the Chief of the Below World was driven into his home, and the top of the mountain fell upon him. When the morning sun rose, the high mountain was gone. The mountain which the Chief of the Below World had called his own no longer towered . . .

The rain fell. For many years, rain fell in torrents and filled the great hole that was made when the mountain fell upon the Chief of the Below World. The Curse of Fire was lifted. Peace and quiet covered the earth. Never again did the Chief of the Below World come up from his home. Never again did his voice frighten the people.

From Indian Legends of the Pacific Northwest

HOW TO ENJOY THE PARK

First, read this booklet. The few minutes spent will help you to plan your visit and to make your experiences much more meaningful.

Second, stop at the exhibit building in Rim Village. In this building are exhibits on wildflowers, rocks, wildlife, and other natural history subjects. The naturalist in attendance will be happy to help you schedule your activities. He will explain the processes that created Crater Lake and other processes that are continuing to change it. Here, too, you can purchase publications on the formation of the lake, plant-life and wildlife, and the Indian legends. Schedules of naturalist activities are posted here.

We urge everyone to attend the evening campfire programs and explore the forest and lake with a park naturalist as guide. (For a description of these activities, see page 8.)

Your orientation will be completed by a visit to the Sinnott Memorial Overlook building, just below the exhibit building, within the caldera. The broad terrace presents a magnificent panorama, and mounted fieldglasses with explanatory labels provide a closeup view of certain features. In the exhibit room, paintings and photographs portray the varying moods of the lake.

WHAT TO SEE AND DO ON YOUR OWN

You will want to explore much of the park by yourself. Roads lead to most places of interest, and delightful trails will guide you to others. The booklet Along Crater Lake will be an invaluable aid to your automobile explorations. Also, look for the interpretive markers at many of the turnouts; they tell of the natural forces which have made the beauty you see around you.

Rim Drive, encircling the caldera, presents observation points from which to view and photograph the lake. You will begin to comprehend the size and scenic grandeur of Crater Lake once you have taken this 35-mile drive.

The Pinnacles are an easy 6 miles from Rim Drive at Kerr Notch. Here, you will see the needlelike spires of pumice and scoria rising out of the 200-foot-deep canyon of Wheeler Creek. Long ago, this area was a veritable "valley of 10,000 smokes," where small, loose rock fragments solidified around the gas and steam vents. Later, water erosion carried away the softer surrounding material, revealing the harder pinnacles. In Sand Creek canyon and in Godfrey Glen in Annie Creek canyon, you may see similar spires and fluted columns.

Phantom Ship, reached by a short spur from Rim Drive, provides an excellent observation point. At an elevation of over 7,800 feet, among the windswept whitebark pines, you look down 1,600 feet to the lake surface, gaining a view which complements that from Sinnott Memorial Overlook.

North Entrance Road leads through lodgepole pine forests and the Pumice Desert. Try to visualize this area just after it was devastated by the glowing avalanche of pumice (a frothy lava) that covered it during the climatic eruptions of Mount Mazama. The lodgepole pine, a pioneering tree, has succeeded in reclaiming most of the area except the Pumice Desert. Even here the lodgepole may eventually win out and grow on top of a pumice cover that is as much as 200 feet thick. When you drive along Oreg. 62 from either the South or West Entrances, you will see forests that now grow where molten lavas once poured down the mountainside. You will also see vertical-walled canyons cut through the lavas by Annie and Castle Creeks.

Cloudcap, reached by a short spur from Rim Drive, provides an excellent observation point. At an elevation of over 7,800 feet, among the windswept whitebark pines, you look down 1,600 feet to the lake surface, gaining a view which complements that from Sinnott Memorial Overlook.

North Entrance Road leads through lodgepole pine forests and the Pumice Desert. Try to visualize this area just after it was devastated by the glowing avalanche of pumice (a frothy lava) that covered it during the climatic eruptions of Mount Mazama. The lodgepole pine, a pioneering tree, has succeeded in reclaiming most of the area except the Pumice Desert. Even here the lodgepole may eventually win out and grow on top of a pumice cover that is as much as 200 feet thick. When you drive along Oreg. 62 from either the South or West Entrances, you will see forests that now grow where molten lavas once poured down the mountainside. You will also see vertical-walled canyons cut through the lavas by Annie and Castle Creeks.
Wizard Island is actually a volcano within a volcano. You can reach it by boat and climb the trail to the summit, about 760 feet above the lake. Once on top, you can climb down into the caldera, which is about 90 feet deep and 365 feet wide.

