# WELCOME TO CAMP WESTWIND 2021 Family Cabin Rental Handbook

Your Guide to a Safe and Enjoyable Experience at Westwind



#### **Dear Guests,**

As you know, Westwind is a special place. Situated within the larger Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve, Westwind's 529 acres contain each iconic landscape of the Oregon Coast: headland meadows, dense Sitka Spruce and Hemlock rainforest, a dynamic estuary, and the unparalleled beach and rocky coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The Westwind Stewardship Group is charged with protecting Westwind's ecosystems and facilitating educational and inspirational experiences for children, families and private groups.

Stroll more than a mile of unspoiled ocean beach. Observe the abundant wildlife of the Salmon River estuary. Play in the sand. Explore deep rainforest ecosystems. Meander through upland meadows. Study marine life in coastal tide pools. Discover hidden lakes and babbling streams. This and more await you during a stay at Westwind.

# **ABOUT WESTWIND**



Westwind is a 529-acre camp, farm, and wilderness area set in the middle of the Cascade Head UN Biosphere Reserve in Oregon. Owned and operated by the Westwind Stewardship Group, Westwind is home to Camp Westwind, the Northwest Outdoor Science School, workshops, events, and volunteer programs.

## **WESTWIND BASICS**

#### Stewardship

Stewardship at Westwind means conserving the landscape and living lightly. It means sweeping cabins and leading a beach clean-up. It means a lot of volunteer work around the site, during programs and throughout the year.

It means Westwind's many supporters donating time, money and wisdom to the forever-project of keeping Westwind strong, healthy and wild. *And at its core, it means leaving Westwind better than you found it.* 

#### Recycle

Westwind has specific containers marked for the following recyclables and they are located at the Wilson Lodge loading dock:

- Paper, plastic bottles, tin, and aluminum in the blue mixed recycling bins
- Glass recycling in marked bin in garbage bay

#### **Our Vision**

All children have access to wild and undeveloped landscapes and are allowed to discover the interconnection, complexity and splendor of living in balance with natural systems.

#### **Our Mission**

Conserve the Westwind site in perpetuity; foster life-changing outdoor experiences for all children, families and groups; and promote environmental stewardship as a basis for sustainable living.

- Beach trash in black bins under the stairs behind Wilson Lodge
- Paper towels must be tossed in the trash, NOT the recycling

#### Conserve

Please use only the power and water you need. Unplug chargers when not in use, turn off lights, and make sure heaters are off completely when you leave a cabin. Please report all dripping faucets, toilets, or other water-related leaks to site staff.

#### Arrival, Departure, and Parking

Check-in between 3:30 and 5:00pm. If you cannot arrive at this time, please contact the office (541-994-2383) or Camp Director (503-927-9557) to make alternate arrangements.

#### Check-in:

- Drive to 7500 N Fraser Rd, Otis, 97368. Fraser is off of Highway 101. Drive through the yellow, green, and black gate, .7 of a mile in on Fraser Rd. to Fraser Farm field parking.
- A staff member will organize parking at the farm field. Per Westwind's Emergency Evacuation Plan, every vehicle must be parked in the direction of exiting Westwind property.
- Please load your luggage onto the Westwind truck and/or trailer for transfer to the lodge.
- Westwind does not allow in and out road use except for emergencies.
- Guest groups will be asked to start their 2 mile walk to camp. The access road and terrain in camp are sandy, rocky uneven surfaces. If a member of your group needs to be driven to the lodge and dropped off, please call 541-994-2383 or email <u>laura@westwind.org</u> and make arrangements in advance of arrival.
- At approximately 5:30-6pm, the luggage truck will arrive at Wilson Lodge, where guests can retrieve luggage and carry it to cabins. Staff will be at Wilson to assist guests in locating their assigned cabin. Please do not enter any cabin that is not reserved by you.

#### Check-out:

- Check-out time is at 1:00pm. Please have your cabin packed, empty, and cleaned by noon. Please open the cabin windows on your way out to allow for ventilation.
- The luggage truck will be parked by Wilson Lodge. Please load your gear onto the truck and/or trailer for transfer to the farm field parking area.
- At 1pm, you and your family are welcome to begin your walk out!

#### **Drinking water**

Water from all taps and faucets is potable (drawn from Westwind's well). Water quality is tested quarterly. Please do not bring bottled water, and instead bring your own reusable bottle. Bring your bottle to Wilson Lodge and ask a staff member to fill it with water. If you would like to fill your own bottle at the dining hall sink, let a staff member know, so they can sanitize the sink handles between guest use. The water faucet outside Cascade Head will be sanitized several times per day, but consider it a potentially contaminated surface. If using that faucet, wash hands, use a tissue or glove to turn on the faucet, followed by handwashing.

#### Cleaning

We ask that you help us keep Westwind clean. This includes Wilson Lodge and your cabins.

