# Waterfall Corridor Guide for Visitors With Disabilities

#### General Information

#### **ADA- Accessible Restrooms**

- Latourell Falls
- Multnomah Falls
- (Bridal Veil Falls)

Non-accessible restroom at Wahkeena Falls. People of varying abilities can enjoy the Waterfall Corridor. To ensure you have a safe and enjoyable trip, make sure you read this information carefully.

- The road is quite uneven which can lead to a **bumpy ride**.
- You should bring enough **snacks and drinks** to get you through most of the day as only Multnomah Falls offers dining options.
- For safety reasons, we recommend wearing a **safety vest** since you will have to cross the highway at times.
- Check <u>readysetgorge.com</u> for any trail closures.

#### How To Get There



If you plan to tour the Historic Columbia River Highway **during the summer**, then you will need a permit. This \$2 fee **does not ensure parking** but will be needed for driving on the Highway. Find out more at: <u>oregon.gov/odot/waterfallcorridor-</u>

permits/pages/default.aspx

#### Public Bus

Instead of driving to the meeting points, you might also take the **public bus system** from Portland's Gateway Transit Center to Multnomah Falls. From there, you can hop on either shuttle service.

Car

Find the schedule for the Columbia Gorge Express at: <u>ridecatbus.org/columbia-gorge-express</u>





#### **Private Shuttle Services**

If you plan to tour the There are two private Hop-On-Hop-Off shuttle Historic Columbia River providers along the waterfall corridor. Both of Highway **during the** them operate wheelchair-accessible vehicles. Let **summer**, then you will need a permit. This \$2 fee and of time for their scheduling.

#### Sasquatch Shuttle

The parking lot is gravel with some paved areas. Currently, they cannot offer any designated ADA-accessible parking. The benches are temporarily out of order but the staff will happily bring out chairs to accommodate you. Restrooms are presently not ADA-accessible.

(Sasquatch Shuttle Parking Lot)

1 W Mill Rd, Bridal Veil, OR 97010 sasquatchshuttle.com info@sasquatchshuttle.com

#### Waterfall Trolley

Contact:

The parking lot where the shuttle starts is gravel but even. Benches on grass offer resting spots. There are no ADA-accessible restrooms.

<u>Contact</u> 36901 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Corbett, OR, 97019 waterfalltrolley.com 503-241-7474



**Latourell Falls** 

The Latourell Falls stop offers a spacious viewpoint of the 224 feet plunge of the waterfall. People using mobility devices can access signs about their history and background information without trouble.

The ADA-accessible parking spot is located next to the ramp onto the sidewalk, close to the accessible restrooms and picnic tables. Sidewalks are covered in even concrete except for the shortcut between the picnic tables and restrooms (pictured to the right).

None of the hiking trails are paved. The bench at the trailhead is below a flight of stairs but picnic tables are available. One of the tables is set on concrete and offers space for people using mobility devices.



## Shepperd's Dell Falls

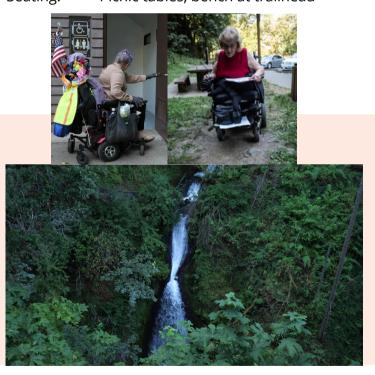
Shepperd's Dell doesn't have a transit stop. You might be able to glimpse the falls that go under the original 1914 bridge you are driving over, though.

When traveling east, they will be behind you. Keep a look out the rear window if possible.



#### CHECKLIST

	Vac from view point to the left of
Waterfall	Yes, from viewpoint to the left of
View:	parking lot (250 ft.)
Transit Stop:	Separate safe stop close to ramp on
	curb, driver needs to be alerted
Parking:	ADA-accessible parking spot available
Restrooms:	ADA-accessible except for sink area
Picnic Area:	Picnic table usable for people using
	mobility devices
Seating:	Picnic tables, bench at trailhead



#### CHECKLIST

Waterfall View:	Drive-by from street
Transit Stop:	No stop
Parking:	None
Restrooms:	None
Picnic Area:	None
Seating:	None



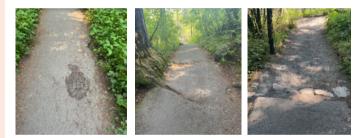


### **Bridal Veil Falls**

Bridal Veil Falls counts among the most beautiful waterfalls along the corridor. Bridal Veil Falls is two-tiered and flows under another original highway bridge. For safety reasons, you should not try to view it from the highway. Instead, the fairly-sized parking lot is connected to two trails with breathtaking views:

#### Waterfall Trail

If you want to experience the waterfall up close, you will want to follow the Bridal Veil Falls trail. The first 3/4 mile is paved but the pavement has eroded considerably (pictures below). The asphalt stops before the lookout.