Launch trips around the lake will give you a close-up view of the inside of a volcano and of the multicolored lava cliffs, which are even more impressive when viewed from below. The Phantom Ship may remind you of a ship under sail in the waters made even bluer by their closeness. The trips, regularly accompanied by park naturalists, start from the foot of Cleetwood Trail, and an enjoyable part of this experience is the walk into the caldera over this trail. You can secure further information about the trips at the visitor center or at the Crater Lake Lodge.

Hiking brings you into close contact with nature. You will be surprised to find how many things you notice while hiking that you would not otherwise see. A number of short trails terminate at points of interest which you will not want to miss. (You can purchase U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, particularly useful on longer hikes, at the exhibit building.

Cleetwood Trail, located on the northeast wall above Cleetwood Cove, leads to the lakeshore. This recently constructed trail descends gradually for 1.1 miles through a mixed evergreen forest to the boat landing. The launch trips start from this boat landing. You should allow 35 minutes for the trip down the trail and 45 minutes for the climb back.

Garfield Peak offers magnificent views of the lake and the surrounding region from its summit, 8,000 feet above sea level and almost 1,900 feet above the lake. You can reach the summit of the peak by following a 1.3-mile trail eastward from the lodge.

Discovery Point Trail is a delightful walk in the opposite direction from Garfield Peak. On this trail, you may stand near the place that Hillman stood when he, as the first white man to see the lake, made his exciting discovery more than a hundred years ago. (See page 10.)

The Watchman, a peak on the west rim, rises more than 1,800 feet above the lake. You can reach the summit by taking an 0.8-mile trail from Rim Drive. Here you can see the fire lookout in operation. Exhibits in a lower room of the lookout building describe the life and death of a forest. Exceptional views extend in all directions, and on clear days you can see California's snowy Mount Shasta, more than 100 miles away.

The Watchman offers views of the lake—so remote, so unexpected in these high mountains, so impressive in its rugged surroundings—you may wonder how this scene affected the first man to behold it.
ash, cinder, and pumice. Later, streams and glaciers carved valleys in the sides of the volcano and deposited rock debris on its flanks. You can see for yourself the layered character and different formations of the mountain. They are clearly exposed in many places within the caldera wall.

For the Klamath Indians, the caldera's beauty was probably overshadowed by the stories they had heard of the cataclysmic eruptions that formed it. Few of them trod the slopes that you ascend to-day. Thinking that he had made a first discovery, Skell, "Chief of the Above World," stood on the peak of Mount Shasta, some 100 miles to the south. The climax of the battle came when Liao's throne, Mount Mazama, collapsed within itself. This account of the mountain's destruction is remarkable by the geologists' explanation. You can read other legends about the lake water, Wizard Island, and Liao Rock in Elia Clark's book. (See page 26.)

HOW CRATER LAKE WAS FORMED

Origin of the mountain. The slope that you ascend to the rim, and the caldera wall rising 500 to 2,000 feet above the water, are remnants of Mount Mazama. In comparatively recent geologic time, numerous volcanic peaks were formed near the western edge of a vast lava plateau. Two of the most widely known are Mount Mazama, result when glaciers modify the V-shaped, youthful, stream-carved canyons. The lava flow that formed Liao Rock filled an ancient glacier valley. As you can see, the bottom of the flow is U-shaped.

For many years, with much personal sacrifice, Steel devoted time and energy to this end. His efforts were not in vain; the park was established on May 22, 1902. Steel continued to devote his life to the development of the park, serving as superintendent and later as park commissioner, which office he held until his death in 1934.
Note the crater at the top of Wizard Island.

Origin of the lake. The water of Crater Lake comes from rain and snow. The average annual precipitation is 69 inches, most of which falls as snow. As you can see, the lake has no significant inlet, and we know of no outlet, except seepage. The water level fluctuates only slightly from season to season. Evaporation and seepage are in a state of relative balance with precipitation. The annual variation is from 1 to 3 feet, the level being highest in spring and lowest in autumn.

Depth of the lake. Only six lakes in the world are deeper than Crater Lake. In the Western Hemisphere, only Great Slave Lake in Canada is deeper—by about 83 feet. In 1886, a U.S. Geological Survey expedition, under the direction of Capt. Clarence E. Dutton, made a total of 94 soundings in the lake. Using crude wire-and-weight gear, the party calculated the greatest depth to be 1,956 feet. In 1959, a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey party completed resounding the lake. Using a modern sonic depth finder, this group found the greatest depth to be 1,932 feet. The latest techniques revealed that the 1886 figure was off by a mere 64 feet!

