Can you say “Boise?” Idaho natives pronounce it BOY-see. Outsiders often say BOY-zee. We can call it the spectacular site of the ASWB Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly, November 13-15.

Boise, the capital of Idaho, is famous as a mecca of outdoor activities. But mid-November may present a chilly challenge for Boise River rafting or early morning bike rides. Luckily, inside or outside, Boise offers a vibrant good time.

So, there is plenty to do in Boise—including getting down to business. Our business this year is the ASWB Annual Meeting, with a full agenda and important elections, all with some help from modern technology. Will technology and social work ever truly marry? We’ll hear about that, too.

When business for the day is done, you will have ample time to explore and enjoy the fruits of what Outside magazine called the “#1 Overall Town in the Western U.S.” and National Geographic Adventure magazine dubbed the “#1 Adventure City.”

Boise was nicknamed the City of Trees in the 1800s by French-Canadian fur trappers who crested the mountains to behold a verdant valley and exclaimed “Le Bois!” (“The woods!”). Boise was incorporated as a city in 1863. Today, the Boise-Nampa metropolitan area population is over 600,000, including the largest ethnic Basque community in the U.S. The city rests at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains along the plain of the Boise River.

Boise has 130 miles of some of the country’s best mountain biking trails, as well as ski slopes and rock climbing, all less than 20 minutes from downtown restaurants and coffeehouses. There are dozens of things to do in and around Boise that begin with action words like eat, climb, tube, visit, paddle, ski, listen, swim, raft, soak, sail, see, hang out, fish, hike, bike, kayak, walk, drink, run, buy, stroll, explore…and many more.

Shop
Boise offers shoppers gifts to bestow on others and yourself, including hand-printed papers and greeting cards, consignment furniture and objects for the home,
art and art supplies, handwoven rugs, antiques and antique prints, jewelry, music (including vinyl and CD), gourmet groceries, clothing, housewares, sports collectibles, Basque products of all kinds, and more.

**Eat**

Hungry? Thirsty? Restaurants and brewpubs abound. Enjoy wine tastings, fine casual dining, country music bars, wood-fired pizza, award-winning wine, drive-in burgers, custom-cut French fries, virtually all ethnic cuisines and venues from authentic French bistro to classic American diner, and of course, chocolate.

**Do**

Got some free time? Boise is a thriving, regional hub for art, jazz, theater, and indie music. Other sights and sounds include contemporary theater, international dance, ballet, galleries, Frisbee golf, real golf, ice skating, museums, a public market, wildlife refuge, films, Shakespeare, bands, open-mike venues, and other activities. You can also put in time behind bars during a fascinating tour of the Old Idaho State Penitentiary.

**Areas of Interest**

Downtown Boise—This is the cultural center of Boise, with a variety of cafes and restaurants, bars and boutiques, and a vibrant nightlife. Here you will find the Basque Block, the Idaho State Capitol, the classic Egyptian Theatre, the Boise Art Museum, and Zoo Boise.

Boise State University—The school lies south of downtown, with neighborhoods, businesses, and on-campus establishments catering to a student population.

The landmark 37,000-seat Bronco Stadium resides on campus. Also on the campus are Velma V. Morrison Center for Performing Arts and Taco Bell Arena.

The North End—Here you will discover many of the city’s older homes, tree-lined drives, quiet neighborhoods, and restaurants and businesses. Ideal for an afternoon or evening stroll.

Warm Springs and East End—Tree-lined Warm Springs Avenue contains some of Boise’s largest and most expensive homes, many turn-of-the-20th-century and Victorian styles. The area gets its name from the natural hot springs that flow from Boise’s fault line.

Boise Bench—The Bench sits on an elevation about 60 feet higher than downtown Boise and is the home to historic Boise Union Pacific Depot and older residential neighborhoods.

West Boise—West Boise is where you’ll find Boise Towne Square Mall, the largest mall in the state, as well as numerous restaurants, strip malls, and the Ada County jail. Enjoy sweeping views of the Boise Front.

For more information, surf to [www.cityofboise.org](http://www.cityofboise.org).

Enjoy your stay in Boise!

---

**Top Ten Things You Probably DIDN’T Expect in Boise:**

10. Le Bois Park Horse Races
9. 100-year-old Hannifin’s Cigar Shop
8. Bois Fry custom-cut and cooked French fries
7. Pair Restaurant’s award-winning martinis
6. Big Jud’s one-pound burgers
5. More bike tires than people in Boise
4. The ghost horse of Dry Creek Cemetery
3. World Center for Birds of Prey
2. Treasure Valley Roller Derby Girls
1. The world’s largest tin foil ball