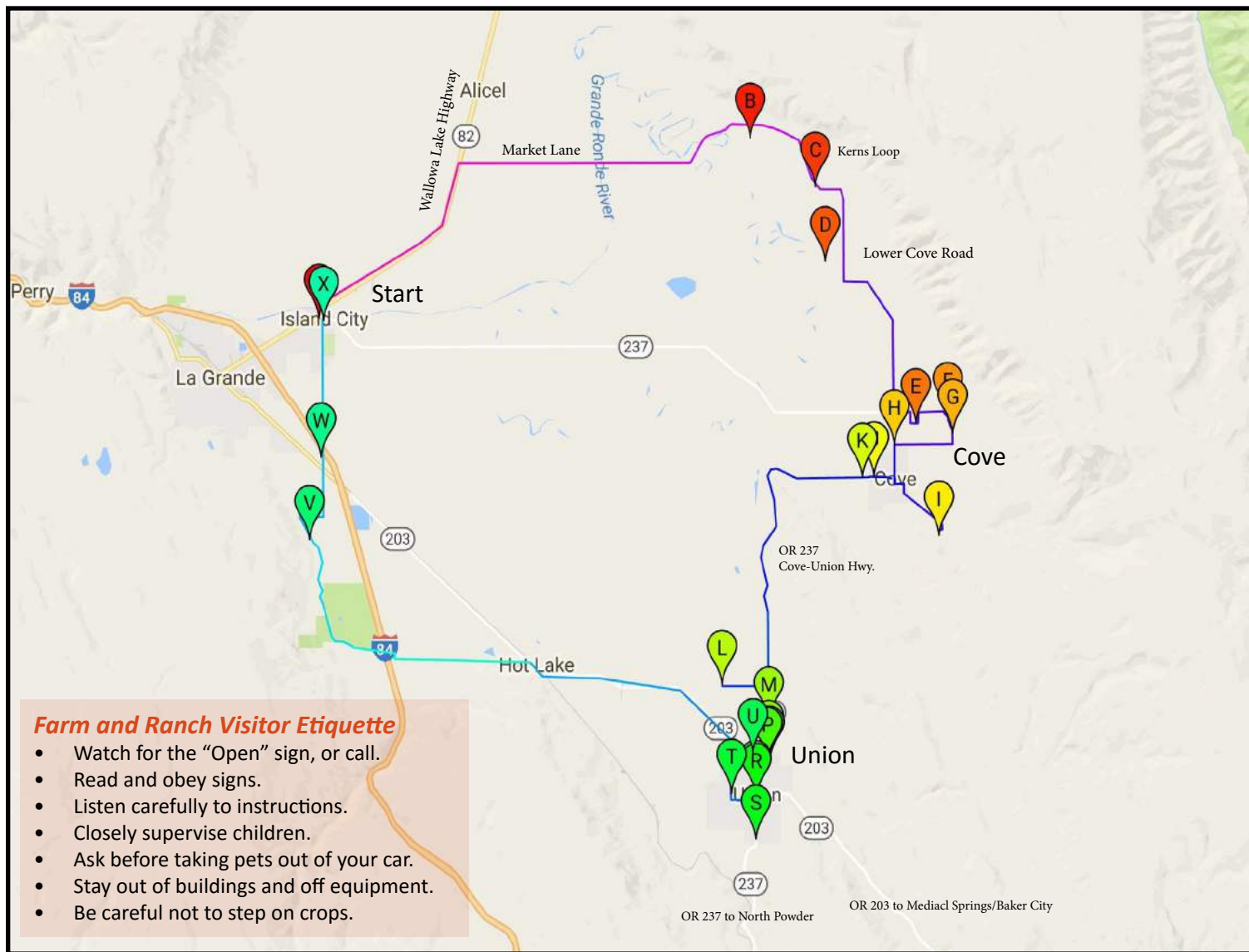


- P Pigtail Pork
- C The Sister Shic
- D Pick'N Patch
- F Folly Farm
- G Cove Cherry Farm
- H Cove Honey
- N Nella Mae's Farm
- I Apple Spring Farm
- J Martens Farm
- K Hendershott Home
- L Grande Ronde Goat Dairy
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- O Dora's Garden
- P Wred Wiggler Worm Wranch
- Q Hometown Hardware Store
- R Union County Museum
- S B.O.B. Grass-Fed Beef
- T EO Ag Experiment Station
- U Platz Family Produce
- V Old Rose's Mercantile
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- X D & B Supply



