

Cape Lookout National Seashore

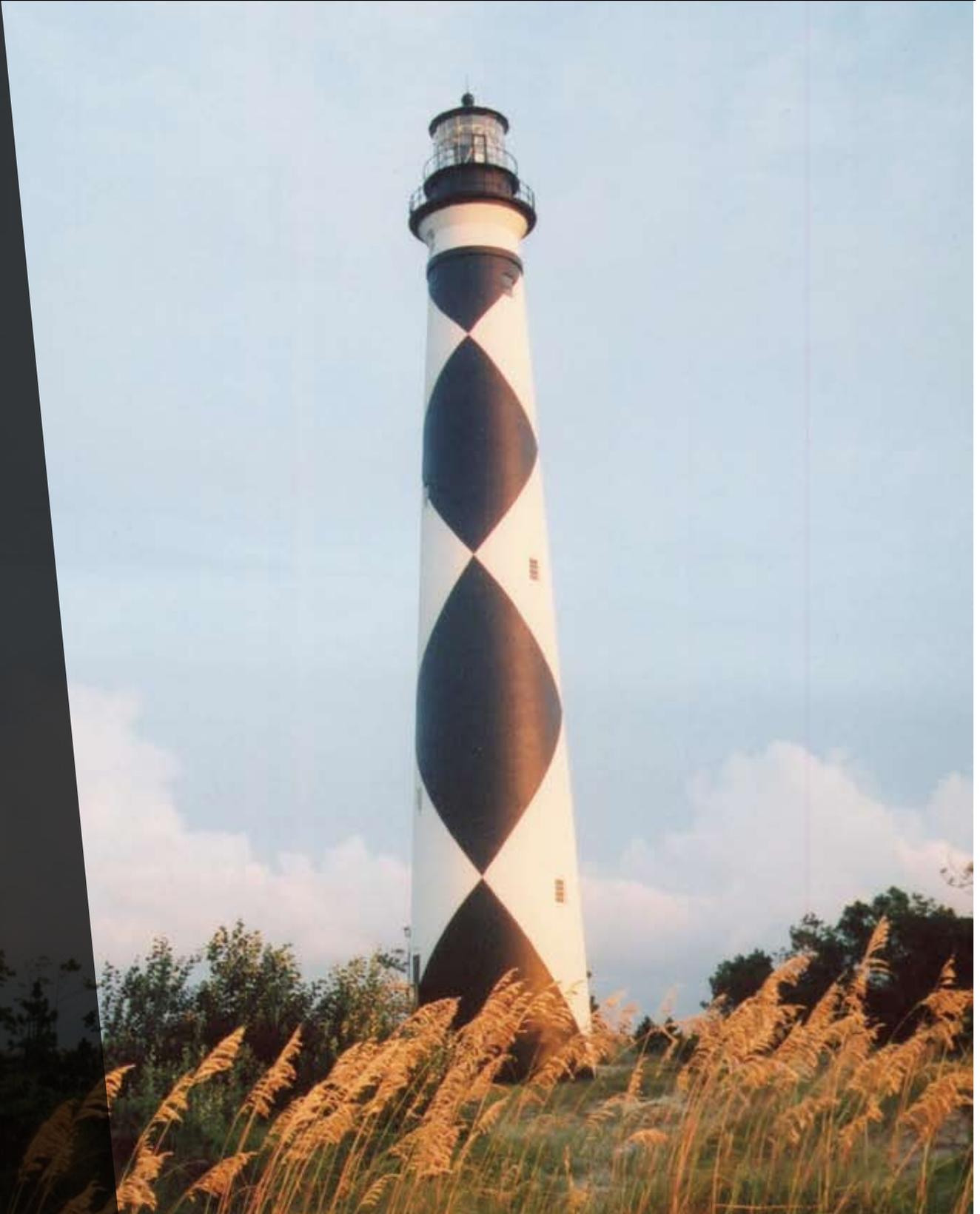


2007-2008 Edition

FREE

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Welcome to Cape Lookout

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2007–2008 Edition

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Come See the New Exhibits and Visitor Centers

It is an exciting time at Cape Lookout National Seashore as we complete a number of large projects that have been underway for several years. If it's been a while since you have been to the Harkers Island Visitor Center or to the Cape and Core Banks you will be amazed at the positive changes to our visitor orientation facilities.

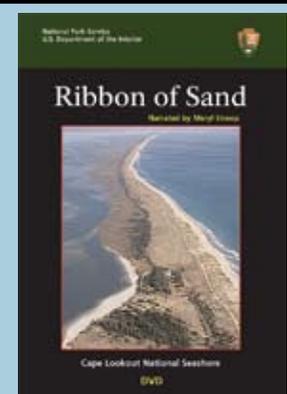
The **Harkers Island Visitor Center**, newly renovated and expanded in 2007, features new orientation exhibits, a new Children's Discovery Room, an expanded bookstore and a new 60-seat auditorium. From the "ghost" trees of Shackleford Banks to the recorded voices of former Portsmouth residents and descendants describing their special feelings about their former home, the new exhibits introduce visitors to some of the unique features of the National Seashore. Hands-on exhibits in the Children's Discovery Room allow young and old alike to explore the sounds, beaches and marshes of the seashore.

From the ferry dock at Cape Lookout, you will immediately arrive at the new **Cape Lookout Light Station Visitor Center**. This area features a pedestrian plaza surrounded by the new Visitor Center, handicapped accessible rest rooms with sinks and running water and a large shade pavilion. The pavilion is where many of the park's guided interpretive programs begin and it also serves as a welcome spot to simply wait for your return ferry.

From the visitor center plaza, the boardwalk leads to the ocean beach, a beach transportation services pavilion, and to the newly refurbished historic **Keepers' Quarters Museum**. New exhibits at the museum tell the story of the Cape Lookout Light Station, the Lighthouse Keepers who were stationed here and the U.S. Life-Saving Service at Cape Lookout.

Ribbon of Sand Film

New in 2007, *Ribbon of Sand* describes the majesty of the Cape Lookout ecosystem from the soundside marshes and estuaries to the thin protective line of barrier islands of the Outer Banks, and the ocean depths beyond. The film offers spectacular imagery, including aerial and underwater photography, of this very special place. The 26-minute film is shown daily in the Harkers Island Visitor Center theater in a large screen format and in smaller format in the new mini-theater in the Keepers' Quarters Museum.