Color of the lake. The deep blue of the lake is believed to be caused chiefly by the scattering of sunlight in water of exceptional depth and clarity; the blue rays of the sunlight spectrum are reflected upward; the other rays are absorbed by the water.

WILDLIFE

The green meadows and forests that now cover the once bleak volcanic landscape provide food and shelter for wildlife. Your visit will be enriched as you learn more about the birds and other animals of the park.

Mammals You May See

The appealing golden-mantled ground squirrels scampering around every parking turnout can hardly escape your notice. They are often confused with the two species of chipmunks, which are smaller and shyier. It is easy to tell the difference: the ground squirrel has a stockier body, with a white strip between two dark stripes on each side of the back, and no stripes on the face; the two species of chipmunk have stripes on the face. We recommend that you enjoy these animals without handling them, they may bite, and they occasionally carry serious disease. The small, tree-inhabiting Douglas squirrel, or chickaree, may scold you from the safety of a tree limb. This squirrel, dark gray-brown above and pale orange to light gray below, is common. Another mammal that spends much time in trees, but is seldom seen there, is the porcupine. You are more likely to see it along the road at night. Look for the large, fat-bodied, yellow-bellied marmot in the rock slides. You may also hear the plaintive, bleating "yenk, yenk" of the tiny pika, or "rock rabbit," issuing from crevices in the talus.

Golden-mantled ground squirrel.

Birds You May See

The deep blue of the lake is believed...
Parks. Park naturalists and rangers will welcome your ques-
tions and help you to become better acquainted with the pleasures of bird watching.

LIFE IN CRATER LAKE WATERS

Indians formerly living in the vicinity of Crater Lake be-
lieved that ferocious monsters dwelled in its mysterious blue
depths. We know that this is not true, but Crater Lake does
contain a surprising number of plants and animals. Much
of this life came into the water naturally, and some was intro-
duced by man. Thirty-seven fingernail-size trout were
planted by William G. Steen in 1888. Other plantings were
made up to the early 1940's, when this practice was dis-
continued. Populations of rainbow trout and kokanee
(landlocked form of sockeye salmon) are now maintained
through natural reproduction.

You may see the harmless valley garter snake on shore or
in the water. Among the rocks, look for crayfish, snails,
tsalmon. Freshwater shrimp are among the forms re-
stricted to the water. Just as important are the microscopic
animals and plants that you cannot see, for they supply food
for the larger animals. You may see the glassy skeletal re-
mains of diatoms which are deposited as a thick zone on the
floor of Pumalo Bay and elsewhere around the Inner 

Larger forms of algae give a green color to the tiny pools
on the west end of the island.

Gazing into the depths of Crater Lake, you will marvel
on the west end of the island.

As you will see, the distribution of plants is dependent
on several factors, including climate and soil type. Gen-
erally, as you climb upward the air becomes cooler and
sterning heavier precipitation. These "climatic zones" pro-
duce characteristic groupings of plants and animals,
called life zones. Three such zones occur within

Trees and Shrubs

As you drive through the Transition life zone on the
lower western slopes of Mount Mazama, look for

trance. Associated with the ponderosa pine are white fir,
sugar pine, and a few Douglas-fir. Broad-leaved trees, such
as quaking aspen and black cottonwood, are present in moist
locations. The snowbrush ceanothus and greenleaf man-
zanita extend upward into the Canadian life zone.

Nearly pure stands of lodgepole pine blanket large areas
in the Canadian life zone. Elsewhere, you will find western
white pine, Shasta red fir, subalpine fir, and mountain hem-
lock. Shrubs include the currants, whortleberry, pinemat
manzanita, and beavberry honeysuckle. Photographers de-
light in the showy red berries of the Pacific red elder and
the Pacific mountain-ash.

In the rim area around Crater Lake, Canadian life zone
plants mingle with those of the Hudsonian life zone.

Mountain hemlock and Shasta red fir are common to both
zones. Whitebark pine, found sparingly near Rim Village,
develop into nearly pure stands at higher elevations.

You will find their storm-twisted forms near the highest point
along the Cloudcap road.

Wildflowers

Colorful meadows of wildflowers are found around
numerous springs which form the sources of streams on the
outer slopes of the mountain. Look for wildflowers
at these places and along the road between park headquar-
ters and Rim Village and along Rim Drive. The flowers

add to the pleasure of hiking the park trails. July and
August are the best months to see them, but you can find
them earlier in lower areas and on warmer exposures.

