

# 50 Romantic Things to do for Couples in Bend

## 1. [Tumalo Falls](#)

These beautiful falls are located in the Deschutes National Forest, near Tumalo State Park and Tumalo city proper. During the winter and early spring months, the main gate is closed off, so you'll have to trek to the falls with your sweetie. However, in the summer and fall, it's a quick drive up to the parking lot, which fills up fast, so come claim your spot early in the morning or in the evening, where you'll have a great view of the sunset over the mountains.

## 2. [Tumalo](#)

Located near Bend, close enough to be considered something of a suburb to its larger neighbor, this little and quaint unincorporated town is located near Tumalo State Park. Stop by for a freshly baked pizza, or visit a welcoming coffee shop. Take your bikes and enjoy a ride through the trails and on bike-friendly roads. It's a perfect getaway from the hustle and bustle of Bend while also being only minutes away.

## 3. [Tumalo State Park](#)

Nestled in the northwest area of Bend, Tumalo State Park is a beautiful tree-spotted park near the Deschutes River. Take a picnic along and enjoy the view of the river at one of the many picnic tables or, in the summer, your swimsuits and take a dip in its stiller waters. There's also a clean, well-maintained campground nearby, with amenities included.

## 4. [Cog Wild Mountain Bike Tours](#)

For bicyclists, this is a great group date to participate in. The local tour organization organizes tours along the mountains and high desert trails. The views are fantastic, and there are various packages to choose from; day tours, combos, and even trips to local breweries after a long ride.

## 5. [Pilot Butte](#)

The famous butte towers over the surrounding buildings—and its precipitous height—is practically begging to be hiked and biked by Bend locals and tourists. Not only can you look over a mountain peak guide at its top (aligning with the view of the mountains surrounding Bend), but there's also a great view of the city, where you can look out at the smokestacks in the Old Mill District.

## 6. [The Old Mill District](#)

What article about Bend wouldn't be complete without mentioning this historic shopping district? Once a bustling lumber mill in the early 20th century, the district is now home to a large variety of shops, restaurants, and events at the Les Schwab Amphitheater. There are plenty of date spots to choose from here; Red Robin for a casual evening to an experience at Anthony's or Greg's Grill, where the prime riverfront view is worth the price tag. The comfortable seats

encircling a warm bonfire, the winding Deschutes river, impressive smokestacks, and the choice of eateries make a romantic and varied evening.

#### 7. [Les Schwab Amphitheater](#)

An outdoor venue with a massive stage at the end of a rolling green lawn that gives room to thousands of guests, this amphitheater is home to hundreds of concerts in Deschutes County. Popular local artists and even famous headliners grace its stage, sometimes performing free concerts or charity events. Food trucks and beer gardens are set up along the sidewalk, offering choice drinks and great street food options.

#### 8. [Regal Cinemas](#)

If you and your partner are feeling film rather than live music, Regal Cinemas is only a few minutes away from the amphitheater. Featuring cushy stadium seating, a concession stand with wide selections and bundles, along with multiple theaters playing the newest movies, Regal is one of the plusher options in Bend. Dinner and a movie are easy here, as there's a Hawaiian eatery directly next door, along with other restaurant options in the mill district.

#### 9. [Tin Pan Theater](#)

If you prioritize an indie art-house film over the latest blockbuster, you'll want to check out Tin Pan. This small theater on Tin Pan Alley, close to the St. Charles Hospital complex, offers independent films and classic cinema. Snuggle up in the cozy single-screen theater with a glass of locally sourced wine or pint of beer with your popcorn.

#### 10. [Lava Lanes Bowling Center](#)

Not too far from the Old Mill District and downtown Bend is Lava Lanes, a technicolor adventure for bowlers and arcade fans alike. Grab a beer and dinner at the bar, or maybe a soda and nachos at the snack bar, then make your way down to the alley for a competitive night of fun, either bowling with your date or hitting the arcades for a nostalgic spin at Pac-Man.

