



## **PLAYA HANDBOOK: Know Before You Go**

**This document will help you better understand how to prepare for your stay at PLAYA.**

**\*Campus map on page 11**

### **INTRODUCTION**

At the northwestern edge of the Great Basin – a dramatic landscape – PLAYA nurtures innovative thinking in the arts and sciences through residencies, workshops and special events. For the last 13 years, PLAYA has hosted creative people working in varied disciplines in the arts and sciences who are all considered a part of the PLAYA community. Now you too will become a part of this special community convened by a unique landscape to explore your work.

Knowing PLAYA’s guidelines and policies will assure a positive experience for you and others staying on campus. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider the information in this document. Please let us know if you have any questions.

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

PLAYA acknowledges that it resides on the ancestral homeland of the Yahooskin Paiute, Modoc and Klamath tribes. In the spirit of truth, reconciliation and association, PLAYA will continue to steward this land and invite people to reside here that are actively working to learn from and share our natural environment.

### **THE ENVIRONMENT**

Part of the PLAYA experience is to connect with the land and desert environment. In Oregon’s high desert, this can mean being exposed to extreme temperatures, aridity, and wind. Weather changes may occur within the same day. The Summer Lake basin, in which PLAYA is located, is subject to storms and high winds. In the summer months, the temperature ranges from close to 90 during the day to 50 at night. In winter, the average highs are in the low 40s to mid 30s, and the lows may dip well below freezing. All seasons can vary in temperature and amount of precipitation. Don’t let the name fool you, winter comes to Summer Lake with gusto, and the wind can be strong in any season. Layers of clothing are the best way to meet the challenges of the changing weather. Comfortable walking shoes

and hiking boots are usually needed. Sturdy, waterproof boots are a must,

Lake County is one of the few counties in the U.S. designated as Frontier. Wildlife encounters can happen. At Playa there can be encounters with, or evidence of, snakes including rattlesnakes, deer, cougar, bobcats, coyotes, wolves, badgers and bears, not to mention the Trumpeter Swans, Canada Geese, and waterfowl that utilize the pond.

Please come prepared per our suggested supply list below, drink plenty of water while here, wear sturdy shoes, drive slowly, and pay attention to the changing conditions that surround us. The landscape is wide, open and quiet.

Although alongside a state highway, PLAYA is located in one of the more remote locations in the state of Oregon. Lake County has a population of 7,880 and covers 8,358 sq miles. The closest full service grocery store in Lakeview (a small Safeway) is one-hour from PLAYA. Twelve miles from PLAYA, a gas station and convenience market and the Summer Lake Lodge (restaurant and motel) is located in Summer Lake. The town of Paisley (pop. 205) has another small market, gas station, the Pioneer Saloon and a K-12 school.

Cell reception is limited at PLAYA and around Lake County. At PLAYA, AT&T and T-Mobile work well; Verizon does not. Internet is provided via satellite and only in the Commons. It can sometimes be slow and is dependent on the weather. **Cabins and studios do not have Internet.**

## **WHAT TO BRING + WHAT PLAYA PROVIDES**

### **PLAYA provides**

- Comfortable furnishings
- Linens, blankets, towels, washcloths and pillows
- Kitchen equipment: sink, microwaves, toasters, tea kettle, coffee pot, refrigerators, range, pots, pans, dishes, silverware, glasses and knives. Most cabins have full kitchens while Wildcat and Diablo have kitchenettes with small refrigerators and countertop ovens and hotplates.
- A drip-style coffee pot and paper filters
- Access to washing machine and dryer
- Domestic supplies: dish soap, hand soap, and toilet paper
- All natural, biodegradable laundry detergent
- Regular mail delivery and pick up (USPS, UPS & FedEx)
- Phone for local and long distance calls (US calls)
- Clean, lighted visual studios and workspaces

- A safe, peaceful, quiet working and living environment
- A beautiful landscape and immediate access to nature

