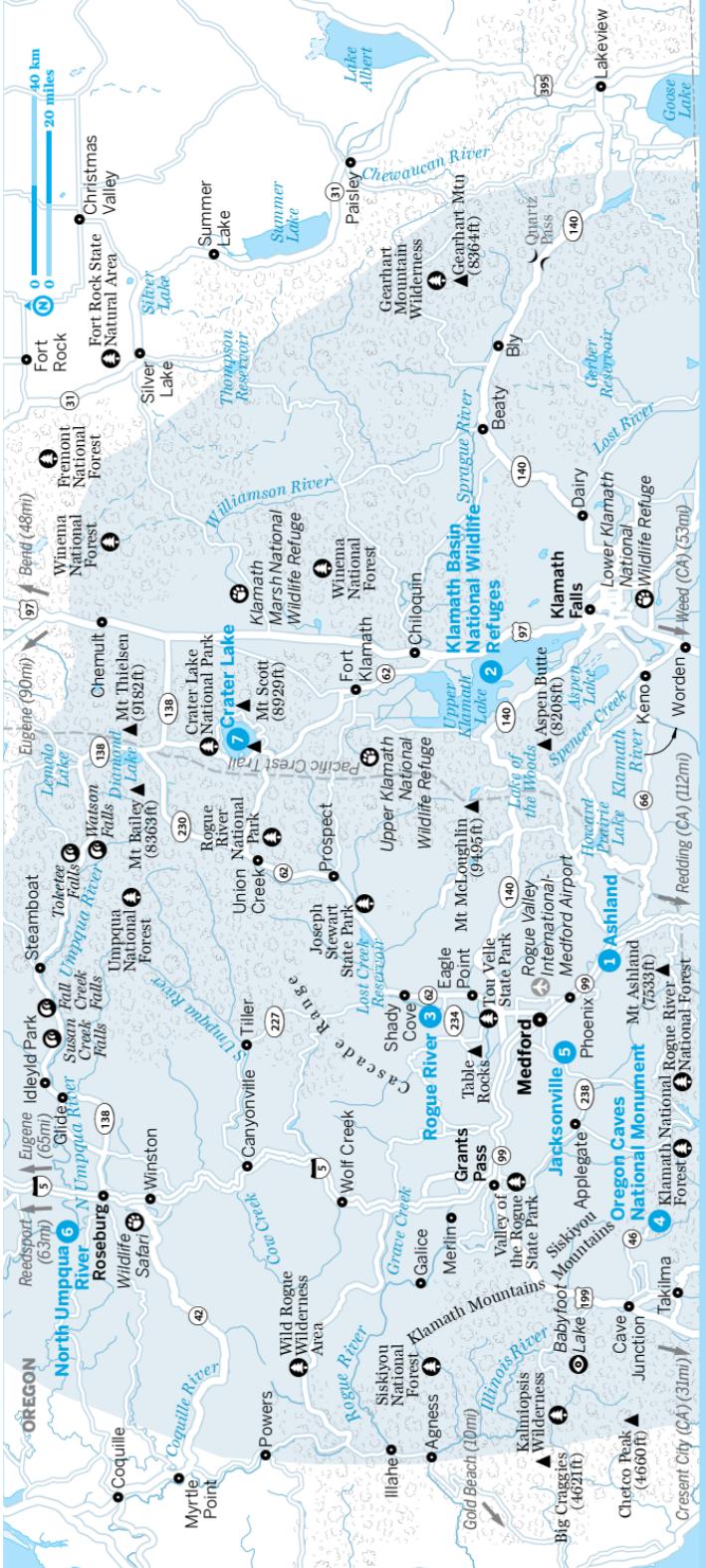
Ashland



Jan Spot bald eagles (and other birds) at the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges.

Jul–Sep Crater Lake at its best, when you can usually drive all the way around the rim.

Jun–Sep Prime summer months for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the Britt Festival.



Ashland & Southern Oregon Highlights

- ① **Oregon Shakespeare Festival** (p324) Strutting with the Bard at Ashland's Shakespeare Festival.
- ② **Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges** (p341)
- ③ **Rogue River** (p337) Rafting down Oregon's premier white-water destination.
- ④ **Oregon Caves National Monument** (p330) Spelunking the main grotto at these popular caves.
- ⑤ **Jacksonville** (p327) Exploring historic downtown streets and wine tasting rooms.
- ⑥ **North Umpqua River** (p331) Fly-fishing the world-class waters.
- ⑦ **Crater Lake** (p334) Traveling the scenic Rim Drive with breathtaking panoramas.