FERRY AND TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

To	Leaves From	Operator(s)	Type	Pets	Phone
North Core Banks, Portsmouth Village	Ocracoke	Rudy Austin	Passenger	Maybe, call first	(252) 928-4361
North Core Banks, Long Point	Atlantic	Morris Marina Kabin Kamps & Ferry Service	Vehicles / Passenger	On leash or in vehicle	(252) 225-4261 (877) 956-6568
South Core Banks, Great Island	Davis	Great Island Cabins & Ferry Service	Vehicles / Passenger	In vehicle or crate	(252) 225-4261 (877) 956-6568
South Core Banks, Cape Lookout Lighthouse & Shackleford Banks	Harkers Island	Calico Jacks Ferry Harkers Island Fishing Center Island Ferry Adventures at Barbour's Marina Local Yokel Ferry and Tours	Passenger Passenger Passenger	On leash On leash Call first	(252) 728-3575 (252) 728-3907 (252) 728-6181
South Core Banks, Cape Lookout Lighthouse & Shackleford Banks	Beaufort	Mystery Tours Outer Banks Ferry Service	Passenger Passenger	On leash, call first On leash	(252) 728-7827 (252) 728-4129
Shackleford Banks Only	Morehead City	Waterfront Ferry Service	Passenger	Maybe, call first	(252) 726-7678
Shackleford Banks Only	Beaufort	Island Ferry Adventures Mystery Tours	Passenger Passenger	Call first On leash, call first	(252) 728-7555 (252) 728-7827



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Visiting an Undeveloped Seashore

Come explore the beaches of Cape Lookout National Seashore! Whether you spend an hour, a day or camp overnight you are in for a truly unique experience. A boat ride, either on your own boat or one of the toll ferries, is required to reach these undeveloped islands. (See ferry list on page 2.)

With a little advance planning, you can count on a good visit; answers to some of the most commonly asked questions are provided within these pages (see Good Questions on page 4). For more assistance, stop in at the visitor center on Harkers Island – here you will find information, exhibits and help in planning your visit. The visitor center on Harkers Island is fully accessible and can be reached by car.



Harkers Island Visitors Center



There are 56 miles of pristine beach spanning 5 islands at the seashore.





Good Questions

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To help make your trip to the seashore more enjoyable, here are answers to some of the most common questions. If you do not find it here, don't hesitate to ask a ranger, call the park at 252-728-2250, or check out our web site at www.nps.gov/cal/.

What Is A "Trash Free Park"

There are no trash cans or trash pickup service anywhere in the seashore. Please help us keep the beaches clean by taking your trash (and more) back to the mainland with you.

Are There Changing Rooms And Showers?

The restrooms at the Light Station Visitor Center have changing rooms inside and an outside cold water rinse-off area. The cabin camps at Long Point on North Core Banks and at Great Island (milepost 30) on South Core Banks provide public shower facilities and bathrooms (but not changing rooms) for day use.



Are There Toilet Facilities?

On North Core Banks- flush toilets are located at Portsmouth Village and Long Point Camp and composting toilets are located on the trail into Portsmouth. On South Core Banks- flush toilets are found at Great Island Camp, and the Light Station Visitor Center and composting toilets are located near the point of the cape. On Shackleford Banks composting toilets are located on the sound at Wades Shore and the dock. If there is no toilet, find a remote area and bury human waste at least 6 inches in the sand.

Are There Stores Or Restaurants?

There are no restaurants or food stores on the islands. Bottled water is sold at the Light Station Visitor Center. Drinking water is available (seasonally) at Long Point Camp and Great Island Camp. A hand pump with iodine-treated water is located near the point of the cape on the back road.

Am I Allowed To Drive On The Beach?

Driving is permitted on North and South Core Banks, although there are no improved roads. Since all driving takes place on the open beach or on designated sand trails, four wheel-drive vehicles or all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are highly recommended. Vehicles are not allowed on Shackleford Banks. Ask about the regulations, as driving rules are strictly enforced.

May We Hunt And Fish?

Yes to both. The new NC Coastal Recreational Fishing License is required at the seashore. Fishing regulations are set by the NC Division of Marine Fisheries (see their web site: www.ncdmf.net/recreational/recguide.htm.) Hunting regulations are governed by the National Seashore and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NC hunting rules are at www.ncwildlife.org/index.htm). Outside of open hunting seasons, weapons are prohibited. Please ask about the location of park service safety closures.



Where May We Camp?

Camping is allowed almost anywhere except: within posted closed areas, in the concession camps, in Portsmouth Village, within 100 yards of the lighthouse or within 100 feet of other structures. Since there are no developed campsites, campers need to bring everything they need with them. Take a good tent and long stakes. Camping vehicles must stay on the ocean beach.

Is There An Option To Camping?

Overnight rustic cabin accommodations are available on North and South Core Banks. See page 13 for details on Cabin Camps.

May We Build A Campfire?

Yes, but ONLY on the open beach below the high tide line (i.e. not on the dunes, or in the trees). Only dead and down wood (driftwood) may be collected for firewood and is hard to find. Do not use shipwreck timbers or standing dead trees, as they are protected. Put out fires with water, not sand. Sand allows air to reach the fire, and the smoldering coals could burn someone's foot.



What About My Personal Watercraft (PWC)?

PWCs, sometimes known as jet skis, may land at 10 designated soundside locations within the Seashore. See page 8 or our web site <http://www.nps.gov/cal/>. The remainder of the Seashore is closed to PWC operation within 150 feet of the soundside shore.

May We Shoot Off Fireworks?

No. Fireworks are not allowed in any National Park Service area.

What If My Pet Comes On Vacation Too?

Pets are allowed but must remain on a six-foot leash at all times. Unleashed pets can impact wildlife, other visitors and the fine for having them off a leash (\$150 or more) will ruin your day. Please check ferries to confirm that they will carry pets to the Seashore and remember to plan for your pet's comfort and needs, especially with fresh drinking water and a bowl.





Staying Safe

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Park Rangers Help Protect Visitors From Harm

Ever ready to assist visitors to safely enjoy the seashore, park rangers at Cape Lookout National Seashore take pride in helping to protect visitors from harm.

The beautiful remote beaches, sun, surf, and water that attract so many folks to the seashore can also become a recipe for disaster.

To avoid turning a day at the beach into a day at the hospital (or worse), come prepared for the activity that you seek and take note of the safety tips below:

Watch the Weather

- Sunscreen and a shirt keep sunburn at bay.
- Summer lightning storms can kill- seek shelter.
- Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30.
- Carry a battery-operated radio on extended island stays to check for changes in the weather forecast.
- Summer high heat index and winter wind chills can cause life-threatening situations quickly. Bring water and protective clothes with you.

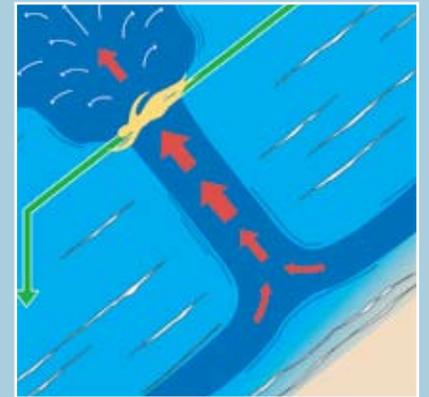
Swim Safely

- There are NO lifeguards at the seashore.
- Never swim alone.
- Keep young or inexperienced swimmers at hand or in sight.
- Don't swim near surfers.
- Don't swim in rough seas.
- Watch your footing when wading.
- Non-swimmers should wear Coast Guard approved flotation devices.
- Understand ocean tides, and rip currents before swimming.
- Watch for jellyfish and learn the first aid involved with stings.
- Be alert for boats and stay away from the ferry docks when swimming.
- Don't jump or dive from the ferry docks.

The rangers at Cape Lookout National Seashore wish you a safe and enjoyable visit. They are prepared to assist you if needed, but they hope that your day on the beach ends uneventfully.

