

SOUTH COAST ADVENTURE TOUR:
EXPLORING OREGON'S MOST SCENIC COASTLINE



Bandon, bear8photo.com

OREGON'S MOST SCENIC COASTLINE

Want to see Oregon's Most Scenic Coastline? Let's go! Sure, you could drive the epic 140-mile stretch of Oregon's Southern Coast in less than three hours — but then you'd miss paddling secret coves, discovering pristine beaches, hiking ancient forests, exploring lighthouses & enjoying local crab shacks in animated port towns. So give yourself the better part of a week! You can experience this route from the north or the south. Each town is about 30 minutes apart.

DAY 1: REEDSPORT / NORTH BEND / COOS BAY

Reedsport is the gateway to **Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area**, a rare landscape of windblown sand dunes reaching up to 500 feet high. And why, yes, it did inspire the book Dune! Here are highlights to get you started.

Hike a sandy moonscape on the **John Dellenback Dunes Trail**, an otherworldly 5.4-mile out-&-back trek with no motorized vehicles allowed. Access from Eel Creek Campground.

Ride the Oregon Dunes! Mount up & take the wheel, or book a tour at Spinreel Dune Buggy & ATV Rentals near Lakeside.

Umpqua River Lighthouse still guides mariners safely into port. Across the way, the museum at **Gray Whale 'Spy Hopper' Station** provides maps & binoculars for whale watching.





Oregon Dunes, Danny Kent Alacali

Coos Bay/North Bend: Wander historic downtown, then discover Native American history & more at the **Coos History Museum** on the Coos Bay waterfront. Stop in for lunch & tasty pours on the patio at **7 Devils Waterfront Ale House**.

Silver Falls, just 30 miles inland, is worth the detour for a hike beneath old-growth firs to the 100-foot cascading **Golden & Silver Falls**.

Head to **Charleston** to see fleets bring in their catch & throw crab rings off **D-Dock**. Book a fishing charter with Betty Kay, Pacific or Sharky's to catch your own (see list of charters at travelsouthernoregoncoast.com).

Stroll through beautiful gardens at **Shore Acres State Park**, then exit through the back to experience the fantastic, coast-hugging **Cape Arago Trails**. Head north to hike over moonscape-like rocks on the **Cape Arago Loop Trail**, or head south & wind up & down the secluded beaches to arrive at **Simpson Reef** & **Shell Island**, where thousands of barking seals serenade you.

DAY 2: BANDON

Bandon draws golfers from all over the world, but it's also home to some of the prettiest beaches in all of Oregon & a stroll-worthy town from another era, full of cute shops & great eats.

Historic Bandon offers a charming downtown along a small port with a pretty riverfront boardwalk. It's a lovely place to wile away an afternoon & get a sense of coastal culture. Stop for an artisan hot chocolate flight at **Coastal Mist** chocolates.

Tony's Crab Shack & **Bandon Fish Market** offer a one-two punch of fresh local seafood. Crab cakes, fish-n-chips, mussels & fish tacos abound.

Face Rock Creamery is a must-stop & their legendary Vampire Slayer Garlic Cheddar is a must-sample. Why not shop for cheese-n-crackers & add a growler from **Bandon Brewing** for a sunset picnic at the marina? Oh good, you're already planning on it.

Face Rock State Scenic Viewpoint offers views, as promised, but also a fabulous beach with soaring spires jutting up from its 1.5-mile shoreline. It really has to be seen to be believed.

Visit **Coquille Point** & look up for the fantastic views, but also down at low tide to spy sea anemones & sea stars teeming in tide pools.



Floras Lake, Ken Hagen & Anton Hugo

GREAT STAYS (NORTH TO SOUTH):

Winchester Bay: **Salmon Harbor Landing** is a comfy spot near the Umpqua Lighthouse.

North Bend: **The Itty Bitty Inn** offers five themed rooms, including the infamous Star Trek USS Enterprise room, along with complimentary bikes & vehicle e-charging stations.

Coos Bay: **Bay Point Landing's** modern cabins & decked-out Airstreams, plus an indoor pool, are a top choice right on the bay near Cape Arago.

Bandon: **The Bandon Inn** overlooks Old Town & the marina, while the **Inn at Face Rock** features spacious rooms right across from the beach.

Port Orford: **WildSpring Guest Habitat** offers five cabin suites set on 5 acres of woodland habitat on a bluff overlooking the Pacific. Bring a swimsuit to enjoy the ocean-view hot tub.

Cape Blanco State Park, also in Port Orford, has a pretty campground with four cabins & hiking trails to the beach & lighthouse of the same name.

Gold Beach: The **Wildflower Inn** offers a bright & airy modern vibe. The riverfront glass cabins wow visitors at the luxurious **Tu Tu' Tun Lodge & Spa**. **Endicott Gardens Bed & Breakfast + Spa** feels like a boutique hotel where gorgeous rooms sit nestled amidst dazzling gardens.

Brookings: **Beachfront Inn** offers affordable rooms with striking views & beach access. **AtRiver's Edge's** idyllic locale on the banks of the Chetco River offers cabins & RV sites.



