Quarterly Report

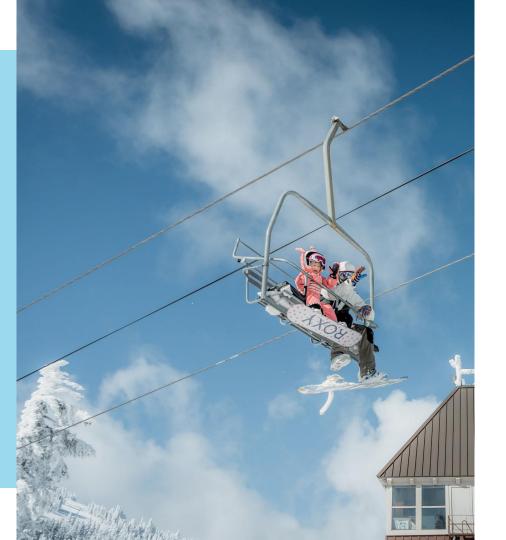
Sept. '23 – Jan. '24

Ashland City Council March 4th, 2024



Live your daydreams





Travel Ashland Role Role and Impact

Where we are now Projects and Programs Events and Ashland Mystery Fest Recap New Resident Sentiment Survey Findings

Program Analytics Earned media coverage Website and Social Analytics Paid Media Performance – Search and Display

Strategic Campaigns Current Campaigns and looking ahead

Industry Statistics Visitation and Lodging industry

Travel Ashland's role and impact

- Travel Ashland leverages lodging tax grant dollars to promote our destination and diversify our visitor, by providing the furthest, effective market outreach and destination managment that businesses and partners depend upon.
- We inspire visitors year-round to experience Ashland through our strategic marketing plan. We work with the tourism industry, media and partners on promotions and projects. We utilize research and technology to best guide our planning and decisions.
- For the past 41 years, your investment has supported Travel Ashland to **generate lodging tax dollars** with our industry partners and operators to fuel Ashland's economy.
- **Visitors pay their share** with 10% City lodging tax + 1.5% State lodging tax totaling 11% along with the F&B 5% meals tax.
- These dollars and the impact of visitation support our year-round **workforce,** enhance our **quality of life, fund essential services** and sustain **amenities** that residents value.
- Of the lodging tax generated: 70% goes to the City's general fund;
 30% are restricted tourism dollars, by state law. Travel Ashland has received approximately half of the restricted tourism dollars.



Projects and Programs

Events:

- We support and promote the growth of Ashland and Rogue Valley events through our partnerships and marketing channels from the OSF 2024 season that is soon upon us to Lithia Artisans Market, Ashland Folk Collective, the rebranded Rogue World Music Festival and Oregon Wine Month coming this May for example.
- Looking back, 2023 events were well attended including the new **Ashland Mystery Fest** you will hear about next.
- The Festival of Light kick-off welcomed over 10,000 people, with the parade and included a pop-up event with the American Brass Quintet sanctioned by Chamber Music Concerts.
- We brought back the **Junior Chef Competition, direct industry workforce development** with job offers made that weekend, mentoring by industry chefs and judging by restaurant owners of high school chefs competing. We look forward to growing this event in 2024.
- We are pleased to see the partnership continue with **Rogue Valley** Symphony's holiday and February performances with plans for 2024.
- We are proud of **Mt. Ashland** for making the most of the winter season after a late start but garnering strong skier visits and programs as the seasons unfolds with good snowfall.





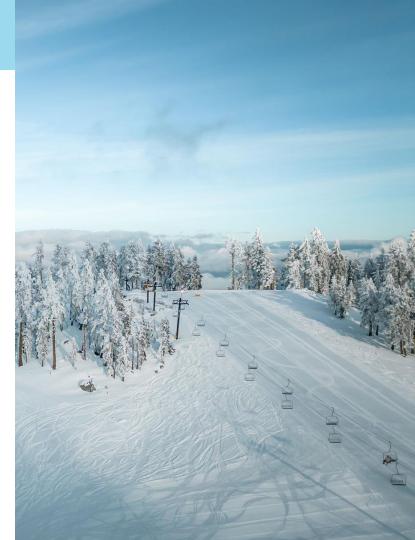
Projects and Programs

- Ashland saw strong visitation late fall with the strongest visitation coming from Sacramento, Eugene and Portland. While we continue to welcome a new visitor, Ashland welcomes many repeat visitors throughout the year.
- Around the country, leisure travel felt softer compared to 2022 for various reasons however our F&B collections were the highest ever at \$814,794 Oct Dec. and the latest TOT data shows \$1,060,937 collected for July Sept stronger that the past 3 years.
- We submitted our **City Grant Report** in January in accordance with our contract. We are in production of our **publications**, website reformating and expanding our **industry outreach**.
- Asset development continues with the completion of film shoots for each season and the deliverables of imagery and footage. Our YouTube channel has garnered strong analytics.
- Travel Ashland plays a role in legislative advocacy around the state in the tourism sphere and partners with Oregon Destination Association, ORLA and Travel Oregon. We will be attending US Travel Assocation's Destination Capitol Hill this month to meet with the congressional delegation in D.C.