Escape from Rip Currents

Rip currents, commonly called rip tides or undertows, are strong, narrow, river-like currents that are moving away from the shore. If you are caught in a rip current, **remain calm**. The current will not pull you under, but it will pull you out into deeper water. The best way to escape is to wade or swim parallel to the beach until you are out of the current. Then, when free, wade or swim back towards shore at an angle from the current. Do not attempt to swim directly against the current as you will only exhaust yourself.



As shown in this illustration, swimming parallel to the shore is the best way to escape from a rip current.

Image Credit: courtesy NC Sea Grant

Anatomy of a Rip Current

What is a rip current? Every summer we hear warnings and watches on the morning news and most people along the coast now have heard that you should swim along the shore until you clear the current, but few know how to spot a rip before it is too late.

A rip current is a strong flow of water returning seaward from the shore. It is often mistakenly called a "rip tide" or "riptide", though the occurrence is not related to the tides. Rip currents are also known simply as a rips, or undertow.

Although rip currents would exist even without the tides, tides can make an existing rip much more dangerous, especially at low tide. Rip currents can move to different locations on a beach break, up to a few hundred feet a day. They can occur at any beach with breaking waves, including oceans, and even large lakes, such as the Great Lakes in the United States and Canada.

While the precise conditions leading to a rip current are not known, the general picture is as follows: when wind and waves push water towards the shore, the previous backwash is often pushed sideways by the oncoming waves. This water streams along the shoreline until it finds an exit to the sea. The resulting rip current is usually narrow and located in a trench between sandbars, under piers or along jetties.

The current is strongest at the surface, and can dampen incoming waves, leading to the illusion of a particularly calm area, luring some swimmers in. Rip currents can be recognized by these unusually calm waters, along an otherwise active beach, caused by a column of water returning to sea. The color of the water may be different from the surrounding area, and the waterline is lower on the shore near a rip current.

Such currents can all be extremely dangerous, dragging swimmers away from the beach and leading to death by drowning when they attempt to fight the current and become exhausted. Rip currents can be deadly for non-swimmers as well: a person standing waist deep in water can be dragged out into deeper waters, where they can drown if they are unable to swim and are not wearing a flotation device. Always look for rip currents before heading into the water or allowing children to do so.

Emergencies - Where to Get Help

The following locations have park or concession staff available to provide emergency help (in season - generally April to November):

- Portsmouth Village, milepost 1—go to the Life Saving Station or to the Visitor Center
- Long Point cabin area, milepost 17
- Great Island cabin area, milepost 29
- Light Station Visitor Center, milepost 41



Cape Lookout Lighthouse & Village

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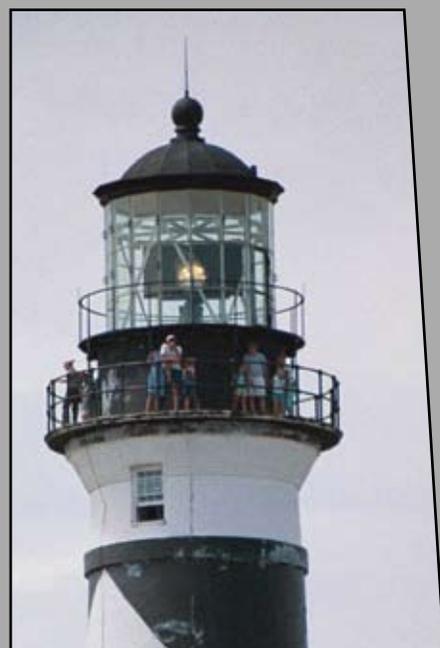
1859 Lighthouse Fast Facts:

Year current lighthouse completed	1859
Year painted with daymark pattern	1873
Year automated	1950
Height above sea level	169 ft.
Height above ground level	163 ft.
Focal plane of the lantern above mean high water	150 ft.
Wall thickness at the base	9 ft.
Wall thickness at the top	1 ft. 7 in.
Base diameter	28 ft. 7 in.
Top diameter	13 ft. 3 in.
Number of steps to gallery	207
Number of stair landings	5
Number of windows	10
Number of doors	2

A ship's hatch provides access to the gallery around the top of the lighthouse.

Light produced by two rotating beacons. Each 1000 watt bulb produces 800,000 candlepower.

Light color: white
Distance light seen out to sea: 25 nautical miles
Light pattern: 1 flash every 15 sec.



The view from the top is great!

A New Image of The 1812 Cape Lookout Lighthouse

Did you know that there were actually two Cape Lookout Lighthouses? Built in 1812, the first light was only 107 feet tall and was not at all up to snuff. Complaining about those early lights, ship captains noted that: "the lights on Hatteras, Lookout and Cape Florida had better be dispensed with, as the navigator is apt to run ashore looking for them." When its 163 foot replacement was built in 1859, the 1812 light was soon demolished.



Up until 2006, the only image of the light was a crude sketch found on an edge of a blueprint from the period. Recently, Lighthouse Society volunteers Bruce and Cheryl Roberts made an exciting discovery; they found a bid description for the 1812 light and its keepers quarters and an "as-built" schematic of the 1812 light. The 1812 light had a central brick stairwell, a granite spiral staircase and a painted wood exterior. Thanks to the Roberts research, an artist rendering was prepared of the early lighthouse.

A Centennial Challenge – Opening the Lighthouse to the Public by 2016

The National Park Service Centennial and the 50th anniversary of Cape Lookout National Seashore are just around the corner in 2016. In 2009 we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the construction of the Cape Lookout Lighthouse. In the run up to the centennial, President Bush has pledged a billion dollars in funding for special projects, provided that there are matching private donations. In response, the Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore are embarking on a campaign to restore the Cape Lookout Light Station and to open the lighthouse to the public by 2016.

Before this can happen, safety and preservation concerns need to be evaluated, and the lighthouse will need to be re-engineered for public use. Estimates for the cost of the work range from about \$250,000 to \$500,000 dollars for safety changes and about 4 million dollars for full restoration of the Light Station. Opening the lighthouse for visitors will also require annual funding for staff. (The Open House events are not possible without help from many volunteers.)

Open House events held four times a year to allow us to share our excitement and vision for the lighthouse with our visitors. These events provide a glimpse inside a working lighthouse. We currently provide reservation space for about 240 people to climb on each of the four Open House days. Please be patient, as these spaces are highly sought after and are filled within 2 hours of opening the reservations.

To be eligible to climb, you must:

To climb the lighthouse you must be at least 8 years old and be able to climb without assistance. Children under age 16 must be escorted by an adult.

Open House dates

June 16, 2007

Reservations accepted on Wednesday, May 30

August 4, 2007

Reservations accepted on Wednesday, July 18

November 3, 2007

Reservations accepted on Wednesday, October 17

Reservations may be made by calling: 252-728-5766 beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the reservation day.

