



Northwest Skillet & Homestead Springs Farm
Photo by Joni Kabana

- 1 Avella Orchard**
2807 North Fir Street
La Grande, OR 97850
541.663.6765 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
avellaorchard.blogspot.com

This two-acre heirloom fruit and nut “forest” lies within the city limits of La Grande, where it was created in the 1950s. The 250 unusual, rare, and local pioneer trees include apples, pears, plums, apricots, quince, mulberries, cherries, chestnuts, walnuts, filberts, and almonds.

- 2 Evergreen Family Farm**
62402 Evergreen Road
La Grande, OR 97850
541.359.5085 (Call or text before visiting)
facebook.com/evergreenfamilyfarmlagrande

The family farm uses organic practices to grow vegetables, fruit, and cut flowers. Find their products at the La Grande Farmers Market and at the Liberty Theatre Café in Downtown La Grande or call ahead to visit the farm. The farm accepts SNAP payments.

- 3 Mt. Emily Farmstead**
63172 Starr Lane
La Grande, OR 97850
541.786.6015 (Call or text before visiting)

Organic practices are used to produce eggs, goat milk, native plants and flowers, dried herbs, garlic, vegetables, and sauerkraut. Make an appointment to shop the farm stand and see Hanoverian sport horses and Alpine wether goats, raised for packing.

- 4 Happy Walrus Farm**
67806 Happy Walrus Road
Summerville, OR 97876
541.975.3724 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
facebook.com/happywalrusfarm

Situated at the foot of Mount Emily, with panoramic views of the valley, the farm stand includes produce grown on an acre of specialty crops, eggs from 100 laying hens, scattered fruit groves, a small herd of Dexter cattle, and spring fed trout ponds. Make an appointment to tour the farm’s sustainable timber management and farm operations and learn about the unique story of this modern family farm.

- 5 Northwest Skillet & Homestead Springs Farm**
Call for directions
Summerville, OR 97876
541.605.8286 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
northwestskilletco.com

Watch the talented blacksmith artist at work and purchase his heirloom quality skillets and utensils. The farm includes gardens, sheep, Kunekune pigs, poultry, and livestock guardian dogs on the picturesque acreage at the foot of Mt. Emily. Call for directions and to make an appointment to visit the farm and blacksmith shop.

- 6 Willow Creek Horse B & B**
65159 Courtney Lane
Summerville, OR 97876
541.534.4780 (Call or text before visiting)
willowcreekhorsebnb.com

This charming farm B & B invites you to bring your horses, bikes or hiking boots! The host is always happy to chat and suggest the best trails and views. The fireplace is a great place to relax with a good book and the resident dog!

- 7 Pick’N Patch**
62816 Lower Cove Road
Cove, OR 97824
541.786.2421
facebook.com/PickNPatchFarm

Explore the corn maze and choose from a wide variety of pumpkins and fall décor to take home and enjoy. The pumpkin patch is part of a large family farm, raising a wide variety of crops. Feel free to drop by for a day of adventure – the patch is only open throughout the month of October.

- 8 The Plantworks**
69465 Lantz Lane
Cove, OR 97824
541.786.5122 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
theplantworkslc.com

The greenhouse is a large producer of native plants for restoration projects and landscaping. Visits and tours are by appointment only. Call ahead to schedule a tour, receive expert advice on what to plant and where, and you can purchase native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses, and wetland plants.

- 9 Folly Farm**
67364 Squire Loop
Cove, OR 97824
541.805.8563
follyfarmoregon.com

The micro-farm and you-pick garden focuses on gourmet garlic and open-pollinated heirloom vegetables. The host recommends you schedule an appointment for your first visit, and they’ll show you how things work. Through growing season, May through October most years, the micro-farm is open during the day for you-pick kitchen veggies, and by appointment for garlic, canned goods, and bulk harvests when available.

- 10 Cove Cherry Farm**
61236 Stackland Road
Cove, OR 97824
541.786.4621 (Call or text before visiting)

Rainier cherries ripen at this three-acre orchard in late June through July. You can pre-order custom-created floral arrangements or planters in time for special occasions.