Photo Courtesy of Travel Ashland

Projects and Programs

- We are collaborating with outfitters and manufacturer **Sawyer Paddles and Oars** to showcase **white water rafting, fishing and** participated in a co-op hat project with Flow Factory to align Travel Ashland's brand effectively.
- **Groups and Conferences** Travel Ashland partnered with NHG to host the **Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association Conference** in October 2023 as one example. Bookings are pacing strong along with group business and the return of OSF offerings.
- We engage with the proposal process for conferences. We service many groups and conferences through information, guidance, planning and providing collateral to inform their attendees.
- **Research** we appreciate the increased investment in our grant and work. In the quarterly update you will see the most recent data from **Datafy, STR and AirDNA** telling us the latest trends in visitation and lodging.
- We participated as a DMO in a **Resident Sentiment Survey with OSU** and the Sustainable Tourism Lab that works with over 40+ destinations around the world. The study garnered 299 results from Ashland residents and is a testament to the positive impact of the work we do with our partners.



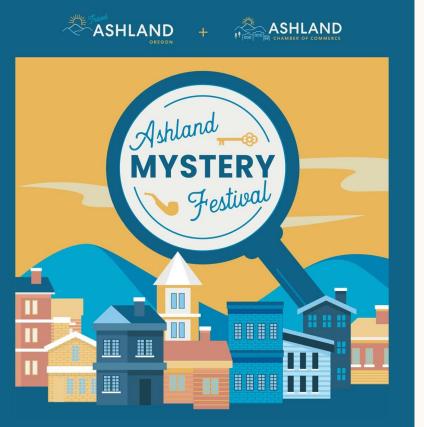
Ashland Mystery Fest 2023 Recap

Ashland Mystery Fest October 20th – 22nd, 2023

A **NEW event** produced by Travel Ashland and Ashland Chamber was a success in its first year.

- Ellie Alexander, who has sold over half a million books and wrote the Bakeshop Series, set in Ashland and were joined by 9 cozy mystery author friends.
- Over 1000 people attended the weekend with author panels, pop ups and a mystery around town for guests to solve.
- Businesses partnered to offer lodging, mystery dinners, a pub crawl, haunted walks and packages.
- **Thank you** to our **sponsors** Paddington Station, Friends of the Public Library, Bloomsbury Books, Barbara Allen, RVML and RV Times.
- Plans for 2024 include an expanded weekend schedule, over 14 authors and new events. <u>www.ashlandmysteryfest.com</u>





ASHLAND, OR OCTOBER 20-23

Get all the clues at Ashlandmysteryfest.com

- An entire Brand was starting to take shape in May 2023 with a landing page launched in June
- Campaigns ran July- October ramping up starting in August through the event
- Media included
 - Organic social media
 - Paid social
 - Search
 - Display ads
 - Social managers and partners posting on their own sites and pages
 - Local and state media
- Engagement times for the Mystery Fest Pages were some of the best on the site
- We look forward to bringing things to the next level in 2024 with so much initial brand work done there will a longer runway and more opportunity

1.1 Overview Video

Chamber to repost



MP4 for Video in Canva and also <u>available here</u>. Post Copy for TA should encourage people to go to LP for full festival Details.

1.2 Lodging Specials



Alt Design available at Canva Link and on google drive too. Post Copy for TA should encourage people to go to Events + Packages Page. IF you go with alt post, please include more info about who has packages in post copy. Posts

2.1 <u>Schedule Overview Carousel</u> Chamber to repost

2.2 Schedule Story "New Post"



Chamber Post Invite businesses + Locals to get involved





Ashland Resident Sentiment Survey





Community Sentiment of Tourism

Ashland – Preliminary Results N = 299

January 2024





Lab & Project Mission



To protect destinations for future generations of <u>visitors</u> and <u>residents</u>.

Community

Economic

Environment



Overview of Project

Project Goals

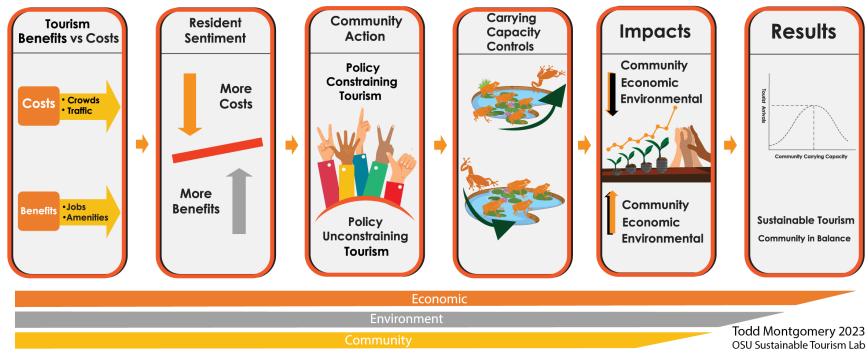
- Establish community sentiment baseline
- Discover variables that contribute to sentiment
- Develop benchmarking data warehouse
- Support destination engagement
- Create survey panels





