

Leaving Las Vegas

Written by

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We are on the road again! We were up at 7:00 but didn't hit the road until 10:00. It is another beautiful day with nothing but sun in the forecast so leaving Las Vegas was not easy, however if we want to get to Vancouver by May and spend some time in Oregon, we need to keep moving.

We took Highway 95, northwest towards Reno. It's a great highway, slowly ascending and surrounded by desert and mountains. Nevada is the most mountainous state in the nation with an estimated 314 mountain ranges. There are 24 state parks here so a week is not nearly enough time to explore it all. The altitudes vary from less than 1,000 feet to over 13,000 feet and the climate ranges as much. We will be climbing higher as we go; tonight we are staying in Tonopah, a small town at about 6000 feet above sea level. On our way here, aside from the beautiful mountains, we passed 2 of the 34 legal brothels in Nevada, the "Shady Lady Ranch" and the "Cottontail Ranch". There were also areas with large fields of sand and sand dunes with many small wind funnels blowing across the road. The temperatures never rose above 22C (72F) and the overnight low here is 0C (32F)! The mountains are beautiful but I am going to miss the temperatures we enjoyed in Las Vegas and Scottsdale!