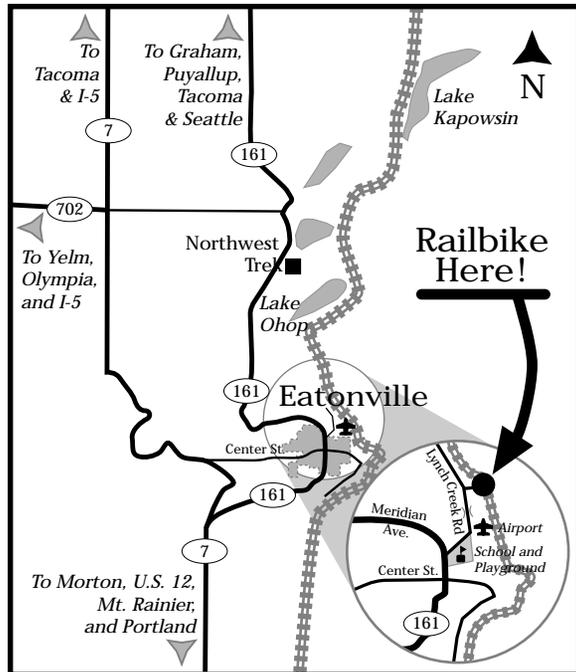


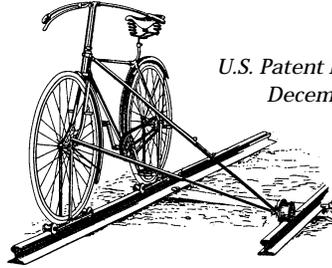
How to Find Us in Eatonville

- *From the Seattle / Tacoma area*, take Interstate 5 south to Highway 512 (exit 127) and drive nine miles towards Puyallup. Take the Highway 161 exit at South Hill and continue south about 18 miles through Graham, pass Northwest Trek, and on to Eatonville.
- *From the Portland area*, follow Interstate 5 north to U.S. 12 (exit 68) and drive 30 miles east to Morton. Turn north onto Highway 7 and drive 30 miles through Elbe and La Grande. Just past La Grande, turn right onto Highway 161 into Eatonville.
- *Once in Eatonville*, turn east at the sign for the Eatonville Airport (Lynch Creek Rd.). Follow the road past the school and playground, and the airport. After crossing a small bridge, watch for the Railbike signs. *Note: Use the public facilities in Eatonville before arriving as there are no restrooms at the site.*



Railbiking: A Brief History

Research shows that railbiking has been around nearly as long as railroads and bicycles – one railbike patent was filed at the U.S. Patent Office in 1869! Hundreds of patents for railbike systems were filed between 1880 and 1920 around the world.



Railbike
U.S. Patent No. 484,357
December 1, 1891

In the 1800s, railbikes were used by railroad companies for checking track, moving workers to new work sites, as well as going for assistance when the locomotives broke down. Telegraph companies also used railbikes to maintain their lines that paralleled the rails. In the Midwest, and in other regions with sufficient winds, workers using railbikes sometimes put up sails to power them along the tracks.

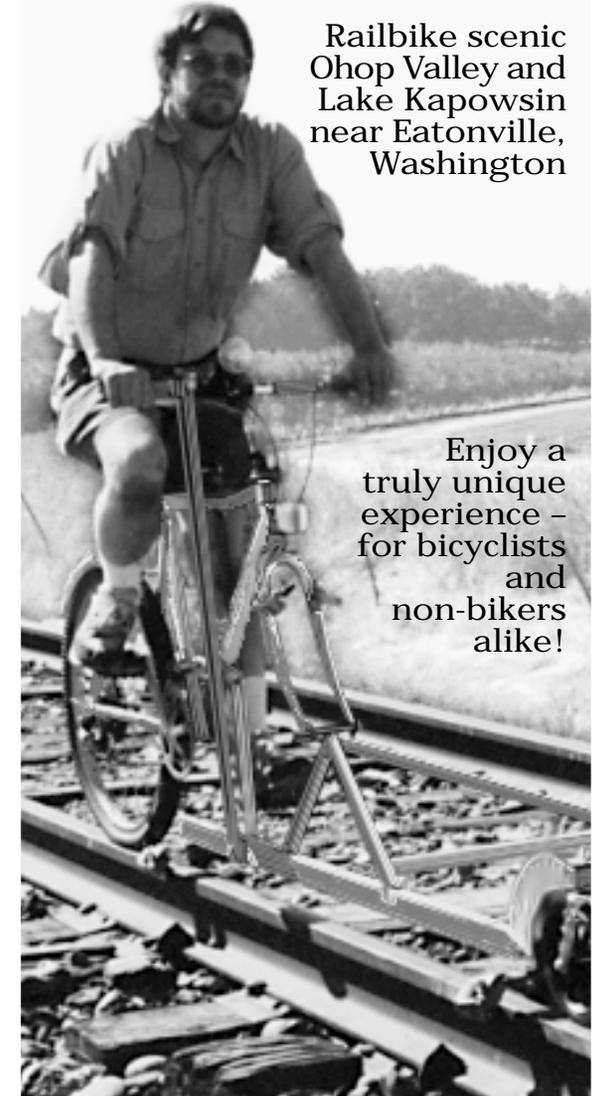
Like its contemporary, the bicycle, railbike design went into decline with the advent of the internal combustion engine and the automobile. A few independently minded designers kept the concept alive for the past 100 years and today there is a resurgence of interest in railbiking.

