

Catch of the Day

A 3-Day Itinerary of Newport for Seafoodies, Gourmets and Craft Beer Aficionados

There are many reasons to visit Newport, Oregon, and fresh seafood is one of the best! Explore our diverse restaurants for the many “Catch of the Day” lunch and dinner options, purchase a variety of fresh seafood from the docks of the Historic Bayfront or harvest your own meal deep sea fishing, clamming or crabbing.

Day One: Drive from Portland to picturesque McMinnville, and stop for lunch at one of the many great eateries in Oregon Wine Country. Continue southwest through the Willamette Valley to Lincoln City for some tax-free shopping at Lincoln City Outlets. Drive down Highway 101 approximately 30 minutes further to the amazing City of Newport, The Coast You Remember!

Once you have settled into one of the many diverse lodging choices, make your way down to Newport’s Historic Bayfront for an amazing dinner. There are numerous great dining options along the Bayfront including Saffron Salmon, Rogue Public House, Fish Peddler’s Market and others. Local Ocean is also a favorite stop; choose between market-style dining with a spectacular view of the harbor and Yaquina Bay Bridge downstairs, or sit upstairs for a more intimate dinner with an impressive view of the Pacific Ocean and Coast Range. Enjoy premier seafood offerings, most of which arrive daily at the docks directly across the street, are provided by local fishermen and are guaranteed to be the freshest, highest quality available.

After dinner, stroll along Newport’s Historic Bayfront to enjoy the harbor at night, step into one of several bars or taverns for a local craft beer, cocktail or glass of wine, or travel to the Newport Performing Arts Center, located in Nye Beach. The Performing Arts center has a complete schedule of evening events that features a variety of local and nationally recognized performances and presentations.

Day Two: Wake to the soothing sound of the ocean, and return to the Bayfront for breakfast at The Coffee House. This turn of the century cottage serves up gourmet breakfasts, featuring fresh crab cakes, massive pancakes, and a variety of pastries with an amazing morning view of the Bayfront.

After breakfast, enjoy Newport’s Historic Bayfront, home to Oregon’s largest commercial fishing fleet. Browse the art galleries, boutiques, and gift shops that share space with working canneries and fish processing plants. If purchasing whole fresh seafood to prepare is on your list, “Off the Boat” purchases may be made directly from fishermen at the docks or from a variety of markets, most of which will also fillet and pack “Off the Boat” purchases.

For fresh Yaquina Bay Oysters, take the short drive up Yaquina Bay Road to Oregon Oyster Farms, harvesting oysters since 1907. Located on the panoramic Yaquina Bay estuary, the Oregon Oyster Farms sell oysters on the half-shell ready to eat, bulk oysters by the dozen and oyster meat by the pint or gallon; try some of the special seasoning, also available for purchase.

Return to the Bayfront for lunch at Mo’s Restaurant, and try a bowl or cup of their world famous clam chowder. With a spot of butter in the center of hearty clam chunks and served with fresh baked bread, the creamy chowder is second to none. Mo’s clam chowder starter may also be purchased, and can be packaged and then shipped anywhere in the world.

After lunch, enjoy some of the many interesting places that help make Newport a one of a kind beach destination. Drive over to South Beach, across the iconic Yaquina Bay Bridge from the

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Historic Bayfront, and visit the nationally recognized Oregon Coast Aquarium, which is often referred to as “a living classroom” and has amazing exhibits and limited installations. Continue to learn about aquatic ecosystems with a short trip over to Oregon State University’s Hatfield Marine Science Center, where marine biologists discuss current oceanic research and scientific findings. Finish the experience with some tax-free shopping at Aquarium Village, a nautically themed shopping center specializing in antiques, gifts and local arts and crafts.

It’s time to expand your knowledge of craft brewing and distilling with a visit to Rogue Ales Brewery and Headquarters! Take a comprehensive tour of the brewery, museum (Roguesonian), Rogue House of Spirits, and discover why Rogue has been nationally recognized as a premier pioneer in the microbrew and small batch distilling industry. Tours begin at 3:00 p.m. daily and conclude with a delicious dinner complimented with a choice of over 40 taps of beer, or freshly distilled spirits or cocktails.

Day Three: Whether you rise early or sleep late, a great breakfast awaits at Newport Café. This one-of-a-kind family style diner is known and loved for large, tasty portions of comfort food. Located on the corner of 6th Street and Highway 101, Newport Café is situated to send you off exploring in the direction of your choice!

Would you like to spend the day gathering your own seafood? How about digging for clams, crabbing or catching your own fish? Maybe you would like to try crabbing, because, after all, Newport is the Dungeness Crab Capital of the World! Newport’s beaches offer some of the best razor clams, mussels and bay clams on the coast that may be harvested at low or minus tides. The Yaquina Bay is also a great place to dig for clams, and one of the best areas to catch Dungeness crab. Contact Oregon Department of Wildlife at www.dfw.state.or.us or call the Shellfish Information Line at 503-986-4729 for licensing, harvesting regulations, prime locations, tide tables, and equipment rental information. Would you like to reserve a boat for bay crabbing or go deep sea fishing for salmon, halibut and a variety of other ocean delicacies? Schedule a chartered boat from one of these preferred services: Dockside Charters, Marine Discovery Tours, Newport Marina Store and Charters, Inc., Newport Tradewinds, or Yaquina Bay Charters.

If you would rather do something other than catch your dinner, Newport offers many alternatives for adventure. Drive just north of Agate Beach to the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area, where you might spot a whale or two from the top of the 93 foot tall Yaquina Head Lighthouse, Oregon’s tallest lighthouse, and one of two lighthouses in Newport (The other one is the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse, located just north of the bridge and also available to tour).

Fly a kite, search for agates and other nautical treasures, or just relax on Agate Beach, where golf, several tax-free shopping centers and a cinema are also accessible. Trek further south to Nye Beach, another great seashore for beachcombing and kite flying, and connected to a quaint neighborhood with galleries, gift shops and boutiques to browse. Make sure to satisfy your sweet-tooth with a stop at Nye Beach Sweets, specializing in local and regional chocolates, ice cream, fudge, and other sweets.

Nye Beach is also home to some great lunch options. Enjoy rich and creamy clam chowder out of a bread bowl, or other succulent “catch of the day” options at the Chowder Bowl, a local

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favorite since 1980. Another lunch option is Nana's Irish Pub, featuring seafood favorites as well as traditional Irish fare, such as corned beef and cabbage, bangers and mash, and shepherd's pie, complimented with a Guinness, Smithwicks or Harp beer, Irish cocktails, or regional wine. In addition, Nye Beach boasts some great dinner choices, such as "farm to fork" seasonal, sustainable seafood offerings at April's at Nye Beach, or try Starfish Grill, located at the Agate Beach Inn, and specializing in "surf and turf" menu options.