

Catch of the Day

A 3-Day Itinerary of Newport for Seafoodies and Gourmets

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, Dungeness Crab Capital of the World®!

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 Clearwater Restaurant, Asiatico Waterfront Fusion Sushi, Thai Port Restaurant and others. Local Ocean Seafoods 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, Yaquina Bay Bridge 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, check out the Sea Lion Dock with it’s all male herd, a crowd favorite! Afterwards, 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 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.

After a full day of exploration, drive back over the Yaquina Bay Bridge to Nye Beach, a quaint beachfront neighborhood, complete with galleries, gift shops, restaurants and lodging. There are many great dining options in Nye Beach, such as the handmade pasta or pizza at Sorella Italian Restaurant. Dine on fresh "Catch of the Day" seafood with an amazing view of the Pacific Ocean at Georgie's Beachside Grill. Afterwards head to the Allred for a delicious dessert or cocktail, or if possible, catch an evening event at the Newport Performing Arts Center, where a variety of local and nationally recognized performers and presentations are available.

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! Embarcadero Resort Hotel & Marina offers crab pot and crab boat rentals.

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 Tradewinds, or Newport Marina Store and 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. Additional options include enjoying a meal at the Sea Glass Bistro & Lounge inside the Best

Western Plus Agate Beach Inn, specializing in surf and turf” menu options. Golf at Agate Beach Golf Course, browse the tax-free shopping centers or take in a film at the Newport Cinema.

Trek further south to Nye Beach, another great seashore for beachcombing and kite flying, and connected to the quaint neighborhood with galleries, gift shops and boutiques to browse.

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 favorite since 1980. Another 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 to this Seafood itinerary, many other diverse restaurants and cafes can be found in Newport.

For more information please contact:

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