WildSpring Guest Habitat



Cape Blanco Lighthouse, Manuela Durson

(Day 2, continued):
If you're hoping to stay at **Bandon Dunes Golf Resort**, plan well ahead & connect with their reservations team. Golf-only trips are also a great option for experiencing their seven authentic links golf courses, all ranking in the top 25 of the best public golf courses in America.

Bandon Crossings is a nice, more budget-friendly complement to the golf scene & offers power carts & a fine walking experience.

Coquille River Lighthouse is open to visitors & photographers & stands watch over the scenic **Bullards Beach State Park**.

DAY 3: CAPE BLANCO LIGHTHOUSE / PORT ORFORD

Forty minutes south of Bandon, **Cape Blanco Lighthouse** commands Oregon's western-most point. The fascinating town of **Port Orford** is another 20-minute drive & makes a fine home base for exploring.

Be sure to stop at **Cape Blanco Lighthouse**, the oldest operating lighthouse on the Oregon coast (open April to October). Check out the scenic bluff at **Cape Blanco State Park**.



Port Orford, Ken Hagen & Anton Hugo

The lovely little hamlet of **Port Orford** is home to a small fishing fleet & is protected by a natural headland. Admire the crane operators as they lower boats into the Pacific. Watch the dolly dock in action, order top-notch chowder & fish-n-chips at **The Crazy Norwegian's**, or linger at the clifftop **Redfish** restaurant to spy resident whales spouting off the port.

For a tiny town, it has an outsized art scene. Visit **Hawthorne Gallery** & others.

For excellent beach access, head to **Battle Rock Park**, where miles of sand arc to the south with terrific views of **Redfish Rocks Marine Reserve** & **Humbug Mountain**.

Port Orford Heads State Park features lovely, short hiking trails & the **Lifeboat Station Museum**, housed inside the historic station, showcases little-known WWII history.

DAY 4: GOLD BEACH / ROGUE RIVER

From Port Orford, it's a spectacular 30-minute drive to the welcoming town of Gold Beach. For most of the drive, the highway hugs the Pacific; watch for turnouts to capture hundreds of scenic photos.

BIKING FOR EVERYONE

Road: Ride along the pretty Elk River, explore cranberry bogs & take in towering sea stacks on the **Wild Rivers Coast Scenic Bikeway**.

Mountain Biking: **Whiskey Run (Bandon)** has over 60 single-track flow trails for every level rider, plus double black diamond jump lines.

Pine Grove Trail (Agness) is a downhill shredder's dream; catch epic mountain views as you plummet down to the **Wild & Scenic Rogue** & **Illinois Rivers** for a post-ride swim.

Hundred Acre Wood (Coquille) has banked every turn in this fun wooded trail in the city.

Fat Tire Biking: Push to the top then freeride down the massive Oregon Dunes in **John Dellenback Park** near Lakeside. Other fun trails include the 20-mile **Port Orford to Cape Blanco Route** & the **Bandon Beaches Route** (starting at Seven Devils State Recreation Site).

Biking maps & info:



Whiskey Run Trails, Dylan Van Weelden

PROPER EATS (NORTH TO SOUTH):

Coos Bay/North Bend: Local favorites include seasonally inspired **Wildflour Public House**, tasty eats for everyone at **Front Street Food Carts**, & great views & beer at **7 Devils Waterfront Ale House**.

Port Orford: **Redfish** pairs wow dishes with wow views. You can't get more ocean-to-table than the walk-up window at **Port Orford Sustainable Seafood**, which serves tasty plates from the daily catch.

Bandon: Tasty fish tacos & a lively marina scene are guaranteed at **Tony's Crab Shack** & **Bandon Fish Market**. Dine at upscale **Alloro Wine Bar**, fuel up at **Warehouse Coffee Cafe**, then finish with a chocolate treat from **Coastal Mist**.

Gold Beach: Fuel up for adventure at **Kissing Rock Coffee**, an award-winning organic roastery. It doesn't get fresher than **Woggy's Fish & Chips**, run by a local fishing family. Enjoy local comfort food at **Barnacle Bistro**.

Brookings: **Catalyst Seafood** serves fresh catch from their own fishing fleet. Don't miss craft cocktails & yummy eats at local distillery **Superfly Martini Bar & Grill** or wood-fired pizza on the waterfront at **Zola's**.

WILD RIVERS COAST FOOD TRAIL

Cranberry bogs, coastal breweries & sweet little farms, plus craft chocolatiers & cheesemakers ... are you hungry yet? Meet artisans & taste the South Coast's bounty on this experiential food trail.



7 Devils Brewery & Pub in Coos Bay


The Crazy Norwegian's in Port Orford

Take a selfie with the giant Tyrannosaurus Rex at **Prehistoric Gardens**, a classic roadside attraction with life-size dinosaur replicas. It's a must-stop for kids & kids at heart. Pro tip: do the loop at least twice!

