

February SUV Drive: A Scenic Adventure with Unexpected Laughs

BY DIANE SCOTT

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SUV Drive Crew

February's SUV drive held plenty of surprises this time around, but the best one? The rain actually held off! In Oregon, February can bring anything from snow and ice to an atmospheric river, so finding ourselves on mostly dry roads felt like a treat.

Jeff Gasparitsch did a great job with the route planning, mapping out a scenic 93-mile loop that took us along winding backroads through charming little towns like Oregon City, Molalla, and Scotts Mills. The countryside was alive with grazing cows, curious goats, fluffy sheep, and even a few llamas who watched our Porsches roll by with what we can only assume was deep admiration. Naturally, we waved at all of them—because, as any seasoned road-tripper knows, it's good etiquette to acknowledge your barnyard audience.

One of the unexpected highlights of our drive was spotting a road sign that gave us all a chuckle. "Friendship Lane" sounded like a delightful little street—until we noticed the "DEAD END" sign posted right underneath it.

Perhaps a deeper metaphor for life? Or just an unfortunate street-planning decision? Either way, it made for some great laughs.

We made a quick pit stop at the Mt. Angel Monastery bookstore and coffee shop, where some of us indulged in warm drinks and perused the shelves filled with spirituality books and locally crafted goods.

By the end of the drive, our SUVs had collected a respectable layer of road dirt, but Mother Nature took care of that with a downpour just as we wrapped up. Perfect timing! We hope you can join us on the next SUV adventure—more scenic views, good laughs, and possibly even more philosophical road signs await! ■



To view more photos/ videos of this drive, visit <https://www.instagram.com/share/reel/BAO44thya>



Joe Sweeney, Wendy Wells, and Jeff Gasparitsch