



Oregon Vortex / Rogue Jet Boat Trip

The Oregon S2000 Owner's Forum: [HTTP://OREGON.S2KI.COM](http://OREGON.S2KI.COM)

This 2-day drive will take you down to **Southern Oregon** and the **Oregon Vortex** (aka **House of Mystery**). The evening will be spent taking a jet-boat down the rugged and scenic **Rogue River** to **Galice** for dinner. The next morning finds you on your way to **Ashland** and up the winding *Green Springs Highway* to **Klamath Falls**. Then it is on up *Hwy. 97* and over **Willamette Pass** and back to **Portland**.



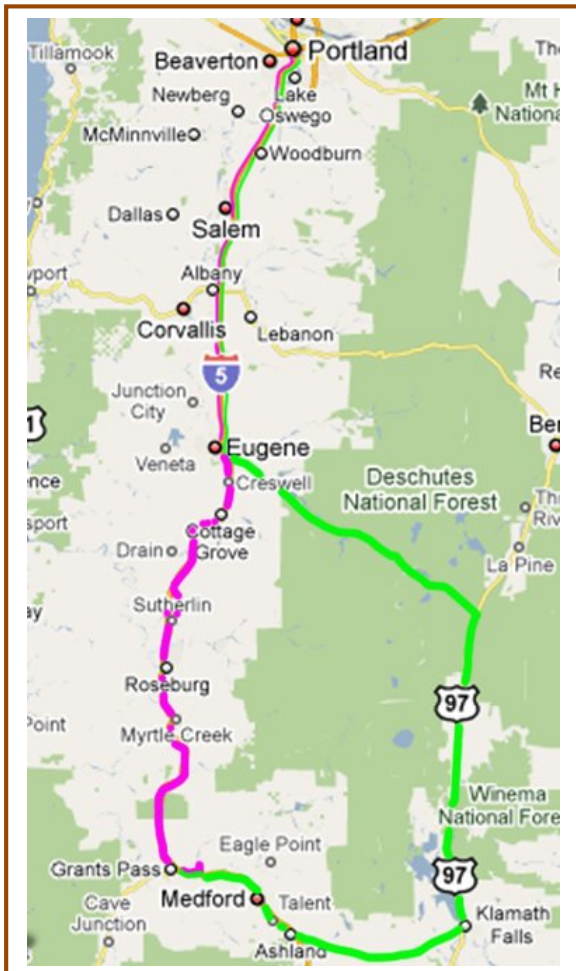
Driving = 70% 1, 10% 2, 10% 3 and 10% 4



Scenery = 3

Total Driving Time: 10 hrs. 45 mins. / 654 miles

Portland to The Oregon Vortex - Driving Time: 4 hrs. 20 mins. / 269 miles



You will want to leave the **Portland** area no later than 8:00 am in order to have time to visit the **Oregon Vortex** AND not miss your jet-boat departure at **4:15 pm**. Find your way to *I-5* southbound.



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you pass by the Wilsonville/I-5 exit (Exit #283) (the mileage points are based on this). Proceed south on *I-5*.

Tolly's Restaurant in **Oakland** is a great place for lunch on the way. Take **Exit #140 (mile 144.1)** toward **Oakland**. This is the old *Hwy. 99*.

Just after crossing a one-lane bridge you will enter **Oakland**. Turn **left** on **Locust Street**. **Tolly's** will be 1/2 block ahead on your **left (mile 145.7)**. [**GPS: Tolly's** address is 115 Locust St., Oakland, OR]



Leaving **Tolly's**, turn **left** on **N. 1st St.** and then **right** on **Stearns Lane** as you head back to *I-5*. You will pass under *I-5* and go about 1/2 mile further to the on-ramp - turn **left**. There is a sharp 20 mph curve/onramp just as you merge onto the *I-5* freeway (**mile 148**). Continue south through **Grants Pass**.

At **Gold Hill** take **Exit #43** for Hwy. 99/234 (**mile 241.6**). Turn **left** / north onto *Main Street*, then right onto *Hwy. 99/234*. Go 1 mile and turn **left** / north on *Sardine Creek Road (mile 243)*. Continue on *Left Fork Sardine Creek Road* to the **Oregon Vortex (mile 246.6)**. [**GPS: Oregon Vortex** address is 4303 Sardine Creek L Fork Rd., Gold Hill, OR]

There are many strange sights to behold here. A broom stands on end... A ball rolls uphill...

Below is a level board. A person stands on each end. When they walk toward each other and change ends, one appears to grow and the other appears to shrink! The board is level!



You'll enjoy your visit to this baffling place. Be sure to leave by **3:00 pm** so you don't miss your jet-boat trip!

The Oregon Vortex to Grants Pass - Driving Time: 20 mins. / 16.4 miles

Retrace your steps back to *I-5 North*. At **Exit 55 (Grants Pass)** exit and head to your motel.

Your Evening Rogue River Adventure -

After checking in, make your way to *6th Street (Hwy. 99)* heading south. *6th* is the main street in town. Just before the bridge over the **Rogue River**, turn **right** into the **Hellgate** parking lot. The jet-boats leave from here at **4:15 pm**). [**GPS: Hellgate Jetboat Excursions** address is 966 SW 6th Street, Grants Pass, OR]



Your jet-boat will take you (and 30 or so others) on a 4 hour scenic and fun trip down the rugged **Rogue River**. You will see lots of wildlife along the way. Then it is through **Hellgate Canyon** and on down the river. The boat stops at **Galice** where you will enjoy a nice barbecue dinner on the deck overlooking the **Rogue** before returning to the boat and heading back to **Grants Pass**.



Grants Pass to Portland - **Driving Time: 6 hrs. 30 mins. / 388 miles**

When you are having breakfast, you might want to have the restaurant prepare you a sack lunch for later in the day.



Zero your odometer trip gauge as you leave Grants Pass. (the mileage points are based on this).

Head south on *I-5*. Take **Exit #14 (mile 44.2)**. Turn **left** / east on *Ashland Street / Hwy. 66*. *Highway 66* is the *Green Springs Highway* and this will take you up through some great twisties and all the way to **Klamath Falls (mile 105.4)**.



At **Klamath Falls**, take the exit to *Hwy. 97 North*. Continue through **Klamath Falls** and north on *Hwy. 97*. Just north of **Chemult**, exit onto *Hwy. 58* toward **Eugene (mile 185.5)**.

At **mile 205** you will arrive at beautiful **Odell Lake**. This would be a great place to stop and have that sack lunch you had made up for you.

Continue northwest on *Hwy. 58* over **Willamette Pass** and on down through **McCredie Springs, Oakridge** and **Dexter** on your way to *I-5* just south of **Eugene (mile 274)**.

Once on *I-5* just head north to Portland (**mile 388**).

Oregon Vortex: Admission charge - **\$9.50**

<http://www.oregonvortex.com/>

Grants Pass Motels: **\$49** to **\$225** per night (reservations highly recommended!)

www.kayak.com or:

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g51891-Grants_Pass_Oregon-Hotels.html

Recommended: *Best Western Grants Pass Inn* – www.BestWestern.com

Rogue River Hellgate Jetboats: **\$57.50** per person (reservations required in advance)

<http://www.hellgate.com/?gclid=CJOQjIns4Z4CFSReagodeFQVKQ>

This is merely a suggested drive. You can shorten it – lengthen it – reverse it – modify it – deviate from it or just stay home and detail your car.

Enjoy and Drive Safely!

S2Ki Oregon -



The fun starts here!

Revised 1/1/2010