



Stay Safe, Hike Happy

- Trails are for walking or hiking only. Please help prevent erosion and damage to native vegetation by staying on developed trails.
- Anytime your pet is not confined to a vehicle, you must hold on to it physically, whether by the collar or on a six foot leash. Waste must be properly removed; pet waste removal bags are placed throughout the park.
- Bring plenty of water and wear sturdy hiking boots or shoes.



Check out other
Oregon State Parks by visiting
www.oregonstateparks.org

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

All fees, policies or features mentioned in this publication are subject to change without notice.



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This brochure is available in alternative formats on request.
Write to OPRD, 725 Summer St. NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301;
or call 800-551-6949 (for the hearing impaired 1-800-735-2900).

63400-8902 (04/12)



Oswald West State Park



Short Sand, Big Fun

Popular with surfers and boogie boarders, Short Sand Beach is always alive. Think surf fishing, picnicking, tide pooling. Cape Falcon to the north and Neah-Kah-Nie Mountain to the south flank this short beautiful beach.

What's Close By

To the north: Hug Point, Arcadia Beach and Tolovana Beach. All gorgeous! Continue north and take in the beauty of Ecola State Park. To the south, you can enjoy the beaches and camping at Nehalem Bay State Park. Visit www.oregonstateparks.org for more.

