

# The Bike Inn: A Welcome Rest From the Road in Clatskanie

For people who take their bicycle riding and touring seriously, hardships on the road are just another part of the adventure. Finding a place to lay down your sleeping bag and get a good night of sleep after a long day of pedaling can sometimes be tricky, but is often just a matter of pulling in to the next town on the road and finding the local park and pitching your tent. A shower? Maybe. A hot meal? If you feel like setting up the stove.

the languid Clatskanie River floating by, a tired bicycle tourist would probably just call it “a little slice of heaven.”

“I want to keep it as casual as I can,” says Kris during a tour of the Inn. “And user friendly.”

The Bike Inn, for a casual place, seems to have all the amenities. Kris has thought of just about everything. She charges \$20 per person, although she is open to negotiating with couples or groups.



“I’m here to accommodate those who are just really weary, need a soft bed, that don’t want to sleep out in the rain, again, that need to dry things off or need to do some laundry,” explains Kris. “I just want to make bicyclists feel welcome in Columbia County.”

In Clatskanie, Kris and John Lillich have created a place for bike tourists to stop, relax, rejuvenate and get back in the saddle—refreshed and ready to hit the road again.

The dorm has one bed, plus a futon that can be opened up and a few cots as well. She says most European bikers will travel with their own bedding, but she does have sheet sets available. There is a microwave, refrigerator and coffee maker (you supply the coffee). There is a restroom and washer and dryer attached to the dorm. Book shelves divide the space and are stuffed with reading material. Unique and restored bikes hang from the walls and ceiling—what else would you use to decorate a bike hostel? And Kris’ own large, bright and colorful artwork adorns the walls, (she taught art classes at Clatskanie High

The Bike Inn is a small, comfortable and welcoming place just off Highway 30, across the Clatskanie River from downtown—it’s nestled in among the self storage business the Lillich’s operate. Funky and quirky might describe it. Unique and quaint could also be used. But with a dormitory bedroom, laundry facility, bicycle work station and bench for repairs, and covered decks overlooking

School for a couple years).

Finally ready for that shower you’ve been craving for a couple of days? Head outside to the very private backyard garden with lots of chirping birds and you will find an outdoor shower (it’s enclosed with a stone floor and big shower head and hot water).

After that shower, relax on the front deck around the fire pit, surrounded by bamboo plants. Or sit undercover and watch the river crawl by. Or head back to the backyard garden. Or, if you aren’t completely worn out from the road,



borrow one of the Lillich’s kayaks and paddle around and explore Clatskanie from the river channel.

“I just had a guy from Seattle that came through and he just needed to rest,” said Kris. “He stayed two days and just kicked back on the deck and totally enjoyed himself.”

“I just really like the bicyclist mentality—they’re just great people,” says Kris. “Everybody that we’ve had stay here has been really interesting. And the whole culture of bicyclists—I just love it.”

So, if you are ever passing through Clatskanie on a bike, you now know where to stay. And this summer, if you see a bicyclist loaded with packs and gear pedaling the roads of Columbia County, you can give them a good tip on where to get some good R&R.



To find out more about The Bike Inn, contact Kris Lillich at 503-369-6503 or try 503-728-2051. You can also email [klatkskanai@charter.net](mailto:klatkskanai@charter.net), go to their webpage at [www.bikeinnoregon.com](http://www.bikeinnoregon.com), or see them on facebook at Bike Inn.



## One World, Many Stories

### Summer Reading Program at the Vernonia Public Library

Tues, June 28	Story & Craft/Activity Time	10-11 AM
Th, June 30	WA Co. Museum-School Days Program	6:30-7:30 PM
Tues, July 5	Story & Craft/Activity Time	10-11 AM
Th, July 7	Hart’s Reptile World	6:30-7:30 PM
Sat, July 9	Movie Matinée	2:00 PM

All programs are free of charge.

For more information call the Vernonia Library at 503-429-1818

## Spiralz Salon has moved!

New phone number! **503.429.7408**

New address! **59229 Nehalem Hwy. South**  
(Just off Highway 47, a half mile from original downtown location!)

By appointment

**spiralz**  
SALON

Karin Davenport, Owner/Stylist

