

TRIP



IDEAS

FORAGING THE SOUTHERN OREGON COAST
WITH WILDCRAFT - PORT ORFORD



This trip takes place in an around the historic town of Port Orford. You don't have to go far for big adventure on trails of all types.

WELCOME WILDCRAFTERS!

We're so excited you're coming to the Southern Oregon Coast for a WildCraft foraging adventure. We've put this together to help you make the most of your time in and around Port Orford. If you're a hiker, surfer, kayaker, cyclist or any kind of a water-beach-cliff adventurer you are going to love this sweet destination tucked in the crook of a rugged headland with the lively vibe of a working port town. So if you're thinking maybe you should add a few days to your trip, good thinking!

BATTLE ROCK

Battle Rock Park is the perfect starting point for exploring the area. Battle Rock itself is a narrow spine of rock disconnected from the shoreline that rises from the beach and stretches over 400 feet into the ocean. During low tides, walk to the top of the rock for an epic perspective on the town and sea. And the sea caves, rock tunnels and tidepools make for a great day on the beach.

YOU'LL RARELY SEE A PORT LIKE THIS

Port Orford has one of the most unique fishing ports in the world due to its headland-protected



Gary Hayes

natural harbor. Home to a small fishing fleet of about 30 boats, the port is actually built on the ocean, but no boats are moored in the water.

When setting out to fish, boats are lowered into the Pacific by a giant crane and are lifted from the water upon returning with their catch. Don't miss watching the dolly dock in action and grab a beer and chowder at the local hangout, **Griff's on the Dock**. Resident grey whales linger in the waters off the port, so keep your eyes peeled for spraying spouts.

LIGHTHOUSE VIEWS

Cape Blanco Lighthouse commands the westernmost point in Oregon. Tours are offered April through October; plan for a jaunt down the trail near the gate of the lighthouse road to visit the scenic beach and bluff of Cape Blanco State Park.

HIKE THROUGH HISTORY

Port Orford Heads State Park's rugged headland juts into the Pacific, protecting small coves and the town's natural harbor. Several short trails traverse thick Sitka spruce forest and overlook **Nellies Cove**. A viewpoint on the south side of the trail overlooks miles of ocean and the trail extends onto the headland to the northwest for a 180-degree panoramic view of rock-studded coastline. You can choose a quick and easy three-quarter mile trail out and back to the headland, or do the entire perimeter loop of 1.25 miles.

WHERE TO STAY:

Wildspring Guest Habitat is an eco-friendly bed and breakfast resort in a woodland habitat, complete with Pacific view and an outdoor jacuzzi spa.

Cape Blanco State Park is a very pretty campground with trails to the beach and the lighthouse.

Castaway by the Sea is a pet-friendly historic yet updated motel with ocean views and a mix of units, some with kitchenettes.

There are lots of vacation rentals in town. Here are a few of our favorites.

Redfish Loft is a luxury suite above Redfish restaurant with amazing ocean views.

The Battle Rock Beach House is a spacious, modern four bedroom home with ocean views that's perfect for a big family or group of friends.

WHERE TO EAT:

Redfish in Port Orford offers French inspired Coastal cuisine and craft cocktails with epic views of the Pacific Ocean.

Crazy Norwegian's Fish & Chips in Port Orford is a classic local favorite known for, you guessed it, fish and chips.

The nearby **Langlois Market** has snacks, sandwiches and staples. Try their famous hot dog with homemade mustard.

Okay, ready for more fun?

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Oregon Coast Visitor Association

COASTAL ART & FARMS

Home to painters, sculptors and weavers, tiny Port Orford boasts an impressive eleven galleries. A thriving local food and farm scene also makes for a fun inland wander on the [South Coast Food Trail](#). Stop at [The Port Orford Co-Op](#) for fresh, sustainable seafood brought into port only blocks away. A bit further north of Highway 101, [Dragonfly Farms](#) has lovely plants in their magical nursery, or pick up fresh produce at the [Valley Flora](#) farmstand.

WILD RIVERS COAST SCENIC BIKEWAY

Bring your road bike and ride for miles beside the nationally designated [Wild and Scenic Elk River](#), explore colorful cranberry bogs, and gaze at towering sea stacks and vast ocean views on this 60-mile cycling tour. This route explores the most breathtaking natural areas around Port Orford and features different out and back options you can ride over a few days, or do the whole route in one day. Detailed GPS maps are available [here](#) or stop by the visitor center at Battle Rock Park for a map.

HIT THE WATER

Kayaking, surfing, windsurfing, stand-up paddle boarding and kite boarding are all top-notch activities in and around town. [Floras Lake Windsurfing](#) (about 14 miles north) offers rental gear and lessons.

For a truly epic day, head out on sea kayaks with [South Coast Tours](#) (be sure to reserve in advance) to paddle through the waters and rock tunnels of [Port Orford Heads](#). Or go inland and cast for salmon up the [Elk River](#) with [Wild Rivers Fishing](#) guides.

Two of the best surf breaks on the Southern Oregon Coast sit just south of Port Orford: [Battle Rock Park](#) (for experienced surfers) and the [Hubbard Creek](#) breaks (for all levels), about a mile farther to the south.

Scuba diving in the waters of the port offers easy access and exceptional visibility for exploring nearby coves and shipwrecks. The port houses a scuba fill station, restrooms and shower facilities.

Cover image by Gritchelle Fallesgon @gritchelle

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR GETAWAY?

Need any trip planning help?
Email hello@travelsouthernoregoncoast.com.

For questions about the WildCraft workshop email info@wildcraftstudioschool.com.

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