- 11 Cove Honey**
61062 Stackland Road
Cove, OR 97824
541.910.2444 (Self-serve, 24/7)

Admire the views at the roadside self-serve honey stand and purchase honey in small gift jars or pint, quart, or half gallons. Bees wax candles are also for sale.

- 12 Almosta Farm**
69749 Antles Lane
Cove, OR 97824
503.849.4228 (Call or text before visiting)
almostafarmcove.com

Interact with Nigerian Dwarf goats, a pot-bellied pig, and chickens, then learn about honeybees and beehives! The farm sells goats, raw milk, honey, bee products, soap, candles, preserves, eggs, and baked goods. Educational and fun activities for children can be scheduled in advance – just watch for the ‘Open’ sign or call before your visit.

- 13 Kauffman Greenhouse**
60905 Love Road
Cove, OR 97824
541.568.4329

Owners of the small family greenhouse serve their community with high-quality flowers and vegetable plants, all of which they either start from seed or small plugs. They aim for high quality and try to keep their vegetable plants natural. Stop by from the day after Easter to the end of July. Seasonal hours, Mon. - Sat., 10am - 6pm



Nella Mae's Farm

- 14 Nella Mae's Farm**
69361 Antles Lane
Cove, OR 97824
541.910.4098 (Self-serve, 24/7)
nellamaesfarm.com

The farm stand offers local fruits, vegetables, eggs, coffee, baked goods, a free food-and-book pantry and more. The stand is open from April through October and is self-serve on the honor system – leave your cash or check in the money box or pay via app. If you’re looking for a tour of the farm, make sure to call ahead to arrange. You can also find the farm’s produce at the La Grande Farmer’s Market and at several area restaurants.



Apple Spring Farm

- 15 Apple Spring Farm**
60024 Thew Loop
Cove, OR 97824
541.429.5124
applespringmicrofarm.com

This meticulously organized organic micro farm offers vegetable and flower starts in the spring, as well as fresh vegetables, fruit, berries, and flowers – all grown with care in the garden, and organic free-range eggs. Fresh produce and starts are sold from an on-site farm stand. The lovely setting, open June through October, will have you wanting to linger just a while longer. Seasonal hours, Wed. & Sun., 10am - 4pm

- 16 Forest Cove Acres**
60076 McNeill Road
Cove, OR 97824
541.519.1933 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
forestcoveacres.com

The 45-acre cherry orchard has over 23,000 trees! They are primarily of sweet red varieties, with a few acres of Rainiers, as well. This orchard is one of the original orchards in Cove, dating back to its establishment by the McNeill family in 1904. Call first for you-pick availability or to arrange a weekend tour.

- 17 Ascension School Camp & Conference Center**
1104 Church Street
Cove, OR 97824
541.568.4514
coveascensionschool.com

The historic camp, chapel, and conference center has dedicated 80 acres to prairie and riparian habitat restoration. A one-mile nature trail meanders through the project. The property is in partnership with indigenous caretakers and an effort towards reconciliation with native people in the region. Grab a map of the project, which identifies native plants and first foods. Visitors are welcome and asked to follow all signage carefully, so as to respect guests on the main campus. Open, Mon. - Fri., 8am - 4pm

TIPS & HIGHLIGHTS

The Trail takes about an hour to drive without stops and each location provides a unique visitor experience. From the patchwork of lush farmlands and breathtaking valley views to the crisp, fresh valley air; from delectable fresh-from-the-farm tastes and treats to the scent of mint or the sweet smell of alfalfa, your senses will thank you for the experience.

Union County is comprised of 17 towns and unincorporated communities, all with deep roots in agriculture. La Grande was settled during the Oregon Trail migration as a staging and resting stop for wagon trains before they tackled the difficult climb over the Blue Mountains. Some pioneers recognized the Grande Ronde Valley as prime farmland and planted roots here. In the northern part of the valley, Imbler and Summerville boast deep, rich soil and long histories of agricultural production. Cove has been a fruit production center for over 100 years, while Union is home to a quaint Victorian-era business district and was the original county seat. Elgin to the north and North Powder to the south, lie outside the Grande Ronde Valley, but share its agricultural legacy, dating back to settlement in the 1860s. Long before the arrival of settlers, Native Americans nurtured and harvested nature’s bounty of ‘first foods.’