Sustainable Tourism

Community Carrying Capacity Model

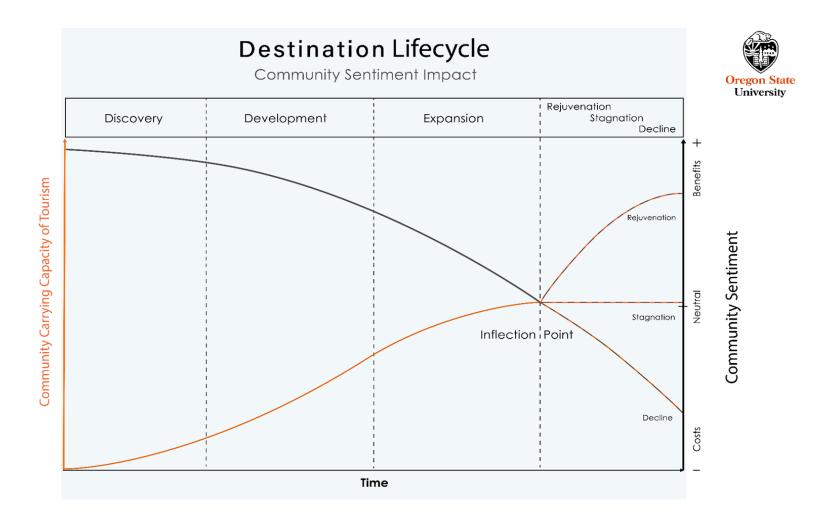




Do Benefits Outweigh Costs of Tourism?

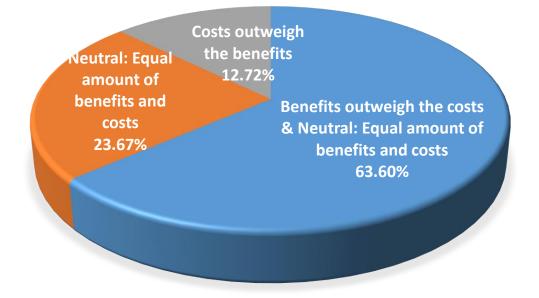
Costs Outweigh the Benefits 10.81% Benefits Outweigh the Costs & Neutral: Equal Amount of Benefits and Costs 89.19%

In general, do you feel the benefits of tourism outweigh the costs or the costs of tourism outweigh the benefits in your town?





Overall Impact on Quality of Life



How would you rate the **overall impact tourism** has on the following: My Quality of Life?



What are the biggest costs of tourism?

In a few words, what is the biggest <u>cost</u> of tourism to your town?

environment impact overcrowding tourists relocating pollution vacation rentals culture trash overdevelopment traffic crime bad behavior affordable housing community infrastructure cost of living economic



What are the biggest benefits of tourism?

community diversity events economic money business jobs taxes amenities awareness

In a few words, what is the bigges <u>benefit</u> of tourism to your town?

Program Analytics



Photo courtesy of Travel Ashland

Earned Media Coverage Winter 2023 - 2024

- Coverage for Ashland and the region is regaining interest with many travel writers touring our region.
- Travel Ashland participates by collaborating, hosting, planning and coordinating with partners such as Neuman Hotel Group, Travel Southern Oregon, Rogue Valley Vintners and Travel Oregon.



USA Today – 10 Best – Winchester Inn honored as "Amazing Romantic Getaway for Winelovers" *By hosted travel writer Tamara Gane* <u>www.10best.usatoday.com</u>



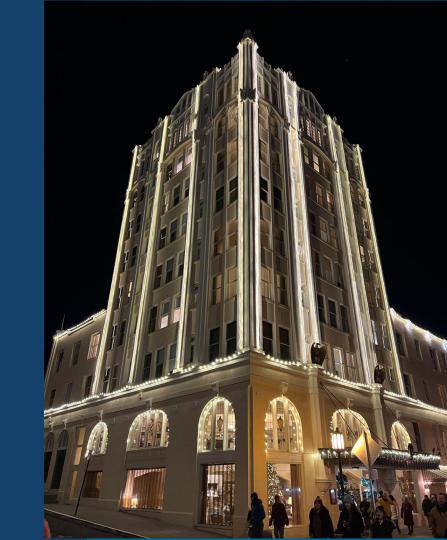
Best Winter Getaways on the West Coast By Allie Lebos <u>www.observer.com</u>





 Travel Ashland hosted Merrills on the Move, an Idaho based travel family February 2024
 www.merrillsonthemove.com

Ashland is Basecamp – A Flurry of Fun Winter Issue – Southern Oregon Magazine Travel Ashland project By K.M. Collins www.southernoregonmagazine.com Website & Social Performance



<u>Site targets</u>workbook

October 2023 - December 2023 Actual

	2023	2022	Variance	Variance
Pageviews	52,129	32,890	+19,239	58.49%
Users	22,433	19,790	+2,643	13.36%
Sessions	26,719	22,116	+4,603	20.81%

January - March 2024 Forecast

	2024	2023	Variance	Variance
Pageviews	31,000	31,000	0	0%
Users	14,000	19,136	-5,136	-26.84%
Sessions	20,162	21,032	-870	-4.14%

Social Metrics

Facebook October - December 2023 Actual

	2023	2022	+/-	+/-
Followers	2,711	2,480	+695	9.26%
Reach	85,258	95,172	-9,914	-19%
New followers	27	75	-48	-480%

Facebook January - March Forecast

	2024	2024 2023		+/-
**Followers	2,709	2,520	+189	13.33%
*Reach	19,500	51,399	-32k	-33%
New Likes	60	10	+50	66.67%

