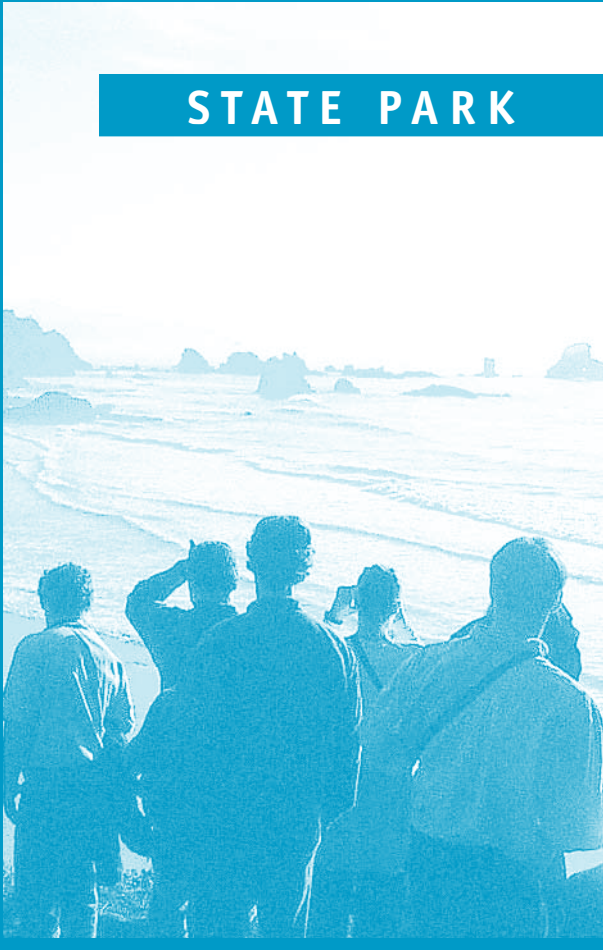




Ecola

STATE PARK



Ecola State Park

West of US 101, 2 miles N of Cannon Beach



Latitude: 45.923055 N
Longitude: -123.96777 W

Pack it in, pack it out. Please don't litter.

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

Park Information:

1-800-551-6949

www.oregonstateparks.org

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

Trails with cliffside viewpoints above nine miles of Pacific Ocean shoreline overlook picture postcard seascapes, cozy coves, densely forested promontories and even a long-abandoned offshore lighthouse. The trail network includes an eight-mile segment of the Oregon Coast Trail (OCT)—the park's backbone—and a 2 1/2-mile historical interpretive route called the Clatsop Loop Trail.

The Oregon Coast Trail's route over Tillamook Head is also designated as part of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Hiking options vary from roundtrip adventures to shorter hikes originating from Ecola Point, Indian Beach and the small parking wayside on the north side of the head in Seaside. From Ecola Point, visitors can follow the OCT 1 1/2 miles to Indian Beach or descend a steeper, more difficult 1 1/4-mile trail to Crescent Beach.

On the Clatsop Loop Trail, you can generally trace a route used by a Corps of Discovery contingent led by Captain William Clark on a January 8 hike from its 1805-06 winter quarters at Fort Clatsop. 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").

The Clatsop Loop Trail follows what is now a road ascending from its Indian Creek trailhead to a hikers' camp. It then leads back to its starting point along a segment of the OCT. Maps are available at the Indian Beach trailhead.

Camping for Hikers

The hikers' camp at the summit of the Clatsop Loop Trail is primitive in nature, but it does have three small, adirondack-style shelters. Each of these rustic structures sleeps four on bunk bed-style wooden platforms. They circle a large fire ring and a central picnic shelter. A vault toilet is nearby, but the camp has no water. Camper parking is allowed in the Indian Beach turnaround, only. Call 1-800-551-6949 for more information.

Year-Round Picnicking

Picnic areas with tables are near viewpoints at Ecola Point and Indian Beach parking areas. A covered picnic shelter at Ecola Point is reservable for group use through Reservations Northwest (1-800-452-5687). Ecola Point is 1 1/2 miles above the park's vehicle entrance near Cannon Beach.