As you follow the Farm Trail, watch for signs identifying crops and take note of the many

methods for tilling and irrigating the variety of crops. Farms and ranches in Union County range in size from micro-farms (less than five acres in size and typically found in urban/rural transition areas) to ranches over 31,000 acres. Aided by the mild climate of the valley, crops include: turfgrass seed and Kentucky Bluegrass, peppermint and canola; grain crops such as wheat, oats, and barley; seed potatoes, sugar beets, sunflowers, dry green peas, field corn, garlic, salad greens, sweet cherries; feed crops such as alfalfa and pasture for livestock, and more. You’ll see signs celebrating the “Century Farm and Ranch” program – a designation honoring farms and ranches in Oregon which have been continuously owned by a single family for 100+ years.

The La Grande Farmers Market is held every Tuesday evening and Saturday morning from mid-May through October, in the heart of historic Downtown La Grande. Catch live cooking demos, music and performances, and shop for a variety of fresh meats, eggs, produce, flowers, and local artisan wares.

Once a year, Union County hosts the Union County Farm Crawl – a one-day event when farms, ranches, greenhouses, orchards, and farm stands, around the county are open to visitors, offering fruits and veggies, petting zoos, tours, and demonstrations!

Find out more about the Farm Crawl, as well as other things to do, see, taste, and explore at VisitUnionCounty.org. Check out info on all the farm trails and more at VisitEasternOregon.com.



Platz Family Farm, photo by Janet Dodson

***** The *****

EASTERN OREGON

GRANDE RONDE FARM TRAIL

***** Eastern Oregon *****

The Grande Ronde Farm Trail is a self-guided driving tour, highlighting the rich, deep historic agricultural roots throughout the valley. The tour includes farm stands, micro-farms, goat dairies, orchards, and ranches, all with the ruggedly beautiful Blue Mountains and Wallowa Mountains as backdrops. Participating growers and ranchers love sharing their stories and their passions—including just what it takes to grow food and livestock in Union County’s climate and geology.

Funded by grants from:

FARM TRAIL

- 1 Avella Orchard
- 2 Evergreen Family Farm
- 3 Mt. Emily Farmstead
- 4 Happy Walrus Farm
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- 24 Cat’s Paw Farm & Mercantile
- 25 Ladd View Ranch
- 26 Hines Meat Company
- 27 Community Merchants

18 Grande Ronde Goat Dairy
6773 Hutchinson Lane
Union, OR 97883
541.805.9622 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
granderondenubians.com

With 1,200 milking does (mother goats), this year-round Grade A commercial goat dairy sells raw milk to an artisan cheese maker in California. The dairy is fully managed and primarily staffed by female students and women who have a passion for agriculture. Milking takes place twice each day; the does kid from December through June. The dairy is extremely busy, so tours must be arranged in advance.

19 Buffalo Peak Land & Livestock
60983 OR Highway 203
Union, OR 97883
541.805.1124 (Call or email before visiting or for a tour)
beyondorganicbeef.com

This working cattle ranch successfully demonstrates how agriculture can coexist and benefit from good fishery habitat and functional ecosystems. Tours of the restoration project are available and must be scheduled in advance via email, andrea@holisticmanagement.guide

20 Hometown Hardware Store
206 South Main Street
Union, OR 97883
541.562.5472

A fun stop, this old-fashioned hardware store has farm supplies, an espresso shop, liquor store and a garden center - complete with plants grown for the area's climate. Stop in and be charmed! Open daily, Mon - Sat, 8am - 6pm; Sun, 10am - 4pm

21 Union County Museum
333 South Main Street
Union, OR 97883
541.562.6003
ucmuseumoregon.com

Explore the history of farming and ranching at the Cowboys Then & Now Collection and the Agriculture, Timber & Transportation exhibits. Visit the Livery Station, General Store, period rooms and more, Mother's Day through September. Seasonal hours, Wed - Sat, 11am - 3pm

22 The Cottage at Union Meadows
1782 South Main Street
Union, OR 97883
541.805.1124 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
beyondorganicbeef.com

Exclusively grassfed beef and lamb are grown to enhance the health of the land that creates it and the people who enjoy it. Contact the ranch to tour or to order shares of ranch-produced beef or lamb, processed locally.