For more information see our web page at <http://www.nps.gov/calor>



A Tight Squeeze to Get on The Lighthouse Gallery

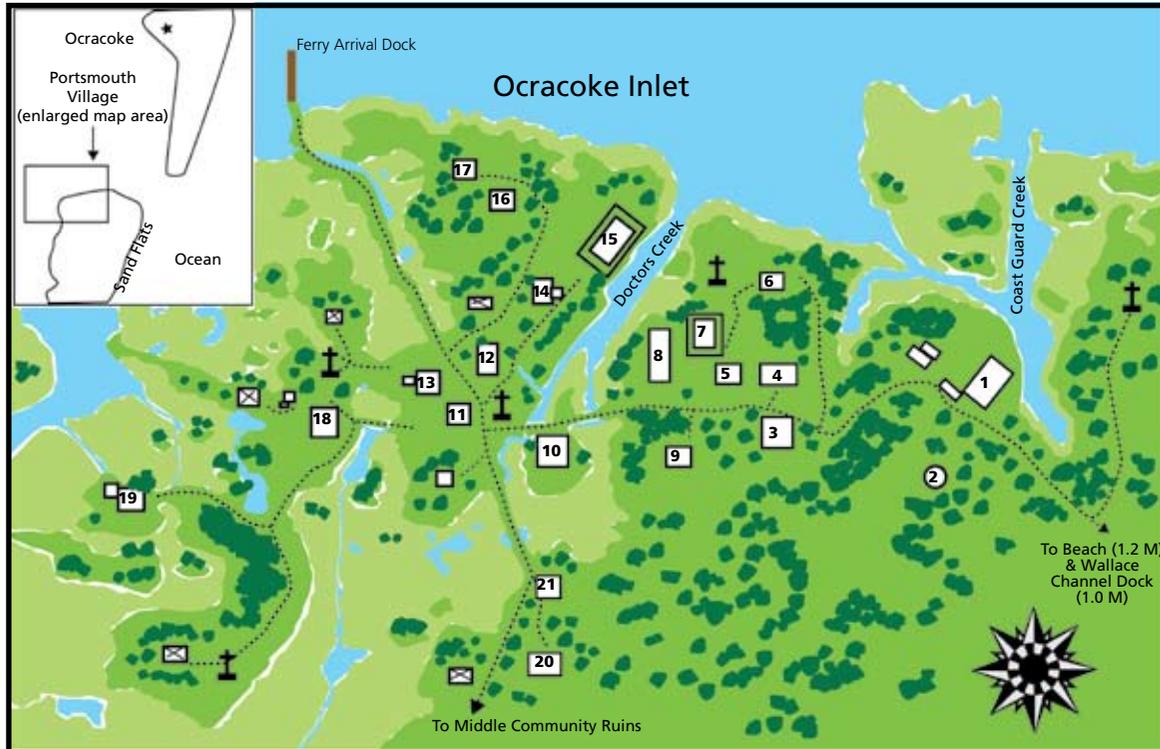


Portsmouth Village

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Portsmouth Homecoming: A Celebration of Place — April 19, 2008



Homecoming: a day of fellowship, adventure, history, and memories.

Homecomings are Southern celebrations of places and people with ties to those places. They are most often associated with a church or single family, but Portsmouth Homecomings welcome everybody. People from all over the country come to this special event. Typically, about half of those present are making their first visit to the village, having chosen this occasion as their introduction to Portsmouth. On North Carolina's Outer Banks, Portsmouth is the only place that is preserved as it was, a place where visitors can step back in time to revisit a part of our American heritage.

Portsmouth Homecomings are sponsored jointly by Cape Lookout National Seashore and the Friends of Portsmouth Island and are held every other year in the even-numbered years. In 2008, Homecoming will be on April 19th.

During Homecoming, several special events occur in the village ranging from a special postmark available in the Post Office to special music and open houses around the village. The highlight of the day is the program following the ringing of the church bell. After the program everyone enjoys another Southern tradition, an old fashioned "dinner on the grounds." This is a picnic-style potluck dinner (lunch) where those who can, bring food to share with everyone else.

Life-Saving Station Restoration

When Hurricane Isabel roared ashore in September 2003, the storm surge covered the island and flooded the village of Portsmouth. Every building in the village had water inside. Some buildings, such as the George and Patsy Dixon home and the US Life-Saving Service Station, were damaged by the actions of wind and waves. While these buildings received immediate attention to stabilize the worst of the damage, more needed to be done. This year, funding has been secured to begin repairing the damage to the US Live-Saving Service Station boat bay and to restore the building to its appearance at the end of WWII. Throughout the summer, National Park Service maintenance crews will be working on the station, re-laying the boat bay floor, replacing the boat bay doors and rebuilding the porch among other necessary repairs.

Map Legend

- Life-Saving Service Complex
- Cistern - U.S. Marine Hospital Site
- Lionel and Emma Gilgo House
- Harry and Lida Dixon House
- Jesse and Lillian Babb House
- Ed and Kate Styron House
- Ed, Nora, and Elma Dixon House
- Methodist Church
- Washington Roberts House
- George and Patsy Dixon House
- U.S. Post Office/General Store
- Walker and Sarah Styron House
- Theodore and Annie Salter House
- Tom and Lucy Gilgo House
- Henry Pigott House
- Carl Dixon House
- Frank Gaskill House
- Jody Styron and Tom Bragg House
- T. T. Potter House
- Cecil and Leona Gilgo House
- Portsmouth School

Water Ruin

Marsh Cemetery

Shrub Thicket/Grassland



13 Theodore and Annie Salter House: serves as a visitor center; inside are exhibits and public restrooms.



11 The U.S. Post Office: occupying a corner in the general store, the Post Office was the town's information and social hub.



21 Portsmouth School: All elementary grades and sometimes high school were taught together in the single room from 1927 until 1943.



1 The U.S. Life-Saving Station: from 1894 until 1938, the seven-man crew at this station was responsible for rescuing sailors from shipwrecks in the nearby ocean and sound waters.



What's New

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A License to Fish

There's nothing better than to relax out on the pier, or on the beach or even in a boat out on the sound with your fishing rod in your hand. Before wetting your line this year you'll need to purchase a North Carolina Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL.)

This new saltwater license is required for any person 16 years and older fishing from the beach, from a pier or in a boat in the sound or ocean out to three miles. This license is also needed by anyone using a gig or castnet.



The most common CRFL licenses are:

10-day Resident	\$5
10-day Non-Resident	\$10
Annual Resident	\$15
Annual Non-Resident	\$30

Licenses are available locally wherever a Wildlife Resources Commission Wildlife Service Agent is located. A complete list of these locations may be found at www.ncwildlife.org.

