

THINGS TO DO

TRAVEL
SOUTHERN
OREGON



PLACES TO GO

CRATER LAKE

STORIES

VISITOR RESOURCES

Sunny skies, modest rainfall and rolling hillsides make Southern Oregon a superior location for growing wine grapes, and that same mild climate is perfect for cultivating lavender plants. Bunchy English Lavenders, showy French Lavenders, fragrant lavenders for body care and flavorful lavenders for food and drink: Southern Oregon's lavender farms have it all.

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by [Eileen Garvin](#) (updated)

At [The English Lavender Farm](#) in Applegate, visitors will find undulating acres of silver and green foliage and blossoms ranging from pale purple to brilliant blues. "The setting is really quite beautiful. People come when the flowers are blooming and the contrast between the fields of purple and the surrounding green hills is just lovely," says Sue Owen, who co-owns the farm with her husband Derek. The Owens cultivate many kinds of lavender, including the short, dark Hidcote English Lavender the Grosso French Lavender and culinary lavenders like Royal Velvet and

Melissa.



The Owens distill lavender oil on site in a copper still and harvest flowers for dried bouquets and buds. They craft a variety of lavender-based body care products like essential oils, soaps, lotions and sugar scrubs as well as culinary offerings like lavender infused honey, salt with lavender and culinary lavender on the stem. Check out their products at the farm and online or look for them at farmers markets in Grants Pass, Ashland, Medford and Jacksonville. Open in June and July from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday through Monday, The English Lavender Farm also hosts **special events** like wreath making, wine and painting evenings, farm dinners and parent-toddler mornings.



Jacksonville's **Lavender Fields Forever** nurtures seven varieties of lavender on 1.5 acres of their farm. Lavender varieties with blossoms of white, pink and blue are cultivated for essential oils, culinary use and crafts. Owners Rob and Mary Rustad invite visitors to pick their own lavender, take a stroll through the fields and bring a picnic. The farm offers lavender distillation demos as well as hands-on classes about cultivation, distillation, culinary use, wreath-making and more. online or at the onsite barn store for bath and body products, essential oils and culinary treats. Lavender Fields Forever offers a farm stay and is available for weddings and special events.

Other stops along the Southern Oregon Lavender Trail include Williams-based **Goodwin Creek Gardens**, which sells lavender among many other kinds of potted plants; **Dos Mariposa Vineyards & Lavender** in Medford, and **Oregon State University Lavender Garden** in Central Point with the Pacific Northwest's first

Lavender Collection and Demonstration Garden with more than 80 varieties of lavender. The garden is open year-round for self-guided tours.

Bonus: Don't miss the **Southern Oregon Lavender Festival**, which takes place over June 21-22 and July 12-14, 2019 and includes special events at some of these Southern Oregon lavender farms.

STORY CATEGORIES



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