Oregon Coast Campground Reservation Window, Hookup, and Beach Access Comparison Sheet

> **Companion Reference Sheet for:** Oregon Coast Camping Beaches: Check Rules and Reservation Needs
> Save this PDF to your phone or print a copy for field reference. Verify local conditions and manufacturer specs before use.

Key Takeaways

- **Public beach access does not grant permission to camp on the sand.** Choose a designated campground and follow the rules set by its land manager.
- **Reservations depend on the operator and campground.** Some sites take advance bookings, while others may offer first-come, first-served camping or walk-up options. Start with our directory of beaches and parks associated with camping.
- **State, county, and federal campgrounds may use different booking systems.** Identify the operator before you search for a campground reservation.
- **Availability does not guarantee a suitable site.** Match the site capacity, vehicle fit, driveway length, and facilities to your group and equipment.
- **Same-day reservations and walk-ups are not guaranteed.** Keep another campground in mind as a backup.
- **Review alerts and access information before departure.** A campground can be open while a route to the beach or a specific facility is restricted.

Beach camping means more than a campsite near the shore

Campground or area	Known setting or measurement	What to consider
South Beach State Park	Year-round camping, yurts, hiking and biking trails, and an interpretive center.	Check the booked site's location, facilities, and route to the beach. Day-use parking and campground parking are separate planning details.
Cape Lookout State Park	The Cape Lookout Trail extends 2.5 miles to the end of the cape.	Consider whether your group wants a campground stay with beach access, hiking, or both. Review the site type and trail conditions for your travel dates.
Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area	The coastal dunes stretch for 40 miles along the Oregon coast.	Identify the specific campground and federal land manager. Recreation areas can include different access points and rules.
Tillicum Beach Campground	Most of its 61 campsites have beachfront views, according to the U.S. Forest Service.	A beachfront view describes the campsite setting, not permission to camp on the sand. Check the campground's rules for beach access and overnight stays.

Step-by-step field checklist for Oregon Coast camping

- ☐ **Choose the beach area.** Decide whether you want a sandy beach, tidepools, dunes, trails, or a protected cove.
- ☐ **Identify the land manager.** Determine whether the campground is state, county, federal, or privately operated.

☐ **Confirm the overnight location.** Book a designated campground unless the responsible manager expressly permits camping somewhere else.

☐ **Read the campground rules.** Check seasonal operation, fires, pets, quiet hours, vehicle limits, and beach-access conditions.

☐ **Match your site to your group.** Verify capacity, tent or RV allowance, driveway length, hookups, and accessibility.

☐ **Book through the correct system.** Review the calendar, reservation terms, payment details, and check-in instructions.

☐ **Prepare a backup plan.** Identify another campground or date in case your first choice is full.

☐ **Recheck before departure.** Look for closures, alerts, and changed access information, then save your confirmation and arrival details.

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