

Winter and Spring Adventures in Southern Oregon: Basecamping from Ashland Hills Hotel and Suites

By: KM Collins

Picture yourself traveling back in time. Feel the charm and warmth of mid century details in ornate hotel accommodations. Saturate in the hotel staff's dedication to service and sharing in the joy of your holiday. Ashland Hills Hotel and Suites captures a perfect balance of beautiful and relaxing vacation surroundings with the modern necessities that we all desire while traveling - and adventuring. With so many travelers funneling into the Rogue Valley to ski, raft, hike, swim, angle, mountain bike and more, it's important that a Southern Oregon hotels provide a comfortable place to unwind, space to lay gear out to dry and a landing pad to refresh and prepare to do it all again in the morning.

Whether you're passing through Southern Oregon enroute to San Francisco, northbound to Portland or Seattle or as an adventure destination in and of itself, there is something for everyone- in every season - when you stay at Ashland Hills. Here are some seasonal travel log highlights from my basecamp stay at Ashland Hills!

In the Winter

Just a hop, skip and a jump from [Mount Ashland](#), a community owned ski hill with 240 acres, 5 lifts, 44 runs and 1,150 feet of vertical drop, visitors to Southern Oregon love staying at Ashland Hills in the winter and catching the convenient complimentary shuttle up to the slopes. Mt A, as the locals call it, offers rental and lesson packages, full and half-day passes as well as the ever popular [Twilight Skiing](#) passes. If your kids or partner wave goodbye and disappear into a powder slash without you, checking out the historic chateau architecture of the lodge, getting some grub in the cafeteria or enjoying a beverage in at the Mahogany Ridge (or Tbar) are all worthwhile PNW experiences to be had, sans the uncomfortable boots.

Once back at the hotel, enjoy a romantic and rejuvenating dip in the outdoor Ashland Hills hot tube. After you've showered and dressed, grab a meal at the gourmet dinner and sheik lounge, [Luna Cafe](#). This eatery features a mercantile and gift shop market, a full bar, wide screens for catching up on sports and delicious meals from light snacks to burgers and fries to salmon and potato cakes. Just reading the menu will make your mouth water. Enjoy a family atmosphere comfortable for young couples, long time loves and those flying solo. OR, if you spent all your energy on the slopes, order up to your room.

Before you head out to the mountain on day two, answer work emails with high speed wifi, print important documents in the business center or even circle up with colleagues for a meeting in Ashland Hills' spectacular mezzanine or one of several comfy corners outfitted with cozy chairs, davenport, lamps and coffee tables. The gorgeous twinkle light chandeliers adorning vaulted ceilings above reading and remote work corners are a standout decor piece.

[Ski and lodging packages are also available at la Ashland Hills.](#)

In the Summer

To cool off from Rogue Valley heat, make your way to one of the many rivers or lakes in Southern Oregon. Dive right in from the water's edge at [Emigrant Lake](#) or glide down the water slide - either way bring some provisions to-go for a solo or couple's only picnic. Scrumptious fare can be found at Luna Cafe or in Ashland at [Skout Taphouse](#), [Pie & Vine](#), [Standing Stone](#) or [NW Raw](#). For the best coffee or tea in town, try [Pony Espresso Coffee House](#) or [Dobra Tea](#).

While you wait for your brown bag lunch order, explore [Lithia Park](#). Located in the heart of downtown, Lithia Park's zen pools can occupy a person for a stint while they wait for an order or it's paved trails, swings and grassy knolls can entertain a lounging reader, writer or remote worker for an afternoon and beyond.

Wanting to stay closer to your home away from home? The Ashland Hills supplies visitors with tons to do in the way of summer sports. Situated on a large property, one can eat up an hour or more just touring the pool, tennis courts, children's playhouses and fitness room. Because the Ashland Hills is also a premier Southern Oregon conference center, there is much to see throughout the interiors of each building. After checking out the Ashland Hills property from head to toe - barrow a complimentary cruiser bike from the fleet and head into downtown.

For the adrenaline driven visitor, rafting on the Rogue River is a favorite draw to those passing through. If you have your own trailer and raft, Ashland Hills expansive parking lot has tons of room for your boat. If you're looking to float with a commercial outfitter, check out the following companies and stretches of river... For epic paddling on the Wild and Scenic Rogue River, see [Momentum River Expeditions](#), [Orange Torpedo Trips](#) and [Indigo Creek Outfitters](#). For a trip down the legendary Upper Klamath, see [Noah's River Adventures](#).

While you're in Southern Oregon, take advantage of the plethora of outdoor recreational opportunities that abound in the scenic Rogue Valley region. What's listed here is just a small sampling of the endless wonders Ashland and Ashland Hills Hotel and Suites has to offer.

Note: Krystal Marie Collins (pen name KM Collins) is a geologist-gone-writer. Five generations deep in Pacific Northwest heritage, rafting whitewater and snowboarding pow are her favorite pastimes. For more of her stories, see [Travel Oregon](#), [Bend Magazine](#), [NRSs Duct Tape Diaries](#) and [Aquaglide's Common Waters](#). Follow her on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).