*Reach forecast is organic not paid **Followers calculated using last month of the guarter Instagram October - December 2023 Actual

	2023	2022	+/-	+/-
Followers	4,473	4,086	+1,736	13.87%
Reach	28,120	22,736	+5,384	27.62%
New Followers	231	Not recorded		

Instagram January - March Forecast

	2024	2023	+/-	+/-
Followers	4,573	4,219	354	11.91%
Reach	7,000	19,496	-12,496	-54.96%
New Likes	60	Not recorded		

Paid Media Performance



Courtesy of Travel Ashland

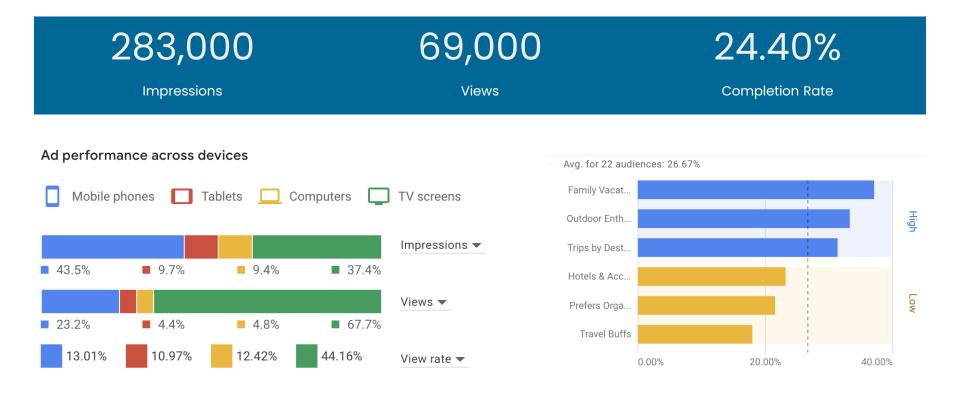
Search October - December 2023

94,277 Impressions	,	4,18		4.43% *Industry Average 5-7% CTR		average \$1.40
Ad group	↓ Impr.	Clicks	CTR	TOP CITIES		
Branded	22,476	527	2.34%	City	Impressions	CTR
• branded	22,470	527	2.34%	Portland, Oregon	24,246	2.47%
Family Fun	21,821	279	1.28%	Seattle, Washington	7,838	3.62%
	-			Phoenix, Arizona	2,196	6.47%
Outdoors	13,983	118	0.84%	Denver, Colorado	2,577	4.73%
Local Shopping	11,361	145	1.28%	Eugene, Oregon	1,869	6.37%
				Sacramento, California	2,154	4.50%
Wine and Culinary	11,310	1,409	12.46%	Pasadena, California	3,111	2.83%
•		.,		San Francisco, San Francisco B	2,112	3.93%
Dynamic	10,334	1,539	14.89%	Salt Lake City, Utah	1,109	7.48%
- , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				Redding, California	570	14.56%
Arts and Culture	2,992	163	5.45%			

Search January 2024

7,233	2,38 Clicks		6	4.17% Click Rate		\$0.62 *Industry average \$1.40 CPC		
Keyword	\downarrow Impr.	Clicks	CTR		City - (Matched)	Impr. 💌	↓ Clicks ▼	CTR 👻
oregon places to visit	7,018	48	0.68%		Portland	16,100	483	3.00%
fine dining restaurant	6,807	1,360	19.98%		Dorris	1,695	168	9.91%
menu	0,007	1,000	17.50.0		Seattle	1,231	48	3.90%
Pacific Crest Trail	6,723	256	3.81%		Redding	147	32	21.77%
Family friendly vacation	5,241	15	0.29%		Eugene	413	30	7.26%
pacific crest trail map	4,052	81	2.00%		Sacramento	461	29	6.29%
places to visit in oregon	3,573	68	1.90%		San Diego	774	28	3.62%
Ashland Oregon	2,376	43	1.81%		Bend	257	27	10.51%
best parks	1,480	9	0.61%					
kids skiing	1,446	6	0.41%					