Blossoms of the spreading phlox, which carpet the barren
pumice areas, may be so profuse as to fill the air with their
delightful and delicate perfume. You may expect phlox
and the western pasqueflower to appear shortly after
the snow melts. Patches of painted-cup and sulfur eriogonum
color the roadsides, followed later by common peat-
lasting and fireweed.

Plant labels will introduce you to the flowers as you stroll
along the Garfield Peak and Discovery Point Trails. Castle
Crest Wildflower Garden, near park headquarters, is one of
the most attractive and ideal places for studying Crater
Lake flora. There you can see echinops, violas, columbine,
gilia, painted-cup, bleedingheart, monkeyflower, asters,
and great masses of larkspur and monkeyflower, all labeled
for identification. Use the self-guiding trail booklet to learn
about the associated trees and shrubs.

The flower exhibit in the visitor center in Rim Village
will help you to recognize the plants that you see along the
park roads and trails, and there are several informative publica-
tions about the park's wildflowers. The booklet Along
Crater Lake Roads calls attention to outstanding roadside
wildflower locations. Another booklet, 101 Wildflowers
of Crater Lake National Park, is useful for identifying the
commonly seen flowers.

THE CHANGING SEASONS

It has been said that Crater Lake has but two seasons—
winter and summer. This is not exactly true, for spring, the
season when deep winter snows melt, and summer, dur-
ing July and August, is like the spring of lower altitudes.

Summer, Snow covers the park for nearly 8 months of
the year. On your winter drive to Crater Lake, you pass be-

 tween high snowbanks. At Rim Village, you may enter the
coffee shop through a "snow tunnel." Buildings and camp-
grounds lose their identity and become as one with the white
wilderness. Trees bend gracefully under heavy snow bur-
dens; the dazzling white blanket contrasts with the blue sky;
and there is an atmosphere of serenity and sparkling

AUTUMN weather is unpredictable, with storms punctuat-
ing the crisp air and bright blue skies. Rim Drive and the
North Entrance road remain open until the first heavy snow.

Especially during October, autumn colors of dogwood,
maple, willow, and aspen make the drive to the park from
the surrounding lowland a delightful experience.
Mount Scott's hollowed flanks tell of past glaciers.

WHERE TO STAY

Free campgrounds are open from about July 1 to September 30, depending on snow conditions. Mazama and Annie Springs Campgrounds, near the junction of the South and West Entrance roads, and Rim Village Campground have fireplaces, tables, water, and flush toilets. Lost Creek Campground, on the road to The Pinnacles, has fireplaces, tables, water, and pit toilets. Hostelries are available, but there are no utility connections.

Reservations for campsites cannot be made in advance. For campground rules, consult the campground bulletin board and see page 29 of this booklet. If you need advice, ask a park ranger. And a word of caution: Bears may take your food if you leave it unprotected in camp.

Lodge and cabins, located at Rim Village, are open from about June 15 to September 10. You should make reservations well in advance and send a deposit. Write to the Crater Lake Lodge, Inc., Crater Lake, Ore., 97604, for information and reservations.

Picnic areas are provided for short stops. You may leave your dog or cat in your car, on a leash, or caged at all times. However, to protect wildlife, and in consideration for others, it must be kept in your car, on a leash, or caged at all times. Pets are not permitted in public buildings, on trails, or beyond the rim wall.

Food and supplies. The dining room at Crater Lake Lodge is open during the same period that the lodge is in operation. In summer the cafeteria in Rim Village serves meals from 7 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. During the winter, on weekends and holidays, it is operated as a coffee shop, serving light refreshments. Some groceries may be purchased at the cafeteria in Rim Village.

Equipment rental. You can rent rowboats and fishing tackle at the boat landing at the foot of the Cleetwood Trail. Private boats are not permitted on the lake.

Mail. A branch post office is located in the administration building at park headquarters. Guests in the lodge or cabins at Rim Village should have mail addressed in care of Crater Lake Lodge. Others should have their mail addressed in care of General Delivery, Crater Lake, Ore.

Church. Protestant church services and Sunday school are conducted at Community House, Rim Village, and at the Methodist church in Mazama Campground. Schedules are posted on bulletin boards and are announced at campfire programs. Catholic services are held in nearby towns.

