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Local Non-Profit Opens New AgVenture Trail in Caldwell

Caldwell ID. - Local non-profit Destination Caldwell is investing in agritourism to attract more visitors and business to Caldwell by opening a new trail through the Snake River Valley.

"For visitors, this is a way to escape the city and experience the simple life, even if it's just for the weekend," says Keri Smith-Sigman, the CEO of Destination Caldwell. "We invite them to rub shoulders with local farmers, try something new and get a taste of the good life out here."

The AgVenture Trail is a self-guided adventure through 12 farms, orchards, pastures and produce stands across the valley, starting in Downtown Caldwell. Each stop along the 40-mile long loop has opportunities for visitors to take classes from local farmers, pick produce, dine on farm-to-fork meals, go horseback riding and more.

The trail also includes six farmer's markets and restaurants. Visitors can make it a quick day-trip or even spend a whole weekend on the trail, staying at hotels, inns and campgrounds along the way.

"That's what makes this experience so unique and special to this region," Smith-Sigman says. "Visitors get to see, taste and experience food in a whole new way...and they leave feeling a little more connected to the land we all share."

For Smith-Sigman, setting up close partnerships with local businesses has been crucial in making the trail a reality. Destinations along the trail include local businesses like Lakeview Fruit, Vine and Branch Ranch, the Nampa Farmers' Market, Indian Creek Steakhouse and Little Cow Mountain Farm.

"The farmers and business owners here are extremely passionate, dedicated and proud of what they do," Smith-Sigman says. "Some have been farming here for generations while others moved from bigger cities to start something new, but all of them share a deep love for the land."

Smith-Sigman and her team at Destination Caldwell set up AgVenture Trail as part of a larger initiative to attract more visitors, support local businesses and inspire entrepreneurs to open up shop in Caldwell. As the world's second-

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By promoting local agriculture, Smith-Sigman says the AgVenture Trail can help Caldwell continue to grow by showcasing what the region has always done best.

"We're staying true to our roots when we support our local agriculture," Smith-Sigman says. "And we can't wait to share that passion with Idaho and the rest of the Pacific Northwest."

About Destination Caldwell

Destination Caldwell is a grassroots team of local citizens, downtown property owners, and business leaders seeking to create better opportunities to live, work and play. Together, we're growing our economic base and vitality of the city to attract retain business and residents. Since our founding in 2013, Destination Caldwell projects have attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors and generated millions of dollars in economic impact.

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