Cove-Union Farm Loop



Driving directions & highlights

From the first bright-green spring grass on the valley foothills until brilliant fall leaves abound, the Cove-Union Farm Loop is a perfect way to enjoy some of the abundant farms and ranches that are the heart and soul of the Grande Ronde Valley. Dozens of farmers, ranchers, and gardeners and both communities have a rich history connected to agriculture. This self-guided tour includes portions of the Grande Tour Scenic Route and Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway.

Starting in Island City, Oregon, at the junction of State Highways 82/237, proceed on Highway 82, crossing the Grande Ronde River and railroad tracks. Continue on Highway 82 toward Imbler and Elgin for about 5 miles and turn right onto Market Lane, at the mint field. Mint grown here is distilled to oil, which is used to flavor mouthwash, chewing gum, toothpaste, pharmaceuticals, and confectionery and aromatherapy products. Watch for roadside signs, identifying crops growing in the adjacent fields. Market Lane becomes Lower Cove Road. Follow Lower Cove Road to Cove, watching for farm stops and points of interest.

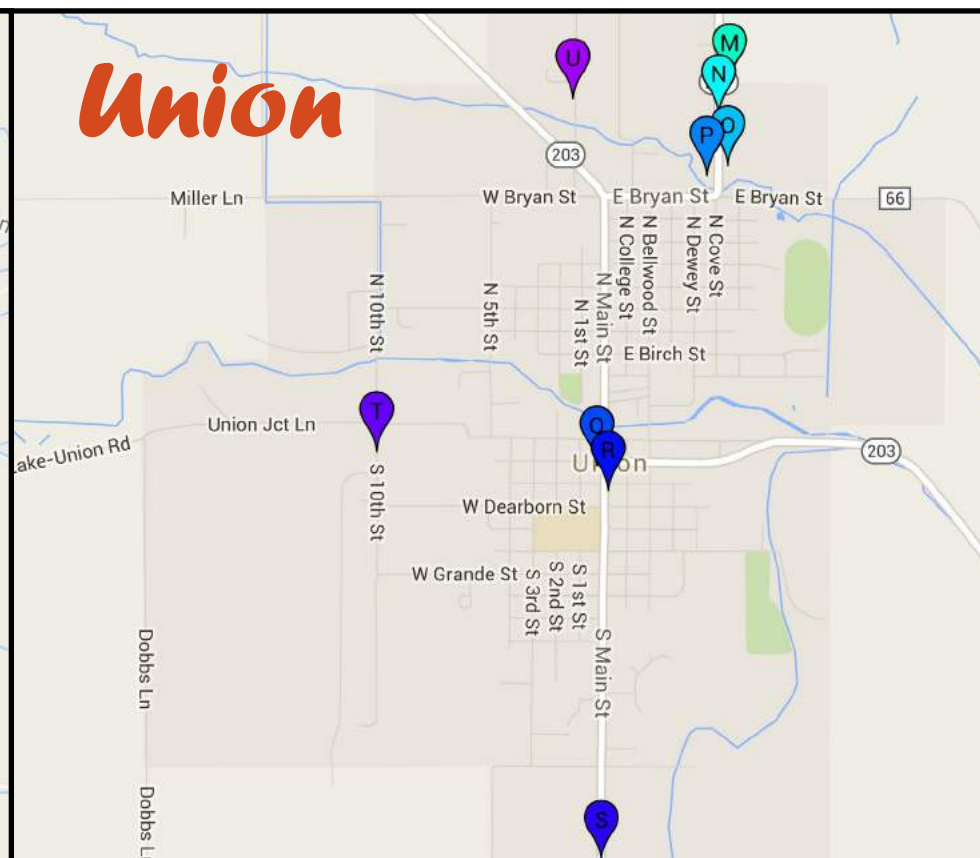
