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Oregon Festival of American Music Summer Camps!

The American Music Institute

<p>Camps at OFAM 2004 <i>The Fabulous Fifties, Aug 5-14</i></p> <p>The Jazz Academy <i>Aug 1-14.</i> A 2-week, all-day camp for ages 12-19. Featuring instrumental and vocal ensembles which study with festival guest artists and perform as part of the festival! \$350</p> <p>Song & Dance Camp <i>Aug 1-14.</i> A 2-week, all-day theater arts camp for musicians & dancers ages 12-19. Participants study with festival guest artists and <i>My Fair Lady</i> cast members, and attend many OFAM concerts! \$350</p> <p>The Vaudeville Camp <i>Aug 2-14.</i> A 2-week, all-day musical and performance skills camp for ages 9-14 featuring juggling, magic, dance and mime! \$310</p>	<p>Guitar Camp <i>July 19-23 & July 26-30.</i> 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. Ages 8 - 17. <i>One week, \$195; both weeks. Several styles of guitar repertoire and performance are explored.</i> \$350</p> <p>Summer SongFest <i>July 12-16.</i> 9:30 am - 3:00 pm. Ages 7 - 12. <i>Students explore music from a "European Vacation."</i> \$175</p> <p>Percussion Camp <i>July 12-16.</i> 9 am - 1 pm. Ages 12 and up. <i>Participants study a broad range of classical and popular percussion instruments and techniques.</i> \$185</p>
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Space still available!
Call AMI at 687-6526
for Information & Registration
Financial aid is available to those who qualify!

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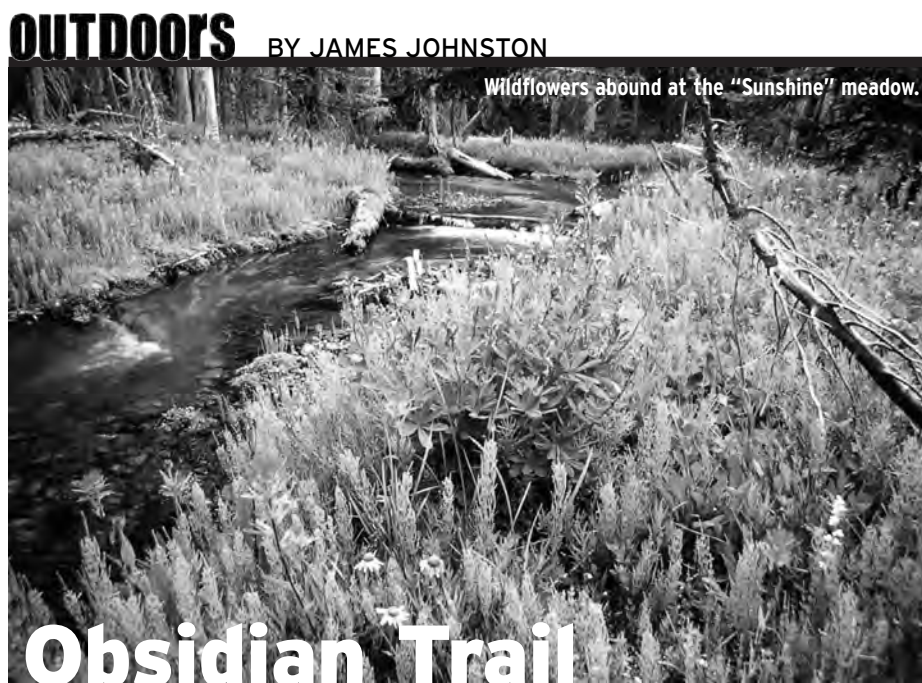
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Obsidian Trail

Highway 242 is a short cut to a wilderness paradise.

Scenic Highway 242 was the brainchild of Clyde Sietz, supervisor of the Cascade National Forest, the forerunner of the Willamette National Forest. In 1915, Sietz commissioned a report recommending the construction of a route over the Cascades to provide access to some "60,000,000,000 feet of high grade standing merchantable timber." The report also predicted that, "With the completion of the... highway ... this beautiful country will be a veritable paradise for sportsmen, motorists, fishers, campers, and all lovers of outdoor life." The narrow, windy mountain road was completed in 1925.

Today most people traveling over the Cascades take the faster and more modern Highway 126, which was completed in 1964. That same year Congress created the Three Sisters Wilderness, which now encompasses nearly 300,000 acres of pristine forests, lava flows, glaciers, lakes and wildflower meadows. Hwy. 242 provides easy access to the most spectacular scenery in the wilderness, including Linton Meadows, Sunshine and Obsidian Falls, all at the feet of the 10,000 foot tall Three Sisters.

The highway is closed for the winter and spring, but generally opens in time for the Fourth of July weekend. You can get to the Obsidian Trail, the area's most popular destination, by taking Highway 126 east from Eugene/Springfield for approximately 46 miles. About two miles past the McKenzie Ranger Station, take a right onto old McKenzie Pass Highway (Hwy. 242). Drive 242 for approximately 15 miles. Between mileposts 70 and 71, take a right at the sign for the Obsidian trailhead. Drive about a quarter of a mile and find the trailhead at the end of a loop with dozens of small parking stalls.

This hike is so popular that the Forest Service limits access by issuing permits for day hikes and backpacking trips. You can pick up your free permit at the McKenzie Ranger Station on Hwy. 126. On busy weekends, you may want to call ahead, (541) 822-3381, to reserve your trip.

The first half of the Obsidian Trail climbs gently through a relatively boring sub-alpine forest. Stay straight at all trail junctions, following signs for White Branch Creek. After three and half miles you'll climb to the top of a lava flow for the first of many views of the Three Sisters. Four miles from the trailhead you'll cross the White Branch and find a trail junction, the beginning of a mind-blowing four-mile loop.

Stay to the left on the Glacier View trail and climb .7 miles to the Pacific Crest Trail junction. Straight ahead is "Sunshine"—a wildflower dotted meadow that reaches up Glacier Creek valley to the foot of the Middle Sister (a trail follows the creek to the summit of the mountain, a strenuous, but non-technical ascent).

At Sunshine, turn south (right) on the Pacific Crest Trail and traverse a plateau strewn with small lakes, springs, glacial tarns and outrageous views of the Sisters (the PCT north takes you past a series of bizarre volcanic sculptures including Collier Cone, Four-in-One-Cone and Ya-Po-Ah Crater). After a mile and half you'll descend pass Obsidian Falls to another trail junction. Turn right to complete the loop back to the White Branch crossing (four miles south on the PCT is Linton Meadows, an avalanche of knee-high wildflowers).

The major attractions of the return leg are boulders of jagged obsidian left over from past lava flows. This was a center of the prehistoric economy, with obsidian tools from this area traded as far as 500 miles away.

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Notes: A deep snow pack may leave parts of this route covered by snow for a couple more weeks. The height of the wildflower season is in August.

Obsidian gets loved to death during the summer. If you're doing an overnight trip, camp at least 100 feet from streams and lakes, and only in areas that have already been cleared and smoothed for camping. Don't pick flowers, or pack out obsidian or other souvenirs. DO pack out any garbage you encounter. I recommend leaving your pets at home, but if you bring a dog, she (and you) need to stay on the trail at all times. In short: Do whatever you can to help keep Clyde Sietz's paradise intact for generations to come.