

YEAR IN REVIEW: THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF 2018

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CAN'T-MISS
HOLIDAY
EVENTS
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DECEMBER 2018

Best Winter Getaways

WHERE TO HIKE, SKI, SNOWSHOE AND CURL UP BY THE FIRE

PLUS
OUR FAVORITE
SUNNY SPOTS
IN SOCAL

LOCAL GIFT STORIES
EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST
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HOW TO SOLVE OUR
DOWNTOWN TRAFFIC PROBLEMS
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BALLARD'S BEST
NEW RESTAURANT
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OREGON COAST

STORM WATCHING

A favorite winter spectator sport is best viewed from a window; these spots give you a front-row seat

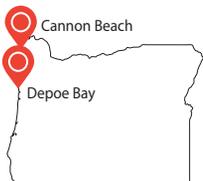
WHILE SOME PEOPLE chase powder all winter, others seek all things cozy. We're the ones who'd rather invest in shearling slippers than ski boots, and who are happiest when experiencing the elements from behind a window of double-paned glass.

So for us snuggle-loving thrill-seekers, there's no better winter pastime than storm watching on the coast—and peak season on Oregon's coast continues through March. Few things are more awe-inspiring than watching gusts of wind and rain lash the coastline, churning up powerful waves that crash with abandon against hulking craggy rocks, sending giant sprays of water several feet into the air.

And few things are more luxurious than watching this dramatic show play out from the warm and dry confines of a cozy hotel room. With that in mind, we rounded up three of the best places on the Oregon coast that offer a front row seat to the best show in town.

STEPHANIE INN AT CANNON BEACH

YOU CAN WATCH THE WAVES while snuggled up in bed amid luxury linens or swaddled in a blanket on your own well-appointed balcony. Almost every



GETTING THERE

Cannon Beach, Pacific City and Depoe Bay are all along a 95-mile stretch north to south on Oregon's northern coastline; Cannon Beach is about 80 miles northwest of Portland.

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DARK AND LIGHT

Winter weather creates an eerie landscape on the Oregon coast; the Stephanie Inn offers luxe accommodations and magnificent views





PHOTOGRAPHS: STEPHANIE INN (FIREPLACE); HEADLANDS COASTAL LODGE (STEAK, TUB)

room comes with sweeping oceanfront views, plus a fireplace, jet tub and even binoculars. The in-house restaurant serves upscale Northwest cuisine for breakfast and dinner, so you never have to leave. Or you can make the short drive to Cannon Beach's adorable downtown of boutiques, galleries and restaurants.

HEADLANDS COASTAL LODGE AND SPA, PACIFIC CITY

WITH SEVERAL DOG-FRIENDLY rooms in the oceanfront lodge, plus two- and three-bedroom oceanfront cottages, the year-old Headlands is all about options. It even has a full-service spa and "adventure coaches" on hand to lead daily hikes up the adjacent Cape Kiwanda dune (the tallest on the coast). Every room has a balcony

and view, and a pantry of Oregon-made products on each floor means you can grab a pint of Tillamook ice cream any time of day or night. Walk down the beach to the acclaimed Pelican Brewing Company, or stay in and dine at the Meridian restaurant, which serves locally sourced dishes for brunch, lunch and dinner.

WHALE COVE INN, DEPOE BAY

PERFECTLY PERCHED ABOVE a horseshoe-shaped cove, the Whale Cove Inn offers a taste of luxury amid the chowder houses and taffy shops of Depoe Bay. Every room has a private balcony with an outdoor Jacuzzi tub overlooking the picturesque beach, plus a fireplace and Tempur-Pedic king bed kitted out in European linens. Downstairs, Restau-



STAYING IN

Top: You don't have to venture outside for a meal at the Headlands Coastal Lodge—the Meridian restaurant is onsite; book a room with water views from the soaking tub

rant Beck serves an upscale, elegant and ever-changing dinner menu that would be at home in any big-city dining scene. Depoe Bay is dubbed the whale-watching capital of the Oregon coast, so you'll likely spot a few whale spouts no matter what time of year you go, or hop on one of the whale-watching charter boats that launch from the "world's smallest harbor" to get up close and personal. DANIELLE CENTONI

COORDINATES

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Stephanie Inn, Cannon Beach, 2740 S Pacific St.; 844.374.2107; stephanieinn.com
Whale Cove Inn, Depoe Bay, 2345 U.S. Highway 101; 541.765.4300; whalecoveinn.com, restaurantbeck.com