### **What you should bring**

- Specialized professional equipment
- Computer, printer, and paper
- Writing materials and office supplies
- Stationery and postage stamps
- Art materials and supplies, tools, special paper, and inks
- Art supply catalogs
- Sheet music if you like to play the piano
- Food and specialty kitchen supplies
- Personal toiletries- shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc.
- Good hand and body lotion as well as lip balm for our dry climate
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen and lotion
- Good walking shoes or boots
- Muck-proof shoes for venturing onto the playa- we have several pairs you can borrow
- Snow boots if you are coming between Nov-March
- Good studio shoes or slippers for concrete floors
- Comfortable, casual clothing that can be layered
- Warm jacket, sweaters, long pants, warm hat, scarf, and gloves
- Swimsuit, for use at the Summer Lake Hot Springs or Ana Reservoir
- Water bottle
- Backpack for hikes
- If you bring your bicycle, also bring extra tubes and repair tools
- Flashlight/headlamp for night walks (and extra batteries)
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Music and means to play it (limited CD players available)
- 2 Projectors (one can be checked out by residents for studio use and large pull-down screens are located in the Commons and loft area for group presentations or movie nights)
- Credit/debit card
- AT&T hotspot if you need reliable access to Internet in your cabin or studio
- Alcoholic beverages, if desired

### **Please do not bring**

- Firearms
- Pets
- Incense, candles, matches
- Incendiary devices

Supplies may be shipped in advance of your arrival via FedEx, UPS, or USPS for letters. **(UPS is most reliable here)** Use the street address: **(Your Name), c/o PLAYA, 47531 Hwy 31, Summer Lake, OR 97640.**

## GETTING TO PLAYA

### Transportation

PLAYA is located on Highway 31 between mile markers 81 and 82, 12 miles south of the Summer Lake Post Office. Some online maps or GPS devices may not be accurate or unreliable in this setting. Address: 47531 OR-31, Summer Lake, OR 97640

Link to map: [📍 PLAYA Summer Lake](#)

If your residency is scheduled during the cold months (November through March), be sure your vehicle is equipped with snow tires and carry chains. [Tripcheck](#) is an excellent resource in determining weather and road conditions in Oregon.

If you are flying, the nearest airport is Bend/Redmond (RDM), 2.5 hours from PLAYA by car. You will find rental car agencies at the airport. In addition, there are two shuttle services that will transport residents to PLAYA from the airport, one for around \$175 (one way): Enviro Shuttle (541-598-5384, [www.enviroshuttle.net](http://www.enviroshuttle.net)). They will stop at a grocery store on your way down. The other (more affordable option) charges \$200 to fill 5 seats (one-way); VIP Taxi (541-233-8447, [viptaxico.com](http://viptaxico.com)). A bus service from Portland to Bend ([cobreeze.com](http://cobreeze.com)) is another travel option.

The closest Amtrak train station is in Chemult, a small town on Highway 97 between Bend and Klamath Falls, Oregon. Amtrak connects to Bend via its Thruway bus service. From there, one of the above shuttle services can bring you to PLAYA.

### Arrival

Arrivals may begin at 2:00 pm on the day of your arrival. Please plan to arrive by 5:00 pm so that staff can assist you in finding your cabin. **If you will arrive after 5:00 pm, please let us know as soon as possible so we can make a plan for how best to support you.** Playa is located between mile markers 81 and 82 on Highway 31. Look for the fence made out of Juniper branches. Please follow the signs to the office to check in when you arrive. If you get lost or your arrival is unexpectedly delayed, please let us know as soon as possible by calling the PLAYA cell phone at **458-249-9227.**

**\*Please stay on gravel driving paths and park in designated areas only as outlined in the map on page 11.**

## **Covid Safety**

PLAYA will continue to follow the latest CDC recommendations. Please bring a high quality mask in the event that you present symptoms or if indoor masks become required. We encourage folks to bring rapid tests if you want to test before you congregate with others or if you present symptoms. Please quarantine yourself if you feel unwell during your stay.

## **Health Care**

The nearest hospital is in Lakeview (60 miles from PLAYA). There is a health clinic in LaPine (82 miles north).

Lake District Hospital  
700 S J Street, Lakeview, OR 97630  
541.947.2114

La Pine Community Health Center  
51600 Huntington Rd. La Pine, OR 97739  
(541) 536-3435  
Hours - By Appointment | Mon – Fri: 8am – 5pm & Sat: 9am – 1pm  
Walk-In Clinic | Mon – Fri: 8am – 6pm

### **First Aid kits are available in:**

- your cabin
- the office
- in each art studio
- Commons hallway
- Ice can be found in the freezer in the Common's prep kitchen

## **SECURITY + INSURANCE**

The Commons is unlocked and open for guest use 24/7. The main door to each private living area has a lock and each resident will be given a key. PLAYA does not carry insurance on resident and guest's personal property. We urge you to have your own coverage, if you feel that you need it. Residents are covered by PLAYA's

MedFlight insurance in the event you are critically injured while on campus and you need an air lift to a hospital. PLAYA has a landing field if air transport is required.

