



FUN DESTINATIONS

NRI Flying Club

Southern Oregon July 24-28 2021
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I recently returned from a great little get away to Southern Oregon using Grants Pass airport as my base (3S8). This airport is a really nice alternative to Medford in my opinion with good fuel prices, easy rental car arrangements, friendly people and if needed two RNAV instrument approaches.

Grants Pass airport is actually situated a few miles from town in Merlin:
<http://www.co.josephine.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=1247>

The fun in Southern Oregon is endless! There's so much to do and if you like hot and dry days and very mild nights you can certainly count on that.

Want to do some river rafting?
Here's a link to one company but there are lots of them:
Rafting with Arta:
<https://www.arta.org/>

Maybe riding on a jet boat is more your speed?
Jetboats:
<https://hellgate.com/>

What about accommodations? I like the Riverside Inn as it's close to the Rogue River, the staff are nice and there's a free breakfast. While a bit pricey for my budget the view makes it worth it. Here's their website:
<https://riverside-inn.com/>

This is a picture of the river from our room:



One of my favorite things going on here is each evening just around sunset flocks of geese do these really amazing short field approaches and landings on that closest waterway landing all around each other and carrying on squawking like crazy. Then they eventually quiet down, spend the night and then early morning take off for destinations unknown!

The car rental I like to use is *Enterprise* as they will leave it at the airport and retrieve it from there as well. The folks at the airport will set it up for you or you can work directly with the Grants Pass office. 541-471-7800 option #4

The FBO at 3S8 is Pacific Aviation Northwest and they are very familiar with making the rental car arrangements.

<https://pacificaviationnw.com/>

I lived in this part of Oregon for about 10 years before moving to California so much of my time spent up there is visiting with old friends. Also a must for me is always part of a day swimming in the Rogue River. I use to raft it almost every summer, hike its many trails, and just totally enjoyed it being in my back yard.



This year we were particularly fortunate to see a young pair of bald eagles! Actually a first for me in this area:

