

Travel, Tourism and Transit

In a 1913 speech to the legislature, Oregon Governor Oswald West proclaimed ocean beaches from the Columbia River to the California state line as public highways. It's just one of many ways Oregon's transportation system and tourism industry work together to keep Oregon unique and appealing, nearly 100 years later.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (2007)

- In Oregon: **34.8 billion**
- On Oregon State Highway system: **20.6 billion**

Public transit

In 2007, Oregonians took:

- **113.6 million rides in urban** transit districts; and
- **6.7 million rides in rural** areas.

People with special transportation needs (seniors and people with disabilities) took 3.7 million van or volunteer trips. Total trips provided averaged more than 31 rides per Oregonian.

Tourism highlights

- Direct travel spending in Oregon reached an estimated at \$8.3 billion in 2007, representing a 5.2 percent increase over 2006.
- Visitors to Oregon in 2007 spent more than \$1.7 billion on food and beverages in restaurants and other establishments.
- Total state and local tax revenues generated by direct travel spending reached \$320 million in 2007.

Travel spending in Oregon reached \$8.3 billion in 2007.

Statewide air travel (2007)

- **2.9 million domestic visitors**, a 5.1 percent increase over 2006

Passenger Boardings, Portland International Airport

- 2006: **7.02 million**
- 2007: **7.33 million**

Passenger Rail (and Amtrak Thruway buses)

- Trips originating/ending at Oregon stations, 2007: **855,141**
- Since 1999, passenger rail ridership has steadily increased, reaching its highest level in 2007.
- Passenger rail ridership surpassed the 2007 target by 23,033, a 7 percent increase from 2006.

For tourism information, contact the Oregon Tourism Commission at (800) 547-7842, or visit www.traveloregon.com.



Road signs in Douglas County circa 1920.