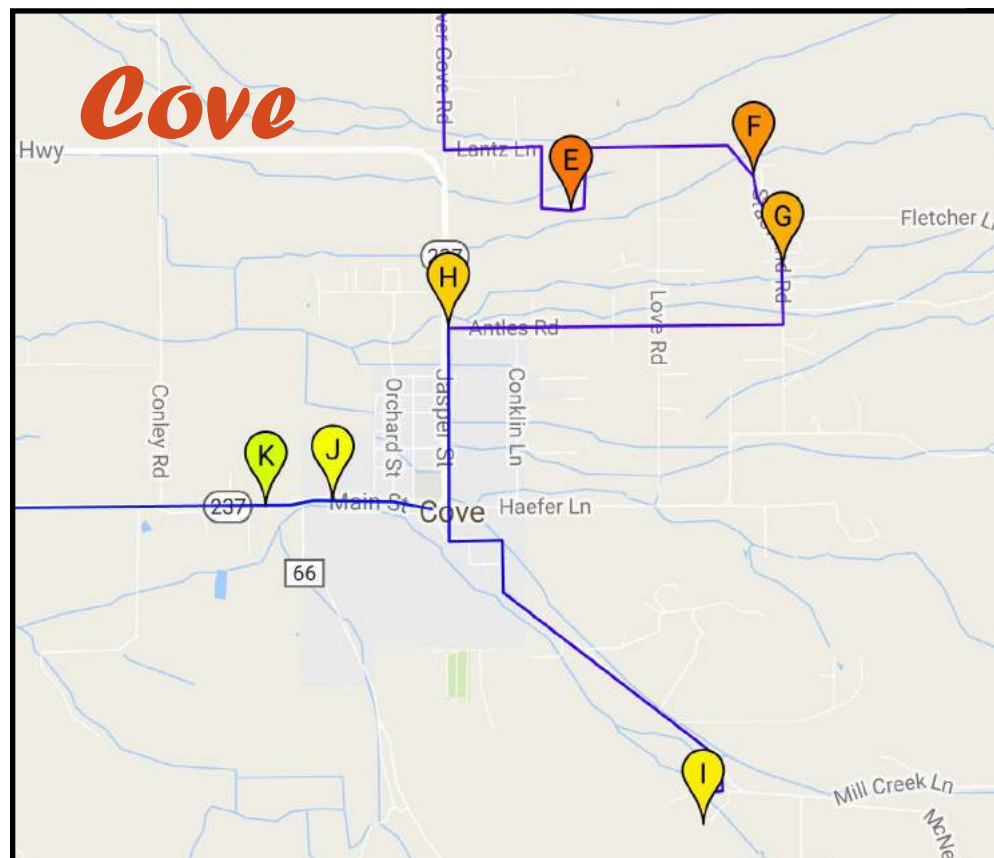
Cove

Cove history and activities: coveoregon.org
 Cove has been a fruit production center for over 100 years. Today, approximately 500 acres of commercial orchards, planted mostly to sweet cherries and peaches, grace the hillsides above town. Cherries are in bloom in spring, ripening in early summer and ready to eat during July. The Cove Cherry Fair is held in August to celebrate the crop. Cove is also home to small-scale livestock production and processing; field crops, and produce growers make up the remaining farm operations. Follow the map and watch for farm loop signs for stops and points of interest. Continue on Hwy 237 to Union.



Union

Union history and activities: grvoutsirts.com
 In the quaint Victorian era town of Union there are lots of opportunities to get out of your car, explore and have a meal or snack. Experience the town's charm, then head north toward La Grande on OR 203. Along the way, you'll pass Hot Lake, a restored historic landmark on your left. Continue on OR 203 under the freeway, then take McAlister Road across the railroad tracks, past the livestock auction yard and back to Island City. We hope you enjoy the Cove-Union Farm Loop!



