

BEST PLACE FOR A PICNIC

The Beach

Runner-up: Astoria Column, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Coffenbury Lake, Warrenton

By DWIGHT CASWELL

Beach was dressed entirely in her signature white and leaned expansively against a cliff. "This is so much better than last year," she said, dipping her toes in the waves.

It had been a year since I last interviewed Beach, and

indeed she seemed even more cheerful than on that occasion. "Better in what way?" I asked.

"Well, last year readers named me 'best cheap date.' I'm sure they meant it as a compliment, but really, who wants to be known as a cheap date? This year I get to be 'best place for a picnic,' which is much classier."

"Isn't it pretty much the same thing?"

"Oh no." Beach was definite about this. "With cheap dates I never know what's going on in my beach grass, and with picnics I get to meet families with beach chairs and hampers filled with sandwiches, which my gulls like, and all kinds of other good things. Every now and then there's a class act who brings some Oregon pinot noir."

Beach explained that she likes it when people, "especially with their Labradors and Boston terriers and frisbees," run on the

hard sand by the water, "and I just love it when everybody gets together and we play games."

Beach said she wants people to know they should ("although I hate that word, 'should'") stay as long as possible. "My sunsets are probably my best feature, even though Sky and Clouds do most of the work."

So next time you visit Beach, bring a hamper of food, build a driftwood fort, and wait for sunset. "There's nothing more fun," Beach told me, "than sitting around a bonfire at night with some of my friends."



Photo by Dwight Caswell

There's no better place to have a picnic than on the beach — at least according to readers who voted in this year's Readers' Choice Awards.

YOUR RESTAURANT HERE!

dining out

DIRECTORY



NORTH COAST & PENINSULA

BJ's
PIZZA PALACE & Sports Bar
503.738.7763
2490 Hwy 101 N., Seaside
Open at 11:00am
Closed Mondays

The DEPOT Restaurant
38TH & L, ON THE SEAVIEW BEACH APPROACH
360-642-7880
RESERVE FOR VALENTINES NOW!

Sweet Basil's Cafe
Natural • Organic • Wild
The Wino Bar
light bites, tapas & more
503.436.1539
www.cafesweetbasils.com
Cannon Beach

CA 18 MP RESTAURANT
503.755.1818
www.camp18restaurant.com
Favorite stop to & from the Coast

FAMILIES WELCOME!
HUNGRY HARBOR GRILLE
313 Pacific Hwy, Downtown Long Beach, WA
360-642-5555 • www.hungryharbor.com

Closed in December for Remodel
Watch in January for our Grand Re-Opening!
MAGGIE'S
ON THE PROM RESTAURANT-LOUNGE
503.738.6403
maggiesontheprom.com
581 S Prom, Seaside OR

McMENAMINS GEARHART HOTEL
1157 N. Marion Avenue Gearhart
503-717-8150
www.mcmenamins.com

Patty's Wicker Cafe
On the Beautiful Necanicum River
Breakfast & Lunch
600 Broadway Ste 7 & 8 -Seaside
503.717.1272

the SHELburne inn
hotel • pub restaurant
Shelburne Inn, Restaurant & Pub
4415 Pacific Way, Seaview, Wa
360-642-4150
www.shelburnerestaurant.com