

# ¡VÁMONOS!

## FOREST GROVE

### Forest Grove History and Points of Interest

Use the **¡Vámonos! map** to explore Forest Grove, a city on the edge of the Tualatin Valley, tucked up against the Coast Range. The map's 7.7-mile biking and walking route plus connecting routes take you through two neighborhoods on the National Register of Historic Places. You'll pass by schools, parks, city services, a farmers market and downtown's shops and dining. Along the way are views of Cascade and Coast Range peaks, valley bottomland, beautiful homes and heritage trees.

**Here are some sites not to miss,** in clockwise order, starting from Main Street and Pacific Avenue.

#### Downtown Forest Grove

Centered along Main Street between Pacific and 21st avenues is the heart of downtown Forest Grove. Restored brick buildings date from the 1890s and offer local shopping and dining.

Also downtown is the **Forest Grove Farmers Market** on Main Street between Pacific and 21st avenues. It's managed by Adelante Mujeres, the Forest Grove nonprofit that provides Latina women and their families with the tools they need to flourish, in part through its small business incubator programs Adelante Agricultura and Adelante Empresas. Find organic produce, cheeses, local art and music Wednesdays, 4 to 8 p.m., early May to mid October.

**Walking west** from downtown, pass through quiet, old streets of the Walker Naylor Historic District on the way to big views at Knox Ridge Park and other overlooks of the verdant Gales Creek floodplain and Coast Range beyond.

Quiet **Talisman Park** is home to an enormous spreading Oregon white oak that had set down roots long before settlers built the first log cabin in today's Forest Grove.

**Forest Grove High School** sits on the north edge of town. It's Forest Grove's only high school, with nearly 2,000 students.

From the school, a connecting route heads uphill on quiet streets in newer neighborhoods and along a greenway trail to **Thatcher Park**. In this, the city's newest park, find views of Cascade peaks, hiking trails, ball fields, an off-leash dog area and picnic grounds.

#### Lincoln Park

If you can roll on it, throw it, bounce it, kick it or splash with it, take it to Lincoln Park. This large, public recreational complex has it all: every kind of ball field, a playground, BMX course, skatepark, walking trails, and the Forest Grove Aquatic Center with its indoor pools and outdoor spray park.



Just south of the park is **Pacific University**. Its woodsy campus is the genesis of the city of Forest Grove. The route passes by its west side where you can see:

- A petrified tree stump in the campus lawn east of College Way. It was placed here in 1867, it marks the site of the log cabin that Harvey Clarke (a founder of what is now Pacific University) built as a school and church. This area of lawn was also once a graveyard. (In the 1870s, bodies were moved to Mountain View Cemetery.)
- Marsh Hall, the large red brick building beyond the stump, in the center of the campus. Built in 1895, it burned in 1975 and the interior was rebuilt within the shell.
- Old College Hall, the white wooden building along College Way. Constructed in 1850, it is the oldest building in continuous educational use west of the Rocky Mountains.
- A labyrinth to walk, next to Old College Hall, at College Way and Pacific Avenue. Walking a labyrinth reduces stress, provides reflection or replenishes energy. Labyrinths differ from mazes: in a labyrinth, the path is clearly seen to the walker, and there is only one path to the center, with no false dead-ends.



**Along Pacific Avenue**, find City Hall, the police station, public library and the Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce.

Side routes lead by beautiful homes of the tree-lined Clark Historic District to the **B Street Trailhead**. The 1-mile B Street Trail passes through the Gales Creek floodplain, with far-ranging views of rolling valley bottomland. It's part of the in-progress Emerald Necklace. Five miles are complete of the eventual 13-mile-long pathway around the city.

Another connecting route from Pacific Avenue leads to historic **Roger Park**. In 1890 a mansion sat in the block that is now the park. An oak grove in the park is home to acorn woodpeckers; look for their red heads and black backs. After the mansion was torn down, the park became a trailer park, housing agricultural workers during WWII.

Learn more about all three ¡Vámonos! maps for Cornelius, Forest Grove and Hillsboro at [www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/vamonos).