## **MEALS + COOKING**

### **Food and Drink**

PLAYA will provide one meal per week during your residency. Residents and guests prepare all other meals on their own using the food and supplies they bring with them. If you are missing an essential ingredient, PLAYA might have it on hand, so feel free to ask a staff member for assistance.

### **Grocery Shopping**

Lakeview, Oregon is 62 miles south and has the closest grocery store. There is a small convenience store with limited grocery items 11 miles north in Summer Lake. The town of Bend, Oregon, 102 miles from PLAYA, is approximately two hours away by car. If you fly into the Bend/Redmond airport, you will drive through Bend on your way here. In Bend, you can find most of the food and supplies you need to provide for yourself at PLAYA. On the corner of Highway 20 (also known as Greenwood Ave) and North 27th Street, a Costco is located next to a Whole Foods and a Safeway. Residents coming without their own cars or from far away can also ship non-perishable food here ahead of time. Most grocery delivery platforms do not deliver to PLAYA. Check their website to make sure. One hour south of PLAYA, in the town of Lakeview, Oregon, there is a small Safeway.

Overall, we recommend that you plan ahead and bring most of the food you need. Once you are at PLAYA, we can help you strategize about how and where to resupply when necessary.

## **FACILITIES + SITE**

### **Accommodations**

We make every attempt to provide living quarters and workspaces that are suitable for your needs. Please note that PLAYA's private living quarters and studios are unique and variable, assigned with the intent to balance the needs of the residents with available space. Switching spaces is rarely possible, so please let us know of any special needs when you fill out the registration acceptance form.

### **Living Quarters and Commons**

Each resident house includes a kitchen or kitchenette and living area, either in a comfortable cabin or in a live/work studio cabin. PLAYA's housing includes a

bathroom, bed, pillows, nightstand, easy chair, and dresser. Towels and linens are also provided.

### **Visual Studio Workspaces**

Studios are equipped with worktables, chairs and stools with wheels, a utility sink, cabinets, shelving, and track lighting. Blinds help control the amount of outside light. Several walls in each studio are covered in fiberboard; nails and staples may be used to hang works-in-progress on these surfaces. Standard, stocked items for each studio are: cloth rags, stepladders, disposal bins, easels, and individual tool kits including hammer, pliers, wire cutters, a straight edge, level, and an assortment of nails and brads. T-squares, heavy-duty extension cords, and a variable speed drill are available. Additional work tables are also available upon request.

Bring an adequate stock of materials and supplies. If you need a specific tool or piece of equipment on a continual basis, please bring your own. Pack your favorite art or tool supply catalog as well in case you need to mail order additional specialized supplies while at PLAYA. UPS is prompt in delivering. FED EX delivery dates are often inconsistent.

### **Writers' Work Spaces**

Most cabins have a desk and an office chair. Standard stocked desk items are: pushpins, paper clips, a bulletin board, and a small bookcase. Writers are responsible for bringing their own writing tools, materials, and equipment, such as legal pads, laptops, printers, and plenty of paper.

### **Land Art**

Anyone who wishes to create an outdoor sculpture or installation must first get it approved by PLAYA's Executive Director or Program Manager by emailing details of the project. Land art must be made from natural materials and not interfere with the view shed of PLAYA or our neighbors. Please note that PLAYA does not have the capacity or resources to maintain outdoor work.

### **Living Quarters, Studio, and Workspace Maintenance**

Please keep your living quarters, work or studio space, and linens clean during your stay. Cleaning supplies, including a vacuum, are available for you in your cabin. Washing machines and laundry soap are available in the Commons and the south laundry room. Take note of where furniture is upon your arrival; if you move any furniture we request that you place it back at the end of your stay. Upon departure please clean and vacate studios, private living spaces, and property by noon of your departure day. We will give you a checklist to help guide you through departure.

### **Grounds Maintenance**

PLAYA makes every effort to maintain its facilities at all times. Due to its physical setting, ongoing routine maintenance is required to keep ahead of the climatic impact. Spring through fall, we will be watering, planting, and mowing the grounds. Fall or spring means window washing (and sometimes planting and mowing the grounds). Winter promises snow removal machinery on the roads and parking lots.