Your Cabin Cleaning Checklist:

- □ Remove all personal belongings
- Pick up all trash and recycling inside and outside and place in trash/recycling area at Wilson loading dock
- Shake sand off mattresses, spray all surfaces with Q10 cleaner, wipe down with rag and prop them upright to dry
- $\hfill\square$  Sweep floor including under the beds and the deck
- □ Turn off lights and heater
- Open windows for ventilation

#### Basics Rules and Guidelines for staying at Westwind

Stewardship also compels us to be mindful of a few overriding basics with regards to staying at Westwind:

- Follow all Westwind guidelines and rules regarding site & facility use.
- Never hesitate to ask Westwind staff for help with Westwind buildings and systems.
- Local, state and federal laws must be obeyed.
- Legal consumption of alcoholic beverages allowed, but only in moderation.
- All medications should be stored in the controlled possession of the person responsible for administering them.
- No weapons or fireworks allowed on site.
- Pets are not allowed.
- Smoking is prohibited in all buildings and throughout the property except designated areas.
- Furniture must not be moved out of buildings without permission from site staff.
- No candles or open flame except in fireplaces and designated campfire areas.

#### **Orientation and Safety Procedures**

#### **Basic Safety Guidelines**

- First Aid: Westwind provides an AED, backboard, and oxygen tank for groups -- all are stored in the stair closet in Wilson Lodge. There are also several 1st Aid kits around camp.
- Wear shoes in camp, cabins and around the lodge. Splinters and sharp objects can hide in the sand.
- Stay on designated trails; do not climb trees or rocks, and supervise children at all times.

#### Earthquake, Tsunami

- Earthquakes & Tsunami a tsunami might arrive 15 - 20 minutes after a strong earthquake
- Get out of buildings to a relatively flat area that is free of falling objects during shaking
- As soon as shaking stops, move to high ground (in camp follow tsunami evacuation signs)
- Gather at the top of the hill behind camp (The Point) and await direction from Westwind staff
- Westwind has established an emergency cache of supplies to sustain a full camp in the wake of a major disaster. Please report all emergencies to the site staff immediately.

#### Earth, Wind, Fire, Wildlife

- Stay off of rocky cliffs crumbling basalt bedrock covered with loose sand and soil can break away
- Stay off of rocks at the water's edge sneaker waves can quickly push you into the sea
- High winds can be a hazard be alert to falling

limbs or unstable blow-downs during high wind

- Put out fires if small, and then notify Westwind staff
- If fire is too big to easily put out, evacuate buildings, notify Westwind staff immediately, and move to the beach
- Fire extinguishers are located in every building (near exits)
- Do not disturb or provoke wildlife: Black Bear, Cougar (sightings in August 2019), Bobcat (rare), Coyote - generally will run away with noise (clap and yell)
- Rough Skinned Newt (poisonous) skin is poisonous: do not ingest or touch hand to mouth after handling (just wash hands after touching)
- Elk, deer, seals and sea lions keep your distance when observing, 150 ft of seal pups
- Wasps and hornets are a hazard during warm months. Please report nests to staff.

### **RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Beach Combing & Tide pooling**

The rocks at the south end of the ocean beach provide spectacular tide pooling opportunities during low tide. Please leave all living creatures in the tide pools for all to see. Tread lightly and avoid damaging barnacles and rock habitats. Do not enter caves, climb on rock cliffs or stand near unstable cliffs.

#### **Beach Safety Guidelines:**

- Never turn your back on the ocean.
- Watch out for sneaker waves.
- Stay alert for logs being washed in by large waves.
- Never climb on driftwood to avoid incoming tidal waters.
- Westwind strongly recommends no ocean or river swimming. The water is dangerously cold, subject to strong rip currents and can be very unpredictable.
- We encourage everyone to follow these safety guidelines though oceans and rivers in Oregon are public.

#### **Art and Nature Activities**

Each cabin will be equipped with an Activity Kit that will contain supplies and instructions for a variety of activities including:

- Friendship bracelet making
- Watercolor painting
- Card making
- Nature art
- Animal and plant identification
- Scavenger hunts
- Hikes
- Other naturalist resources

Please return everything back to the Kit when you're finished and be sure to take your art projects home. If you run out of supplies, please find a Westwind staff member for help.

#### Hiking

**High Meadow Trail:** A one mile trail that begins at the top of the Highlands Unit and follows the cliff towards Lost Lake, Fern Gully, and eventually High Meadow and Potato Bug Point. This trail provides spectacular views of the ocean and travels through several biospheres in our diverse coastal rainforest. Once you reach High Meadow, look north towards Cascade Head and Westwind beach and south to Lincoln City. You might notice that it is a great place to try and spot whales and optimal for sunset watching. The trail is very steep in places and can be slick at times. Watch for exposed roots and please follow the signs. Difficulty: Moderate/Hard.