Gold Beach is a beach lover's town with miles of scenic shoreline. Grab house-made pastries at **Leavened Bakery** then stroll along beautiful **Meyers Beach**. Or head one hour up the Rogue River for lunch in the tiny town of **Agness** at the **Old Agness Eatery & Shoppe**.

Ride the awesome **Wild & Scenic Rogue River** on **Jerry's Rogue Jets** tours, with adrenaline-pumping maneuvers through craggy canyons teeming with wildlife (choose from mild to wild tours).

Enjoy **Otter Point Trail**, an easy half-mile hike with expansive views over a secluded beach.

Visit in April & hunt for one of **1,500 Glass Floats** hidden along 1 mile of beach.

DAY 5-7: GOLD BEACH TO BROOKINGS & THE SAMUEL H. BOARDMAN STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

Get ready for some of the most dramatic coastline anywhere. The **Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor**, between Brookings and Gold Beach, boasts 12 miles of must-stop viewpoints and trail heads. Consider downloading maps as cell coverage can be spotty.

Rising **Cape Ferrelo** is an amazing spot for spring whale watching. A mile-long loop takes you out to a point with blowing seagrass, then saunters down to pretty **Lone Ranch Beach**. Or park at Lone Ranch Beach & wind up to the Cape's viewpoint.

Meyers Creek Beach is home to gigantic sea stacks & creature-filled tide pools. The south end of the beach becomes **Pistol River State Park**, famous for stellar kiteboarding.

Arch Rock picnic area is perfect for a lunch with superb views. Take a short walk down to an even more spectacular site of monolithic rocks emerging from the Pacific.

Natural Bridges is a must-see-it-to-believe-it stop. Seven ancient arches frame secluded coves & connect them with otherworldly cliffs.

A hike down to **Secret Beach** promises picture-perfect sea stacks in a quiet cove. Lots of wedding photos taken here!


Samuel H. Boardman Scenic Corridor, Cort Muller

GUIDES & OUTFITTERS

Fishing: Check out **Sharky's Charters** & **Betty Kay Charters** in Coos Bay, **5 Star Charters** in Gold Beach & **Port Orford Fishing Charters** in Port Orford. **South Coast Tours** offers guided fishing tours by boat & kayak from Port Orford & Brookings, including the not-to-be-missed "Fish, Forage & Feast," where guests fish for ling cod & crab, forage for subtidal sea critters & finish with a feast on the beach.

Paddling & Whitewater: **South Coast Tours** offers ocean & river wildlife kayaking, whitewater runs, fishing, surf lessons & more.

Oregon Dunes: **Spinreel Dune Buggy & ATV Rentals** as well as **Ridin' Dirty ATV Rentals** can set you up for otherworldly adventures.

Mountain Biking: **South Coast Tours** runs shuttles to the adrenaline-packed **Pine Grove** downhill trails; their "Pedal Paddle" tour includes MTB & kayaking the Rogue River.

Horseback Riding: **Bandon Beach Riding Stables** offers scenic beach rides.

Nature-Based Tours: **Wavecrest Discoveries** organizes naturalist-led excursions to the Oregon Dunes, local marshes, docks, tide pools & forests.

GET READY & GET GOING

travelsouthernoregoncoast.com
@southernoregoncoast


Horseback riding in Bandon



Meyers Creek Beach, Ken Hagen & Anton Hugo

CLOSEST AIRPORTS

North Bend /OTH - Direct flights from SFO. Seasonal non-stop from DEN
Crescent City/CEC - Direct flights from OAK (No. Cal.) & HHR (So. Cal.)
Medford/MFR - Direct flights from SFO
Note: flights may change seasonally

Don't miss **Indian Sands Trail**, a stunning 6-mile loop through forest, clifftops & sand dunes, as well as shorter hikes directly to the dunes & back. Nearby, the state's highest bridge stands above **Thomas Creek**.

Cape Sebastian promises sparkling panoramas, trails through Sitka spruce & wide-open (typically empty) beaches.

Make time for **Harris Beach State Park** near Brookings, with captivating intertidal areas & year-round campsites & yurts.

Brookings is the southernmost town on the Oregon Coast & offers a vibrant marina with a fresh-catch seafood market. Downtown, Black Trumpet Bistro & Superfly Distillery + Martini Bar make for a fun night out.

Explore the stellar fishing, redwood trails & tranquil swimming holes along the **Chetco River** (it meets the Pacific in Brookings). Anglers should not miss the fabled salmon run up the Chetco beginning in late September.

Heading further south? It's your last chance to dine or shop with no sales tax!

Cover photo: Brookings

v. Nov. 2026

TAKE YOUR TIME + TAKE CARE

Distance: 140 mi/225 km of adventure, tiny towns, coastal farms, working ports & trails for every type of explorer.

We'd love to help you plan your trip.
Reach out any time at
hello@travelsouthernoregoncoast.com

Please take care of yourself and the coast while you visit. Check tide tables, pack out what you take in & stay on trails.

SOUTHERN OREGON COAST



Silver Falls in Allegany, Manuela Durson