

Discovery

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Ecola

Play it safe on the beach! Stay off logs, know the tide schedule, and don't turn your back on the ocean.

Wrapping around Tillamook Head between Seaside and Cannon Beach, Ecola State Park is a hiking and sightseeing mecca with a storied past.

Trails for Explorers

Ecola's trails are situated above nine miles of Pacific Ocean shoreline known as Tillamook Head. They offer clifftop viewpoints that look out on picturesque seascapes, cozy coves, forested capes and even a long-abandoned offshore lighthouse. Hikes vary from short day hikes to extended roundtrip adventures with hike-in camping.

Oregon Coast Trail (OCT)



The park's backbone is an 8-mile segment of the Oregon Coast Trail (OCT), also designated as part of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. From the Ecola Point parking lot, visitors can

either follow the OCT south on a 1 1/4 steep descent to Crescent Beach, or head north 1¹/₂ miles to Indian Beach. From here, the trail continues north over Tillamook Head for an additional 6 miles. Indian Beach also connects to the 2¹/₂ mile **Clatsop** Loop Trail (see trail description below).

OCT hikers can camp overnight in the primitive Hikers' Camp, which has three small Adirondack-style shelters. Each of these rustic structures sleeps four on bunk-style wooden platforms. They encircle a large fire ring and a central picnic shelter. A vault toilet is nearby, but the camp has no water. Collecting firewood is prohibited; it is available for purchase at the Hikers' Camp. Please remember that overnight parking is prohibited within Ecola State Park.

Clatsop Loop Trail

This 2¹/₂ mile loop begins at the information kiosk in the Indian Beach parking area, ascends to Hikers' Camp, and loops back to the parking lot via the OCT, passing breathtaking views of the coastline. Don't miss the Tillamook Rock Lighthouse viewpoint via a short spur trail from OCT Hikers' Camp.

Clatsop Loop traces the route used by a Corps of Discovery contingent led by Captain William Clark. The party, which included Sacajawea, was looking for a beached whale that they had learned of from area Indians. The explorers found the whale near a Native American village after descending to "a beautiful

sand shore" and crossing a stream, which Clark later named Ecola Creek, using the Chinook Indian word for whale (ekoli).

Outstanding views, picnicking and beach discoveries

The park's two main attractions are Ecola Point and Indian **Beach**. Each has viewpoints and picnic tables that take advantage of incredible scenery. Écola Point's trails lead to views of Tillamook Lighthouse, rocky shores and ocean expanses. A covered picnic shelter at Ecola Point can be reserved by calling 800-452-5687.

As its name implies, Indian Beach provides beach access and connects to the OCT and Clatsop Loop Trail. Both Indian Beach and nearby Crescent Beach are spacious and sandy with rocky areas for tidepool exploring.

Play it Safe

- Be alert to unexpected waves and incoming tides when exploring caves, offshore rocks and cliffsides.
- Stay on the trail; do not take shortcuts. In addition to being unsafe, this causes erosion and damages plant life.
- Cliff edges may be unstable. Please stay behind fences and railings. Keep children safely at your side and pets leashed (with a maximum 6-foot lead).

Getting to Ecola Point and Indian Beach

Enter the park from the north end of Cannon Beach. From 5th Street, head north on Ecola Park Road for 1 1/2 miles to the fee station. At the fee station, turn left to drop down into the Ecola Point parking lot or venture right and drive 2 miles to Indian Beach.

A day-use permit is required to park in Ecola. Purchase permits at the fee station or display a camping receipt, which serves as a daily permit for each day that you are registered. Alternately, vou may also display a 12-or 24-month permit or Oregon Pacific Coast Passport, which can be purchased from all major state park offices.

Parking at Ecola Point and Indian Beach is limited, and long lines form during the busy season from June to September. Please note that the road is narrow with no place to turn around, making it unsuitable for RVs and trailers. Parking is also available further north at Tillamook Head Trailhead, another entrance to the OCT.