#### 11. [Deschutes Natural Forest](#)

A sprawling forest full of hiking, fishing, camping, and other adventures is only minutes away from the city. There's an abundance of options to choose from, with spectacular views of an abundance of juniper, ponderosa pines, maple, and Douglas firs. If resting in a small meadow on a quilted blanket, surrounded by wildlife and the quiet of the forest, is your thing, this forest is it.

#### 12. [Mt. Bachelor](#)

A beautiful ski resort on Mount Bachelor, this winter wonderland is in Bend's backyard. Cuddle up with some hot cocoa, wrapped in a blanket, and enjoy a toasty fireplace after a long day skiing on the slopes. The ski season ranges from mid-November to the end of May—the longest in the country.

#### 13. [Dutchman Sno-Park](#)

Pack up the snow shoes and inner tubes, or even your snowmobile if you've got one, it's time to

slide down the snow-covered hills. The parking lot fills up quickly, so get there early to snag a spot. During the winter, there are snowshoeing adventures or hiking and mountain biking in the warmer months. The Dutchman is only a short three-minute drive to Mt. Bachelor.

#### 14. [Oregon Trail of Dreams](#)

Not many of us can say we've ridden on a dog sled. This trail, near Mt. Bachelor, offers views of Central Oregon mountaintops: Broken Top, Three Sisters, and Mt. Bachelor. Owned and operated by a professional competitive musher, Rachael Scdoris, Trail of Dreams provides an opportunity to join a traditional dog sled tour. The tour takes off from Mt. Bachelor's Sunrise Lodge and carries up to three people (or two). You'll participate in an orientation pre-trip, then afterward learn what goes into maintaining and caring for a pack of furry, four-legged athletes.

#### 15. [Lava River Cave](#)

Suppose it's in the dead of summer, with the bright sun blazing down and flowers struggling not to wilt, and the mountains are devoid of fresh powdery snow. You might be interested in taking a trip down in the dark, cool, and damp lava tube at Lava River Cave, part of the Newberry National Volcanic Monument. It's a steep climb down and back up and a bit of a workout, but the breeze flowing through its cavernous walls will keep you both nice and cool.

#### 16. [Newberry National Volcanic Monument](#)

A large swath of the Lava Lands surrounding the Newberry Crater (technically, a Caldera) and the summit of Paulina Peak, where you'll catch views of the Cascades, Newberry Caldera, and the high desert. The heart of the Monument, however, is the massive crater, a caldera stretching seventeen square miles over the volcano. Stretching thousands of thousands of acres across the Deschutes National Forest, there's no shortage of lava tubes, hiking trails, and striking geological features formed for thousands of years by seismic and geothermal activity.

#### 17. [High Desert Museum](#)

The High Desert Museum showcases the historical and cultural heritage of the high desert ecosystem, with a wide range of indoor/outdoor exhibits of historical artifacts and live demonstrations and glimpses of local wildlife. There's a gift shop near the front entrance, full of fun knick-knacks and t-shirts, as well as a well-appointed cafe. Picnic tables are set up throughout the grounds.

#### 18. [Wanderlust Tours](#)

Want an expert's opinion on the best spots to snowshoe in the winter or paddle on the lake in the summer? Wanderlust provides daily tours, depending on the season, into the Lava Tubes, hiking over Cascades calderas, camping in various parts of the Cascades, and exploring the numerous brewery and distillery options near Bend. There are camping events, volunteer experiences, and custom tours (for date nights planned well in advance).

#### 19. [Sun Country Tours](#)

Sun Country Tours is a local tour operator organizing rafting trips, tubing lessons, and rentals on the three Oregon rivers: McKenzie, North Umpqua, and Deschutes. Sign up for a full-day rafting trip, or design your own adventure on a river float tube, chairlift rides, zip tours, or sunset dinners with your date.

#### 20. [Tumalo Creek Kayaks & Canoeing](#)

Add adventure to your date here. Rent kayaks, paddleboards, canoes, and rafts for a trip on the Deschutes River. The company offers daily river tours and stand-up paddleboard classes for yoga. Shop for gear, paddle down the river, or take lessons with experts.

