



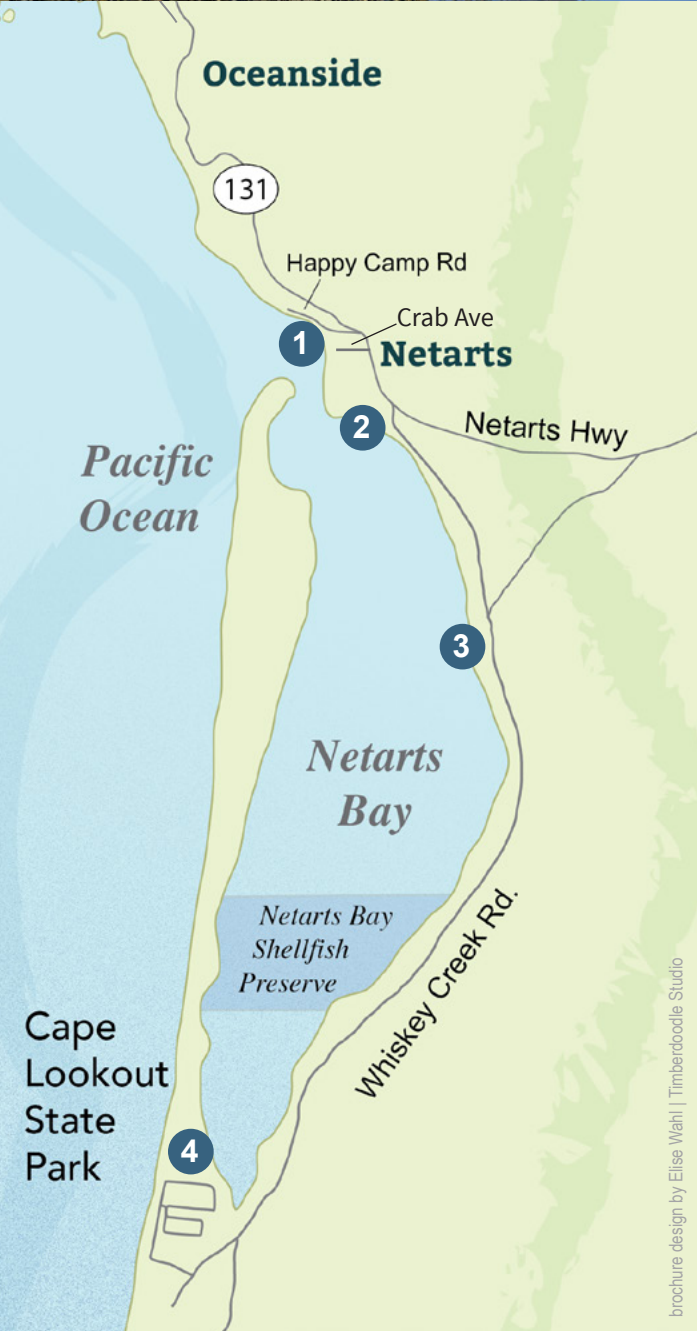
Netarts Bay

OREGON



Jim Young

Netarts Bay *Visitor Guide*



brochure design by Elise Wahl | Timberdoodle Studio

Safety Information

For emergencies, call 9-1-1.
Netarts Oceanside Fire & Rescue
1235 5th Street Loop, (503) 842-5900.

Tides

CAUTION: Be mindful of outgoing tides, currents, winds, and ocean conditions. These conditions can change quickly. The mouth of the bay can be unpredictable.

Fires

Check local fire restrictions before building any fires. Beach fires should be built with small pieces of wood and be far away from any vegetation, beach grass, or driftwood. Completely extinguish all beach fires by dousing with water, not just burying the fire in sand.

Access

1. Happy Camp Rd. - walking and kayaks
West Crab Ave. - walking
2. Netarts Boat Launch - paved boat launch
3. Netarts Bay Wayside - clamming and kayaks
4. Cape Lookout State Park - walking



Here for Oregon. Here for Good.
Salty Dog Fund



photograph by Jim Young

Netartsbaytoday.org



Welcome to Netarts!

History of a Place and People

Originally called Ne-ta-at, meaning “near the water” by the native Tillamook people, Netarts Bay is a land full with natural resources. Most local Native Americans resided on the spit to the west, using the creek outlets to the east as gathering places and harvesting sites. They used boats carved from local timber for fishing, hunting, and trade.

Euro-American occupation began in 1856 with settlers building hamlets around Whiskey Creek and at the mouth of the bay. Activities focused on logging and oyster harvesting. Small schooners connected remote Netarts to San Francisco.



Happy Camp, 1924

Beginning in 1880, Netarts became known as a place to vacation. Rustic camps were used in Happy Camp and Oceanside areas. Automobiles rode into Netarts around the 1920's. By the 1930's several public parks and viewpoints were established between Cape Meares and Cape Lookout. Learn more at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum- tcpm.org.

Natural History and Preservation

Covering fourteen square miles, the Netarts Bay watershed consists of the surrounding hills, valleys and creeks entering the bay, also known as an estuary. An estuary is a place where freshwater and saltwater meet. The bay is one of the saltiest estuaries on the Oregon Coast because it has very few freshwater sources. This briny environment is ideal for a variety of fish, plants, invertebrates, mammals and birds.

Netarts Bay is a unique place to find both terrestrial birds and seabirds. Look for brown pelicans, great blue herons, cormorants, buffleheads, surf scoters, and loons, among many others. The bay supports several native eelgrass beds integral to the survival of many

species, including the Brant, a small goose that breeds in the Arctic tundra.

While Netarts Bay remains one of the least developed estuaries on the Oregon coast, human influence can help or hurt this sensitive ecosystem. On your visit to Netarts, please respect the wildlife and natural areas, leaving each place as you found it. Or better yet, volunteer with a local stewardship group. Information at netartsbaytoday.org.



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Recreation Opportunities

Birding, clamming, crabbing, kayaking, and hiking are all popular activities. To preserve the future of this special location, please follow safety guidelines and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department regulations.

Kayaking

To plan a kayaking trip in the bay, pick up a Tillamook County Water Trail Guide for Netarts. The Water Trail, a National Recreation Trail, celebrates the value of Tillamook County's waterways. More info at Tillamook Estuaries Partnership- tbnep.org

Clamming and Crabbing

Gathering bay clams and crabbing are favorite pastimes. To preserve these shared resources, check regulations about size, limits, and warnings. A shellfish license is required. Harvest with sustainability in mind. More info at ODFW- dfw.state.or.us Shellfish Safety Hotline- 800-448-2474.

Netarts Landing Boat Launch, located off Netarts Bay Drive, has a restroom, parking lot, and concrete boat ramp. Crabbing is open all months of the year, though crabs molt during the summer and early fall, which makes their shells soft and less meaty. For direct access to clamming, visit Netarts Bay Wayside.