The path to the lookout is fairly steep and includes two wooden bridges. The stairs to the lookout are uneven and well-trodden.

#### CHECKLIST

Waterfall View:	Yes, but from unpaved hiking trail
	(0.3 mi)
Transit Stop:	Safe exit
Parking:	Incomplete marking on designated
	parking spot
Restrooms:	Closed, Porta Potties with ledge
Picnic Area:	Not accessible for people using
	mobility devices
Seating:	No, except along Waterfall Trail

**Overlook Trail Loop** 

Restrooms

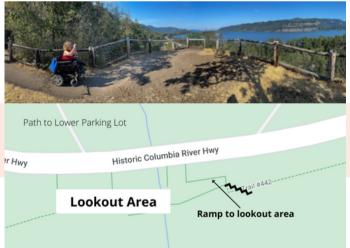
Porta Potties

Trail paved for 3/4 mile

#### **Overlook Trail**

A paved path leads to some gorgeous views over the Columbia River. Catch a glimpse of Beacon Rock, Archer Mountain, and the Pillars of Hercules. The loop is 1/2 mile long and fully paved.

people using mobility devices may be able to enjoy some of the views from the path. However, it has experienced some erosion. Some lookout points are missing pavement (see below). You will find a picnic area that is located off the pavement.



#### Wahkeena Falls

The Wahkeena Falls stop was remodeled in 2014 to be more accessible by the US Forest Service. You will not want to miss the view from this lookout.

#### **Expert Tip**

There is a 3/4 miles Return Trail that you can use to get to Multnomah Falls and leave your car in the extra parking lot. Keep in mind that it is not accessible for people using mobility devices.

#### Checklist

Yes, there is a viewing area (0.2 m	i)
Safe exit	
ADA-accessible parking spot	_
Yes but not ADA-accessible	
Not usable for everyone	-
Potentially on low walls	5
	Safe exit ADA-accessible parking spot Yes but not ADA-accessible Not usable for everyone

From the accessible parking spot, you will find a ramp to your left that will lead you up to the viewing platform.

There is a spacious lookout platform right next to the waterfall. You will be able to feel the spray of the water on your skin. The low walls surrounding the lookout point offer potential seating.

There is a lower parking lot connected by a paved path, however, it is fairly steep. You will find restrooms and a picnic area at the bottom.

The trails starting here are steep and only accessible through stairs.



#### Multnomah Falls

Multnomah Falls counts among the most famous waterfalls in the world.

The accessible parking spots via the Historic Highway are located to the side of the Multnomah Falls Lodge, right next to a small ramp onto the curb. The space in front of the lodge and gift shop has several benches and there is a picnic area at the creek. You can reach it through a ramp.

The gift shop is accessible although it can get crowded. The restrooms are accessible and an elevator will also allow you access to the upper levels of the lodge where you will find a restaurant. Alternatively, you can find an accessible picnic area at the creek.

The ramp leading up to the viewing area is a little steep but you will have enough space to meander your way up. We recommend going early during the summer months to avoid big crowds.

The path up to the Benson bridge is paved and offers seating along the way. However, you will have to take a flight of stairs to access it.





#### CHECKLIST

Waterfall View:	Yes, there is a viewing area (0.25 mi)
Transit Stop:	Safe exit
Parking:	ADA-accessible parking spots
Restrooms:	Yes
Picnic Area:	Usable
Seating:	Yes



#### Video

Even though this video of the US Forest Service is a little older, the information holds true. The video will give you a good impression.



#### Horsetail Falls

Horsetail Falls has another accessible lookout area that you will not want to miss. This waterfall is named after its form since it keeps close to the rock and barely fans out, it looks a little like a horsetail.

The parking lot is located across the highway so be careful when crossing the highway, especially considering that the ramp onto the curb is diagonal from the ramp onto the highway.



The lookout area to your right is partially paved, partially covered in loose fine gravel. It offers a nice close-up view of the waterfall.

There are picnic tables but keep in mind that they are set on loose gravel.

Stairs lead to the pool at the bottom. In summer, it is a good spot to cool down. You will be able to sit on the boulders that pepper the shore.



#### CHECKLIST

 Waterfall View:
 Yes, from shuttle and viewing area (0.2 mi)

 Transit Stop:
 Safe exit, highway crossing necessary

 Parking:
 ADA-accessible parking available

 Restrooms:
 Not available

 Picnic Area:
 Not usable for people using mobility devices

 Seating:
 Yes





This guide was created by the Columbia Gorge Tourism Alliance Accessibility Action Team and made possible with the help of the disability and mobility experts Annadiana Johnson, Jan Campbell, and AJ Zelada. *Photos by Marlee Boxler, Joel Roth and AJ Zelada. Text by Nicole Wahner.*