#### 21. [Sun Mountain Fun Center](#)

Sun Mountain is the epitome of your local fun center, full of fun things to do not only for kids but for adults as well. Let out your inner kid on the bumper cars, chasing down your date and breaking out into hysterics as you spin around in the speedy little car. Go bowling, play on the arcade machines, or grab a local micro-brewed beer or wine before taking on some mini golf.

#### 22. [Hosmer Lake](#)

Visits to Lake Hosmer for canoe expeditions and hiking trails with spectacular views of Mount Bachelor. The lake is only suitable for fly fishing, meaning the motor boat restriction gives way to cool clean water, giving way to clear views of the lake's populous schools of fish. Lake Hosmer is also a very popular lake due to its beautiful environment, abundant wildlife, waterfowl, and large fish that can be easily seen swimming. Road access is available from June to October.

#### 23. [Ouzel Outfitters](#)

From day trips to weekend vacations to week-long adventures on the various Oregon rivers. Ouzel Outfitters specializes in guided whitewater rafting in Central Oregon. Ouzel offers a range of options, from half-day trips to week-long trips with experienced river guides. Make date night a few more nights long on a guided rafting adventure.

#### 24. [Sun River Resort](#)

Sunriver Resort makes your vacations and excursions unforgettable. There is something for everyone throughout the year. Gather your family and friends across the Deschutes River directly from Sun River Marina, play golf on the award-winning golf course, bike through the towering trees, and ride along the river over 40 miles of trails. The resort is like a natural Disneyland, where you're immersed in the magic of local beverages, food, golfing, water sports, and more.

#### 25. [Sunriver Trail Rides](#)

Besides all the adventures listed above, Sunriver Resort also is home to the Sunriver Stables, where riders of all experience levels can take a 45-minute trail ride through the pines, with guided tours starting with 15-minute lessons, then move onto paths through scenic Sunriver meadows and the surrounding Ponderosa-dotted forest.

#### 26. [Todd Lake](#)

This lake is a little further out from Bend, 24 miles off 46 and on a forest service road out to the Todd Lake trail. There's a short hike from the parking lot to the lake, facing the Cascade's Volcanic Arc Broken Top, a beautiful snow-covered jugged mountain top. The view itself is enough to bring your date for, but there's also forest access across the Todd Lake Trail, bringing you into the geographically diverse Three Sisters Wilderness, through Soda Creek and the Broken Top trail. Take a dip in the lake after a long morning hike, and don't forget your bug spray.

### 27. [Downtown Bend Culinary Walking Tour](#)

If you're feeling pretty hungry after a day of hitting the trails, or the nearby golf courses, plan for a downtown Bend small group tour for a unique dining experience. You'll visit food carts, coffee roasters, breweries, food stalls, and all sorts of culinary ventures during a 3-hour guided tour. Tours aren't always available, so keep checking back to sign up.

### 28. [Bend Scavenger Hunt-Walking Tour](#)

Located in downtown Bend, this scavenger hunt brings you downtown like you're looking for Pokemon, but instead, it's the sights and sounds of Bend that you'll be catching. Take fun quizzes and learn new facts and trivia about Bend. This will sometimes bring you off the beaten path, bringing a sense of adventure to your date.

### 29. [Elevation](#)

Support culinary students at Central Oregon Community College while exploring a fine-dining menu at a reasonable price. Aspiring chefs appreciate the feedback survey at the end of the experience, where patrons are encouraged to give honest criticism of the food to help the students learn what worked and what didn't.

### 30. [Worthy Brewing](#)

What's going to Bend without stopping by a brewery? One of the many choice breweries in Central Oregon, Worthy stands out with its on-site hop garden and *hopservatory*: an insider's look at how their beers are brewed using sustainable, earth-friendly practices. The only brewery on the East side, Worthy offers both a large selection of beer and a locally sourced menu.

