Sustainable Travel Tips

- Visit popular places at off-peak times and travel popular itineraries in the weather forecast? How are the roads? Are open fires permitted or campfires allowed? Check with local authorities.
- Check the weather forecast in advance and plan accordingly.
- Use public transportation or carpool to reduce emissions.
- Opt for electric or hybrid vehicles when a car is necessary.
- Support tour operators, hotels, and service providers that incorporate green practices in their operations.
- Reduce, reuse, and recycle as much as possible, and support businesses that do the same.

Land Carved by Water

Water is the master architect of the Central Cascades. Millions of years ago, the Columbia, Deschutes, and Klickitat Rivers carved the gorge that now forms the Columbia River Gorge. The highest part of the gorge is the Hood River County Fruit Loop, which features orchards and vineyards. The gorge is also home to a variety of wildlife, including black bears, hiking trails, and scenic drives.

NATURE'S BOUNTY

A treasure chest of plant and animal species, the Central Cascades is home to the majestic bald eagle and the endangered spotted owl. The region is also home to a variety of wildflowers, including the Oregon grilled onion, which is found in the Columbia River Gorge.

ADVENTUROUS SPIRITS

The Central Cascades is a playground for outdoor enthusiasts. From rushing rivers and perpetually snow-clad peaks, to the forested slopes and high-elevation lakes, there's something for everyone. Whether you're a mountain biker, a hiker, or a water sports enthusiast, the Central Cascades has it all.

LOCAL VISIONARIES

The Central Cascades is home to a variety of local visionaries who are committed to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship. From farm-to-table restaurants to sustainable accommodations, the region is rich in natural beauty and unique experiences.

Festivals and Events

- The Oregon Jamboree is held annually in July, featuring camping, music, and outdoor activities.
- The Mount Bachelor to Bend Cycling Classic takes place in August, with a variety of races for mountain bikers of all skill levels.
- The Santiam River Rodeo is held in July, featuring rodeo events and family-friendly activities.
- The McKenzie River Valley Food & Wine Festival takes place in August, showcasing the region's food and wine.
- The Barlow Trail Days is held in July, featuring history-rich events and activities.