

DISCOVERY TRAIL

WALK THE PATH OF ADVENTURE

Following the general path taken by Capt. William Clark and his men during their initial 1805 visit to the beach, our amazing Discovery Trail links the towns of Long Beach, Seaview and Ilwaco.

The trail connects all the way from the northern city limits of Long Beach to Beards Hollow in Cape Disappointment State Park. From Beards Hollow, a short unpaved portion of the trail goes uphill to a spectacular overlook above the ocean. Again paved, it winds its way through the forest to Ilwaco. You'll experience your inner Dan'l Boone.

This is the best ocean-bordering biking and hiking path on the West Coast.

A recent round trip of almost eight miles took about an hour and 15 minutes with a generous stop at Lewis and Clark's tree in north Long Beach. A sculpture of a whale skeleton similar to the one Lewis and Clark found more than 200 years ago, a monolith with an explorer standing nearby, and dozens of informative signs add interest to the trail. A small wooden bridge, numerous twists and turns and the rolling dunes make for an interesting and comfortable ride.

One suggestion is to head into the wind to start your trip and let the breeze push you along on the return trip. If eight miles and riding for over an hour is not in your plans, you may begin at either the Seaview or Long Beach approaches and cut your ride in half or in a third.

The unpaved portion of the trail, from Beards Hollow to Ilwaco, includes some steep hills but is otherwise fine for fit walkers or mountain bikers. A wooden causeway leads over a pristine marsh just as the trail leaves the hollow.

No motor vehicles are allowed on Discovery Trail. A mid-week ride on an amazing pathway, with sun and surf to the west and having the experience almost exclusively to yourself, just can't be topped.

THIS IS THE BEST OCEAN-BORDERING BIKING AND HIKING PATH ON THE WEST COAST



Efforts are beginning to extend Discovery Trail from its current northern terminus at Clark's Tree east through Long Beach. Eventually, the trail may go even farther, linking to Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. The trail marks the approximate path of Capt. William Clark at others in November 1805. — NATALIE ST. JOHN PHOTO




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WELCOME TO LONG BEACH PENINSULA!





Enjoy the Fourth of July holiday, and join the Beach-Friendly Fourth Partners in preserving the ocean beach Seashore Conservation Area we all share.

Some reminders for your visit:

- Use established campgrounds or lodging facilities for overnight stays - no camping is allowed on the beach.
- Respect neighborhoods and private property.
- Drive safely on the beach - be aware of tides.
- Respect burn bans - if no ban is in place, beach fires must be 100 feet from dunes and vegetation and no larger than 4 feet by 4 feet.
- Use restrooms, not dunes.
- Use only legal fireworks, and observe legal fireworks hours - 9am to midnight July 4th.
- Pick up all garbage - pack it in, pack it out.

Beach-Friendly Fourth partners:

Legal hours for holiday fireworks:
 June 28: Noon to 11pm
 June 29 to July 3: 9am to 11pm
 July 4: 9am to midnight
 July 5: 9am to 11pm