

Kayaking on the Lewis and Clark River.

Paddling along the North Coast

See the landscape by kayak, canoe or paddleboard

By LISSA BREWER

The Astorian

Between the North Coast's steep cliffs and wide ocean vistas, serene waterways wind through the landscape, ripe for exploring by kayak, canoe or paddleboard.

Compact and easy to launch from the shore, these small water craft open up new territory to the eye and mind. Paddling through an estuary or inlet offers the chance to see wildlife, vegetation and the marine landscape from a new perspective.

Kayakers in the Columbia-Pacific region

WHEN PLANNING TO SPEND TIME ON THE WATER,
ALWAYS BE SURE TO CHECK TIDE TABLES, AS ROUTES
WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE TIDES AND CURRENTS.
OBSERVE AREA SAFETY GUIDELINES AND STAY
AWARE OF TERRAIN AND WEATHER CONDITIONS.
ALWAYS WEAR A PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE,
KNOW SAFETY SIGNALS AND KEEP BOATS A SAFE
DISTANCE APART FROM ONE ANOTHER.

will find a variety of rivers, bays and lakes appropriate for varying skill levels. For those seeking calmer waters or a good place to take younger paddlers, visit the Broadway Park boat launch in Seaside. This riverside launch alleviates the concern of launching from the shore, and allows for a peaceful trip south along Neawanna Creek.

Other destinations appropriate for beginning and intermediate paddlers include the Lewis and Clark River, John Day River and Nehalem Bay. For a lakeside adventure free of tidal concerns, try Coffenbury Lake at Fort Stevens State Park in Warrenton. The lake is a popular spot for canoeing, fishing, kayaking, paddleboarding and more.

Experienced kayakers may want to try the exhilarating experience of ocean paddling in the Pacific, accessible through launching at Necanicum Estuary in Seaside or Ecola Creek in Cannon Beach. For ocean paddlers, timing is essential, as is having the proper equipment,

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