YouTube October - December 2023



YouTube January 2024

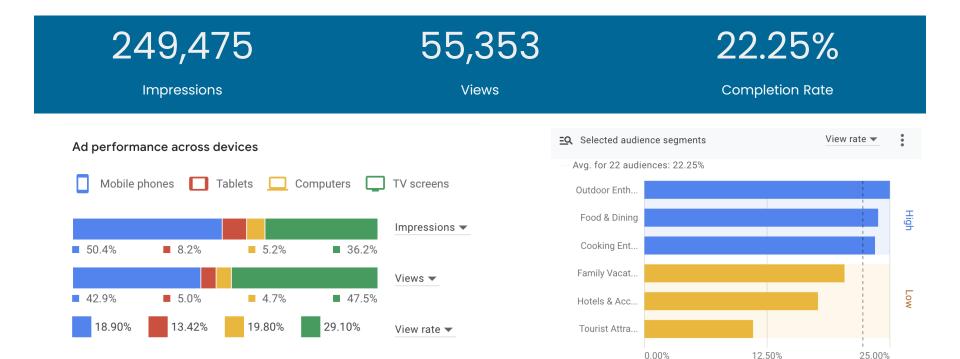
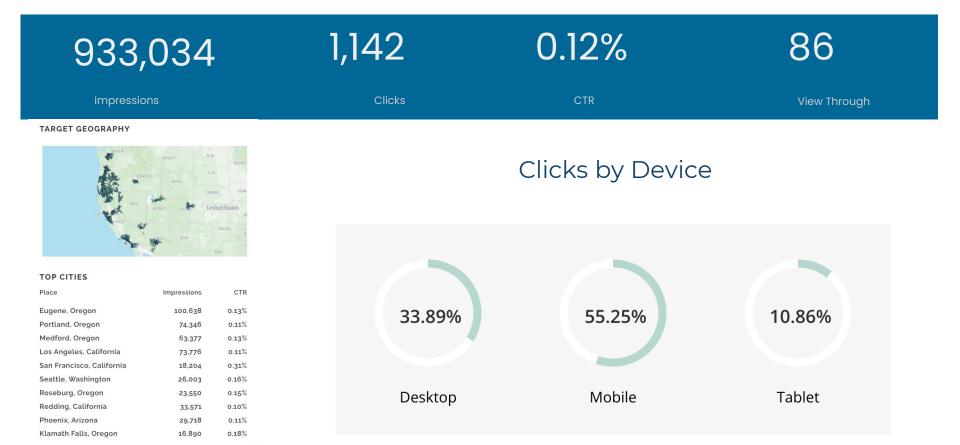






Photo by Steve Heinrichs

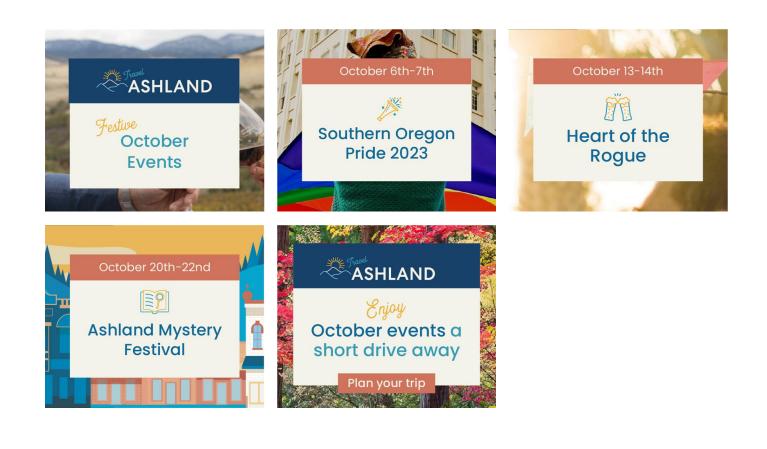
Display October - December 2023



303,912 Impressions	 Clic	423 Clicks 22 View throughs			P25 ements
D	evices By Click		Top Cities	Imp	Clicks
			Los Angeles	58,792	56
			Seattle	23,363	39
28 520/	FF 220/	F 010/	San Francisco	22,216	41
38.53%	55.32%	5.91%	Eugene	19,504	30
			San Jose	9,186	9
Desktop	Mobile	Tablet	Phoenix	8,677	5

Display- October ads

October Events



Display- October ads

Mystery Fest





OCT 22nd

Rogue Valley Symphony in Ashland

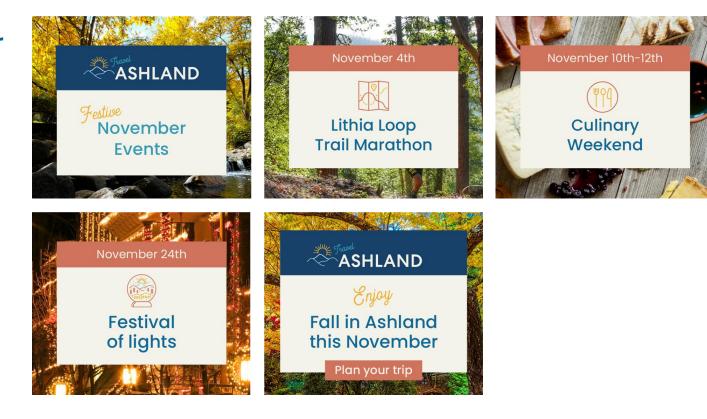


OCT 22nd Japanese Garden Anniversary



Display- November ads

November Events



Festival of light 2023

Festival of light











Display- October, November

Shop like a local

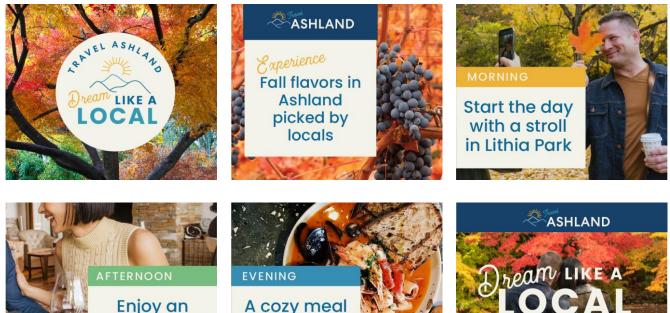




Display- October, November

Fall Flavors

Top Performing ad with .20% CTR & 95 clicks



Plan your trip

Enjoy an afternoon of wine tasting A cozy meal at Osteria La Bricolla

Short Drive - 150 mi radius

December **Events**



5₆ **RV Symphony Presents** Home for the Holidays

First Frost Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink



Display - January Events





Jan 5th

Ashland Gallery Association 1st Friday artwalk



Jan 12-14

Brine, Brew & Barrel Fermentation Festival Masterworks 4: Haydn, Mozart, & Beethoven Feat. Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

