

MULTMOMAH FALS in Oregon are the tallest - and perhaps most heautiful - waterfallis in the state. The fallis are located about an hour east of Portland, Ore., ellose tothe Columbla River Gorge.

## Experience outdoors in the lush Northwest

This trip is road-intensive and not for the easily bored. But there's no match for the scenery of the Pacific Northwest.

Day One: At the crack of dawn, pack your cooler full of Orange Crush and ham sandwiches. Pack every compact disc you own. Pack your tent. Pack your sanity. Drive about 12 hours west on Interstate 80 until you get to Little America, Wyo. - the biggest truck stop in the continental United States.

Sleep somewhere around here, in the hotel, perhaps, and eat a few 25 -cent ice cream cones.

Day Two: Take U.S. Highway 30 west to Lava Hot Springs, Idaho. Relax in the natural, outdoor springs.

When you're ready, head through Pocatello, Idaho and take Interstate 86 west to Twin Falls, Idaho. An hour north, you'll find the lovely ski haven Sun Valley, Idaho. Spend the night.

Day Three: Hit the slopes of Sun Valley, if you can afford it, or if you don't care if you actually make it to Oregon this week. When the slopes close, get to Interstate 84 and head west.

Day Four: Ride the wind west on the interstate until you hit Portland, Ore. - the city with more micro breweries than any other city in the United States. On the way there, stop to stare at the Columbia River Gorge. It's spectacular!

Day Five: Go west to the coast, or drive an hour east to Multnomah Falls in the Cascade Mountains. Both are breathtaking. On the coast, try whale watching, but take a coat; it's cold. Camp outdoors tonight. There's no scenery like this.

Day Six: Drive like mad back toward Nebraska.
Day Seven: Ditto. And cry some when you get home.


## Cruise the West Coast

"Easy Rider" it ain't.
But when you have a 1997 Camaro convertible and half of a continent in front of you, what choice do you have but to put the pedal to the metal?

Day One: Leave Lincoln with the top down and the best of intentions. You're on your way to some of the largest cities in America, including Dallas, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Get to Dallas, where you can swing through the Deep Ellum arts district, check out the games at Reunion Arena and find a few dates at Southern Methodist University.

Day Two: Grab an early lunch at DC's Café on the north side of town for some great southern catfish and turnip greens.

Head through West Texas to reach - Roswell, N.M., by nightfall.

Day Three: Be up by 9 a.m. and visit the International Museum for UFO Research.

After that, put the top down on the Camaro and make some time. Traveling at 125 mph , you can make Albuquerque, N.M., in about an hour (so I hear).

Drive all the way to Las Vegas, baby! Slow down for Albuquerque, the Arizona Navajo Reservation, come close to the Grand Canyon, go over Flagstaff, Ariz., drive through Kingman, Ariz., - the militia capital of the United States - and drive over the Hoover Dam.

Day Four: It may be after mid-
night by the time you reach Vegas, but you'll hardly notice.

Take coin buckets and swizzle sticks for souvenirs. The skits at Treasure Island rock.

About 4 a.m., stumble to a hotel. Get up at 9 a.m. and drive toward the City of Angels.

If you leave Vegas early enough, you'll hit Los Angeles by the evening rush hour. Learn terms like" "smog" and "road rage."

There's more than enough to see in this town, even a few dead bodies on the road (no lie). Get in what you can. By nightfall, take the Pacific Coast Highway to San Clemente and slink into San Diego by midnight.

You're dead tired, but there are still good eatin' spots in San Diego's Gaslight District.

Eat and sleep.
Day Five: Swing by the bay docks and check out the fishing, or cruise the U.S. Marine Corps recruiting depot and U.S. Naval yard.

Drive to San Ysidro, Calif., right at the border. There you will learn the true meaning of America as you eat at a Chinese restaurant run by white people at the Mexico border.

Run across the border, haggle for a gift or two, and get back in the car.

Days six and seven: If you made El Paso, Texas, by the end of day five, then you could have stopped at the Benson, Ariz., rest stop for some. excellent fried chicken.

Get to Dallas on day six, and Lincoln on day seven. With luck, you will return to Lincoln EXACTLY seven days-and 168 hours in the car after you left and will have some awesome stories to tell.