Platz Family Farm

23 Platz Family Farm
1624 North First Street
Union, OR 97883
541.562.5072
platzfamilyfarm.com

The whole family gets involved with growing the farm stand's salad greens and asparagus in the spring, a variety of summer fruits, vegetables, and berries, and a bountiful harvest of sweet corn, tree fruits, tomatoes, cukes, beans and a variety of winter squashes. The stand is open May through September and stocks farm fresh eggs, honey, crafts, and baked goods. There are often a few animals around to watch and pet - just make sure to ask first! Seasonal hours, Mon, Wed & Fri, 10am - 6pm; many Sat, 9am - 1pm

24 Cat's Paw Farm & Mercantile
Enter from Highway 203
Union, OR 97883
541.910.4961
catspawfarm.com

Stop by the charming little farm store from mid-March through Christmas Eve for organic eggs, an amazing array of handcrafted soaps, skin and haircare products, plant crafts, herbal teas and spices, shrubs, mustards, Pygora luxury fiber, crafts; poultry meat by reservation. Make sure to check out the Baby Pygora goats nearby for viewing and petting. Open Tues & Wed, 11am - 4pm; Thur - Sat, 10am - 5pm



Ladd View Ranch

25 Ladd View Ranch
64280 Hot Lake Lane
La Grande, OR 97850
541.910.8009 (Call or text before visiting or for a tour)
laddviewbabydollsheep.com

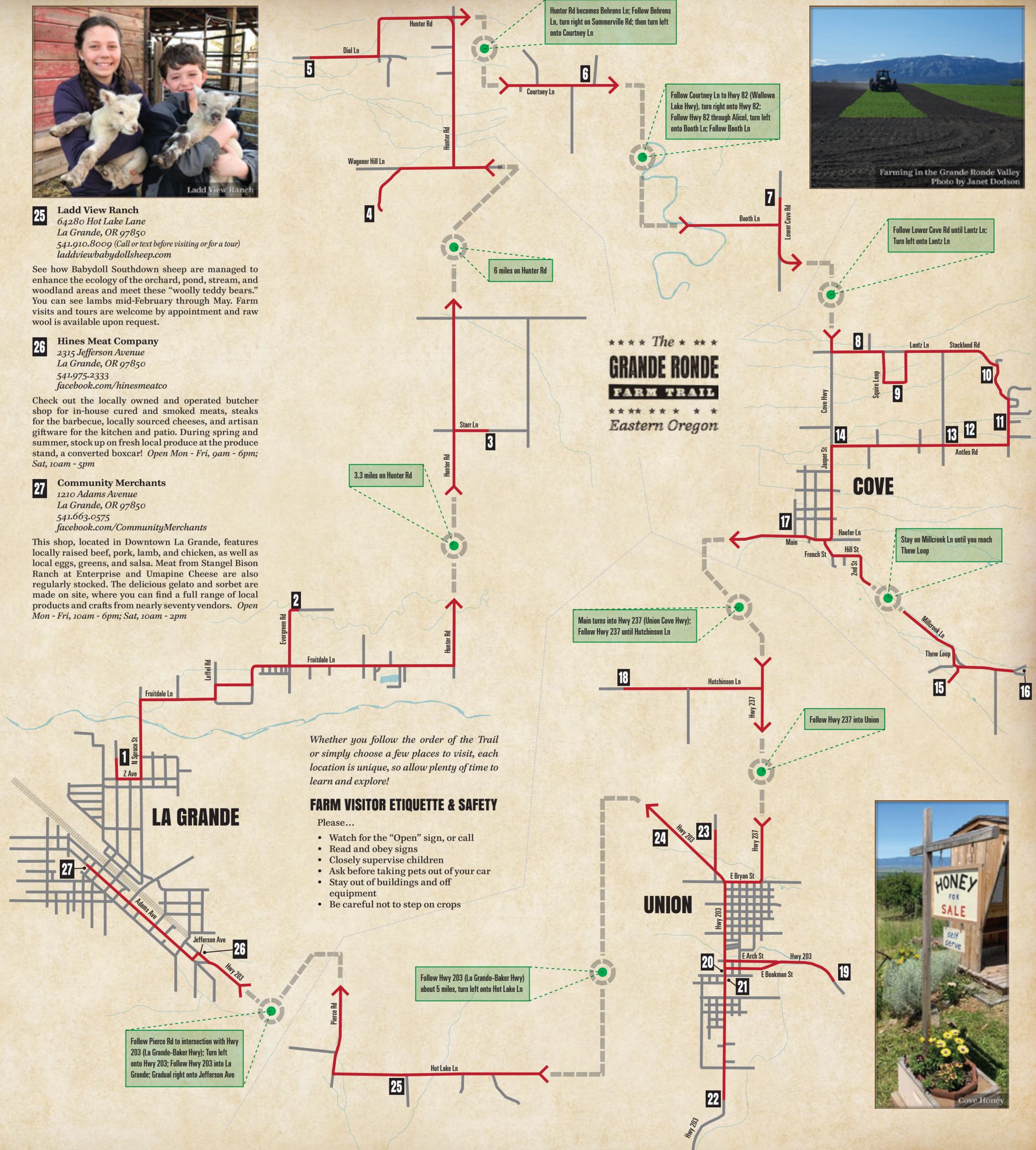
See how Babydoll Southdown sheep are managed to enhance the ecology of the orchard, pond, stream, and woodland areas and meet these "woolly teddy bears." You can see lambs mid-February through May. Farm visits and tours are welcome by appointment and raw wool is available upon request.

