

Crater Lake National Park



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



“Crater Lake is the greatest asset to southern Oregon. It is worth traveling hundreds of miles to see. I thought that I had gazed upon everything beautiful in nature as I have spent many years traveling thousands of miles to view the beauty spots of the earth, but I have reached the climax. Never again can I gaze upon the beauty spots of the earth and enjoy them as being the finest thing I have ever seen.

Crater Lake is far above them all.”

- Jack London, Author, 1911

(After a visit to Crater Lake on August 11, 1911)

Crater Lake National Park protects the deepest lake in the United States. Fed by rain and snow, the lake is considered to be the cleanest large body of water in the world. The water is exceptional for its clarity and intense blue color. The lake rests inside a caldera formed approximately 7,700 years ago when a 12,000-foot-tall (3,600-meter) mountain volcano collapsed following a major volcanic eruption.

Later eruptions formed Wizard Island, a cinder cone near the southwest shore of the Lake. Today, old-growth forests and open meadows blanket the volcano's outer slopes, harboring a variety of plants and animals, including several rare species. The area is central to the cultural traditions of local American Indian tribes, and the park provides unique opportunities for scientific study and public enjoyment.

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When To Visit Crater Lake

Visitors to the park enjoy multiple opportunities to explore the caldera and marvel at the spectacular view points on the 33-mile-long rim drive. Diverse interpretive programs enhance visitors' knowledge and appreciation of this national park, 90 percent of which is managed as wilderness. In Summer months enjoy a guided boat tour, guided hike or an evening program at Mazama Campground. During our eight-month-long High Cascades Winter, experience a ranger-led snowshoe walk or traverse the many back-country Nordic ski trails available for the well equipped cross-country skier.

Crater Lake National Park is open year-round, 24 hours a day. Highway 62 is open year round, as is the road to Rim Village, with the exception of after heavy snowstorms, which can happen anytime of the year. The East Rim Drive historic road around the lake is generally open early July thru October and offers majestic views of this mountain top wonder. Some roads, trails, and facilities in the park, however, are closed October thru May due to deep snow-pack. Also, the park's North Entrance Road and Rim Drive are generally closed October thru June.

Entrance Fees: \$10 • Seven-Day Pass
\$80 • Annual pass to ALL national parks and federal areas

Camping and Lodging in the Park

Lodging – Historic Crater Lake Lodge (71 rooms) and Mazama Village Cabins (40 units)

Camping

Mazama – mid June through September, 200 tent and RV sites, limited electric hookups, flush toilets, showers. \$21-27.

Operated by Xanterra resorts. For lodging or Mazama Campground reservations call 1-888-774-2728 or visit www.craterlakelodges.com.

Lost Creek – July through September, 16 sites, tents only, flush toilets, water - \$10. No reservations.

Operated by the National Park Service.

For More Information

Crater Lake National Park
P.O. Box 7, Crater Lake, OR 97604-0007
(541)594-3000
www.nps.gov/crla