

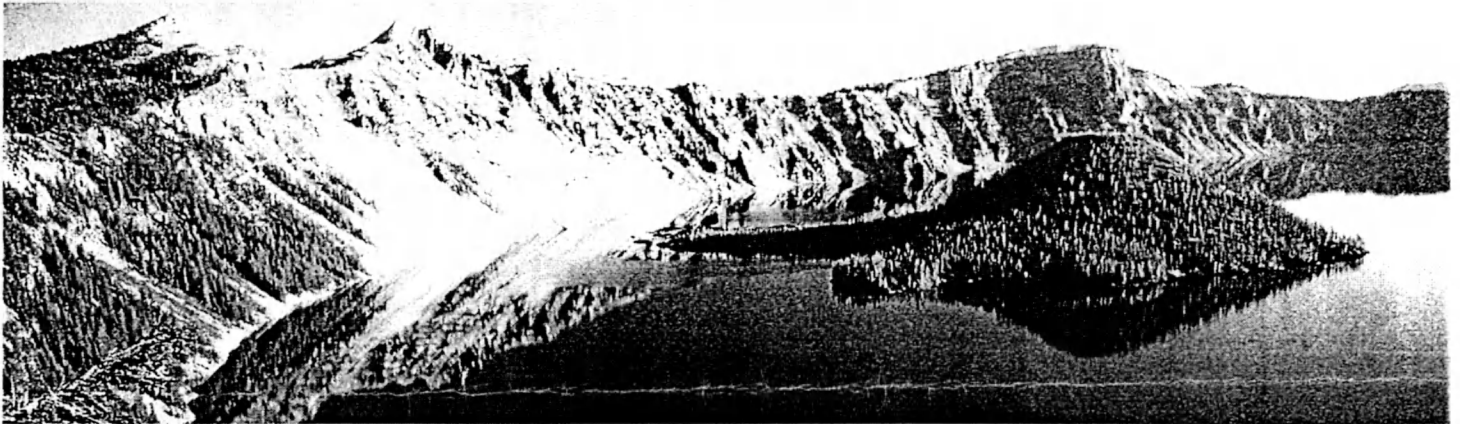
Crater Lake

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Crater Lake National Park



Welcome to Crater Lake National Park!



Crater Lake Is One of the World's Most Unique and Beautiful Landscapes

On sunny summer days, neither words nor photographs can capture Crater Lake's remarkable blueness. For much of the year—usually October to July at higher elevations—a thick blanket of snow encircles the lake. An average of 533 inches of snow fall in the park every year. Crater Lake is filled almost entirely by melted snow. At 1,943 feet deep, it is the deepest lake in the United States, the seventh-deepest in the world. It is also one of the clearest.

Visiting Crater Lake National Park

Crater Lake lies in a caldera, or volcanic basin, created when the 12,000 foot high Mount Mazama collapsed 7,700 years ago following a large eruption. Humans probably witnessed the cataclysmic eruption; nevertheless, local Indians said nothing about Crater Lake to trappers and pioneers, who did not find it until 1853. Crater Lake was designated a national park in 1902.

Visitor Centers

Information is available throughout the year, at the Steel Information Center in the Park Headquarters area, at the Rim Village Visitor Center during the summer, or in the Cafeteria and Gift Shop building in Rim Village during the winter.

Ranger-led Activities

During the summer, campfire programs are presented at the Mazama Campground amphitheater. Rangers also lead hikes, offer special activities for children, and provide narrated boat tours in cooperation with the park's concessioner.

Lodging, Meals, and Supplies

Crater Lake Lodge is open from May to October. Motel units are available at Mazama Village from June to October. For reservations call (541) 830-8700.

Meals and gifts are available in Rim Village. During the winter, Rim Village is not always accessible due to snow, and hours of operation are limited. The store at Mazama Village sells groceries, gas, and limited supplies from June to October.

Camping

Camp at Mazama or Lost Creek Campgrounds, or in the backcountry with a free permit. Campgrounds open when snow melts in early summer and are closed by snow in September or October.

