### Media Release: Spring 2015

# Bandon Oregon Chamber of Commerce

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### Cycling: Bandon is a Perfect Layover for Coastal Cyclists



Rest up and restock in Bandon. Cyclists traveling the Oregon Coast will find all the amenities for the perfect layover on the south coast.

World class beaches and a temperate climate may suffice to entice you to cool your heels. But Bandon also has bike friendly resources, and the convenient geography makes it easy to get around by foot or bike.

New installations make cyclists feel even more welcome in Bandon.

A cyclist section was unveiled at Bullards Beach State Park in 2014. Tidy campsites are equipped with lockers and a mounted bike stand for tune-ups. The new First Street cycle stop in Old Town lets cyclists park and walk to the beaches and waterfront, shopping and dining. Features include a repair stand, mechanical air pump, bike racks and benches, with storage lockers and an electric charging station coming soon.

If your wheels need a little extra attention, visit South Coast Bicycles for gear and repairs. Laundry and grocery facilities are just blocks away.

Stroll the beach. Relax. Upload your latest pics. No matter how you spend your time in Bandon, you'll hit the road refreshed and ready to climb back in the saddle.

Photo by Geneva Miller.



# Beach Going: Circles in the Sand

The ocean sweeps Bandon beaches twice every day, revealing a fresh canvas for labyrinth artist Denny Dyke.

What began as a solo pastime has grown to a community experience: Dyke invites the public to share in the design, grooming the paths with a staff and a set of rakes. More than 100 beachgoers walked Dyke's 2015 New Year labyrinth.

"The more people visit me on the sand, the more it keeps me coming back," said Dyke.

Labyrinths are an ancient form of walkable art, designed for meditation and reflection. On the Bandon beach, the twisting paths mimic the tidal ebb and flow, turning and returning. No two labyrinths are the same.

When people work to co-create labyrinths, the collaboration can be more meaningful than the walk, observes Michelle Duarte, co owner of WildSpring Guest Habitat in Port Orford.

Labyrinths are among the guest amenities at award-winning destinations such as WildSpring and Bandon Dunes Golf Resort.

At WildSpring, Michelle and Dean Duarte offer guests a unique experience of luxurious lodging within an ecosensitive wooded hillside retreat overlooking the Pacific. Together with walking trails and open air sitting rooms, the labyrinth encourages guests to take time for reflection in the out-of-doors.

"We love walking labyrinths," said Duarte. "It's just one of the many features that we want guests to enjoy if so moved." Photo by Camy Taylor.



Experience Labyrinths in Bandon and Port Orford

Bandon Beach Labyrinths With Denny Dyke Event schedule and locations at bandon.com

Bandon Dunes Golf Resort 57744 Round Lake Drive, Bandon 541-347-4380 bandondunesgolf.com

WildSpring Guest Habitat, Visits by appointment 92978 Cemetery Loop Road, Port Orford 541-332-0977 wildspring.com



### Golf: Nature and Nurture on the Course



The links golf tradition is alive and well in Bandon. Firm turf, ocean breezes and rolling dunes invite golfers to challenge their expectations.

On the Southern Oregon Coast, fairways and bunkers are shaped by nature, surrounded by acres of shoreline vegetation, designed by course architects who value restraint. It's a synergy of nature and nurture, and golfers are eager for more.

You'll want to leave your inland game at home, advises Bandon Inn owner and golf enthusiast Ed Backholm.

It's commonplace to see Inn guests warming up hours before tee time. Backholm can appreciate his guests' enthusiasm.

He still feels it after years of playing his home courses. No imported sand. No condos in the background. Just the terrain and the game.

Photo by Brian Oar, courtesy of Bandon Crossings.



### Dining: Brown Bag it in Bandon

Hunt and gather your way to a made-in-Bandon meal that's good to go. The flavors of Bandon are available year round: seafood, artisan cheeses, and desserts; not to mention sweet or savory products dried, pickled and preserved.

Seafood is a must on the coast.

Seasonal grazing is best. Perennial favorites such as local crab, tuna and salmon are available frozen or smoked year round, along with bay shrimp and locally farmed oysters. Local Dungeness crab is in season winter through spring, available whole or shaken. Winter is also a good time for local rock cod. Wild caught salmon and tuna are in season summer and fall.

Round out your locavore spread with artisan cheese. Dried or pickled fruits and veggies from local farms provide color and texture. Hand made dessert adds the finishing touch.

Visit <u>bandon.com/attractions</u> for a list of Bandon Chamber of Commerce member seafood and specialty food service and dining businesses.

Photo by Geneva Miller.





### Events: Lights, Action, Culture



Everybody's got a story to tell. Share yours at the 2015 Oregon Coast Film Festival in Bandon, Oregon.

The Oregon Coast Film Festival invites submissions by professionals and amateurs through September 1.

The 2015 Festival is October 9 and 10, at the Sprague Community Theater in Bandon. Videos in all categories are screened at the festival. Prizes are awarded for the best documentaries. Find more information at oregoncoastfilmfestival. org.

"I'm interested in hearing stories about the area and the landscape, the culture," said festival founder Dave Wilhite.

A fan of narrative broadcast journalism and independent film, Wilhite says video is the storytelling medium of the day.

Wilhite started the Oregon Coast Film Festival in 2013 to entice more storytellers to share their experiences. Festival screenings included approximately 20 videos each year in 2013 and 2014. Audiences have enjoyed professional and amateur videos produced throughout the Pacific Northwest, including commissions by Travel Oregon that highlight destinations such as Face Rock Creamery and Heceta Head Lighthouse.

Members of the Coos County Cultural Coalition were pleased with the attendance and success of the new project, according to Coalition president Jim Montalbano. The festival earned a Cultural Coalition start-up grant in 2014.

Wilhite offers a new challenge in 2015: He wants to see "the greatest cranberry story ever told" brought to life on screen. Check out stock video available on the festival website, featuring cranberry industry footage and contextual sequences of the Oregon Coast. Submissions in the new Cranberry Challenge will be eligible for festival screening and prizes.

Photo by Dave Wilhite.

Media images at:

oregoncoastfilmfestival.org/media/images/



### **Events: Bandon Cranberry Festival 2015**

Shake a leg at the Cranberry Hop! The 69th annual Cranberry Festival in Bandon, Oregon, is September 11, 12 and 13, 2015.

Bandon residents, visitors, and cranberry farmers jive to the cranberry vibe at the parade, festival market, and street dance.

Cranberry cooks compete for a culinary crown in the Queen of the Kitchen food fair, while hungry festival goers dive into the cranberry eating contest to win prizes. Farmers and artisans strut their stuff at Cranberry City and the Festival Market. Live music, from rock 'n' roll to classic country, will keep you hummin' all weekend.

Events are staged in Old Town, the Port of Bandon waterfront, Sprague Community Theater and city park, and Bandon High School. Get the full list of festival events at bandon.com/cranberry-festival.

Photo by Cardas Photography, courtesy of Bandon Chamber of Commerce.





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Enclosed text copy approved for release and publication.

Media queries and photo requests welcome.

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