



CENTRAL OREGON

ADVENTURE CALLS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FOR RELEASE AT WILL

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CENTRAL OREGON'S ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SCENE EVOLVES FROM BACKSTAGE TO CENTER STAGE

(BEND, Ore.) — Central Oregon's reputation as an outdoor mecca is widely-known and well-deserved. But it also is home to a thriving arts and entertainment scene that makes it a bona fide destination for concerts, festivals, cultural immersion, and artistic expression. From outdoor concert venues that attract true headliners like Dave Matthews Band and Jack Johnson, to nationally-acclaimed museums that explore the area's history, culture, flora, and fauna, to an impressive list of artists, authors, and performers who call Central Oregon home, the region is as cultured as cities many times its size.

VENUES

Les Schwab Amphitheater: Set in Bend's Old Mill District along the banks of the Deschutes River, this outdoor amphitheater serves host to some of the best-known headliners in music and entertainment from May through September. With the capacity to hold 8,000 patrons, the Les Schwab Amphitheater has hosted acts such as Dave Matthews Band, Jack Johnson, Willie Nelson, and many others.

Tower Theatre: The 466-seat Tower has stood proud in downtown Bend for nearly 100 years. From music performances to stage shows to cultural and educational programs, the Tower has long served as the crown jewel of Central Oregon's performing arts community.

Athletic Club of Bend: A smaller, more intimate outdoor venue than the Les Schwab Amphitheater, the Athletic Club of Bend sounds like an odd spot for a concert series. But the Clear Summer Nights Series attracts some well-known talent.

Oregon Spirit Distillers: Another intimate outdoor venue, Oregon Spirit Distillers has hosted some awfully big names. That includes stars from the world of country music, including Dwight Yoakam and Cody Johnson.

Midtown Ballroom & Domino Room: Set in a small building in downtown Bend, Midtown Ballroom, the Domino Room, and the Annex are actually three small venues. Hosting a wide range of acts, the venues are a favorite of local music lovers. The Midtown is the largest indoor venue in Central Oregon.

Other Venues: Outdoor music is a passion in Central Oregon, and venues are spread throughout the region. [Faith, Hope and Charity Vineyards](#), [Worthy Brewing](#), and [Drake Park](#) in addition to more temporary stages that are used for annual and weekly events, host popular concerts all summer long. And [Volcanic Theatre Pub](#) has become a favorite of local music enthusiasts. In addition, live community theater can be found all year long at the [Cascades Theatrical Company](#), and the [Sunriver Stars Community Theater](#).

FESTIVALS AND SHOWS

Art In The High Desert: Central Oregon's premier juried art & craft show is a popular annual event held each August, showcasing unique and original works from local artists and more.

BendFilm Festival: Held each October, the BendFilm Festival celebrates independent films and those who make them with movie screenings and discussions with filmmakers at movie theaters, lecture halls, music rooms, and event spaces throughout Bend.

Bend Summer Concerts: Held at Les Schwab Amphitheater from May through September, the Bend Summer Concert series draws headliners from around the world.

Deschutes County Fair & Rodeo: Held each August at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds Expo Center, the Deschutes County Fair draws big-name performers from the world of country music, classic rock, and more over four days.

LRS Country Music Festival: A new event in 2019 and held east of Prineville near the small town of Paulina, the four-day July festival started with a bang with headliners such as Dwight Yoakam and Trace Adkins.

Sisters Folk Festival: Music lovers from around the world come to Sisters each September to see some of the finest artists in roots music perform at multiple venues nestled right in downtown.

4 Peaks Music Festival: Typically coinciding with the summer solstice, this four-day, three-night, family-friendly festival celebrates music and arts with world-class musicians from a variety of genres.

[Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show](#): The “Largest Outdoor Quilt Show in America” features more than 1,300 quilts on display throughout the town, and a week of events that include classes, textile demonstrations, art and quilting exhibits, music and refreshments.

Other celebrations of art and music: Annual events such as [BEND SUMMER FESTIVAL](#) and [Oregon WinterFest](#), as well as the [Sisters Rhythm and Brews Festival](#), combine art, music, and more into fun events for all to enjoy. [The Sunriver Art Fair](#) is ranked among America’s Top 50 Best Art Fairs. Classical music lovers flock to Central Oregon for the [Sunriver Music Festival](#) and the [In a Landscape: Classical Music in the Wild](#) series. [Munch & Music](#), [Music on the Green](#), and [Music in the Canyon](#) are enormously popular, family-friendly concert series that feature local and nationally-acclaimed live bands throughout the summer.

GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS

[Bend Art Gallery Association’s First Friday Art Walk](#): Experience art in the Old Mill District, Downtown Bend and Second Street during this monthly event where galleries all around town swing open their doors. In addition, check-out the [Old Ironworks District](#) on Last Saturday.

[Bowman Museum](#): The Bowman Museum in Prineville invites visitors to immerse themselves in the unique history of Crook County with rotating exhibits and a vivid collection of pioneer history.

[Deschutes Historical Museum](#): Explore the history of the region, from the native people who passed along the Deschutes River, to early explorers, to the logging and railroad barons who settled the region.

[Fort Rock Homestead Village Museum](#): A display of preserved and protected homestead-era structures that have been moved from their original locations to the museum site just west of the town of Fort Rock.

[High Desert Museum](#): Part history museum, part art gallery, part zoo, the High Desert Museum explores the cultural and natural history of Central Oregon’s High Desert in a unique and engaging way that thrills and educates visitors and locals alike.

[The Museum at Warm Springs](#): Visitors experience firsthand the sounds of ancient songs and languages, the mastery of traditional craftsmen and the sights of rich and colorful cultures that make up the Confederated Tribes of The Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

[Sunriver Nature Center and Oregon Observatory](#): Stargazers are drawn to the large-scale public observatory, while others immerse themselves in nature with interpretive exhibits, live birds-of-prey, amphibians and snakes, a meteorite exhibit, educational programs, botanical garden, and a nature trail.

Public Art: Central Oregon is home to an array of public art, including [roundabout art](#) strewn through the city of Bend that have become favorite landmarks of the region, and the [Art Around the Clock](#) program in Redmond. To view a list of public art, visit [Art in Public Places](#) and the [State of Oregon's catalogue of public art](#).

More galleries and art experiences: [Live Laugh Love Art](#) in Sunriver and Bend's [Old Ironworks District](#) invites art lovers to get hands on, while galleries such as the [Artists' Gallery in Sunriver](#) put works of talented artists on display. Central Oregon features an endless array of history, art, and culture to discover. The [Cultural Byways](#) route immerses those who take it in the culture of Central Oregon, by wending through Warm Springs, Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes Counties, enjoying art, museums, history, performances, heritage, music, festivals, county fairs, quilts, rodeos and more.

ABOUT CENTRAL OREGON:

Located on the eastern slopes of the Cascade Range, where vast forests give way to the arid high desert, Central Oregon is characterized by year-round adventure, authenticity, inspiration, and environment. From the towering peaks of the Cascades to the pristine waters of the Wild & Scenic Deschutes River, and from the more urban experiences of Bend and Redmond, to the rural charms of Sisters, La Pine, Prineville, Madras, Warm Springs, and Maupin, Central Oregon offers a perfect mix of recreation and sophistication. Barely three hours from Portland, and with daily direct flights from eight major markets, getting to Central Oregon is a breeze. For more information visit www.visitcentraloregon.com or call 800-800-8334.

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