How to be Bicycle Travel Friendly

Whether you’re a business owner, advocate, community member, or agency official, you can take steps to welcome and accommodate bicycle travelers visiting your community. Check out www.adventurecycling.org/biketourism to find this page and more information.

Bicycle Travel Friendly Essentials

1. **Be welcoming to bicycle travelers and let them know that you’re bicycle-friendly.**
   - Post welcome signs, bicycle decals, or put up bicycle-related art.
   - Provide hospitality training for businesses.
   - Promote the bicycle amenities & services you offer through your website, social media, etc.

2. **Provide tourism service information.**
   - Maps of the town or area.
   - Nearby services, like restaurants, grocery stores, breweries, lodging and camping, bike shops and outdoor stores, post office, library, and laundromats.
   - Local tourism activities – outdoor recreation, nearby trails, attractions & events, etc.

3. **Offer bicycle-friendly amenities.**
   - Check out the tips for businesses below.
4. **Provide bicycle-friendly accommodations.**
   - Check out the hospitality tips below.

5. **Implement bicycle infrastructure and policies.**
   - Pass a Complete Streets policy or ordinance.
   - Include dedicated bicycle infrastructure and routes/networks in transportation plans.
   - Designate a U.S. Bicycle Route and/or state bicycle route through your community.
   - Ensure that road features, like rumble strips and chip seal, safely accommodate bicycle use.
   - Apply to be a Bike Friendly Community through the League of American Bicyclists.

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### Tips for Businesses

In addition to the Bicycle Travel Friendly Essentials, businesses can offer these amenities for their customers that arrive by bicycle.

- **Bicycle parking** that is preferably secure and protected from the weather.
  - Recommended bike parking racks.
  - Make sure the racks accommodate bicycles with loaded panniers.

- **Complimentary lock** for bicyclists to borrow.
  - A coded lock is best so there’s no danger of losing keys.

- **Complimentary bicycle pump** – a floor pump with a gauge is best.

- **Complimentary water** for guests to fill water bottles.

- **Food fuel** – offer high calorie, healthy packaged snacks for purchase.
  - Energy bars or gels, cheese/meat sticks, nut mixes, etc.

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### Tips for Hospitality

These tips for hospitality businesses (hotels, hostels, B&Bs, campgrounds, etc.) provide ideas of amenities and services to accommodate guests that arrive by bicycle. We encourage businesses to implement what is feasible for them. Also check out [Cyclists Only Lodging](#) for examples and recommendations.

- **Bicycle parking** that is preferably secure and protected from weather.
  - Recommended bike parking racks.
  - Make sure the racks accommodate bicycles with loaded panniers.
  - Allow visitors to bring bicycles into their rooms.
  - Or offer secure, separate space in parking garage, parking lot, or storage room.

- **Complimentary bicycle pump** – a floor pump with a gauge is best.

- **Maintenance tools** and gear or a repair stand.
  - Essential tools: bike pump, bike multi-tool, tire levers, pedal wrench, others.
  - Essential supplies for sale, like tubes, spokes, chain lube, patch kits, lights, etc.

- **Bike washing station** that includes hose, rags, brushes, towels.

- **Complimentary lockers** can be useful for cycling guests that arrive earlier or leave later than their check in/out time and need somewhere to temporarily store their gear.

- **Laundry** machines and soap for guest use.
- **Shuttle service** that can accommodate bicycles.
- **Shipping** services for bicyclists to ship home things they’ve purchased but don’t want to carry.
- **Receive and store bikes** for guests in a secure area.
- **Bicycle rentals** for guests who don’t arrive by bicycle.
- **Courtesy phone and computer** can be helpful for cyclists traveling without mobile smart devices, or as a backup if batteries are dead.
  - WIFI is also essential for many traveling cyclists.
- **Community space** – bike travelers like meeting each other and sharing stories, and a common area helps facilitate that.
  - If there isn’t room inside, an outdoor fire pit can be another option.
  - Provide activities like games, ping pong table, books, etc.
- **Count bicyclist guests** to know how many are visiting and using your bicycle amenities.
  - Provide a guestbook to get stories, kudos, and feedback.
- **Rent outdoor equipment** – bicycle travelers might want to stay and do other activities.
  - If they’re not available elsewhere, you could rent fishing poles, stand up paddle boards, disc golf, binoculars, etc.
- **Get on the map** – If your accommodations are along an Adventure Cycling route, you can request to be added to the service directory on our maps.

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**Tips for Campgrounds**

Also check out [Cyclists Only Lodging](#) for examples and recommendations. Download the [Guide to Bicycle Camping](#) for more information about how campgrounds can best accommodate bicycle travelers.

- **Bicycle (hiker/biker) campsites** – Non-reservable camping area for people arriving by bicycle and other non-motorized modes.
  - Group bike camping areas save space while also providing a way for bicycle travelers to be social.
  - If other sites are full, put up a sign showing that bike camping is still available.
- **No-turn-away policy** – when all of the regular sites are full and a self-contained bicycle traveler shows up, make sure there is an emergency tent camping space set aside that can be used.
- **Sheltered area** for people to get out of the weather, prepare food, etc.
- **Bicycle parking** that is preferably secure and protected from weather.
  - **Recommended** bike parking racks.
  - Make sure the racks accommodate bicycles with loaded panniers.
- **Complimentary bicycle pump** – a floor pump with a gauge is best.
- **Maintenance tools** and/or a repair station.
  - Essential tools: bike pump, bike multi-tool, tire levers, pedal wrench, others.
- **Wildlife-proof lockers** with locks to securely store food and valuables.
- **Electrical outlets** in a secure place for visitors to charge mobile devices.
  - Oregon State Parks offers solar-powered outlets inside of lockers.
- **Showers** or information about where community showers are available.
- **Reasonable pricing** - charge a fee consistent with amenities provided. Or if you’re providing free community-run hospitality, cyclists are often generous with donations.
  - Typical hiker/biker campsites that offer basic amenities are $5 - $10.
- **Survey** your bicycling visitors to find out what amenities are working for them and what further improvements could address their needs.