Farm Stops & Points of Interest

A) Kauffman's Market (541) 663-8404
10214 Wallowa Lake Hwy 82, Island City
Featuring packaged and bulk goods, deli-style sandwiches, baked goods, homemade soup, and regional produce. Lunches to go. Also, check out Pioneer West, next door.



B) Pigtail Pork (541) 568-4671
67750 Lower Cove Road, Cove
Butcher shop. Award-winning bacon, dry-cured sausage, hams, sausages, and pepperoni snack sticks. Call to order.

C) Sister Shic (541) 910-5618
68389 Kerns Loop, Cove
Sister Shic --shabby chic crafters who have a little "Shabulous" festival each fall that includes a hay ride and local farmers offering home grown produce and products from the year's bounty such as jams, pepper sauce, and dried herbs. facebook.com/SisterShic

D) Pick'N Patch (541) 786-2421
62816 Lower Cove Rd, Cove
Open all of October. See the corn maze and choose from a wide variety of pumpkins to take home and enjoy. facebook.com/PickNPatchFarm/

Cove Grange Hall (541) 963-6871
The Grange is a fraternal organization, started in the U.S. in 1867, that encourages families to band together to promote the economic and political well being of agriculture communities. The Cove Grange is currently inactive.

G) Folly Farm (541) 805-8563
67364 Squire Loop, Cove
A micro-farm and you-pick garden focusing on gourmet garlic and open-pollinated heirloom vegetables. Just stop in or call for an appointment for your first visit and they'll show you how things work. During growing season, the farm is open during the day for you-pick kitchen veggies, and by appointment for garlic, canned goods, and bulk harvests when available. follyfarmoregon.com

H) Cove Cherry Farm (541) 786-4621
61236 Stackland Road, Cove
Rainier cherries ripen at this three acre orchard in late June through July. Apples and plums are available mid-August through October, and hops and filberts are ready in October. Other crops include pears, blackberries assorted vegetables and floral arrangements. The scenic orchard is a venue for weddings and other events. Visitors enjoy viewing wildlife year-round.

H) Cove Honey (541) 910-2444
61062 Stackland Road, Cove
The honey stand has honey available in small gift jars and also pint, quart, and half gallons. Bees wax candles are also for sale.

I) Nella Mae's Farm (541) 910-4098 or (541) 805-8645
1006 Antles Lane, Cove
Nella Mae's farmstand, located at the corner of Antles Lane and Highway 237, offers local fruits, vegetables, and more. The stand is open 24/7 from March-Oct. Self-serve on the honor



system; leave your cash or check payment in the box. Stop by the farm at 69361 Antles Lane for a tour when the gate is open. facebook.com/nellamaesfarm

Cove Warm Springs Pool (541) 568-4890
907 Water Street
An historic landmark, these geothermal springs have warmed the Cove pool continuously for more than 75 years. Picnic area and RV spaces. coveoregon.org/cove-warm-spring-pool

J) Apple Spring Farm (541) 429-5124
60024 Thew Loop, Cove
An organic micro farm offering vegetable and flower starts in the spring, fresh vegetables, fruit, berries and flowers, grown with care in their garden, and organic free range eggs. Fresh produce and starts are sold from an on-site farmstand. The lovely setting invites you to linger a while. Open June - Oct., 10 to 4 p.m., Weds. and Sundays



K) Martens Farm (541) 568-4513
305 Hwy 237, Cove
Eggs by pastured hens and other farm products. A family affair.

Hendershott Home
61502 Union-Cove Hwy 237, Cove
Cove's historic neo-gothic Hendershott Home has a rich history. James Hendershott came to Oregon by wagon train in 1852 and was joined by his wife, Harriett Jane, and daughters in 1857. James set up an inn at nearby Hendershott Point, and raised fruits and vegetables for the mines. James later set up a farmstead in Cove. In 1877, he built this home at the western edge of Cove.



