

# ¡VAMOS!

HILLSBORO

## Hillsboro History and Points of Interest

Use the **¡Vámonos! map** to explore Hillsboro, a once agriculture-based town now home to high tech industries in the Tualatin Valley. The map's 5.4-mile biking and walking route plus connecting routes takes you around Hillsboro's historic downtown, to parks and recreation sites--both public and private--and by services, transit stops, stores, healthcare facilities and restaurants—just about anywhere you'd want to go in town. Despite its name, Hillsboro is delightfully flat—a great place for walking and biking.

**Here are Hillsboro sites** not to miss, in clockwise order, starting from the Civic Center Plaza at 123 West Main Street. On hot days, the water spray park here offers relief, whether it's a full soaking or a gentle mist. Around it, benches offer a place to sit and look over the world's largest type of tree--giant sequoias.

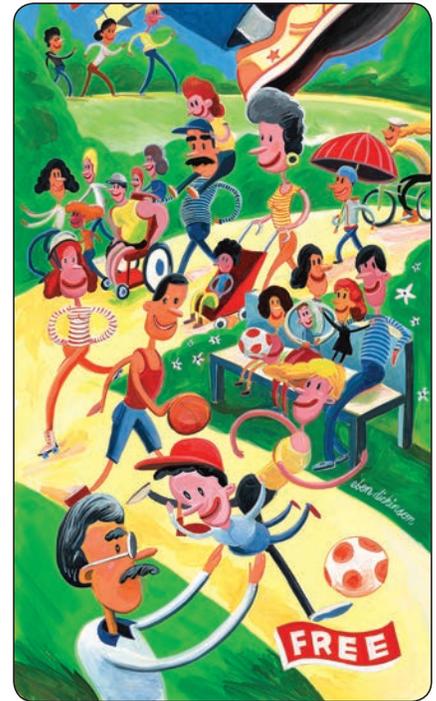
The oldest ones in Oregon have been growing since 1880 at the Washington County Courthouse across Main Street. Also here is the **Hillsboro Farmers Market**, which sets up on Main Street every Saturday, April to October. Started in 1981, the market is one of the oldest farmers markets in Oregon.

For family fun, stop at **Outdoors In Park at the Plaza**, in the Civic Center's lower level. It's a drop-in playground with classes for adults too, open every day (fee charged). Also fun, and free, in the alley east of the Civic Center is "Kids Games" four mosaic sculptures by Hillsboro artist Linda Haworth. These urban street games have directions posted nearby.

The large rocks installed at the Civic Center are called columnar basalt. Basalt is a volcanic rock; it flowed, hot and glowing red, like pancake syrup over much of Oregon millions of years ago. In some places when it dried and cooled quickly, it started cracking; the cracks created the smooth sides you see here. It's like how mud can crack in a dried-up puddle, in hexagonal shapes.

Walking east on Main Street, stop at restaurants, stores, or a movie theater before coming to the **Glenn and Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center**. Opened in 2004, this beautiful stone and timber former church is the place for classes, concerts, an art gallery and rentals for private events.

The walls are rock donated to the church in 1948, with the condition that church members cut and haul the rock from the quarry themselves. They did, in their station wagons, trucks and cars, one large slab at a time.



**Main street** is full of elegant old homes; enjoy them and heritage trees before reaching 2.5-acre **Walnut Street Park** with its splash pad (opening summer 2012), picnic gazebo, playground and basketball court.

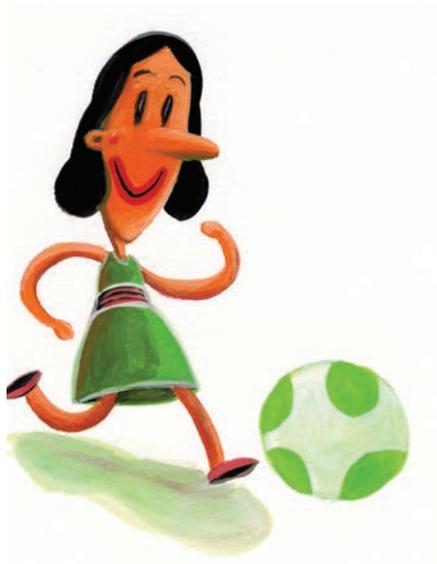


**Shute Park** is next on the route.

This 13-acre park is the oldest park in Hillsboro, located in a spot where bricks were once made. Swim, indoors or out at Shute Park Aquatic and Recreation Center (SHARC), or work out, picnic under the tall firs and enjoy the many features of this park, which was renovated in 2010. The Shute Park Library with free computer access is here too.

From the park, walk along some of Hillsboro's oldest streets, not far from the train tracks that were vital to a farm town's economy. Along the way are Hillsboro Futsal, the M&M Swap Meet and Boys and Girls Club. A spur trail leads to **Dairy Creek Park**. It consists of 18 acres of natural areas with trails in the creek's floodplain, plus 6 acres of classic park amenities such as a basketball court, playground, picnic tables and soccer and softball fields.

Dairy Creek is just south of Hillsboro's **Pioneer Cemetery**, a pleasant place for a stroll on rolling lawns above the creek. Hillsboro is named for David Hill; the city is founded on his land. He died in 1850 and is buried here. So is John Shute, namesake of Shute Park. He died in 1922.



Other parks and green spaces to enjoy along the Hillsboro ¡Vámonos! routes are:

- At McKinney Park during the summer, lunches are provided to kids at this 2-acre park, loaded up with a basketball court, sports field, picnic gazebo and playground.
- Today, The Harold Eastman Rose Garden is the result of the vision of one man who turned a tiny triangle of grass into a rose oasis. Don't miss the Tribute Corner, planted in 2006 that honors those who serve.
- Hare Field is owned by the Hillsboro School District; it's almost always busy with baseball, football, soccer or track and field activities. A cell phone tower at the field is a source of revenue for the district.
- Bagley Park, not far from downtown, opened in 1926 and boasts beautiful old trees and classic park amenities.

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

