Hood River Valley Harvest Fest Returns this October 13-15

– The region’s biggest harvest event welcomes visitors back to the Gorge to celebrate its fall bounty and support local farmers and businesses –

Hood River, Ore. – September 26, 2017 – Hood River is once again throwing the Columbia River Gorge’s biggest harvest celebration with the 35th annual Hood River Valley Harvest Fest on October 13-15, 2017, presented by Pacific Power and produced by the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce. This old-fashioned fall festival, which is held along the scenic Hood River waterfront, brings together more than 120 vendors offering local produce and food products, plus original arts and crafts.

New for 2017 is an expanded beer, wine and cider tasting experience, featuring the Gorge Cider Society, the Columbia Gorge Winegrowers Association and Full Sail Brewing.

“Here in the Gorge, we’re in the mood to celebrate the Hood River Valley’s incredible bounty more than ever, and we invite visitors to use the Harvest Fest as the centerpiece for returning to the area and showing support for all the local farmers and businesses that have been affected by the Eagle Creek Fire,” said Mike Glover, President/CEO of the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce. “Autumn is an idyllic time in Hood River, with gorgeous fall colors and fun activities for all ages, both indoors and out – from hikes in the eastern end of the Gorge and a bike ride on the Historic Columbia River
Highway State Trail between Hood River and Mosier, to exploring our museums, wineries and historic downtown. Come to the Harvest Fest and spend another day or two to enjoy autumn in the beautiful Columbia River Gorge.”

Visitors to the Hood River Valley Harvest Fest can load up on Hood River favorites, including fresh pears, apples, pumpkins and flowers, as well as a wide variety of local foods, from pies and jams to specialty spices and cured meats. Hood River Valley Harvest Fest is also a great place to get a jump-start on holiday shopping, thanks to numerous local artisans, including many from the Gorge Artists collective.

Youngsters can have fun at the kids’ activity area, which includes bouncy houses, face painting and other activities. New for kids in 2017 is the “Dr. Bones” exhibit and show from EduCorp, featuring an educational science experience and skeleton exhibit, including four interactive kids’ shows on Saturday and Sunday. All festival-goers ages 15 and up are invited to take part in the popular pie-eating contests on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

**Show Your Love for the Gorge and Make a Long Weekend of It**

In September, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area has made national headlines as a wildfire originating on September 2 near the town of Cascade Locks grew to more than 48,000 acres.

While the fires did not directly impact the town of Hood River, area businesses have been greatly affected by the closure of I-84, which is now open in both directions. Patronizing local businesses, as well as those of other Gorge communities, is a great way for people to support the Gorge.

And there remain myriad ways to enjoy fall in and around Hood River. Autumn visitors will be treated to fall colors, incredible bounty, and the chance to experience fun festivals and cool cultural events. For a list of suggested activities, go to hoodriver.org/i-love-hood-river/. Dining
and accommodation suggestions are available at HoodRiver.org. As an added incentive for visitors, there is free parking downtown the week of October 9, between the Hood River Hops Fest and Hood River Valley Harvest Fest weekends.

Hood River Valley Harvest Fest Event Details

**Dates:** Friday, October 13, 14 & 15, 2017  
**Prices per day:**  
Adults: $6  
Kids under 12: FREE  
Seniors & active military: $3 on Friday, $5 on Saturday & Sunday  
**Location:** Hood River Event Site, Portway Avenue, Hood River, OR 97031  
**Parking:** Free  
**Pet Policy:** No pets, please  
**More Information:**  
Call the Hood River County Chamber of Commerce at (541) 386-2000 or visit www.hoodriver.org.

Sponsors

About Hood River, Oregon

Located at the crossroads of the spectacular Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the magnificent Cascade Range and just an hour from Portland, Hood River is wildly gorge-ous, offering outdoor recreation, dramatic vistas, historic landmarks, bountiful fruit, and fantastic food, wine, beer and cider. With accommodations ranging from luxury hotels to historic B&Bs, Hood River is a four-season destination for families, outdoor enthusiasts, weddings, corporate events and more. It was named a Top 10 Wine Destination for 2017 by Wine Enthusiast Magazine, and 2015 Best Adventure Town in the West by Sunset magazine.

The Hood River County Chamber of Commerce supports economic and tourism development in Hood River, Cascade Locks, Mosier, Odell, Parkdale, Pine Grove and Mount Hood. hoodriver.org

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