Day-Use Area Pass

Day-use permits are required year-round in Ecola State Park. You'll need to display either a daily permit, a 12- or 24-month permit, an Oregon Coast Passport or a state park camping receipt. Your camping receipt, which is equal to a daily permit for those days registered at any state park campground, should be displayed on the driver side of your dashboard. You may purchase a daily permit at the entrance booth or from a nearby yellow vending machine. The 12- and 24-month permits are sold at major state park offices. You can also order one over the phone at 1-800-551-6949.

Beach Discoveries

You do not have to be on a trail to explore the wonders of Ecola State Park. You also have two spacious, sandy beaches—Crescent Beach and Indian Beach—to choose from. Both are especially notable for tide pools and are destinations of Rocky Shores Tide Pool Interpretive Program tours in July and August.

Play it Safe

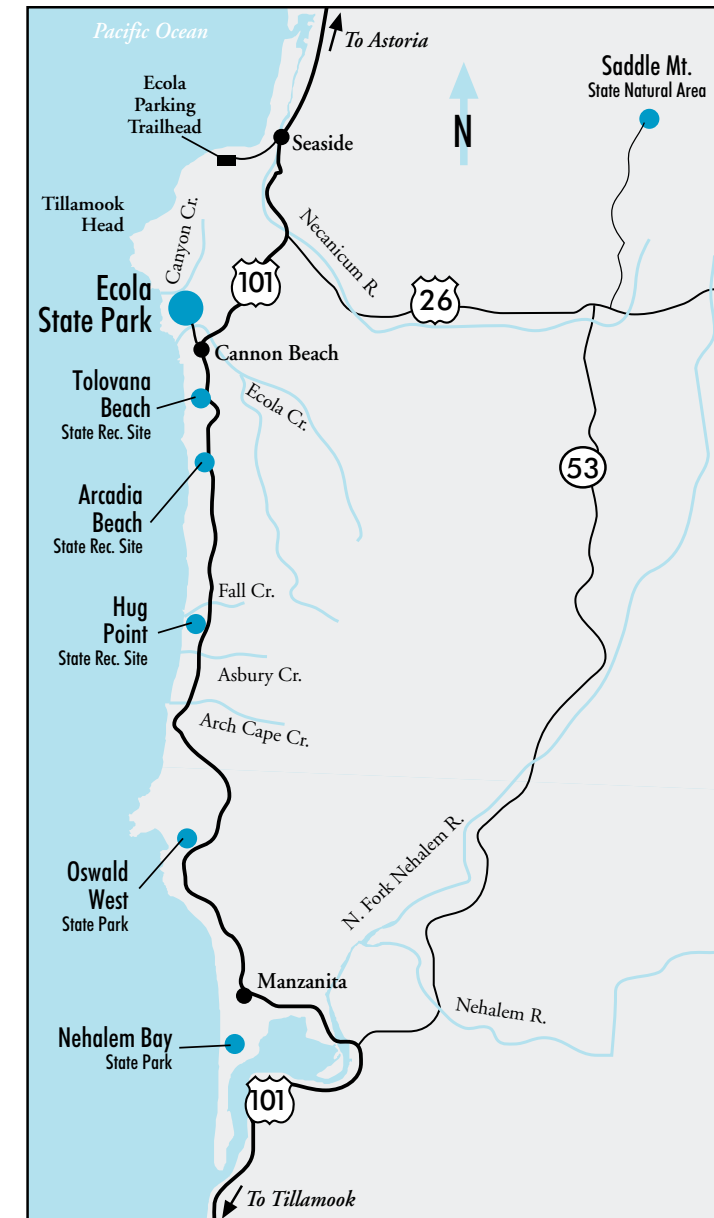
Enjoy the beaches, but for your own safety, read and comply with the safety rules posted at all state park beach access points. Be alert to the dangers posed by unexpected waves, and be aware of the tide when exploring caves, offshore rocks and cliffsides.