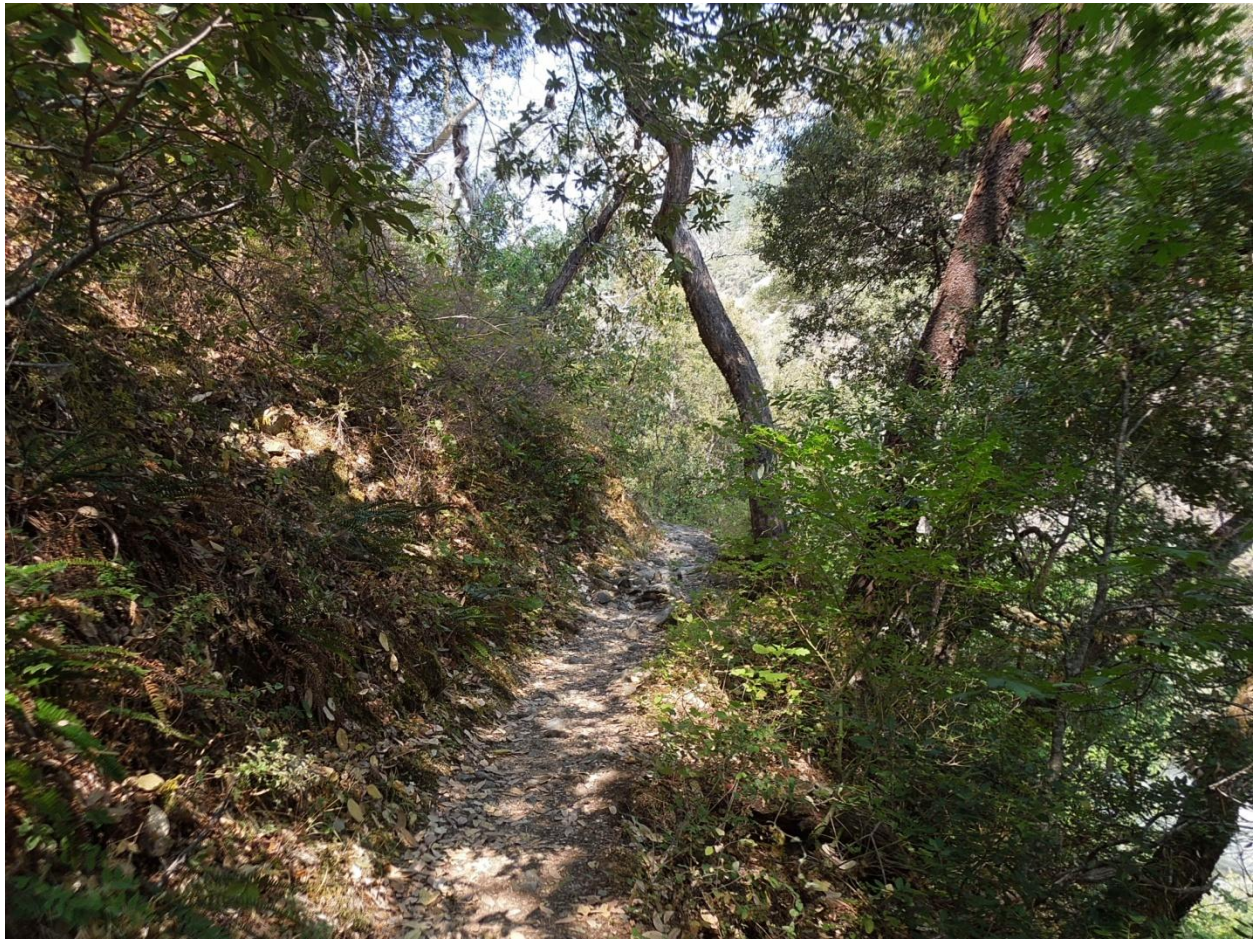


An easy hiking trail to get into the water is via the Rainie Falls Trail. It's just a couple of miles to the Falls or if you don't want to hike the whole way you can get down to the river at a number of places well before the falls.

Here's a youtube link to rafts negotiating the Falls:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-aTH2TyLcew>

The trail on the South side of the River is shaded so even on very hot days it's more comfortable than the main trail on the other side.



One more photo of the Eagle:



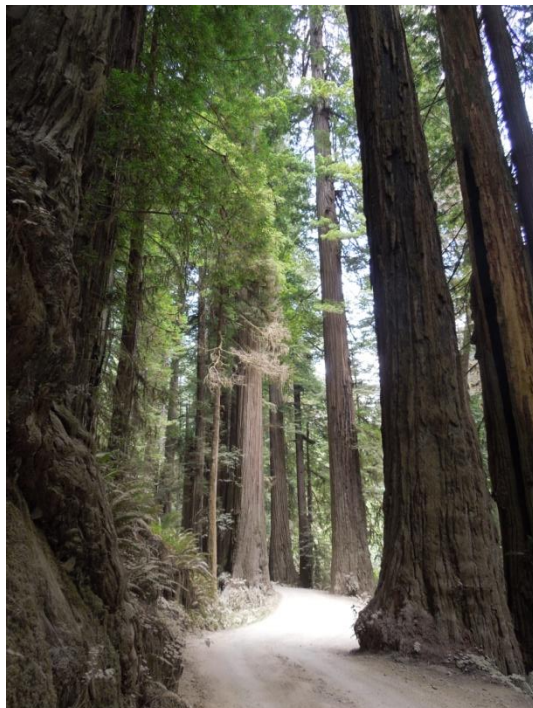
To get to the trail head google map 'Rainie Falls Trailhead'.
There's also this website:

<https://www.blm.gov/visit/rainie-falls-trail>

If you have time there's a really amazing drive through an old redwood grove starting from Crescent City or from highway 199 after Cave Junction South of Grants Pass. It's called the Jedidiah Smith Redwoods State Park. Watch for the signs if you're on Hwy 199 or if starting from Crescent City it's best to ask the way. The road from there is called Howland Hill Road and it leaves the coast near the pier/marina.

More info can be found here:

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=413



Grants Pass has many restaurants. Here's a few I can recommend:

Thai BBQ: @428 SW 6th St

Mexican Food: El Molcajete @201 E Park St

American Diner Classic:

<https://eatatelmers.com/>

I hope you all get a chance to visit 3S8 in Southern Oregon someday. If you do fly there and you encounter Nicholas working the fuel and everything else tell him Sean sent you!