

Birch Creek Historical Ranch

From I-84, take exit 3 in Idaho for US-95 toward Payette/Parma. Turn right. Follow Highway 95 south as it crosses the Snake River. In 34 miles, turn right onto Highway 95 heading south instead of driving east toward Marsing. Continue driving south, crossing into Oregon, for 36.4 miles. Then, turn right on Curly Lodge Road. Follow it for 6.9 miles to a T-intersection with Cow Creek Road. Follow it until the third intersection, which is with Lodge Ranch Road on the right. Turn, then continue forward for 2.5 miles and then turn right on Blowout Reservoir Road. Follow that for 12.2 miles to Birch Creek Road. Follow Birch Creek Road for about 5.7 miles to the destination.

The final descent into Birch Creek is challenging, and one can often meet boat trailers looking to get out along a very narrow road. Use caution and good judgement when dropping the last 3 miles into the ranch in your four-wheel-drive vehicle. Do not attempt it in a passenger car.

From Jordan Valley, head north on Highway 95 for 8 miles and turn west at the sign for Jordan Craters. Follow the BLM Owyhee River access signs 28 miles down into the ranch.

About the Owyhee Canyonlands

The Owyhee Canyonlands require preparation, awareness and self-sufficiency. Once you leave the blacktop you will not find services or amenities. Top off your gas tank when leaving gateway communities like Jordan Valley or Rome, and carry a spare gas can.

Driving conditions in the Owyhee can be challenging. Roads are often unmaintained, rocky and rutted. Check each destination write-up for road conditions and advice on clearance and four-wheel drive recommendations. A small amount of precipitation makes the road surface slippery, creating mud buildup that clogs wheel wells and limits travel.

Each vehicle should contain a full-size spare tire, towing straps/chains, a jack, some flat boards, Fix-a-Flat, a lug wrench, jumper cables and a five-gallon water jug.

Your best bet for traveling in the Owyhee Canyonlands is to purchase the Malheur Canyon Country and Owyhee Canyon Country maps from the Bureau of Land Management.