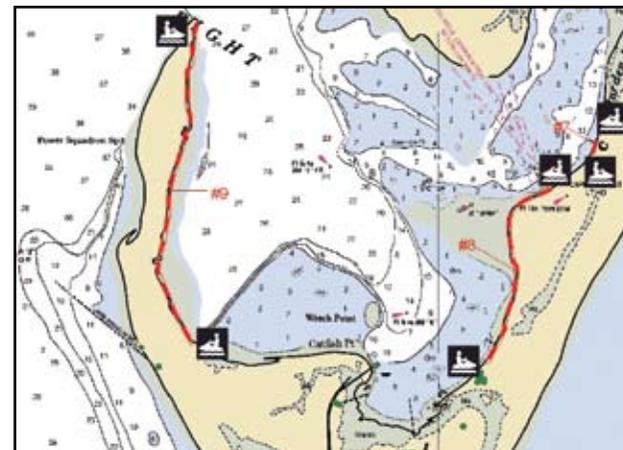
New PWC Access Locations

Personal Watercraft, also known as a PWC, JetSki, SeaDoo or Wave-Runner, have until recently been banned from Cape Lookout National Seashore. Beginning September 8, 2006, PWCs are allowed to land at 10 locations on the sound-side beaches of North Core Banks, South Core Banks and Shackleford Banks (see map.) The landing zones will be marked by signs and are described on the park web site at <http://www.nps.gov/cal/planyourvisit/pwc.htm>

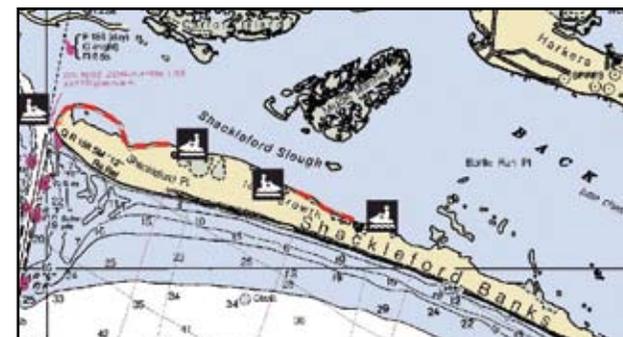
Park Service PWC Riding Rules:

-  PWCs must remain more than 150 feet from the shore except when landing at one of the ten landing zones.
-  In the landing zones, PWCs must operate at flat wake (no wake) speed and come directly to the shore.
-  PWCs must also adhere to the State of North Carolina rules for PWC operation. Know the rules before you ride: a summary of these rules is found on the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission web site at -- <http://www.ncwildlife.org/>

Note: Temporary wildlife closures may occur within the PWC access zones. These temporary closures may occur near inlets or along the spit for periods from April to August.



PWC landing zones , Cape Lookout Bight



PWC landing zones , Shackleford

A New Beach Protects the Lighthouse

The sound-side beach next to the Cape Lookout lighthouse had been eroding closer and closer to the historic buildings that make up the Cape Lookout Light Station. The daily tidal actions and strong storms had widened the inlet to within 100 feet of two of the buildings. When Hurricane Isabel roared ashore in 2003, one of the buildings was washed away.

After careful study of possible alternatives, it was decided to have the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredge some sand from an off-shore bar in the inlet. This sand would then be used to widen the beach area in front of Lighthouse. This project was completed in March 2006.

The new wide beach has been enjoyed by visitors to the lighthouse area, but it does not solve the erosion problem. It merely resets the erosional time clock. Once again the daily tidal actions will begin to work on the sand, carrying it gradually away. But for now the buildings of the historic Light Station are safe from the effects of erosion.





Off-Road Vehicles

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Accessing Park Beaches With Your ORV

The National Park Service welcomes visitors to enjoy the beautiful and undeveloped ocean beaches of Cape Lookout National Seashore. Much of the ocean beach on North and South Core Banks is open to off-road vehicle (ORV) use during the spring, summer and fall months.

Some sections of ocean beach are open to pedestrians and swimmers only for safety reasons and to reduce user conflicts.

Other beach areas may be temporarily closed to ORVs or all recreation (ORVs and pedestrians) when they are being used by protected species such as nesting shorebirds and sea turtles.

To provide for both recreational access and species protection, the park will use adaptive management,



Driving on the beach is a longstanding tradition

shrinking or expanding the closure area given the specific behavior or requirements of protected wildlife. If species behavior indicates that the shoreline needs to be temporarily closed, alternative ORV routes or bypasses may be established to maintain access whenever possible.

For current beach access information, visit the seashore visitor center or check the park web site at www.nps.gov/calor.



Why an ORV Plan?

President Richard Nixon signed Executive Order 11644 in 1972 in an effort to protect Federal lands from the potentially harmful effects of ORV use. This order requires Federal land managers to designate specific areas where ORVs may and may not be permitted. This designation is to be based on the protection of natural resources, the promotion of the safety of all users of those lands, and minimization of conflicts among user groups. Federal land managers are also required to monitor the effects of ORVs on public lands.

Executive Order 11989, signed by President Carter, directs land managers to immediately close areas or trails to ORVs when their user causes considerable adverse effects on the soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat or cultural or historic resources.

Completion of an ORV Plan for Cape Lookout National Seashore will, in part, satisfy these executive orders.

If you would like to be updated on the planning process, please access the National Park Service planning and public comment web site at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/calor>.



Off-Road Vehicle Management Planning and Regulation

The National Park Service is currently in the process of developing an off-road vehicle (ORV) management plan for Cape Lookout National Seashore. Public input and comment will be a key component in the successful development of the plan and associated regulation.

The ORV plan will address resource protection (including protected, threatened and endangered species), visitor safety and potential conflicts among various park users. The plan will also ensure that ORV use is managed within applicable law, including

the park's enabling legislation, which provides Congress' intent for the management and use of the park.

This plan will satisfy Executive Orders 11644 and 11989, which require the NPS to develop regulations for parks that allow ORV use. Rulemaking is the process used by Federal agencies to formulate, amend or repeal a regulation.

As is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an ORV management plan would need to be supported by an environmental impact statement (EIS).

When taking an ORV on park beaches remember:

-  A ferry is required to bring your vehicle to the seashore, see page 2.
-  Drive only four-wheel-drive vehicles on the beach. Two-wheel-drive and all-wheel-drive vehicles do not have adequate traction and are likely to get stuck. Towing is limited and very costly.
-  Before entering the beach, lower tire pressure to 20 psi or less. Lowering the tire pressure and driving at a slow steady rate of speed are the best ways to get around.
-  If stuck, lower tire pressure more. If your wheels start to spin, slowly back up in your tire tracks for several car lengths and then slowly accelerate forward.
-  Be aware of tide changes and don't get trapped – some sections of beach can be cut off by high tides. Use the last ramp and the back road when it is available.
-  Any law applicable to vehicle use on a paved road in the State of North Carolina also applies to ORV use. All operators must have a driver's license and be at least 16 year of age.
-  Avoid driving in the wrack line. The wrack line is a line of stranded natural debris on the beach left by the previous high tide that can be an important food source for protected birds
-  For a comprehensive listing of ORV tips and regulations, ask for an ORV site bulletin at any park visitor center.



Park Activities

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Park Activities The 2007 – 2008 Edition

The programs listed below will be offered from May 26 through September 4. Additional programs may be offered. Check at the Visitor Center for a complete schedule. Programs will run on schedule unless there is inclement weather. For more information on these and other program offerings call (252) 728-2250.

DAILY PROGRAMS

Cape Lookout Lighthouse Area

Lighting the Way (15 minutes)

Meet on the porch of the Assistant Keepers' Quarters next to the lighthouse.

Come learn the history of the Cape Lookout Lighthouse and the life of a lighthouse keeper.

Life of a Keeper (30 minutes)

Program time is 11:15 AM. Program is offered on Saturday and Sunday from May 26 through June 3, offered Daily after June 3.

Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock.

Lighthouse Keepers were dedicated men and women who kept the light burning through fair weather and hurricanes. Come discover how they, and their families, managed to keep the light burning.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Cape Lookout Lighthouse Area

Storms, Wars & Shipwreck Stories (30 minutes)

Program times are 2:15 PM on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock.

Nor'easters and Hurricanes, pirates and wars have all left behind stories and marks on the island that live long beyond those who lived through them. Join a Ranger to hear the stories of these part storms and how over 3000 ships and people were claimed by the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

Discovery Cart (30 minutes)

Programs start at 2:15 PM on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday. Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock.

Come and discover what lies beneath the waters of Cape Lookout National Seashore at our Discovery Cart. Learn about horseshoe crabs, loggerhead sea turtles, sea urchins, sharks, whales, shells and the creatures that live within them, and much more!

Portsmouth Village

Portsmouth Village Guided Tour (1 hour)

Tours begin at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM on Thursday, and at 9:30 AM on Friday and Saturday. Meet at the Haulover Channel Dock in Portsmouth Village.

Come and discover what life was like for those who once called Portsmouth and the Outer Banks home. Be sure to bring drinking water, bug repellent and sunscreen. There are no amenities in the village.

Long Point

Island Discovery (30 minutes)

Program begins: afternoons on most Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Check in camp for subject and start time.

Come join a Park Ranger for new adventures at Cape Lookout National Seashore. From the ocean to the sound, the sea to the sky, these programs will take you on a different encounter with nature each day.

Evening Program (1 hour)

Program begins: Tuesday evening. Check in camp for subject and start time.

SELECT DATES

The following programs are presented on selected days.

Cape Lookout Lighthouse Area

Ranger Story Time (30 minutes)

Programs start at 1:30 PM on alternate Saturdays. June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25.

Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock.

Need a break from the hot sun and sand? Why not join the Ranger in the shade shelter for a short program of fun stories for children and their favorite adult.

Shoreline Walk (45 minutes)

Programs start at 1:00 PM on alternate Saturdays. June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25.

Meet on the sound-side beach near the Lighthouse Keeper's Summer Kitchen.

Come explore the underwater world of Cape Lookout Bight. Discover live sand dollars, sea stars and hermit crabs using "glass bottom" buckets for a look beneath the waters.

Fishing with a Ranger (1 hour)

Programs start at 2:00 PM on alternate Saturdays. June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18, September 1.

Meet at the ocean beach overlook at the end of the boardwalk.

Join a ranger and other fishing enthusiasts to learn the art of surf fishing. We provide poles, water and instruction. Catching fish is up to you. An adult must accompany participants 13 and younger during this program.





Park Activities

FREE

Cape Lookout National Seashore

2007–2008 Edition

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Cape Lookout Lighthouse							
Discovery Cart	2:15	2:15		2:15		2:15	2:15
Fishing with a Ranger							2:00 Alternate weekends
Life of a Keeper	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15	11:15
Lighting the Way	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15	10:15, 1:15, 3:15
Ranger Story Time							1:30 Alternate weekends
Shoreline Walk							1:00 Alternate Weekends
Storms, Wars, and Shipwreck Stories			2:15		2:15		
Barrier Island Ecology			11:30, 1:30		11:30, 1:30		11:00
Tidal Flat Exploration				various dates and times		various dates and times	
Portsmouth Village							
Portsmouth Village					9:30, 11:30	9:30	9:30
Shackleford							
Horse Sense & Survival	various dates -- by reservation only						

Cape Lookout Lighthouse Area (cont' d)

Barrier Island Ecology (1 hour)

Programs begin at 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM on Tuesday and Thursday. Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock. Check the Program Calendar for dates.

Join the North Carolina Coastal Federation for an educational walk from the estuary to the ocean. Learn about animal and plant adaptations for life on a barrier island, the constant migration of these barrier islands, and environmental issues the Cape Lookout National Seashore faces today. All ages are welcome: Please wear comfortable walking shoes, clothing, and appropriate sun-gear.

Tidal Flat Exploration (30 minutes)

Program start times vary as they are set to take advantage of low tide on the day they are given.

Dates: June 13, 11:30 AM; June 15, 1:00 PM; June 27, 11:00 AM; June 29, 12:00 noon; July 11, 10:00 AM; July 13, 12:00 PM; July 25, 9:30 AM; July 27, 11:00 AM; August 8, 9:00 AM; August 10, 11:00 AM
Meet at the Light Station Pavilion near the ferry dock.

Join the North Carolina Coastal Federation to explore tidal flats and search for wanderers, burrowers and hunters that call these sandy areas home. Discover the survival techniques of whelks, worms, wentletraps and other marine creatures. Wear shoes to protect your feet and be prepared to get wet.

The North Carolina Coastal Federation will also be available for tours as requested at any other time from Monday through Friday. Please call Jessica at 252-808-3301 for details.

Shackleford Banks

Horse Sense & Survival (4 hours) By Reservation Only

Program dates: May 15, June 20, July 10, September 29, October 7

The wild horses on Shackleford Banks are fascinating to observe but may be difficult to find. Join a Ranger for a day-long walking trip to find horses and watch their behavior. The park will arrange transportation by local ferries; there will be a charge for this ride. If you have your own boat, call the park for reservations and meeting locations. There is no charge for the walking program. Come prepared for a day in the sun and for walking through dunes in deep sand. Comfortable walking shoes that can get wet & muddy are a must. Bring water, lunch/snacks, bug repellent, sunscreen, a sun hat, binoculars, and camera with telephoto lens. Call (252) 728-2250 for reservations, more information on the program, ferry costs and other questions.





Park Friends & Partners

FREE

Cape Lookout National Seashore

2007-2008 Edition

Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center

The folk art and traditions found along the waterways of eastern North Carolina's coastal communities thrive at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center. Located on Harkers Island within Cape Lookout National Seashore, the museum features community exhibits and demonstration programs on carving, model boat building, story telling and music. Throughout the year, the local Down East communities gather at the Museum to celebrate and document the living traditions of their communities. Educational programs for school groups are also available year round. Hours are Monday-Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 2-5. For more information please call (252) 728-1500 or check their web sites at www.coresound.com and www.downeasttour.com.



Cape Lookout Studies Program

The North Carolina Maritime Museum collaborates with Seashore staff to maintain a field station, located at the former Cape Lookout Coast Guard Station, from which to base overnight field trips to the area. The trips include lectures and activities that focus on dolphin biology and behavior, sea turtle conservation, kayaking, photography, renewable energy and cultural history. **On the web**, visit <http://capelookoutstudies.org/> for more information.



Friends of Portsmouth Island

A non-profit organization founded to foster and promote public knowledge of and interest in Portsmouth Island's past, present and future. A co-sponsor of the bi-annual Homecoming celebration, the Friends of Portsmouth Island also collaborate with Cape Lookout National Seashore on projects that preserve the village. See www.friendsofportsmouthisland.org.

Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore

The Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore is a non-profit organization that supports the National Park Service's mission of preserving Cape Lookout National Seashore. From Portsmouth Village to Shackleford Banks, the Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore need your help to accomplish the mission of preserving, restoring and enhancing the Park's resources. You can show you care about Cape Lookout by joining the Friends using the form below.

