

OREGON COAST JOURNEY · FREE GUIDE

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# Oregon Coast Family Travel Toolkit

Beaches, tide pools & happy kids —  
the stress-free family coast trip.

*The best family-friendly stops, what to pack for kids on the coast, rainy-day backups, and the little tricks that keep everyone happy from the car to the sand.*

YOURS FREE

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**Melinda · Oregon Coast Journey**

Your Oregon Coast & Cruise Guide

[oregoncoastjourney.com](http://oregoncoastjourney.com)

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# The easy family coast trip

*Wide safe beaches, tide pools, and small adventures — the Oregon Coast is built for families.*

Few places make a family trip this easy: gentle beaches to run on, tide pools full of starfish, an aquarium, sand dunes to tumble down, and towns where kids are welcome everywhere. This toolkit helps you pick the right stops, pack the right gear, and keep the whole crew happy.

## HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

Skim the family stops, pack from the kid kit, and keep the rainy-day list handy. The golden rule with coast kids: **layers, snacks, and low-tide timing.**

## What's inside

- 01 **Best family stops** on the coast
- 02 **The kid packing kit**
- 03 **Rainy-day backups** & car tricks
- 04 **Ready to go** — and a cruise idea

## SECTION 01

# Best family stops

*Kid-approved, parent-friendly — the ones worth building a day around.*

### NEWPORT

#### Oregon Coast Aquarium

Sea otters, a walk-through shark tunnel, and touch pools. The coast's top rainy-day-proof family stop.

### CANNON BEACH

#### Haystack Rock tide pools

Starfish, anemones, and puffins at low tide. Free, magical, and endlessly re-visitable.

### SEASIDE

#### Prom, arcade & carousel

Wide flat beach, bumper-car nostalgia, and taffy. The classic easy family beach day.

### FLORENCE

#### The Oregon Dunes

Giant sand hills to climb and roll down; dune buggy and sandboard rentals for bigger kids.

### TIME IT WITH THE TIDE

Tide pools only show at low tide. Check a tide app, aim for a minus tide, and bring [kids' water shoes](#) so little hands can look without slipping.

# The kid packing kit

*Coast weather swings — pack so nobody's cold, wet, or bored.*

## Don't-forget gear

- Kids' rain jackets — rain jackets for everyone; coast showers pass fast but arrive without warning.
- Warm layers — warm layers and a change of clothes per kid (sand + water = wet kids).
- Beach sand toys — sand toys and a bucket; the beach entertains for hours.
- Water shoes — water shoes for tide pools and cold streams.
- A folding beach wagon — a wagon to haul gear (and tired kids) across soft sand.
- Snacks & water bottles — snacks and a water bottle each; hungry beach kids melt down fast.

## THE WET-KID RULE

Keep a dry outfit and a towel per child in the car. A warm, dry change turns a cold, cranky ride home into a happy one.

# Rainy-day backups & car tricks

*A little planning keeps grey mornings from derailing the day.*

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## When it rains (it's usually brief)

- **Aquarium & museums** — Newport's aquarium, Astoria's maritime museum, and the Tillamook creamery are all indoor wins.
- **Factory & taffy tours** — watch cheese, ice cream, or saltwater taffy being made.
- **Suit up anyway** — in rain gear, a drizzly tide-pool hunt is an adventure, not a washout.

## Happy-car tricks

- Download shows/podcasts before you lose signal on 101.
- Pack a [travel activity kit](#) of small surprises for the winding stretches.
- Plan stops every hour — viewpoints and beaches double as leg-stretch breaks.

# Ready for the family coast trip?

*A few easy next steps — and how I can help.*

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DREAMING OF A CRUISE, TOO?

## The ultimate family trip floats

When the kids are a little older, a cruise is the easiest family vacation there is — kids' clubs, pools, and a new adventure each day while you relax. I plan those free, too.

[See Today's Cruise Deals »](#)

## Let me plan it for you — free

Whether it's a coast getaway or a cruise, tell me your dates and who's coming and I'll build you a simple plan at the best price. No fee, no obligation.

[Plan our family coast trip »](#)

Or just reply to any email from me — I read every one myself.

**Refer a friend — you both win.** Know someone planning a coast trip or a cruise? When they book with me, **you both** get a thank-you. Just have them mention your name.

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