

5. Netarts/Happy Camp Beaches

Netarts has two good beach access points, with restrooms at both. Just north of the village of Netarts, take Happy Camp Road west down the hill. At the end of the road you will find a gravel parking lot near the mouth of Netarts Bay. From the parking lot, you can walk to the south along the bay or to the north with great views of Three Arch Rocks. This area has strong tidal currents and is unsafe for swimming.

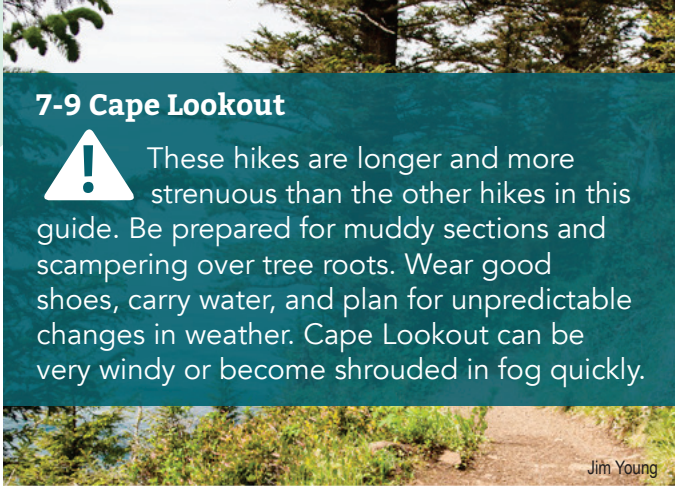
In Netarts, turn west off the main highway at Netarts Bay Drive. You will immediately see Netarts Bay and the County Boat Ramp parking lot. From the lot, walk west about 100 yards to the bay beach. A day-use parking fee is required.



6. Cape Lookout State Park/Netarts Spit

From Cape Lookout to the end of Netarts Spit lies a beach walker's paradise- seven unbroken miles of sandy beach. Start at the day-use area of Cape Lookout State Park. A day-use parking fee is required.

Access across the dunes from the campground is limited to marked trails due to ongoing erosion and dune restoration. Pick up a park brochure to enjoy a short loop with educational information located between the day-use area and campground.



7-9 Cape Lookout

 These hikes are longer and more strenuous than the other hikes in this guide. Be prepared for muddy sections and scampering over tree roots. Wear good shoes, carry water, and plan for unpredictable changes in weather. Cape Lookout can be very windy or become shrouded in fog quickly.

7. North Trail

North Trail crosses the cape and follows the coastline north 2.3 miles (4.6 miles round-trip) through the shaded forest and down to the park day-use area.

8. Cape Trail

Cape Trail, 4.8 miles round-trip, passes through a coastal forest of old spruce and hemlock trees to spectacular views of the ocean, Cape Kiwanda to the south, and Cape Meares to the north. The trail follows a steep cliffside with no rails. Look for marine birds and mammals, including migrating gray whales, at viewpoints throughout the trail.

9. South Trail

South Trail meanders 1.8 miles (3.6 miles round-trip) along the south side of the cape and connects down to the beach and a large rocky tidepool area.

10. Bayocean Spit

Turn right onto a long gravel road at the base of Bayocean Spit. A 7.8 mile loop takes you around the entire peninsula, from the ocean beach to an old road along Tillamook Bay. For shorter hikes, use one of the many trails that cut across the dune forest between the ocean and the bay.

Safety & Etiquette

- Pack it in, pack it out.
- Keep dogs on leash.
- Watch children closely.
- Do not climb cliffs or walk out onto rock faces.
- Be prepared for sudden weather changes.
- Watch for sneaker waves.



Tidepool Etiquette

- Touch gently. Tidepool animals are easily damaged.
- Check regulations. Many tidepool animals are protected by law.
- Watch your step. Take care not to step on any creatures.

Tsunami Safety

Beware of tsunami evacuation signs. If you feel an earthquake, see the seawater suddenly recede from the shoreline, head inland and uphill quickly. Even on headlands, immediately go inland in case of landslides.



