While there’s no one-size-fits-all set of criteria for being bike-friendly, there are best practices to draw from. Visit www.adventurecycling.org/biketourism and pathlesspedaled.com/tourism for more in-depth tips and resources.

Getting Started

As bicycle tourism increases in the U.S., touring cyclists are drawn to welcoming destinations — places with quiet roads and trails, locally-owned businesses, and bike-friendly accommodations. Becoming a destination means embracing your unique identity as a community, while working to become more bicycle-friendly. A positive hospitality experience will make tourists want to come back and spread the word.

Becoming a Bike Travel Destination

In 2015, volunteers in Perry (population 8,000) created the Pedal Perry program, designed to promote the town and its businesses to cyclists riding the 89-mile Raccoon River Valley Trail. Participating businesses receive a sign showing cyclist-specific services, like bike parking. The program also installed informational kiosks along the trail and partnered on an economic impact study of bike tourism.

“...it is important for us to make our community a welcoming place for tourists utilizing the Raccoon River Valley Trail. A tourist today could very well be a resident in the future.”

- Perry City Administrator Sven Peterson

Showcasing Bike Friendly Businesses

Tourists On Two Wheels

Welcoming Bicycle Travelers
Basics of Being Bike Travel Friendly

- Be welcoming of bicycle travelers
- Implement bike-friendly infrastructure and policies
- Provide tourism information, such as maps
- Provide bike-friendly accommodations
- Offer bike-friendly amenities, like bike parking and tools

Putting Hospitality into Practice

In 2016, Spoke’n Hostel opened in Mitchell (population 130) as a new lodging option for touring cyclists along a state and a national bicycle route. The hostel quickly became a model of bike-friendly hospitality, providing secure, indoor bike parking, shuttles to nearby tourist sites, showers, WiFi, no-turn-away policy, and community space for touring cyclists.

MITCHELL, OREGON

“Hospitality is more than a building with beds and showers. For us, it’s about community and relationships.”

- Spoke’n Hostel Owners Pat & Jalet Farrell