Join Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore

Count me in!

Friend \$15 Family \$25

Assistant Lighthouse Keeper \$50

Lighthouse Keeper \$100

Other (\$100+)

All contributions are tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please include your check with this form.

Mail to:
Friends of Cape Lookout National Seashore
131 Charles St.
Harkers Island, NC 28531

...and help restore, preserve and enjoy one of the nation's most spectacular places.

To Learn More...

about North Carolina Sea Life

Visit the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores. Located on Bogue Banks near mile marker 7. Information: (252) 247-4003
Web site: www.ncaquariums.com/pks/pksindex.htm
Admission: \$8 adults; \$7 ages 62 and over; \$6 children ages 6-17. Children 5 and under, members of the North Carolina Aquariums and registered North Carolina school groups are admitted free. From the mountains to beneath the sea: the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores showcases the incredible diversity of aquatic habitats. Special educational programs and field trips are offered throughout the year.



Write them at: P. O. Box 580, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512-0560

about Decoy Carving & History

Visit the Core Sound Decoy Carvers Guild Located near Harkers Island on Harkers Island Road
Information: (252) 838-8818
Web: www.decoyguild.com
Admission: Free
Hours: Tue-Sat: 10 AM-2 PM
Museum, decoy carvers, shop, annual events.



Write them at P.O. Box 1574
Harkers Island, NC 28531

about N.C. Maritime History

Visit the N.C. Maritime Museum Located in Beaufort at 315 Front Street
Information: (252) 728-7317
Web Site: www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/maritime
Admission: Free
Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 AM-5 PM,
Sat: 10 AM-5 PM,
Sun 1 PM-5 PM
Museum, boat building, special educational programs and trips (fee)



Write them at: 315 Front Street
Beaufort, NC 28516-2124



Park Lodging

FREE

Cape Lookout National Seashore

2007–2008 Edition

Park Lodging



Long Point Cabin

Gentle breezes, miles of unspoiled beaches, and dark night skies perfect for stargazing are all summer attractions along the coast. The beaches within Cape Lookout National Seashore are a perfect place to get away from everything and slow down to the rhythms of nature. One way to enjoy the lure of a deserted beach is to stay overnight in one of the park's cabin camps.

Cabin lodging areas within the seashore are located at Long Point on North Core Banks opposite the town of Atlantic and at Great Island on South Core Banks opposite the town of Davis. These rustic cabins provide an alternative to camping and are reachable by a concession operated ferry. Ferry service to these areas generally begins in mid-March and continues through the end of November. The cabins normally open for rental soon after the ferry starts operation. Long Point and Great Island also provide shade shelters, public restrooms and public showers with hot water for the convenience of day users and beach campers.

A caretaker is available at each camp to assist with information, emergency medical assistance and mainland contact. Arrangements may be made through this person for ordering bait, ice, limited groceries and other supplies. Gasoline is also available at the camps.



Ferry from Atlantic



Ferry from Davis



Great Island Cabin



What do we mean by a "rustic" cabin?

- ☛ Each is equipped with such basic amenities as beds, hot and cold running water, indoor plumbing and gas stoves. There are no refrigerators or air conditioners.
- ☛ Electricity is provided by generator or solar panels. At Great Island, customers must bring their own generator.
- ☛ Customers must furnish their own cooking utensils, bed linens, dishes and ice chests.
- ☛ Before checking out, customers are expected to clean the sink and table, remove trash and sweep the cabin.
- ☛ Pets are not permitted in the cabins.

For up-to-date ferry/looding rates, schedules and reservations, call:

From Atlantic to Long Point, North Core Banks, Morris Marina Kabin Kamps & Ferry Service, Inc.
From Davis to Great Island, South Core Banks, Great Island Cabins and Ferry Service, Inc.
1-252-225-4261 or 1-877-956-6568 (toll free) Or on the web at: www.capelookoutconcessions.com/

Ferry Schedule

Departures from Atlantic and Davis:

7:00 am
9:00 am (Great Island Only)
11:00 am
3:00 pm

Returns from Long Point and Great Island:

8:00 am
10:00 am (Great Island Only)
12:00 noon
4:00 pm



Preserve & Protect

FREE

Cape Lookout National Seashore

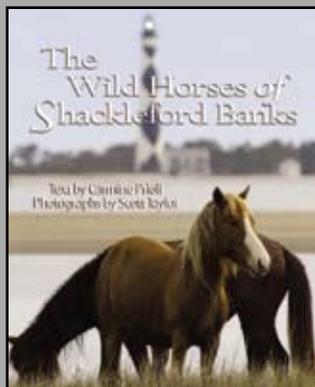
2007–2008 Edition

Wild Horse Watching Tips, Shackleford Banks

Shackleford's 110-130 horses live in about 30 groups called "harems" (stallions, mares and foals) and "bachelor bands" (only stallions). They may be seen in all parts of the island but you may need to hunt around a bit to find them.

Remember that the horses are wild – they must find their own food and water and protect themselves from danger. Wild horses see humans and dogs as something dangerous. If you get too close to the horses they may defend themselves by charging, kicking or biting. For you and your pet's safety:

- Watch the horses from a safe distance. If the horse stops what it's doing to stare directly at you, stop there. If it starts to move away, you are already too close.
- Bring binoculars and use a telephoto lens so you won't disturb the horses or endanger yourself.
- Keep your dog on a leash for its and the horses' safety (and it's the law!).
- Always carry fresh water for yourself and your pet. During the warm months, bug repellent is recommended.



The Wild Horses of Shackleford Banks
by Carmine Prioli

Wild Horse Behavior

Wild horses display a myriad of fascinating behaviors for anyone who has the time to sit at a distance with binoculars and watch. Here are some behaviors you might see.



Observing: Horses will stand on dunes to look for other horses. They also stand on high spots to take advantage of the breeze that keeps insects away.



Mutual Grooming: A stallion and his mare scratch each other on the backs and necks. This behavior is also seen between mares who know each other well and between mares and their older offspring. The stallion's ears – part way back – show his concentration.



Following: Harems most often follow their alpha (most dominant) mare. The stallion most often brings up the rear unless he is checking ahead for a potential rival



Herding: Stallions keep their mares in the harem and away from other stallions by herding them.



Flehman: Stallions (mostly) use their vomeronasal organ (sensory apparatus in the nose) to detect pheromones (chemicals used for communication) by closing their nasal passages with their upper lip and raising their noses in the air.



Preserve & Protect

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Cape Lookout National Seashore

2007–2008 Edition

Aggressive behaviors

Remember that these aggressive behaviors can be directed toward other animals, like dogs, and toward people. Keep your dog on a leash and stay away from the horses for safety.



Checking a potential threat: Stallions will often come out of their harems to see if the creature they see approaching is a rival stallion.



Nose-to-Nose: Stallions size each other up by sniffing noses



Pinned Ear Threat: Horses threaten each other by pinning their ears back (normally even closer to their neck than this) and tightening their lips. This young bachelor is trying to chase his neighbor from the water without success.