### 31. [Bite of Bend](#)

Bite of Bend is huge, comprising of a 5k Beer Run through Drake Park (running or walking welcome), a \$5 cocktail week leading up to the main event, a conscious living showcase for health and earth-friendly businesses, an artisanal marketplace with local artists, a mixology showcase, and even a local Top Chef competition. The festival is enormous, with so many food carts to choose from you'll need to save your appetite for this date.

### 32. [On Tap Bend](#)

Start at the tasting room, then mosey on over to their Beer Garden and sip with your date under the stars. There's plenty of seating surrounding warm, comforting fire pits surrounded by awnings with sparkling cafe lights. The indoor tap house features TVs, heaters, and communal seating, along with live music, bingo nights, and more events to plan your date around.

### 33. [Bend Farmers Market, Wednesdays](#)

A mainstay of Bend, a harkening back to the old days when Deschutes County was a small rural community. If you're planning a date for the middle of the week, between 2 and 6 pm, you might find downtown Bend to be a little less busy than the Saturday markets, though not by much. Located in Brooks Alley between Franklin and Minnesota, this market will be in the middle of yummy eateries and shops.

### 34. [Bend Farmer's Market, Saturdays](#)

Located at NorthWest Crossing, this farmers market is akin to its Wednesday sister, except for its time and locale. NorthWest Crossing, like downtown Bend, is home to numerous eateries and interesting local shops. Here you'll find seasonal produce, local farm-raised meats, floral bouquets, artisanal items, and fresh dairy products. Central Oregon vendors include Smith Rock Nut Roasters, The Environmental Center, and Moose Do Farms.

### 35. [Primal Cuts Market](#)

If visiting the farmers market has got you hankering for locally and sustainably raised meats, look no further than Primal. Here, you'll find not only choice meats from your local butcher but also a deli with a full menu and even fills for your growler, along with cans of beer, cider, and kombucha (a local favorite fermented concoction).

### 36. [The Bend Trolley](#)

A renovated 19th-century Victorian-style trolley is a popular vendor for events in Central Oregon, including pub crawls that take its guests through Deschutes Brewery, GoodLife Brewing, Worthy Brewing, Naked Winery, and more. Inquire about their modern and contemporary shuttle bus for a fun day of sightseeing, pub crawling, and more.

### 37. [Bend Ale Trail](#)

There are nearly too many craft breweries to list (although we certainly give it a go), and it can boggle the mind to plan a pub crawl out. Do we go to Worthy Brewing, then Deschutes Brewing, or Bend Brewing first? But wait, isn't that across town? Either find the paper passport at the Visitor Center, or download the free interactive app to track your progress. Either way, it'll be a beer-and-food-filled blast.

### 38. [McMenamins](#)

Commonly called McMenamins for short, Old St. Francis School - McMenamins is one of the Ale Trail locations, sprawling its hotel and pub campus out through Bond St, snugly situated around downtown eateries, apartment buildings, and beautifully restored Victorian-style homes. Uncommon, unique, and, according to some Bendites, apparently haunted. Lodging attractions include a fantastic Roman soaking pool, ornate guest houses and suites, and, of course, a well-stocked Irish pub.

### 39. [Drake Park](#)

Part of the illustrious extension Parks and Rec district, Drake Park and Mirror Pond is one of the most picturesque parks, popular as a photographer's destination and an Instagram favorite. Not only is it a beautiful sparkling pond backed up to a forested riverfront, there are also tons of activities to be had on the large sprawling lawn. Bring gear for a volleyball match, frisbee golf, or even bocce ball, plus a picnic, and you're set for a date.

#### 40. [REI Co-Op](#)

Similar to [Wanderlust Tours](#), but with a broader array of choices for a couple's adventure experience level, REI provides bike tours, classes, hiking trips, and a backcountry navigation class that teaches adventurers how to use a map and compass. With a large variety of classes and tours, you'll be able to pick up a quick adventuring lesson without breaking the bank.

