

# Columbia Century Challenge Bike Ride

Cycle Columbia County and NW Natural announce the 3rd annual Columbia Century Challenge on June 16. Registration is open and interested riders can visit [www.cyclecolumbiacounty.com](http://www.cyclecolumbiacounty.com). There are two course options: Century plus (112-122 miles) and the Metric Century Plus (82-92 miles). Cost of registration is \$45 per rider through June 1, after which it rises to \$55 per rider.

"Thank you, Columbia County, for your support of the past two rides. We continue to grow the number of participants and the caliber of the event to help everyone discover what a gem we have here in our neck of the woods," said Paul Barlow, Columbia Century Challenge Event Organizer.

Cycle Columbia County, made up of a team of local cycling enthusiasts and community members, brought the idea of a century bicycle event to life in 2016. The event is now a proven success, earning #2 best ride in Oregon in its inaugural year in the ORbike poll.

"We are humbled and proud to have competed with the top cycling events on the calendar to earn that award," added Barlow.

Columbia County features some great, bicycle-friendly back roads, from rolling roads through the old timberlands to farm roads through the open fields and pastures along the Columbia River, plus charming rural towns. It is the perfect backdrop for a fun and epic bike ride that has become an instant cycling classic. The routes are fun and challenging even for the toughest of cyclists.

This year's ride begins at Heritage Park in Scappoose, and several community events are being offered in conjunction with the ride. Participants and visitors can enjoy the Scappoose Farmer's Market and the first "Music in the Park" Summer concert, put on by the City of Scappoose and The Scappoose Community Club. There will also be food carts and a beer garden.

The event team is committed to



ensuring a positive rider experience from start to finish. A fully supported ride, riders can expect a well-marked route, stocked aid stations/rest stops approximately every 20 miles, free mechanical support, SAG wagon, and communica-

tions support, free off-street parking near the start/finish, friendly volunteers, and more.

The goal of the annual event is to put Columbia County on the map as a prime recreational bicycling destination and encourage travelers and avid cyclists from around the region to explore all that Columbia County has to offer. In addition, ride profits are invested in local cycling improvements such as recent installations of bike stations in Scappoose and Vernonia.

As Jonathan Maus, BikePortland, has said, "Columbia County is quickly starting to fulfill its vast potential as a bicycle recreation destination... With its proximity to Portland and diverse natural assets, it's exciting to see."

For detailed ride information and to learn more about the event visit [www.cyclecolumbiacounty.com](http://www.cyclecolumbiacounty.com) and [www.facebook.com/columbiacenturychallenge](http://www.facebook.com/columbiacenturychallenge) for updates.

## Worth the Trip: Nehalem River/Coast Loop *continued from page 7*

kinds of choices in sauces, cheeses, and toppings, and a nice view of the Nehalem River. Make sure to check their hours as they often don't open until after 3:00 pm in the off-season. In Manzanita, there are numerous options including the Sand Dune Pub with a cozy fireplace, good bar food, and a wide selection of beers on tap.



We headed up to Cannon Beach and stopped at a new brewpub called Public Coast for a beer and then headed to the new Pelican Brewpub for lunch. Both offer outdoor patio seating which was great since we had nice weather. Public Coast has self service – order at the counter and get your beer then your food will be delivered to your table later. Pelican Brewing opened their first brewpub all the way back in 1996 in Pacific City and have been at the forefront of the microbrew industry in Oregon, winning numerous

awards. They have since expanded to add a taproom in Tillamook and now a restaurant and brewery in Cannon Beach. The Cannon Beach brewery, located right in town, doesn't match the beautiful setting of their Pacific City location which sits right on the beach, but is large and spacious. The kitchen offers a delicious



Smuggler's Cove in Oswald West State Park

tower of onion rings and tasty flat bread pizza, and their tap list includes their usual core beers including Beak Breaker IPA, Kiwanda Cream Ale, and Tsunami Stout, along with several specialty, seasonal, and small batch beers.

After lunch, a quick walk out to Haystack Rock feels mandatory if you're in Cannon Beach. Then head up 101 to Highway 26 and back east to complete your adventure. Another option is to stop at Camp 18, grab a bite to eat, tour the grounds of the logging museum, and pay your respects at the Logger's Memorial, before heading back to Vernonia as you complete this loop.

After lunch, a quick walk out to Haystack Rock feels mandatory if you're in Cannon Beach. Then head up 101 to Highway 26 and back east to complete your adventure. Another option is to stop at Camp 18, grab a bite to eat, tour the grounds of the logging museum, and pay your respects at the Logger's Memorial, before heading back to Vernonia as you complete this loop.

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- Outdoor Ministry
- Christian Bow Hunters of America Annual Sportsman's Banquet

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