Using modern materials and fabrication processes, Railbike Tours builds safe and efficient railbikes for use on authorized railroad lines for the enjoyment of the general public.

Join us and experience something special!

Railbike Tours

Railbike scenic
Ohop Valley and
Lake Kapowsin
near Eatonville,
Washington



Enjoy a
truly unique
experience –
for bicyclists
and
non-bikers
alike!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Railbike?

A railbike is a street or mountain bike fitted with special attachments that allow it to be ridden directly on railroad tracks.

Is it difficult?

No! Railbiking is easy and fun!

What if I can't ride a bicycle?

There is no balancing or steering required; almost anyone can ride a railbike.

Who railbikes?

You can! Anyone in reasonable good shape can railbike. We have had adult riders in their 70s, 80s and 90s and even children just big enough to reach the pedals. Double bikes will be available on the Eatonville/Ohop Valley/Lake Kapowsin tour. These railbikes sit side-by-side with space for small children and/or snacks between the riders.

What about trains on the track?

Railbike Tours, Inc. is conducting rides through a special agreement with the City of Tacoma to use this section of rail.

Why railbike?

Riding one is like gliding on a very smooth surface. There is almost no traffic to contend with. You see scenery that is often not accessible by road. Traveling through forest and farmland, railbikes are so quiet wildlife often doesn't know you are there! Railbike Tours, Inc. is in the process of setting up tours in exotic places! See our web site at railbike.com for exciting details!

How long is the ride and how long does it take?

About 20 miles, round trip; it takes 3 to 4 hours, depending on the physical condition of your group and/or how fast or slowly you want to go.

Sound Bites About Us

Railbiking in the media

Railbike Tours, Inc. has been in the news and on the radio for several years:

“

Railbiking allows the rider to relax and ride hands free while enjoying scenery often not accessible by trails or roads.

- *The News Tribune, Tacoma, WA*

Since a train track seldom climbs at a rate more than 3 percent, the peddling is easy. The design, which compensates for the distance between the parallel tracks, means riders can sit back and take pictures or gaze through binoculars without steering.

- *The Olympian, Olympia, WA*

... railbikes are an ideal mode of transportation through ecological sensitive areas.

- *The Daily Astorian, Astoria, OR*

Okay, if you're like me - always on the lookout for a new thrill - then railbiking sounds just loopy enough to demand it be tried.

- Tom Banse, *The Savvy Traveler*
National Public Radio
1999

”

Also featured on Seattle's
KING-TV *Evening Magazine*.

Member: Tacoma/Pierce County
Convention and Visitor Center

Reservations and Information

When do the tours start?

Railbiking tours start at 9:00 am and 1:30 pm on Saturdays and Sundays beginning in early June 2000. Please book early as space is limited. Tours run rain or shine.

What does Railbike Tours provide?

We provide everything you need:

- Group tour guide
- Railbike
- Bicycle helmet

February 2000 Insulated carry bag

What do I need to bring?

You are encouraged to bring your own helmets (we have helmets available for those who need one), water bottles, snacks and clothing appropriate for Western Washington weather conditions (a.k.a., raingear/sunblock).

Note: Use only public facilities in Eatonville as there are no restrooms at the site.

What else is required?

You need to sign a waiver of liability and wear a bicycle helmet. That's all!

April 1997

How much does it cost?

The cost is \$45 per rider with group discounts available.

Where do I call for more information?

Information and reservations are available by contacting us in Olympia, Washington, at the following numbers:

Phone: 360-438-2010

Fax: 360-493-1739

E-mail: railbike@connectcorp.net

or visit our web site at:

railbike.com

Please note: Reservations are required.