#### 41. [Deschutes River](#)

Start out at the picturesque Riverbend Park, along the edge of the Deschutes River, running past the Old Mill District, and float your way down the river. The usual float is two hours down to Drake Park, where you'll need to catch a ride back up to Riverbend. Any inflatable works; or rent a canoe, kayak, etc., at [Tumalo Creek Kayaks & Canoeing](#), bring your permit and life jacket and you're ready to go.

#### 42. [Pine Mountain Sports](#)

If you're ready to hit the trails at [Tumalo State Park](#) or pretty much anywhere in Bend, one of the [most bike-friendly cities](#), stop by Pine Mountain for a bike rental (especially since bikes aren't too common as a carry-on if you're flying into town). Located on Century Dr., it'll be a quick trip to downtown Bend or one of many parks dotted along the Deschutes River.

#### 43. [Tower Theatre](#)

A beautiful theater, this nonprofit is a mainstay in Bend. As much a cultural icon as a perfect date night spot, there's a litany of performances to choose from: watch a concerto, rock concert, opera series, off-broadway shows, Irish tap dance, stand-up, and so much more. Check out their website for a list of upcoming events.

#### 44. [Photo Tours and Workshops](#)

What a unique experience! Polish off your cameras and go through a guided tour of the best photo spots in Bend and throughout Central Oregon. Some of the choice selections of tours are of the beautiful Bend sunsets, milky way starlights sparkling overhead, along with longer trips to other locations, including all over Oregon and in other states like Colorado.

#### 45. [Deschutes Historical Museum](#)

Like the [High Desert Museum](#) this is an engaging and unique educational experience. A nonprofit that depends on public donations and grants, the museum is supported and run by The Deschutes County Pioneers Association and the Pioneer the Bend Historical Society. According to their website, the Deschutes Historical Society is a local organization whose mission is "to gather, preserve, and make available museum, library and other historical material relation to the history of Central Oregon."

#### 46. [Bend Escape Room](#)

Escape the doldrums of everyday life with the Bend Escape Room, an escapade into a live-action puzzle room. Get your heart rate up with realistic, mind-bending puzzles that test your intellect and trivia savvy.

#### 47. [Brasada Ranch](#)

Like [Sun River Resort](#), Brasada Ranch is another beautiful getaway near Bend. Located in rural Powell Butte, in Crook County, you'll love the expansive views of juniper, sagebrush, magpies, and horses grazing under a summer sky so blue and clear you'll wonder if leaving Central Oregon is really, truly an option at this point. Schedule a couples massage at [Spa Brasade](#), order room service or dine at the [Range Restaurant and Bar](#), or [book a ride](#) along trails on over 900 acres of land.

#### 48. [Dudley's Bookshop Cafe](#)

They say the bookstores are old news, but not this local corner cafe. Surviving the onslaught of online ordering, Dudley's is a testament to the special *something* a local bookstore can bring to the community and tourists alike. To stay competitive, Dudley's has an [online order](#) option, where you both can select your books and come in to pick them up, and maybe stay for a nice cup of joe in the process.

#### 49. [The Wine Shop](#)

The Wine Shop and tasting bar are unique to your standard tasting room. Instead of paying a cover charge to get in and try different brews or paying per tasting, you'll have a free array of different drinks to choose from. Plus, the brick building it resides in, and the tasting room within, are simply stunning. Make sure to drop a tip for your server!

#### 50. [Oregon Whiskey Festival](#)

Visit [Eventbrite](#) for tickets early! This annual event isn't free, but tickets sell out quickly. The cover charge includes VIP tasting events on Friday (\$160) and general admission (\$40) on Saturday. Taste locally-distilled whiskeys from McMenamins, 4 Spirits Distillery, Crater Lake Spirits, Westward Whiskey, among many others, and buy a bottle (or two) of your favorite whiskey, and dine on delicious food vendors under an outdoor tent with a romantic ambiance provided by cafe lights and good music.