L) Grande Ronde Goat Dairy (541) 805-9622
67733 Hutchinson Lane, Union
The Grade A commercial goat dairy, sells raw milk to artisan cheese makers in Northern California. With 250 milking does, the dairy is fully managed and staffed by female students and women who have a passion for agriculture. Does kid December through June. Milking takes place twice each day. Tours by appointment. granderondenubians.com

M) Wing's U-Pick Corn (541) 562-5870
57913 Union-Cove Hwy 237, Union
Farmstand with late-summer fresh corn and pumpkins. Mark and Judy Wing offer horse-drawn wagon rides on special occasions.

N) Bar MD Cattle Co. (541) 786-1492
1598 N. Cove Street (Cove-Union Hwy), Union
Natural, local grass-fed beef for sale. barmd@eoni.com

O) Dora's Garden (541) 562-5465
1393 N. Cove Street, Union
Certified organic produce at self-serve farm stand, May - Oct., open daily, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wide variety of vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers, garlic braids, chicken and duck eggs, fruit preserves, teas and alfalfa hay from farm that has been in the family since 1890. dorasgarden.com

P) Wred Wiggler Worm Wranch (541) 562-1057
1286 N. Cove Street, Union
Hobby Farm that raises Red Wiggler Worms, worm castings, and worm "tea" for fertilizer. Worms are raised in pesticide free soil. They make wonderful additions to any garden, flowerbed or farm, as they enrich the soil with necessary nutrients. Stop by!

Q) Hometown Hardware Store (541) 562-5472
206 S. Main St., Union
A fun stop, this hardware & liquor store, has an espresso shop and a garden center, with plants grown for the area. facebook.com/Hometown-Hardware-Store

R) Union County Museum (541) 562-6003
333 S. Main Street, Union
Featured exhibits include Agriculture, Timber & Transportation; Cowboys Then & Now; the Livery station; the General Store, Period Rooms and more. Open Mother's Day through October, Mon. - Sat. 10 to 4 p.m. ucmuseumoregon.com

Eastern Oregon Livestock Show
760 East Delta Street, Union
The "Stockshow Grounds" are the center of activity the first full week every June for the 4H and FFA livestock show and auction, and a PRCA rodeo with horse races. Activities year-round.

S) B.O.B. Exclusively Grass-Fed Beef (541) 805-1124
1782 S. Main, Union
This attractive cattle ranch produces of high quality, organic beef and offers the chance to experience ranch living through their bed and breakfast. Call to arrange your stay or look them up on Airbnb. A menagerie of farm animals for you to enjoy during your stay. beyondorganicbeef.com

T) Eastern Oregon Agriculture Experiment Station (541) 562-5129
372 South Tenth Street, Union
An Oregon State University station that specializes in research to develop agricultural and natural resource strategies that maintain or enhance intermountain forest and shrub steppe ecosystems for the benefit of present and future generations. oregonstate.edu/dept/eoarcunion/

U) Platz Family Produce (541) 562-5072 or (541) 805-1560
1624 N. First, Union (turn north off Hwy 203)
Farmstand, U-pick. Open Mon.-Wed.-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and more, end of May through late October. The season starts with spring salad greens, then a variety of summer fruits and vegetables including U-pick and we-pick berries, finishing with a bountiful harvest of sweet corn, tomatoes, and a variety of winter squash. facebook.com/PlatzFamilyProduce



V) Intermountain Livestock (541) 963-2158
60654 Livestock Rd (at McAllister Rd)
Stop in on Thursday afternoons to watch a professional auctioneer at work and expert livestock handlers run a fast-paced public livestock auction. Try Aggie's Sale Yard Café inside the sale barn for a burger or a cup of coffee – 75 cents for the first cup then free for rest of the day! imlivestock.com

W) D & B Supply (541) 963-8466
10101 E. First St, Island City
Find everything from bunnies to western clothes, fence posts to garden supplies. This is where farmers and ranchers find what they need to keep the farm running. Take home a cowboy hat or a western belt! dbsupply.com

See a video overview of agriculture in Union County: grvoutskirts.com/2015/11/agriculture-in-union-county

For information on more things to see and do, stop by the Visitor Center, at 207 Depot Street in downtown La Grande. 800.848.9969 unioncountychamber.org



Grande Ronde Valley Sunflowers