

CRABBING & CLAMMING



Lincoln City Visitor & Convention Bureau

801 SW Highway 101, Suite 401
541-996-1274 • 800-452-2151
OregonCoast.org

Lincoln
City Central Oregon Coast



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LINCOLN CITY CRABBING & CLAMMING

Crabbing

Crabbing is a great activity for anyone or any group, any time of the year. Siletz Bay, at the south edge of Lincoln City, is a prime spot for crabbing.

The best time of day for success is several hours after low tide when the creatures are active. Near the mouth of Siletz Bay you can catch crab right from the shore, no boat needed. Cast your line into the incoming current and you're all set. Of course you can launch your watercraft from the Siletz River and explore other parts of the bay.

When hauling in your catch, make sure to grab the crab from the rear center to avoid any mishap with their claws. Once you reach your limit, you just need someone willing to clean and cook them.

Visit OregonDungeness.org for more information about crabbing, including cooking and cleaning tips.

GEAR: All you need is a crab trap, bait, bucket, gloves, and a measuring gauge. If crabbing from the shore, folding traps work best, and raw chicken makes great bait.



Licenses and Gear

Eleanor's Undertow • SW 51st Street • 541-996-3800 • licenses & gear available

Bi-Mart • 1030 SE Oar Ave • 541-614-1020 • licenses & gear available

Ace Hardware • 4910 SE Highway 101 • 541-996-2131 • gear only



Clamming



Clamming is as simple as crabbing and equally satisfying. Most of the clams found in the Lincoln City area are either small purple varnish clams or larger softshell clams.

Low tide is the best time to dig for clams. Look for softshell clams in the mud flats on either side of the bay between Drift Creek and the Millport Slough. A round show (or hole) in the sand identifies the clam located up to 18" below the surface.

Purple varnish clams are the dominate clam in the bay. They are located in the lower portion of the bay from the Cutler City district to near the bay entrance. Purple varnish clams may be located to depths of 14" below the surface of the sand, and are identified by numerous shows approximately 1/8" in diameter.

Pay close attention to the incoming tide while out on the mud flats digging for clams.

GEAR: You'll need a shovel, bucket, gloves, and boots. Specialty equipment can be purchased such as a tube gun, or a clamming shovel and bag.

Regulations & Safety

A license is required to take marine shellfish for those 12 years or older. Each crabber can use up to three devices, and undersized and female crabs must be released unharmed. Clammers must have their own container, dig their own clams, and may not possess more than one limit of clams while in the harvest area.

For current information and complete regulations visit the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife website at dfw.state.or.us or call 541-867-4741. Always check the Shellfish Hotline for shellfish safety closures by calling 503-986-4728.

Crabbing & Clamming Clinics

Learn to catch your own dinner! A series of clinics are held annually lead by a local expert. Each clinic includes instruction and hands-on harvesting along Siletz Bay. For more information and the schedule for these free clinics, visit OregonCoast.org.

