The Bend Visitor Center is covered in graffiti. Believe it or not, that’s something to celebrate.

In September 2011, Visit Bend launched the Pillars of Art program to give tourists a close-up look at Bend’s unique arts and culture scene. It’s also a fun way to support emerging local artists.

Every 3 months, a different artist creates chalk drawings on the cement pillars in the lobby of the Bend Visitor Center. The artist also gets to showcase their art. Think of it like a gallery with a twist.

Check it out when you stop by the Bend Visitor Center to claim your prize for the Roundabout Art Route!

Use this map to seek out 20 distinct pieces of art sitting in the roundabouts around Bend. Visit at least 10 of them, answer the associated quiz questions, then come by the Bend Visitor Center to get your prize.

Visit Bend is located at 750 NW Lava Rd., Ste. 160 (corner of Lava & Oregon in downtown) 541.382.8048 visitbend.com
1. How many kayaks are used in the creation of this piece?

2. Sound Garden by Lee Kelly 2018 Did you know? The three pieces are designed to represent the three peaks of the Three Sisters mountains.

3. Lodestar by Roger Berry 2008 Did you know? When you’re coming around this roundabout and starting to head west, you can catch a magnificent view of the Cascade mountain range including a spectacular look at the Three Sisters.

4. Evolution by Tray Pillow 2008 Did you know? This is one of several kinetic sculptures along the Roundabout Art Route, as the pieces are designed to move with the wind.

5. Might of the Work Force by Berwin Field 2005 Did you know? This piece is reminiscent of the role of the draft horses in the early mill operations around Bend. This piece had to be reconstructed in 2007 after it was hit by a drunk driver.

6. Yabaya by Tracy Pillow 2010 Did you know? This sculpture is appropriately located near the best spot in town to start your float along the Deschutes River. You’ll notice the kayaks form flower petals & the paddles form the stamen.

7. Which end of the horse is raised in this sculpture?

8. Earth Song by Bruce Nest 2005 Did you know? Some people say this piece looks like tightening bolts, while others suggest the burriness and steel spires seem to vibrate with force from the earth. This was a tribute to Central Oregon’s Rocky Video State Park.

9. If the orb were a bowling ball headed toward the center of the roundabout, what would it hit?

10. Migrantion by Hai Ying Wu 2004 Did you know? Many of the Roundabout Art Route sculptures were designed to represent the area in which they’re placed, & this one is no exception. The birds taking flight are intended to symbolize the journey of the college students nearby.

11. If the birds continued their chosen flight path, what would they run into?

12. Centennial Logger by Jerry Werner 2004 Did you know? The year this sculpture was installed was the year Bend turned 100. Its proximity to the old log dock along the river is a tribute to the area’s history in logging.

13. What creature sits perched on the south side of the planks?

14. Centennial Logger? by Jerry Werner 2004 Did you know? Like the Centennial Planter, this sculpture was installed when Bend turned 100 & is intended to commemorate the logging industry. Also like the Centennial Planter, the Centennial Logger is subject to frequent games of Over which shoulder is the logger holding his ax?

15. Attie, Sandra and Garden Gate by Mel Estz 2002 Did you know? Originally, buyers purchased only 2 pieces of this sculpture, but bought the 3rd to better fill the space. This whimsical, childlike tone of the piece is a tribute to the sculpture’s proximity to several child-related facilities nearby.

16. True or false: This was the first piece of roundabout art installed in Bend?

17. Mt. Bachelor Compass by Steve Janzen 2002 Did you know? This piece has been dubbed “the sassy roundabout” since viewers uncertain what the letters represent have mistakenly believed they spell the word „sexy."

18. What four letters make up this roundabout art?

19. Phoenix Rising by Frank Bayden 2002 Did you know? Ask Bend locals what this piece is called, and they’re unlikely to know the real name. Often referred to as “The Flaming Chicken,” many believe this was the 1st piece of roundabout art installed in Bend. It actually came 2nd.

20. Is the phoenix flying up, down, or straight ahead?

21. Big Ear by Joe Halke 2001 Did you know? This is the piece most commonly subjected to pranks and games of seasonal dress-ups. Over the years, the deer have been outfitted in garland, cupid wings, ski outfits, and various sports team attire.

22. How many deer are in this sculpture?

23. GRRRR! by Sherry Sanders 2001 Did you know? The lush foliage surrounding all sides of the bear except the rear prompted locals to dub this “The Bear Butt” roundabout.

24. What direction is the bear facing?

25. Redalida by Mild Pepper 2001 Did you know? This is another kinetic sculpture on Bend’s Roundabout Art Route, and the fish changes direction with the wind. It’s a tribute to the beautiful Redside Trout native to the region.

26. Name another kinetic sculpture on the Roundabout Art Route?

27. Sunlake Spirit Column by Ronald Gerda 2001 Did you know? This piece is suggestive of a totem, with contemporary pictographs carved into the granite. Some of the images carved into the stone include deer, bird, sun, and buffalo.

28. How many feathers hang from the arms of this sculpture?

29. Copter by Dave Fox 2007 Did you know? Technically, this isn’t a true roundabout since it is comprised of two smaller circles, which is referred to as a “dogbone.”

30. True or false: the cogs were crucial pieces used in the operation of the old mill until the equipment was retired in 1922.

31. Ghost by Andy Wash & Erik Gording 2007 Did you know? The bucket on this piece was used for dragging mud out of the river to keep the channel open for floating logs. The corrugated tin used on the sculpture came from the Pioneer Mill, a mammoth, four-saw building that dubbed “the big ugly.”

32. What shape is formed by the two cranes?