



The Columbia River Gorge



## THE OREGON ESCAPE

I.E., A HIATUS FROM THE RUN-OF-THE-MILL HIATUS.

There is a place up in the northwest corner of North America called Oregon where things are not business as usual. While everything seems to be getting more globalized and standardized, there are chefs in Oregon busy creating a regional cuisine which not only tastes better, but is better for the environment and for our health and for the local economy. And while other wine makers endeavor to replicate the taste of European wine, Oregon vintners instead are perfecting their own and believe so deeply that Oregon wine is its own special delight, they had to go and make the labeling laws in Oregon more stringent than anywhere else in the country. So it may not surprise you that some of the best golf courses in Oregon don't look anything like Augusta or Shadow Creek or Loxahatchee. Because Oregonians have their own ideas about what golf should be too. Where even though it might be one of the best courses in the world, it is still open to the public. As is the entire coastline of Oregon. Oregonians believe their beaches are one of their most precious gifts, and are here for everyone's enjoyment, not just that of a few. And if this all seems a little odd or a little extreme or just plain intriguing, come out and have a look for yourself. Ski down the mountains. Walk up and down the coast. Taste the bounty of the valleys. Take in the majesty of the desert. And maybe you'll start to think Oregonians aren't so crazy after all.

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