Fires and smoking. Your carelessness may start a fire, leaving behind a desolation of blackened forest, dead wildlife, and even dead people. Build your fire only in a campground fireplace and extinguish it completely with water whenever you leave. Do not smoke while you are walking. If you have to smoke, stop and clear a small patch of ground in which to deposit your matches, ashes, and extinguished tobacco. When driving, use your ash tray. Throwing burning material from your car is unlawful. Report fires immediately to the nearest park ranger.

 services

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YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR PARK

The beauty and primitive atmosphere of Crater Lake exist today because of the efforts of Americans who believed in the ideal of preserving outstanding natural areas for the enjoyment of future generations. Do your part to assure that those who follow you will have the same opportunities to benefit from this park.

The National Park Service has established practical rules for your safety and to help you to protect the park.

For yourself. You are on a vacation and should be careful, but your vacation may be spoiled if you are careless. Stay on the trails—and above all, do not venture out over the caldera wall, except on the trails. The volcanic origin of the rock and soil here make for the most treacherous footing. Avoid trips alone.

Your car. All park roads are safe if you drive carefully. Maximum speed limits are posted; however, you will see more and have a more enjoyable visit if you drive slowly.

Your camp. Use only the designated campgrounds which are provided for your convenience. Burn all possible trash in your campfire; place all other refuse in garbage cans. Use only dead and down material for your campfire. Please maintain quiet between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Remember, a good camper is a clean camper.

Pets. You may bring your dog or cat with you. However, to protect wildlife, and in consideration for others, it must be kept in your car, on a leash, or caged at all times. Pets are not permitted in public buildings, on trails, or beyond the rim wall.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

You can increase your enjoyment and understanding of the park by reading of it in greater detail. The following publications are among those sold through the Crater Lake Natural History Association, a nonprofit corporation organized for the purpose of assisting in the scientific, educational, historical, and interpretive activities of the National Park Service. You can purchase the publications at the visitor center and at park headquarters.


Clark, Ella E. Indian Legends of the Pacific Northwest. Univ. of Calif. Press, Berkeley, Calif. 1953.

Farner, Donald S. Mount Scott’s hollowed flanks tell of past glaciers.


Crater Lake, Oreg.


Crater Lake, Oreg.


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Crater Lake, Oreg.


Crater Lake, Oreg.


Crater Lake, Oreg.

Tranquillity, in a setting formed by violent eruption.
Oregon State Highway Commission photo.

Wild animals. You may see bear, deer, and other animals. All are wild; some are dangerous. Watch them from a distance. Park regulations prohibit feeding deer or bear or molesting any animal. These regulations are enforced for your own safety.

Fishing. You may fish in park streams from June 15 to September 10, and in Crater Lake when the trail is open. No fishing license is required. The limit is 10 fish per day. You may not use or possess bait fish.

Preserving natural features. Other visitors will appreciate your consideration in leaving clean trails and roadides. Trash containers are provided along roads. Every natural thing—flowers, trees, rocks, wildlife—is to be left undisturbed for others to enjoy. Take from here only pictures and pleasant memories; leave only traces of your footsteps.

ADMINISTRATION

Crater Lake National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

The National Park System, of which this park is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the scenic, scientific, and historic heritage of the United States for the benefit and enjoyment of its people.

A superintendent is in immediate charge of the park; his offices are in the administrative center, 3 miles south of Rim Village. His address is Crater Lake National Park, Crater Lake, Oreg., 97604. Inquiries concerning accommodations within, and transportation to, the park should be addressed to Crater Lake Lodge, Inc., Crater Lake, Oreg., 97604.

Park rangers are the uniformed protective force of the park. They are responsible for safeguarding its resources for your enjoyment and that of future generations, and they enforce park rules and regulations for your safety. If you need information or direction, or are in any difficulty, see a park ranger. You will find him always ready to be of help.

Park naturalists, also uniformed, are the interpretive staff of the park. They conduct research programs, prepare publications, present evening programs and conducted trips, and engage in other activities that help you to enjoy and understand the park.

AMERICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Created in 1849, the Department of the Interior—America's Department of Natural Resources—is concerned with the management, conservation, and development of the Nation's water, wildlife, mineral, forest, and park and recreational resources. It also has major responsibilities for Indian and territorial affairs.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department works to assure that nonrenewable resources are developed and used wisely, that park and recreational resources are conserved, and that renewable resources make their full contribution to the progress, prosperity, and security of the United States—now and in the future.

VISITOR-USE FEES

Vehicle permit fees are collected at entrance stations. If you arrive when an entrance station is unattended, you must obtain a permit before leaving the park. Fees are not listed herein because they are subject to change; but the information, may be obtained by writing to the superintendent.

Fee revenues are deposited in the U.S. Treasury; they offset, in part, the cost of operating and maintaining the National Parks.

Cover photograph: Courtesy of Oregon State Highway Commission.