



Salem has it all

June, 2018—a perfect time to visit Salem, Oregon, site of the next WBCCI International Rally.

Walking, biking, kayaking on the Willamette River, strolling through gardens, fishing, golf—whatever your pleasure, Salem has it all.

The average June temperature in Salem is a pleasant 74 degrees, and the parks and greenspaces are lush and welcoming.

Now home to the largest connecting park system in the country, Salem recently opened 35 miles of trails for cyclists and those on foot to enjoy between historic Union Street Railroad Pedestrian, Bicycle Bridge, and Peter Courtney Bridge, providing access to Minto-Brown Park, Riverfront park, and the West Salem district.

Minto-Brown Island Park is a 900-acre natural area set aside for easy strolling, biking, and dog walking (with acres of crops intended to feed wildlife, too). Enjoy beautiful views of the Willamette River from Waterfront Park downtown, and 90 city acres of Bush's Pasture Park are dedicated to public rose gardens, playgrounds, trails, and other amenities.

View wildlife at Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge in nearby Jefferson—excellent observation areas, trails that meander through wetlands and oak/ash forest, raised boardwalks, interpretive exhibits and photography blinds are all open to the public (until migrating geese take up residence in October). At the 2,558-acre Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge you'll find similar resources at the home of several threatened and endangered species.

Cyclists, “choose your own adventure,” states the Travel Salem website. “Whether you're seeking rolling hills or flat roads, in-town or out in the countryside, our routes are

accessible year round and guaranteed to provide you with a picture perfect ride.” The Buena Vista Cycling Route winds west from Salem on Highway 22 to the towns of Rickreall, Monmouth, and Independence. Along the way, stop to visit vineyards and attractions, including the quaint Buena Vista Ferry. Try the 45-mile Ritner Cycling Loop through scenic Polk County; cross the Santiam River and wind down country roads past farmland and through covered bridges and small towns on the Santiam Cycling Loop; or just pedal through historic downtown.

Golfers, bring your clubs! Salem’s traditional parkland-style courses are very affordable (usually between \$15-50 for 18 holes). The Salem Golf Club dates back to 1927 and offers daily public play.

Salem is an inland city but it lies on the banks of the Columbia River’s major tributary. The Willamette (pronounced “will-AM-it”, dammit) is the largest river in Oregon and it winds through Salem and the surrounding counties. Huge Wallace Marine Park is home to one of the best sports facilities in the Northwest and a focal point for water sport enthusiasts. A boat ramp and floating boat docks provide access to the Willamette River.

Register now for the 2018 International Rally in Salem, Oregon

June 17-30, 2018 at the Oregon State Fairgrounds

Register online (at <http://wbcci.org/activities/international-rally/2018-salem-or/rally-registration>) or call 937-596-5211

Rally general parking—June 20 to June 23, 2018

Opening ceremony—June 24; Closing ceremony—June 29