



NEWS RELEASE

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Tillamook Coast's 10 Best Outdoor Winter Adventures

Tillamook County, ORE., 2 FEB. 2016—[Visit Tillamook Coast](#) is releasing an insider's scoop on the top 10 outdoor winter adventures along Oregon's Tillamook Coast. VTC's director Nan Devlin points out that on Oregon's coast, winter does not mean continual rain; in fact, she says, weather is often mild and warm. Here are the top 10 favorite winter season activities, gathered from locals.

1. Beachcombing after the storm

Locals await eagerly the first seasonal storms, not only because they have a front row view of Mother Nature, but also for the summer-like calm that follows, and the treasures that wash up on the beaches. In winter's low tides, you can also spot the [Ghost Forest](#) of Neskowin, a 2,000-year old underwater petrified forest.

2. Catching Dungeness crab

[While crabbing is always in season](#), winter brings the biggest bounty. Drop traps in the five bays from a boat, or catch from a dock. Take them home in a cooler or get one of the fish processing companies at a nearby dock to cook them for you.

3. Kayaking winter water channels

The Tillamook Coast is a mecca for year-round paddle sports. Five estuaries are designated National Water Trails. But there are channels accessible only in winter during high tides. Take a guided paddle with [Kayak Tillamook](#) and discover the beauty of winter waterways.

4. Hiking waterfall trails

If you want to see waterfalls in all their gushing glory, winter is the time to do it. We have [several forest trails](#) that lead to waterfalls. Wear waterproof shoes, not because the trails are particularly muddy or wet, but because the forest's soft dewiness is in evidence everywhere.

5. SCUBA diving in the bays

Above water, the Tillamook coastline is beautiful. Under water, it's a fascinating environment that the few who love to dive are lucky enough to see. Discover the [six best places to dive](#) from local diver Brian Cameron.

6. Fishing for winter steelhead

Tillamook County's five main rivers start flowing with steelhead in December and January. From north to south, the Nehalem, Kilchis, Wilson, Trask and Nestucca Rivers are all top steelhead producers. And after a big rain, steelhead go from a fish of a thousand casts to one catch after another.

7. Surfing bigger waves

Cape Kiwanda attracts international surfers all year-round. You'll find neoprene-clad wave enthusiasts in the water from dawn to dusk, even during stormy weather. If the ocean looks too cold or wild for you, then grab a beer at the [Pelican Pub](#) and watch braver souls through the big oceanfront windows.

8. Camping and glamping

[Winter campers](#) find peaceful pleasures on the Tillamook Coast. Summer's crowds have left, and those pitching trailers, RVs or setting up in yurts (and even a few tents) find themselves among kindred spirits. The beaches are wide open, and you'll have trails to yourself. Bring a book, a journal and a cozy blanket, and let the stars be your reality show. [Nehalem Bay](#) and [Cape Lookout](#) state parks are open year-round.

9. Take an eco adventure on land or water

The Dairylands Tour from [Tillamook Eco Adventures](#) gives you a cow's eye view of local dairy farms and treats you to the storytelling skills of guide Brian Cameron. And [Garibaldi Charters](#), which is also a fishing charter boat, brings the bays and estuaries to life with a close-up peek of water habitats.

10. Checking off your bird and wildlife list

Be warned: birdwatching is addictive, as is wildlife viewing. And winter brings a wealth of possibilities, from migratory birds that find the Tillamook Coast a perfect place to spend the season, to magnificent elk herds that navigate their way from forest to beach. Bring your binoculars and camera, and start at [Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge](#) (Tip: [Kilchis Point Reserve](#) has a new birdwatching station!).

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About Visit Tillamook Coast

Oregon's Tillamook Coast is one of the state's natural wonders. Picturesque bays, inland waterways, forests, farmlands, rivers and ocean beaches offer visitors a wide range of nature-based activities from surfing, kayaking, fishing and clamming to beachcombing and hiking. Fresh seafood from river, bay, ocean to table is Tillamook's forte, as is world-famous cheese to casual breweries and wine tasting. The Tillamook Coast includes several villages, each with their own unique heritage, personality and charm sprawling from northern Nehalem Bay and Manzanita to southern Pacific City and cozy Neskowin. For more information and to plan your natural choice getaway, visit www.tillamookcoast.com.