



for kids  
by kids

# Take a trip back in time at Jawbone Flats

BY LAUREN MURPHY  
*Of No Adults Allowed*

Years and years ago, Oregon was home to over 20 different Native American tribes. Two of these tribes used to live in an area now known as Opal Creek. Apart from its beautiful hiking trails and resistance to forest fires, Opal Creek has a special hidden treasure: Jawbone Flats. It may not seem like much with buildings dating back to the 1930s, water from the creek, the slow internet and no phone; but the Jawbone Flats are more intriguing than you may think.

In the 1850s gold miners came to Opal Creek. They built the Jawbone Flats mining camp in 1930, almost 80 years later. The camp processed

copper, silver and zinc.

During the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt signed off on a number of programs and projects to help the American people get back on their feet. He called it the New Deal. One of the projects he authorized was the construction of the Gold Creek Bridge, there were also some mining roads.

In the 1850's Mining at Opal Creek was never very successful. In fact in the 1950s the camp was mostly shut down due to snow damage.

Although the Jawbone Flats was left behind, it was not forgotten. About ten years after Amalgamated Mining Co. stopped using the flats, Shiny Rock Mining Company moved in. Through the 1960s and 1970s a small group of



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awesome places to visit

miners and their families lived at Jawbone Flats.

In the 1980s, rumors of logging started to spread. Some locals who cared greatly about Opal Creek, and saw the beauty it had to offer, established Friends of Opal Creek an activism group. They wanted the land to be protected

The remnants of an old mining camp still stand at Jawbone Flats.

from logging, mining and any further damage. In the mid 1990s.

Currently, the Opal Creek forest has over 20,000 visitors per year. From April to November groups can rent out part of the Jawbone Flats camp. They also offer several programs, volunteer weekends, hiking and more.

# Jazz up tea time with these recipes



A soothing cup of tea after a tough day at school is one of the best feelings. Everything about it, from the smell to the taste, is relaxing. Drinking tea is one of the best parts of my day, so I wanted to try and make some. Below are some fairly simple recipes you can use, be sure to ask an adult to help you so you can enjoy it together.

## PINE NEEDLE TEA:

Rinse a handful of pine needles. Pull off any of the brown bits at the bottom, they should come off easily. Ask your adult for help to cut the needles into about a ¼ to ½ inch long pieces. Bring about two cups of water to a boil (you'll need the adults help with this step, too). Pour the hot water over a teaspoon of pine needles. Be sure to put the needles in a tea strainer. Let steep until you get the desired strength. Enjoy.

## MINT TEA:

Bring two cups of water to a boil and pour it into a teapot. Steep two or three green tea bags in the water for three minutes. Add mint leaves (tear the leaves up to release the flavor) and let it steep for three more minutes and then top it off with more hot water. Mint tea can have a very light flavor so feel free to add a little sugar to sweeten it.

## FENNEL SEED TEA:

Bring two cups of water to a boil. While waiting for the water to boil, gently crush about a teaspoon of fennel seeds to release the flavor. Put the ground seeds into a tea strainer and pour a cup of hot water over them. Let it steep for seven to 10 minutes. Take the strainer out and top it off with more hot water.

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