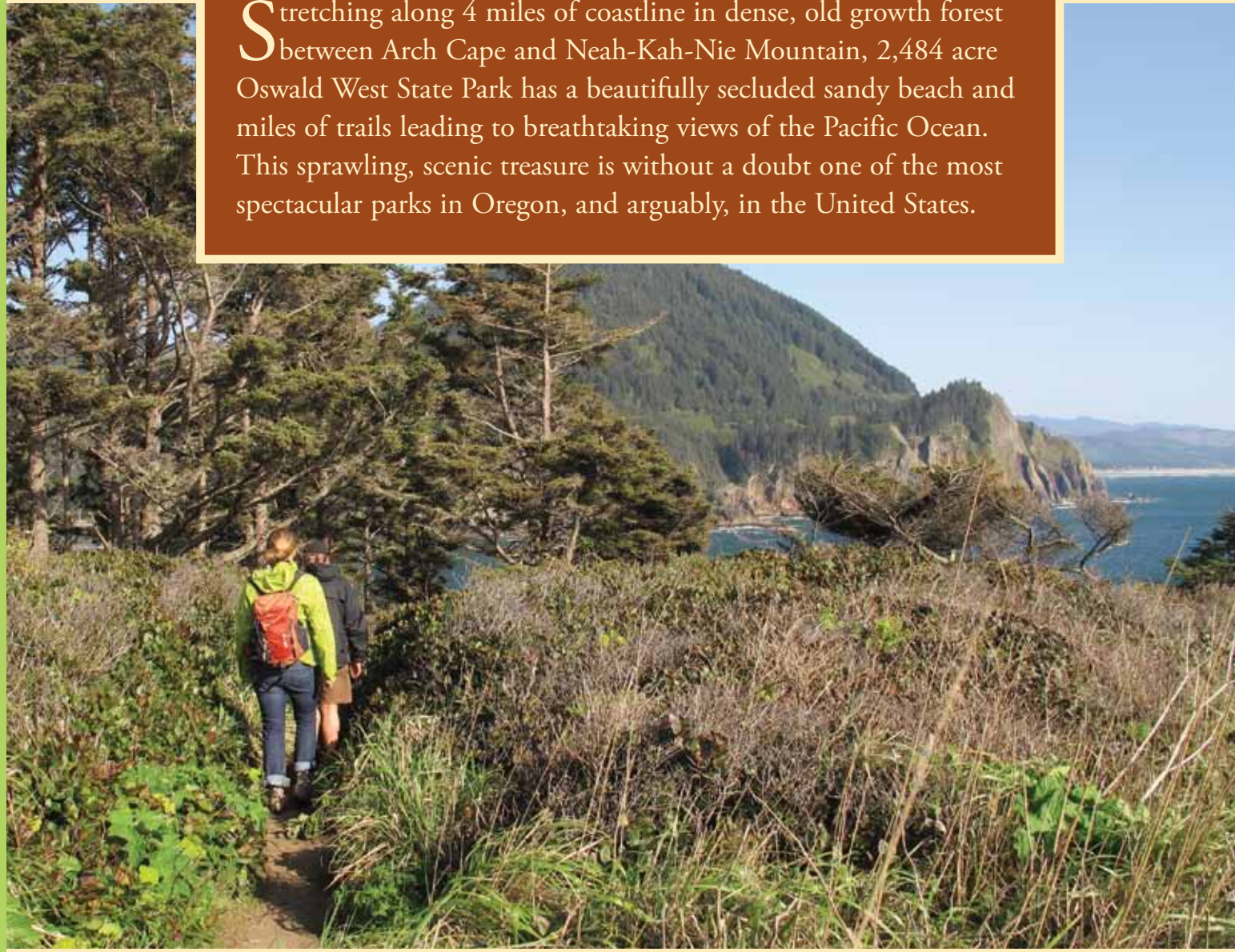
Oregon's Visionaries

The park, nicknamed "Shorty's" by the locals, is here in no small measure because of two men: Sam Boardman, Oregon's first State Park Superintendent, and Governor Oswald West, for whom the park was eventually named.

In 1931, 118 acres were donated to the State of Oregon under the name of Short Sand Beach State Park. A patchwork of donations and purchases followed, thanks largely to the dogged pursuit of land acquisition by Sam Boardman, who believed that coastal lands in particular should be set aside for public ownership and care.

The park was renamed in 1958, in honor of Governor Oswald West. This remarkable one-term Governor (1911-1915) opened nearly 400 miles of Oregon shoreline for public access by declaring the beaches a public highway.

Stretching along 4 miles of coastline in dense, old growth forest between Arch Cape and Neah-Kah-Nie Mountain, 2,484 acre Oswald West State Park has a beautifully secluded sandy beach and miles of trails leading to breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean. This sprawling, scenic treasure is without a doubt one of the most spectacular parks in Oregon, and arguably, in the United States.



Baby Harbor Seal



Trillium



Necarney Creek

Explore the Trails!

Park in one of four parking lots along Highway 101 and follow the trails into one of the best preserved coastal rainforests in Oregon. Low-growing ferns, salal, and salmon-berry are shaded by massive western red cedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce trees that form the basis of the temperate coastal rainforest ecosystem that exists only in the Northwest. Oswald West does not offer camping.

Short Sand Beach Trail

This short, ½ mile walk leads through the woods to the beach. From the main parking lot, walk under Highway 101 and down the trail, following the contours of Short Sand Creek. Cross the creek on a railroad-style bridge and you'll find yourself at a beautiful picnic area overlooking the beach.

Old Growth Forest Trail

The Old Growth Forest Trail and its several offshoots are located between Necarney and Short Sand Beach Trails. This trail system is easily accessible.

Moderate to Difficult Hiking Trails

A 13-mile stretch of the Oregon Coast Trail (OCT) bobs and weaves its way through the entire park, starting at the community of Arch Cape and extending south to the town of Manzanita. Two prominent headlands, Cape Falcon and Neah-Kah-Nie Mountain, are included in the trail system and offer great hikes.

Cape Falcon Trail

The 2½ mile Cape Falcon Trail begins at the northwest parking lot along Highway 101. A quick ½ mile hike to the Kramer Memorial gives way to a brilliant overlook of Short Sand Beach. Continue the rest of the way out to Cape Falcon, through the high-growing salal, where on a clear day you can see north all the way to Tillamook Head and south to Cape Lookout.

Short Sand Beach



Neah-Kah-Nie Mountain

Begin at either the northern or southern trailheads. Hike up through beautiful old growth forests until you emerge at the summit for a breathtaking view south all the way to Cape Lookout. In the spring, watch for wildflowers, such as Oregon iris, harsh paintbrush and nodding onion.

North Neah-Kah-Nie Trail: Located where the OCT crosses Highway 101 at a gravel pullout. Look for the OCT hiker sign.

South Neah-Kah-Nie Trail: Located just outside of the park's southern boundary off Highway 101. Follow the hiker sign up a gravel road ¼ mile until you reach a small parking lot.

Other Trails

Hike north from Cape Falcon on a beautiful 6½ mile section of the OCT up to Arch Cape. Or, take the short walk out to the Devil's Cauldron overlook from Hwy 101.

Oswald West State Park TRAIL GUIDE