26 Hines Meat Company
2315 Jefferson Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850
541.975.2333
facebook.com/hinesmeatco

Check out the locally owned and operated butcher shop for in-house cured and smoked meats, steaks for the barbecue, locally sourced cheeses, and artisan giftware for the kitchen and patio. During spring and summer, stock up on fresh local produce at the produce stand, a converted boxcar! Open Mon - Fri, 9am - 6pm; Sat, 10am - 5pm

27 Community Merchants
1210 Adams Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850
541.663.0575
facebook.com/CommunityMerchants

This shop, located in Downtown La Grande, features locally raised beef, pork, lamb, and chicken, as well as local eggs, greens, and salsa. Meat from Stangel Bison Ranch at Enterprise and Umapine Cheese are also regularly stocked. The delicious gelato and sorbet are made on site, where you can find a full range of local products and crafts from nearly seventy vendors. Open Mon - Fri, 10am - 6pm; Sat, 10am - 2pm



Whether you follow the order of the Trail or simply choose a few places to visit, each location is unique, so allow plenty of time to learn and explore!

FARM VISITOR ETIQUETTE & SAFETY

- Please...
- Watch for the "Open" sign, or call
 - Read and obey signs
 - Closely supervise children
 - Ask before taking pets out of your car
 - Stay out of buildings and off equipment
 - Be careful not to step on crops

Follow Pierce Rd to intersection with Hwy 203 (La Grande-Baker Hwy); Turn left onto Hwy 203; Follow Hwy 203 into La Grande; Gradual right onto Jefferson Ave

Follow Hwy 203 (La Grande-Baker Hwy) about 5 miles, turn left onto Hot Lake Ln

Main turns into Hwy 237 (Union Cove Hwy); Follow Hwy 237 until Hutchinson Ln

Follow Hwy 237 into Union

Follow Lower Cove Rd until Lantz Ln; Turn left onto Lantz Ln

Stay on Millcreek Ln until you reach Thew Loop

Follow Courtney Ln to Hwy 82 (Wallowa Lake Hwy), turn right onto Hwy 82; Follow Hwy 82 through Alicel, turn left onto Booth Ln; Follow Booth Ln

Hunter Rd becomes Behrens Ln; Follow Behrens Ln, turn right on Summerville Rd; then turn left onto Courtney Ln

6 miles on Hunter Rd

3.3 miles on Hunter Rd