Ecola Point

Ecola State Park

West of US 101, 2 miles N of Cannon Beach 84318 Ecola Park Rd. Cannon Beach. OR 97110 503-368-5154 (Nehalem Bay State Park)

> Latitude: 45.923055 N Longitude: -123.96777 W

STATE PARK

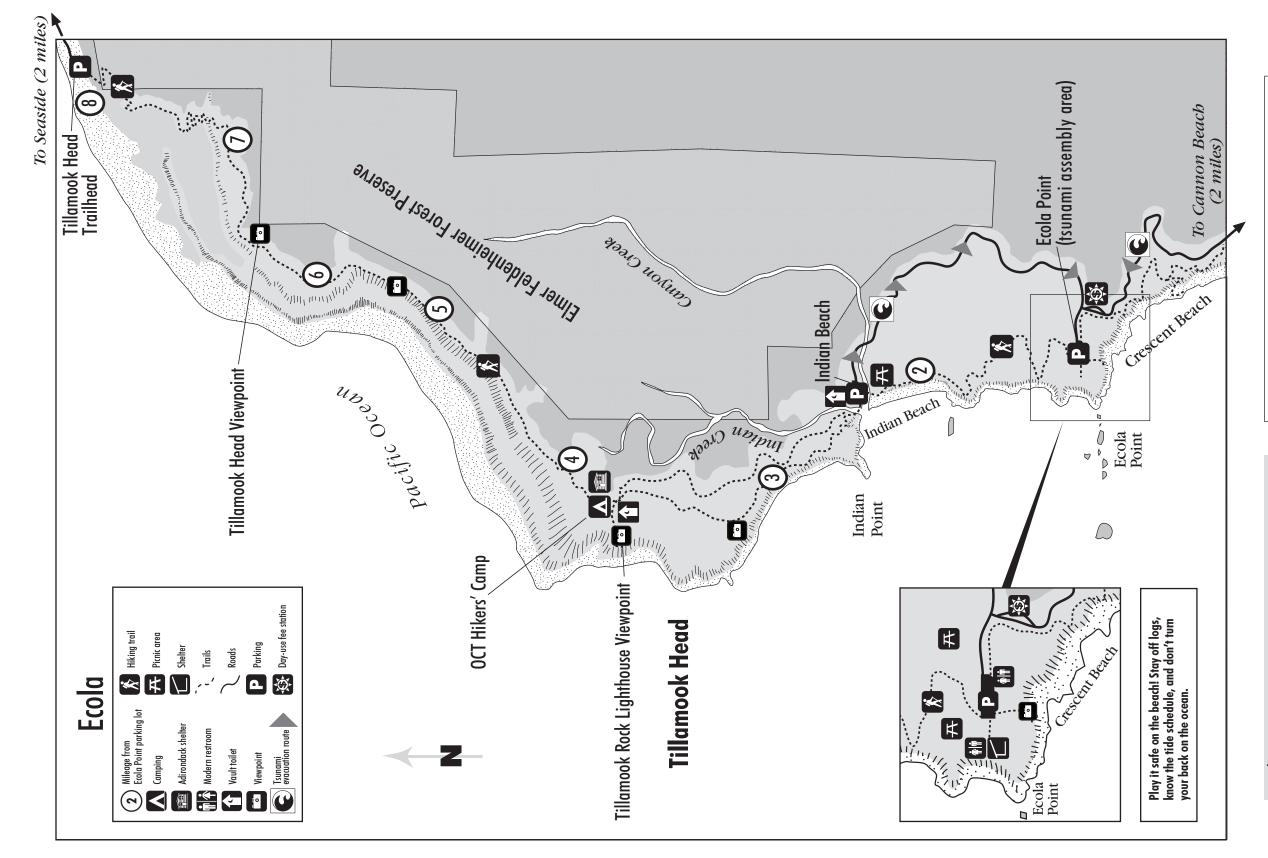


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Links with History

Ecola State Park is a part of the Lewis and Clark National and State Historical Park, which includes federal and state parks associated with the history of the Corps of Discovery expedition in both Oregon and Washington.







Smoking in Oregon State Parks is allowed only in personal vehicles, RVs, campsites and portions of day use parks along state highways that are designated as safety rest areas by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

All information or fees subject to change without notice. This brochure is available in alternative formats upon request. Call 1-800-551-6949. Oregon Relay for the hearing impaired: dial 711.