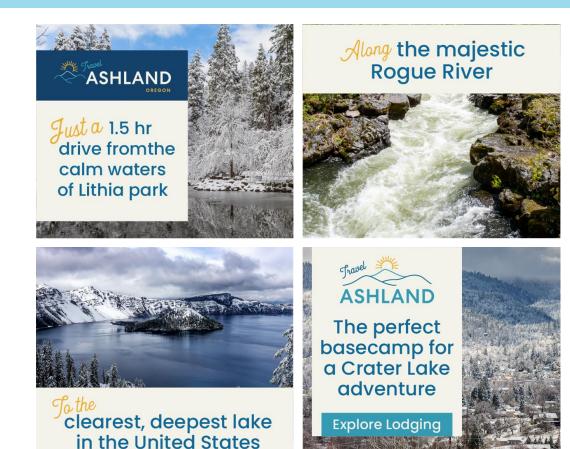
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Jan 19-21



Display - Basecamp Crater Lake - January



Display - Winter Family Outdoors - January







mountainous adventures converge.







Placement Examples

U.S. News: Latest news, br X +				
→ C iii cbsnews.com/ust	3	< \$	 1.4	1
Nar Hostages Scathing Santos Report Orcas Attacking Boats Psychodelics For PTSD CBS News Live Managing Your Money Newsletters				
CBSNEWS NEWS SHOWS LIVE LOCAL Q				
CBSNEWS NEWS SHOWS LIVE LOCAL WIII Q				

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Chrome for Testing v120.0.6099.109 is only for a	utomated testing. Fo	or regular browsing, use	a standard version	on of Chrome th	at updates au	tomatically.		Download Chro
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ET Celebrity News - Latest Celeb × +								

THE LATEST NEWS



Christina Aguilera's Daughter Summer Rain Makes Rare Appearance in Singer's 43rd Birthday Instagram Post The songstress' rang in her b-day in Sin City.



GET THE LATEST NEWS

E-Mail Address



'The Voice' Finalist Jacquie Roar Talks Upcoming Collabs With Coach Reba McEntire and Tom Nitti (Exclusive) The season 24 finalist has plenty of musical plans for the new year!



'The Voice' Winner Huntley Shares His Appreciation For Coach Niall Horan (Exclusive) The rocker and father of two made his coach a back-to-back winner in his second season.



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Alabama inmate who fatally shot man during 1993 robbery is executed

Casey McWhorter spent nearly 30 years on Alabama's death row, making him among the longest-serving inmates of the state's 165 death row inmates.

President Biden signs short-term funding bill to keep government open

41 400

7H &GO

The bill will fund the government at current levels until mid-January.

U.S.

24 460

Dex Carvey, Dana Carvey's son, dies at age 32

Dex Carvey, the son of comedian Dana Cravey, died of an accidental overdose, his family announced in a statement



Blinken says U.S. and China have "consequential relationship"

Secretary of State Antony Blinken told CBS News that China represents "one of the most consequential relationships* the U.S. has with any nation. 2H 460 BH AGO

Sign up for Breaking News Alerts

ASHLAND

Latest News

1

President Biden signs shortterm funding bill to keep the government open

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Fifth Harmony's Ally Brooke Gets Engaged to Will Bracey

The couple has been together for eight years.











273,959	343	0.13%
Impressions	Clicks	CTR

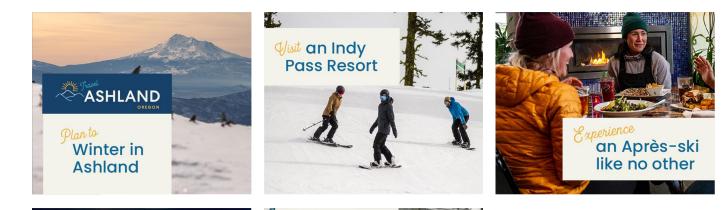
Social



Mt. Ashland Indy Pass PTA

Indy Pass PTA

Targets those who visited a Western States indyPass Resort in the 2022/2023 season







Display & Social - PTA - Mystery Fest Survey November- December

Display



Mystery Fest Adset



Current Campaigns and Projects January -March

Display

- Wanderers Winter Wine and Culinary
- Winter Getaway and Basecamp Crater Lake
- Family Getaway Outdoor Winter
- Spring Wine & Culinary and Events

Social

• Page Promotion, Boosted Posts and Hot Chocolate Trail

Video

 Pushing out our winter and spring videos, year-round videos and new content

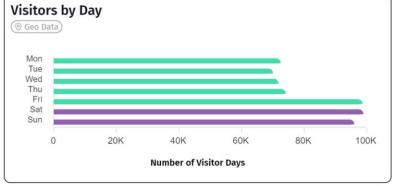
Projects:

- Springs campaigns, calendar planning
- Website content and our Industry blogs and outreach
- Visitor Guide and Living & Doing Business Guide production
- Here is Oregon plans
- Email marketing strategy
- Visitor Guide promotion for digital downloads
- Mystery Fest planning (Oct. 17th 20th, 2024)