### **Hardware/Software**

Residents using electronic media to view, generate and print work need to bring their own hardware and software. Cabins do not have internet.

### **Security**

The main door to each private living area has a lock, and each resident will be given a key. PLAYA does not carry insurance on resident and guest's personal property. We urge you to have your own coverage, if you feel that you need it.

### **Gate and Dumpster**

There are two entrances to PLAYA that will remain unlocked 24 hours. The dumpster is located just south of the shop. If there is wire keeping the dumpster closed, put the wire back as you found it.

### **Internet Access**

PLAYA's Internet is via satellite and is limited to the Commons only. Please limit heavy downloads so as not to slow down staff access to the internet during business hours.

If you rely on heavy internet use to do your work, or want internet in your cabin, we highly recommend you bring your own hotspot. AT&T and T-mobile work well out here.

### **Phone**

Cellular reception can be sporadic and unreliable at PLAYA. Cell phone reception varies from carrier to carrier, and type of phone can be a factor. AT&T and T-Mobile work well on campus. Folks can get reception with Verizon out on the playa. Good cell phone coverage is available 10 miles south or north of PLAYA. A landline in the yoga room in the Commons is available to residents with free, unlimited long-distance calling within the U.S.

### **Mail and Shipping**

Family, friends, and other correspondents may write residents at the following address: (Your Name), c/o PLAYA, 47531 Hwy 31, Summer Lake, OR 97640. Mail sent without your name and "c/o PLAYA" will take longer to get to you. When sending large packages we recommend using UPS. FED EX can be slow. USPS will deliver packages to the post office in Summer Lake. UPS and FED EX will deliver



directly to PLAYA. UPS will also pick-up packages from PLAYA with appropriate labels.

**\* Do not formally forward your address with USPS. You will not be able to cancel the forward as PLAYA is a business.**

Supplies may be shipped in advance of your arrival via FedEx, UPS, or USPS for letters. (Note that FedEx delivers only a few days a week to the Summer Lake Valley and can be VERY unreliable.) Please pack your materials in boxes of a manageable size and weight. Your shipment will be held for you until you arrive. Whether you use FedEx, UPS, or USPS, use the street address: (Your Name), c/o PLAYA, 47531 Hwy 31, Summer Lake, OR 97640.

### **Cash**

The town of Paisley (population 205, located 17 miles south of PLAYA) has an ATM machine inside the Paisley Mercantile. You may use a credit or debit card with local merchants in Paisley, Summer Lake, and Lakeview. PLAYA does not provide check-cashing services and does not keep cash on hand.

### **Gas + Auto Service**

There are gas stations in Summer Lake and in Paisley. Paisley's gas station is also a service station- PAisley Auto and Tow. AAA service is available but can take a few hours to arrive.

### **Exercise**

Miles of trails and Forest Service roads offer varied views of the Summer Lake valley and are appropriate for walking, hiking and mountain biking. Winter residents can enjoy snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. PLAYA provides canoes and paddles for use on the pond. Residents must bring all other outdoor gear. There are no snow gear rental stores in the immediate area. Paisley Adventure offers mountain bike rental and shuttles.

## **POLICIES**

### **Respect and Quiet**

Quiet hours are observed from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Music must be played at a considerate level.

### **Zero Tolerance**

To ensure that everyone can enjoy a peaceful and productive residency, Playa has a zero-tolerance policy on activity that violates general standards of decorum and decency. The use of illegal drugs or the abuse of alcohol is prohibited. Firearms, fireworks, or any other explosive materials are not permitted on PLAYA property.

Unwanted sexual overtures or disruptive or entitled behavior may lead to the immediate termination of your residency.

### **Pets**

Residents are not permitted to bring pets to PLAYA.

### **Smoking, Candles, Incense**

PLAYA is a non-smoking facility. PLAYA's buildings are also smoke and scent free. Wildfires occur in the area often, so we strictly prohibit burning candles, incense, or other materials in cabins or around the grounds

### **Fire**

ALL cabins, studios and common spaces have fire extinguishers. If a fire occurs, use your fire extinguisher and let staff know.

Wildfire danger is very real at PLAYA. You will be told about the safe use of the fire pit outside the Commons and the outdoor BBQ grill. Please don't leave either unattended. Campfires are not permitted anywhere on the property.

### **Visitors**

PLAYA amenities and facilities are intended for residents and guests and are not to be extended to family members, friends, or other guests.