**Old Baldy:** This trail connects the Alpine and Highlands cabin areas with the High Meadow trail and can be found on the Highland-Alpine trail. Old Baldy trail follows a back ridgeline that looks into Westwind's backwoods and is covered in berries and impressive biodiversity. The trail gradually winds up and joins with the trail leading up to High Meadow or back down to the Highlands cabin area. Roughly .75 to 1 miles. Difficulty: Moderate.

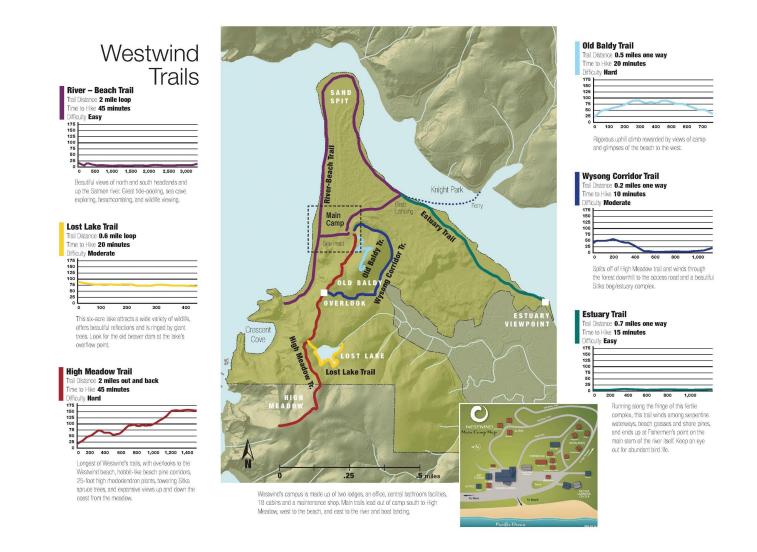
**Ranch Hill:** This .75 to 1 mile long trail begins either at our Tillicum barn or a short walk down the Rainforest Trail. From both locations, it gradually travels uphill through a shore pine forest to an impressive mosaic of Spruce, Hemlock, and Fir trees and has plenty of space for a nice picnic if it's not too windy. Just under a quarter mile away from Tillicum lies a short offshoot to our famous Octopus Tree - a huge Spruce tree with an exposed root system. Be mindful of loose sand underfoot and exposed roots. Difficulty: Moderate. **Lost Lake Trail:** Follow the High Meadow Trail to the Lost Lake sign and turn left to reach our six-acre freshwater lake hidden in Westwind's backwoods. This is an out-and-back trail. Be mindful of wet soil underfoot and exposed roots. Keep an eye out for wildlife and enjoy the old growth forest that surrounds the lake. Difficulty: Moderate.

**Wysong Corridor:** This trail connects the High Meadow and Rainforest trails and travels through a beautiful area surrounded by Douglas Fir. Length is .25 miles. Difficulty: Moderate.

**The Point:** To reach one of Westwind's closest and most accessible viewpoints as well as our tsunami evacuation location, follow the trail to the Highlands cabin area and, just before turning towards the cabins, stay straight instead and head due west to The Point. You'll see a wooden cache on the trail to your right that holds all of our emergency supplies and our emergency water at

the top as well. This used to be the site of a Craft House over twenty years ago and now serves as a beautiful view of the beach and ocean, an excellent place to hang a hammock, and an optimal spot to watch the sunset. Difficulty: Moderate.

**River Trail/Spit Walk:** Starting at Wilson Lodge, head north down the River Trail towards the estuary. Once at the estuary, turn left and travel west towards the ocean, following the Salmon River that marks our northern border. The trail is often muddy due to tides and is best hiked during a mid-low tide. Continue following the river towards the spit - the area where the river starts to widen as it joins the ocean. Keep an eye out for sea lions resting on the beach. Continue down the beach and loop back towards the main camp. It is not uncommon to see bald eagles, blue heron, seals and sea lions, killdeer, and the occasional river otter. In the early morning or evening you may also spot deer, raccoon, and possibly elk or a lone coyote. Difficulty: Beginner



# **GUEST PACKING LIST & TIPS**

#### Personal packing checklist

- □ Sleeping bag, twin sheet, pillow
- Bath towel
- Medications
- First Aid Kit
- □ Face covering/Mask
- Hand Sanitizer
- □ Sunscreen/Insect Repellent
- □ Flashlight/Headlamp
- □ Clothes appropriate for the length stay
- Toiletries
- Sturdy shoes or boots for hiking
- Sturdy shoes for sand & water activities
- Warm jacket
- □ Water bottle/mug/thermos
- Rain gear
- Playing cards/travel games

#### **Packing Tips**

Pack bags so they are easy to load and carry up steep hills to the cabin. Two smaller bags work better than one large heavy bag; wheels don't work on sand; duffel bags are better than suitcases.

#### Staff Assistance Contact Information:

Westwind Office: 541-994-2383 Laura, Camp Director: 503-927-9557 Annika, Assistant Camp Director: 505-697-9625 Taina, Operations Director: 541-806-0053 Brian, Site Manager: 702-303-3898