Industry Statistics

Industry Statistics - Datafy - Visitation



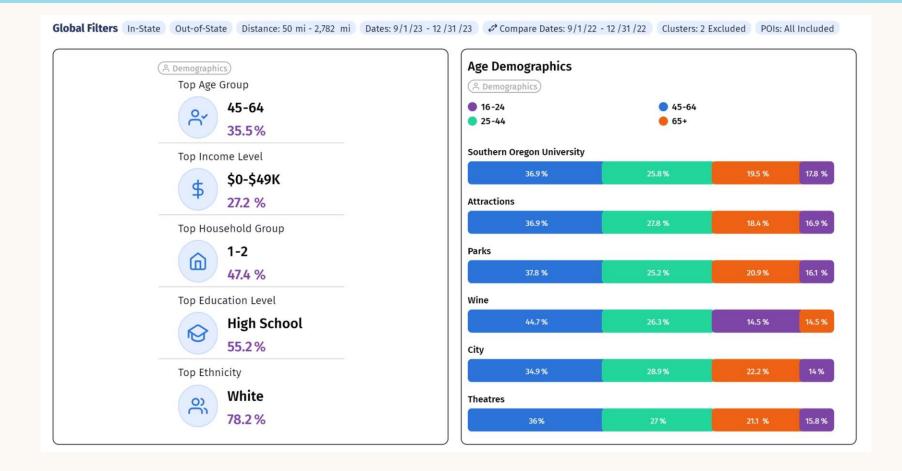




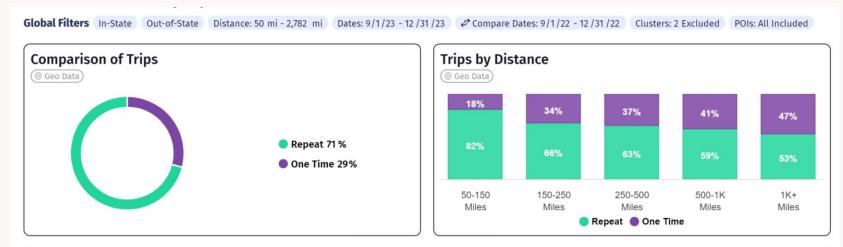
Industry Statistics – Datafy – Clusters

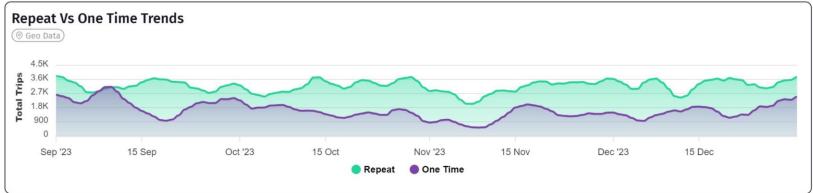
Global Filters In-State Out-of-State Distance: 50 mi - 2,782 mi Dates: 9/1/23 - 12/31/23 & Compare Dates: 9/1/22 - 12/31/22 Clusters: 2 Excluded POIs: All Included **Cluster Visitation Top Cluster Visitation** (Geo Data) (Geo Data) 50K City 629,102 Districts 189,491 40K Theatres 178,024 Ashland Lodging 30K 130,196 Trips Parks 110,491 20K Dining 105,975 Southern Oregon University 72,366 10K Attractions 55,659 Wine 15,075 15 Oct Sep 15 Sep Oct Nov 15 Nov Dec 15 Dec City Theatres Districts Ashland Lodging Parks Dining Southern Oregon University Wine

Industry Statistics - Datafy - Demographics



Industry Statistics - Datafy - Repeat vs. 1st time

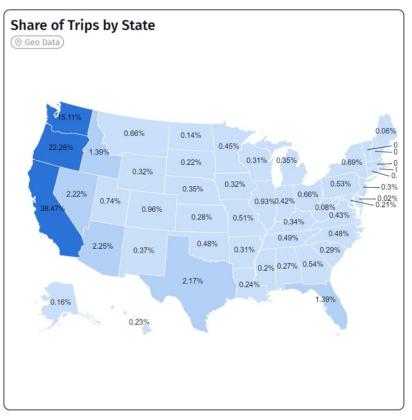




Industry Statistics - Datafy - Geo Markets

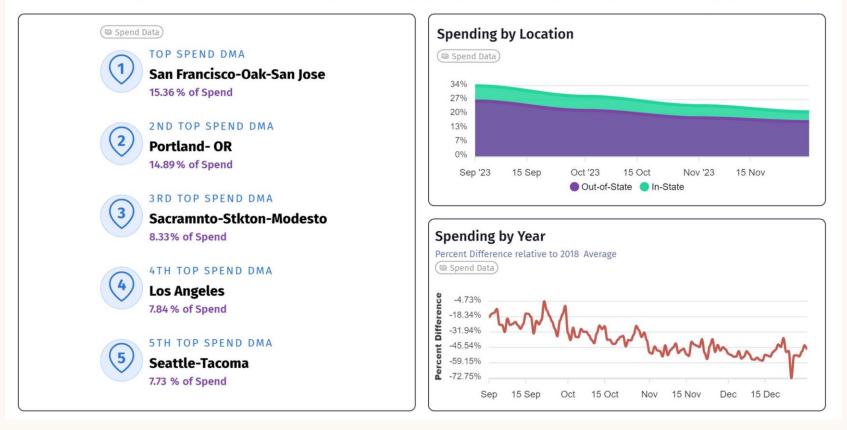
Global Filters In-State Out-of-State Distance: 50 mi - 2,782 mi Dates: 9/1/23 - 12/31/23 & Compare Dates: 9/1/22 - 12/31/22 Clusters: 2 Excluded POIs: All Included

