

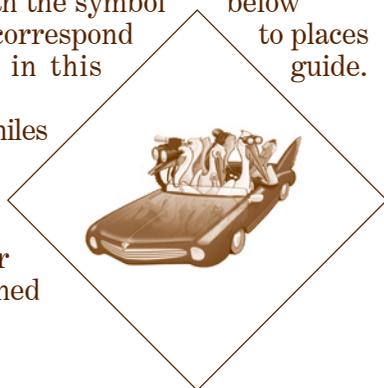
## INTRODUCTION

This 42-mile self-guided auto tour showcases the scenic Blitzen River Valley, from the headquarters of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge south to Page Springs campground. The full tour requires at least two hours to complete, depending on the frequency and length of any stops you make. During the peak of spring bird activity, you should allow at least a half-day to cover both the upper and lower portions of the valley.

The auto-tour route primarily follows the Refuge Center Patrol Road (CPR) through outstanding features of historical, geological, and biological interest. The diversity and abundance of wildlife you see will depend on the season, the time of day, your speed of travel, and your observation skills. Please take care not to disturb wildlife along the way.

Before you begin, please review the map provided in the back of this guide. The route can generally be driven in two sections, the north CPR and south CPR, and it lies almost entirely on gravel roads. Numbered markers with the symbol below identify the route and correspond to places of interest described in this guide.

The route begins a few miles south of the mouth of the Blitzen River, just above Refuge headquarters. Begin the tour by driving up to the signed overlook.



### AMENITIES

Public restroom facilities are available at Refuge headquarters, Buena Vista, P Ranch, Page Springs campground, and Frenchglen.

As with all explorations in the region, you should begin the tour with a full tank of gas, and you should always carry water and food. Fuel, food, and groceries may be seasonally available along the tour route, but you should not count on this. Contact Refuge headquarters for the latest status on available amenities and current road conditions: 541/493-2612.