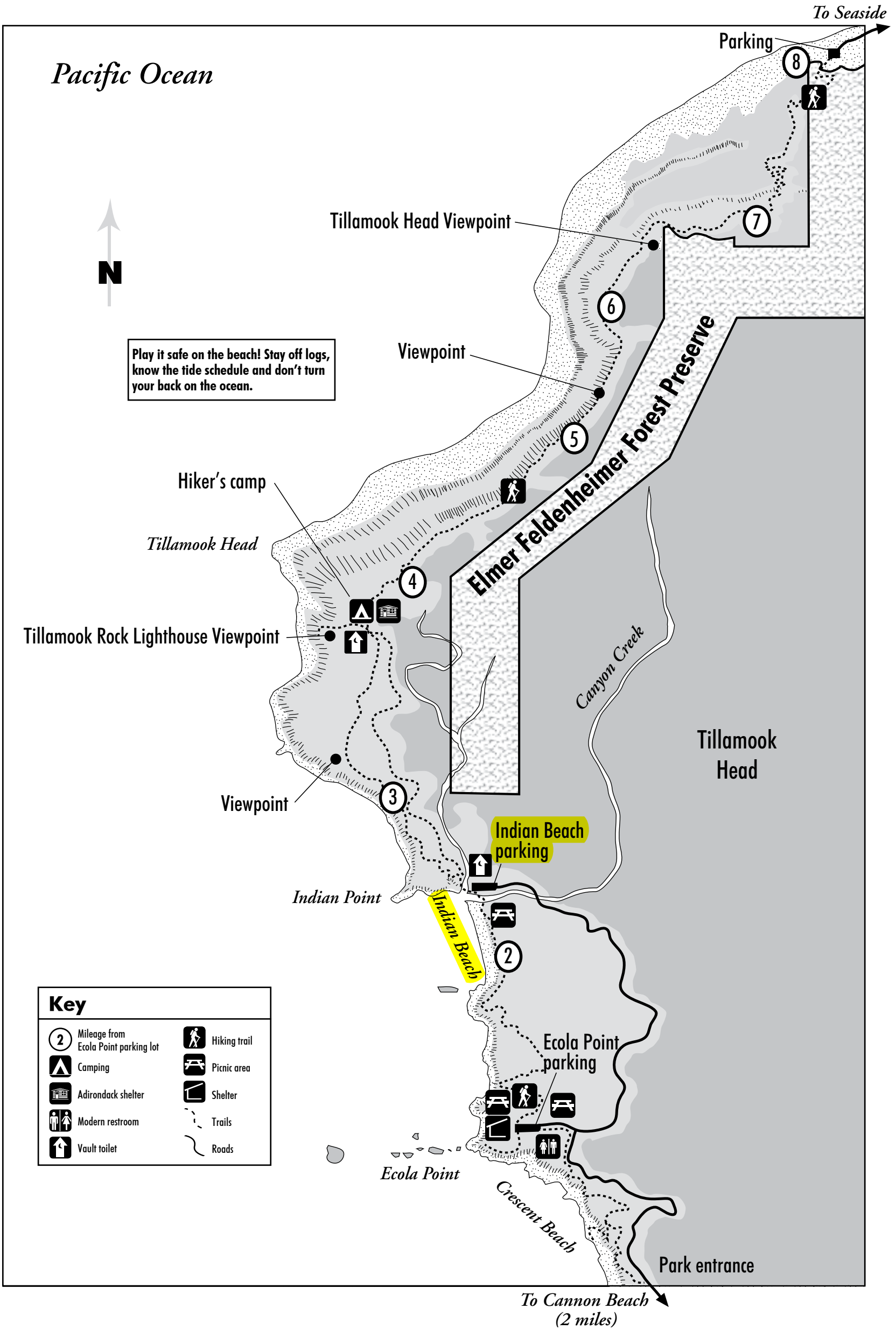
Please stay on the trail. Do not shortcut switchbacks. Cutting across switchbacks is unsafe, and damages the soil and plant life. Use common sense and caution on the trail, and take care not to overexert yourself. This is a remote area.

Cliff edges may be unstable. Please stay behind fences and railings to avoid getting too close to the edge. Keep children safely at your side and all pets leashed (maximum 6-foot lead).

Links with History

Ecola State Park is a part of the new 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.





This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Write to Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301. You may also call 1-800-551-6949 or 1-800-735-2900 (Oregon Relay for the hearing impaired).