) Geo Data) (🕫 Compare D	ates)		
DMA	% Trip Share	Total Trips	% Change in Trips
Portland- OR	12 %	61,676	↑ 9.9%
Sacramnto-Stkton-Mode	10.7 %	55,334	↑ 2.7%
Seattle-Tacoma	9.5 %	49,057	↑ 5.3%
Eugene	8.8%	45,318	↓ 3.3%
San Francisco-Oak-San J	6.9%	35,643	个 11.5 %
Los Angeles	6.4%	33,108	个 27.9 %
Chico-Redding	6.1 %	31,561	↓ 0.6%
Medford-Klamath Falls	4.8%	24,716	↓ 11.4 %
Fresno-Visalia	2.2%	11,403	↑ 3.3%
Phoenix -Prescott	1.5 %	7,770	-



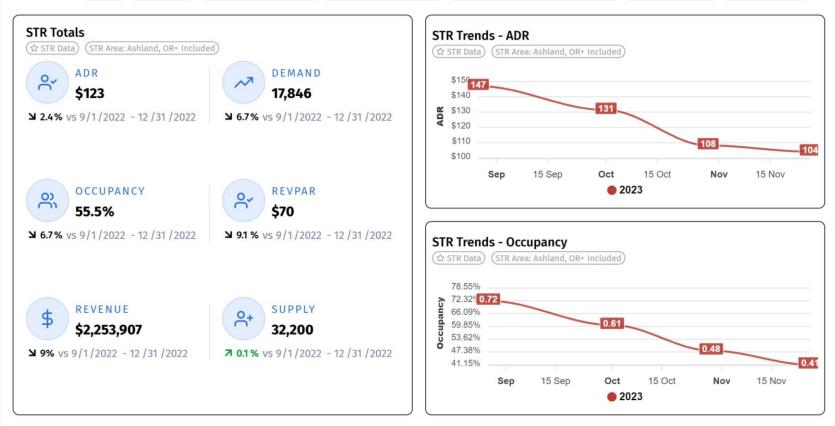
Industry Statistics - Datafy - Spending

Global Filters In-State Out-of-State Distance: 50 mi - 2,782 mi Dates: 9/1/23 - 12/31/23 & Compare Dates: 9/1/22 - 12/31/22 Clusters: 2 Excluded POIs: All Included

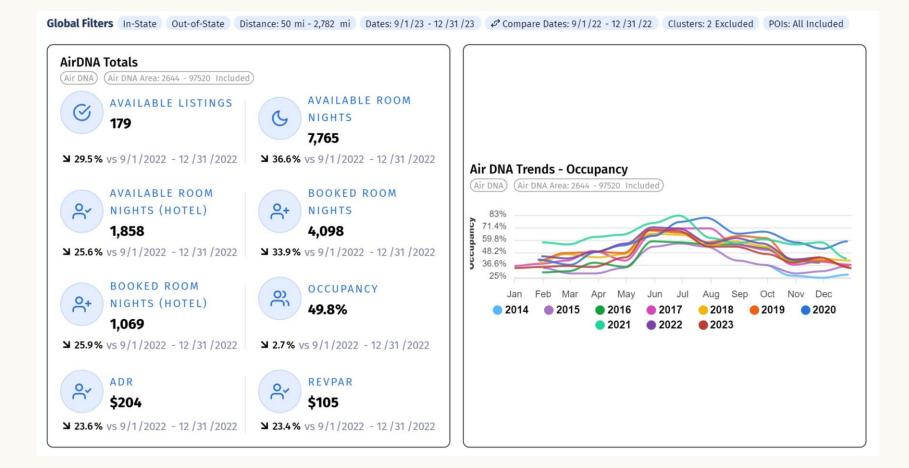


Industry Statistics - Datafy + STR

Global Filters In-State Out-of-State Distance: 50 mi - 2,782 mi Dates: 9/1/23 - 12/31/23 & Compare Dates: 9/1/22 - 12/31/22 Clusters: 2 Excluded POIs: All Included



Industry Statistics - Datafy + AirDNA





Travel Ashland Advisory Committee

- Pete Wallstrom Momentum River Expeditions (Past Chair)
- Graham Sheldon Ashland Creek Inn
- Anne Robison The Crown Jewel
- Don Anway Neuman Hotel Group
- Julie Gurwell Hearsay Restaurant, Lounge and Garden
- Scott Malbaurn Schneider Museum of Art (Current Chair)
- Ana Byers Rogue World Music
- Sabrina Cotta City of Ashland
- Javier Dubon Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- Andrew Gast Mt. Ashland Ski Area
- Gina DuQuenne Ashland City Council Liaison

ASHLAND

Live your daydreams

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Thank you!

Questions? Katharine Cato, Director, Travel Ashland katharine@ashlandchamber.com