Parallel Prance: Stallions try to show their opponent how formidable they are by trotting side by side with their necks arched and manes flying.



Striking: This stallion is striking the ground during a conflict. His opponent seems unimpressed – and later won by chasing off the aggressor. Stallions also strike at each other and can inflict dangerous blows.



Kick Threats: Feuding horses threaten each other by backing towards each other and threatening to kick with the hind legs. Mares do this more than stallions, but this photo shows two stallions. The stallions are defending their mares (seen on right and left sides of the photo).

Dogs Can Threaten Wildlife

While most visitors know that dogs must be leashed, many fail to understand how dogs can negatively impact the seashore wildlife and other visitors.

The seashore provides critical breeding habitat for many coastal and migrant bird species in North Carolina. Coastal birds nest on bare sandy beaches and it is often not obvious to visitors that birds are nesting nearby. Loose dogs can interrupt breeding behaviors, chase birds off of their nests and expose the nest to predators. Once disturbed, birds may abandon nesting at those locations altogether.

Most bird species are protected, and many are listed as threatened or endangered. For example, about two-thirds of all the piping plovers (an endangered species) in North Carolina nested at the seashore in 2005.



You may never notice the bird nest nearby

Warning:
The fine for having
your dog off leash is
\$150



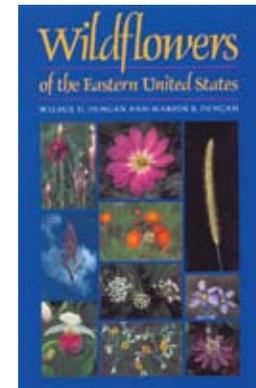
From the Bookstore

FREE

Cape Lookout National Seashore

2007-2008 Edition

The bookstores located at the Harkers Island and Light Station Visitor Centers are operated by Eastern National, a non-profit partner to the National Park Service providing educational materials for sale at many park sites. Profits from book sales are returned to parks for use in educational programs. The bookstores carry adult and children's books and guides, videos, high quality prints, lighthouse models, and small souvenirs spanning a variety of subjects, including: nature, beaches, environmental topics, outdoor guides and travel, lighthouses and lifesaving, coastal history and life, WWII, and more. Call 252-728-2250, extension "o" for more information.



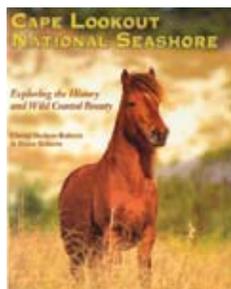
Wildflowers of the Eastern United States
By Wilbur H. Duncan and Marion B. Duncan
\$19.95
Nature guide series are available for novice and experienced naturalists.

The Wild Horses of Shackleford Banks
By Carmine Prioli, photos by Scott Taylor
\$16.95



Cape Lookout National Seashore: Exploring the History and Wild Coastal Beauty

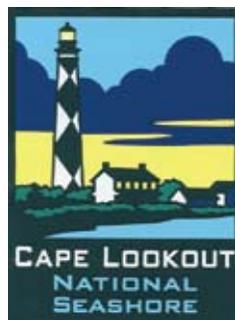
By Cheryl Shelton-Roberts & Bruce Roberts
\$5.95
A beautiful guide to the Seashore



US Life-Saving Service Surfman's Uniform Insignia Patch \$3.00

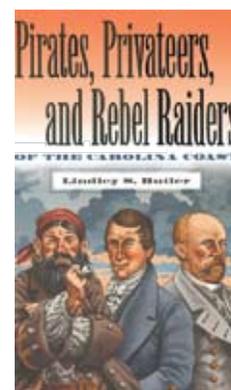
US Lighthouse Keepers Service Dress Uniform Hat Patch \$2.00

Cape Lookout National Seashore Patch \$3.50



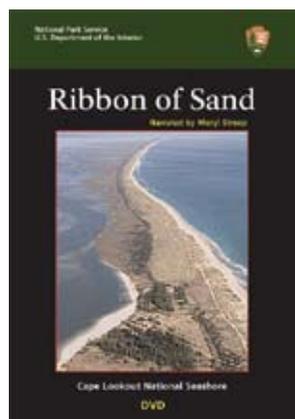
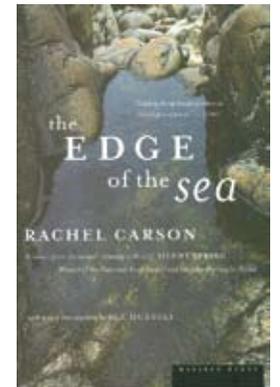
Americas National Parks Collectors Series Patches, Stickers and Pins
Sticker: \$2.95; Patch: \$5.95; Pin: \$5.95

Nature guide series are available for novice and experienced naturalists.

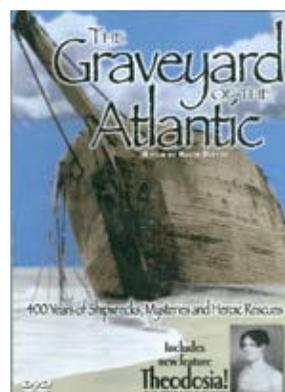


Pirates, Privateers, and Rebel Raiders of the Carolina Coast
By Lindley S. Butler
\$16.95
Of pirates and the struggle to control the coast

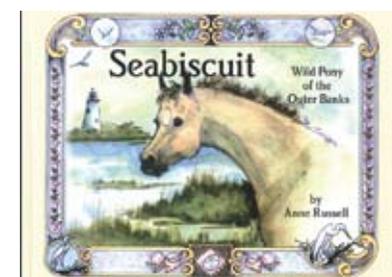
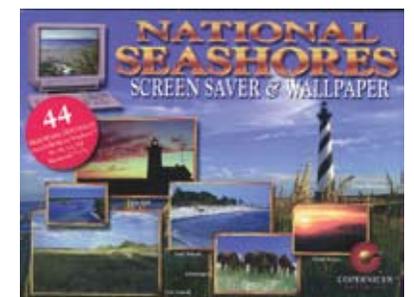
The Edge of the Sea
By Rachel Carson
\$14.00
Explore the writing of this environmental pioneer who loved the sea, best known for *Silent Spring*.



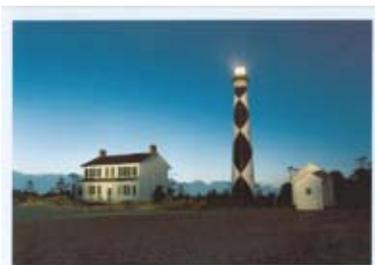
Ribbon of Sand
DVD, 26 Minutes (price not yet available)
Striking imagery of the seashore as you journey from the mainland to the ocean depths.



The Graveyard of the Atlantic: 400 Years of Shipwrecks, Mysteries and Heroic Rescues
A film by Keven Duffus
DVD, \$19.95



Sea Turtles
By Gail Gibbons
\$6.95
Delightful children's books, nature guides for the budding naturalist, and coloring books, sticker books and activity guides are available.



Cape Lookout Keepers' Cottage
By Steve Exum
5"x7" print in single 8"x10" mat; \$15.00
Browse the many postcards and framing art prints from a variety of local and regional artists.