The Park in Winter

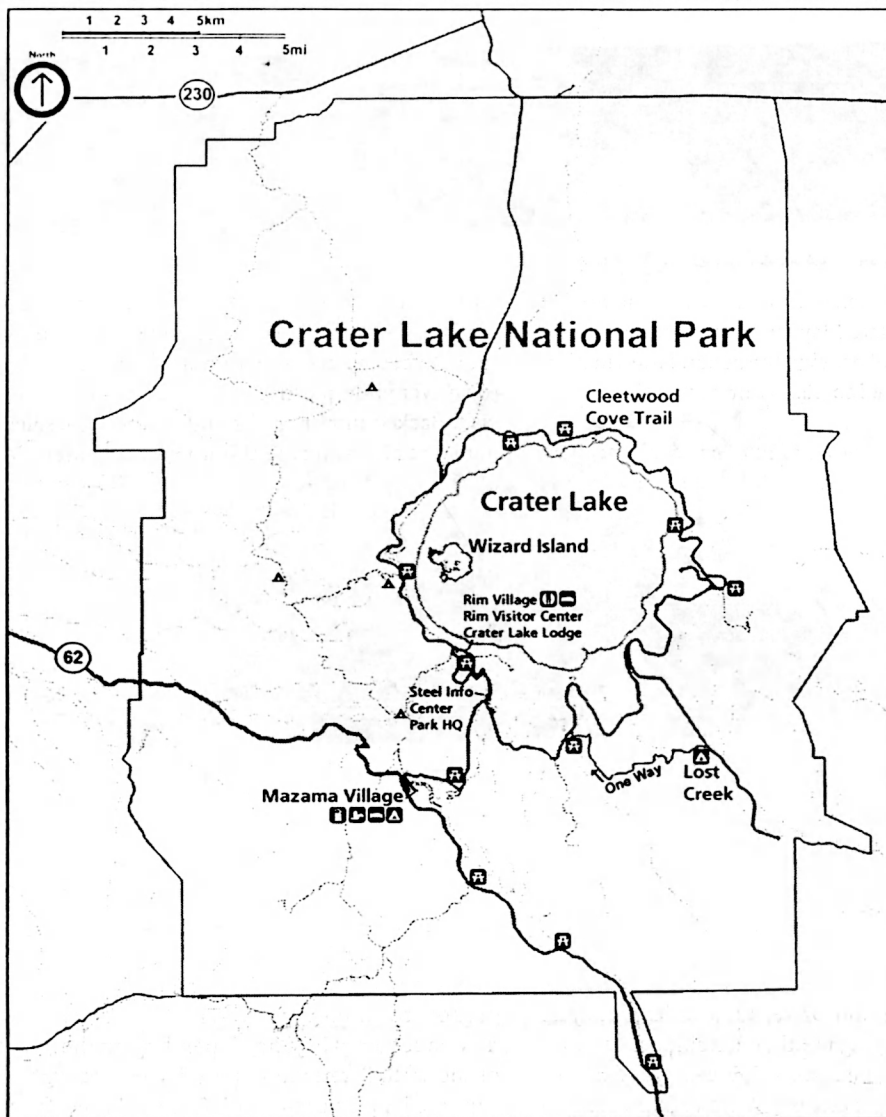
Rim Drive is typically closed by snow from October to July. Vehicle access is available only from Oregon Route 62 to Rim Village. Backcountry permits are required for overnight snow camping. Lodging and fuel is not available in the park during the winter.

Safety Considerations

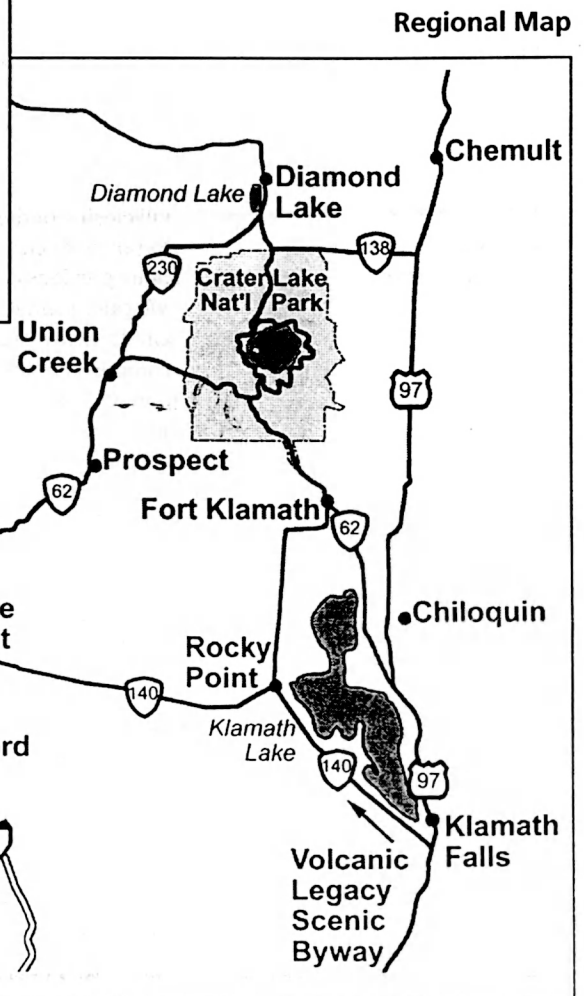
Hiking inside the caldera rim is permitted only on the Cleetwood Trail. Do not cross rock walls and barriers along the caldera rim, as the volcanic rock is unstable and could crumble beneath your feet. Pets must be on leashes at all times, and are not permitted on trails. Do not feed wild animals. Leave rocks, plants, wildlife, and artifacts undisturbed. Drive within posted speed limits and wear seatbelts. Mountain bikes are allowed only on open, paved

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

For emergencies, while in
the park dial 911.



Park Map



Regional Map