Cape to Cape
on Foot

Netarts Area Trails and Beach Walks
from Cape Meares to Cape Lookout



Netartsbaytoday.org





Netarts Area Trails and Beach Walks

1. Cape Meares*   
2. Short Beach  
3. Tunnel Beach  
4. Oceanside Beaches*   
5. Netarts/Happy Camp Beaches*   
6. Cape Lookout State Park/Netarts Spit   
 
- Cape Trailhead
7. North Trail*
8. Cape Trail
9. South Trail*
10. Bayocean Peninsula Park  

* Part of the Oregon Coast Trail
a 360-mile walking route along
Oregon's coastline

Legend

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Viewpoint |  Camping |
|  Restroom |  Beach Access |
|  Trailhead/Parking | |

CAUTION: The Oregon Coast is a dynamic place. Be prepared for changes in weather, tides, and trail conditions. Use caution and be careful.

1. Cape Meares

The lighthouse parking lot at Cape Meares State Scenic Viewpoint is a great place to begin a walking tour of the area. To the west, two short paved trails lead to the Lighthouse (open late spring to early fall) with views of offshore rocks and seasonal seabird nesting sites, sea lions, and gray whales. To the east, follow a wide path up to the Octopus Tree, a Sitka spruce with a 50-foot base and large branches that give it its name. East past the Octopus Tree hike 0.4 miles (0.8 miles round-trip) through a shaded forest with old growth trees.

Another trailhead is at the parking lot outside the park entrance gate. To the left follow a short spur trail to view the largest Sitka Spruce in Oregon. To the right (north), the 1.6 mile round-trip trail is difficult as it passes through a large landslide area and leads to the beach below at low tide. oregonstateparks.org



Cape Meares Lighthouse

2. Short Beach

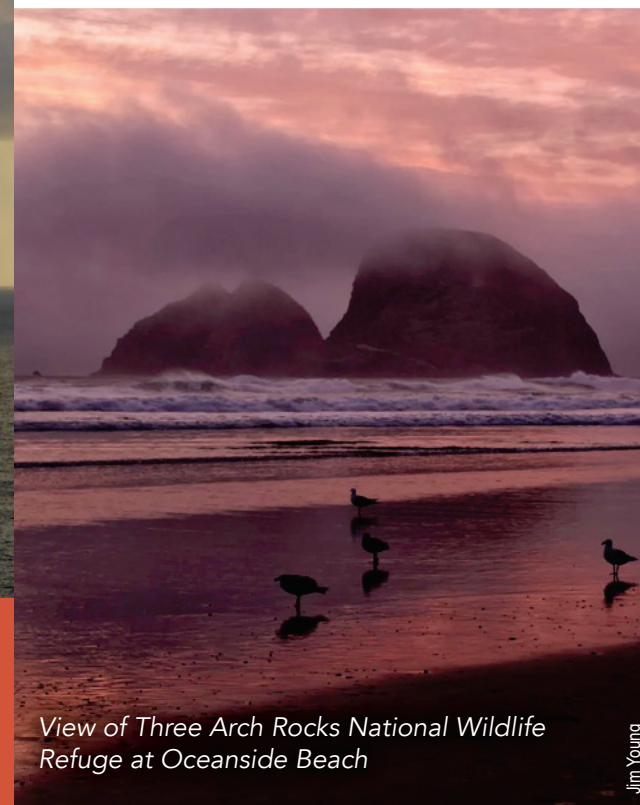
Look for a fence on the east side of the highway and a sign at the trailhead on the left. Parking is limited. The trail to the beach is short but steep, watch your step. All rocky islands along the Oregon Coast are part of the Refuge and are closed to the public to protect nesting seabirds.

3. Tunnel Beach

Park at the Oceanside Beach State Recreation Site. Maxwell Point juts out into the surf but a long tunnel through Maxwell Point allows access during low tide to this secluded beach. During some very low tides it may be possible to walk around Maxwell Point. Beach access varies with changing tides and beach conditions. During very low tides there are colorful tidepools to explore.

4. Oceanside Beaches

Oceanside Beach State Recreation Site provides a convenient day-use beach area with parking and public restrooms. From here, you can walk the beach south (left) to Happy Camp in Netarts. Walk north (right) along the beach for a warm basking spot on a windy day.



View of Three Arch Rocks National Wildlife Refuge at Oceanside Beach