



Florence, Oregon

A Weekend Guide for the Sleepy Side of the Oregon Coast

Florence at a Glance

Great for: Couples, food lovers, scenic drives, slower weekends

Drive from Bend: About 3.5 hours

Stay: 2 nights

Don't miss: Heceta Head Lighthouse, Old Town, Oregon Dunes

Book ahead: Dinner reservations

Surprised me: How early the town goes to sleep

Would I go back? Absolutely.



Is Florence Right for You?

Florence is quieter, slower, and less polished than other beach towns - and that's exactly the point. It's more restorative than it is exciting. Ocean views, fresh seafood, giant sand dunes, and long evenings on the deck.

You'll love it if you...

- Prefer wandering over rushing
- Appreciate dramatic coastlines and scenic drives
- Think fresh seafood and a glass of wine is the perfect evening

Maybe not for you if you...

- Want nightlife or late-night options
- Need lots of restaurant choices without wanting to make reservations
- Prefer a busy, high-energy beach town

Weekend Budget

Lodging: \$\$-\$\$\$ | Food: \$\$ | Activities: \$-\$\$\$

Surprisingly affordable. Your biggest variable is lodging and whether you add golf, dune tours, or other paid activities.

If I Were Planning This Weekend Again...

Friday

Arrive before dinner.
Check into your lodging.
Wander Old Town before the shops close.
Enjoy dinner (with a reservation!).
Catch the sunset.
Relax back at your rental with your favorite evening drink.



Sunday

Breakfast.
Walk across the beautiful Siuslaw River Bridge with its iconic Gothic arches.
Instead of rushing home, build one more stop into your drive. Lakes, state parks and hiking trails abound in nearly every direction. Florence is a great starting point for one last adventure before heading home.



Saturday

Quiet walk to a local coffee shop while the town is still waking up.
Slow breakfast.
Drive to Heceta Head State Park.
 Parking: \$10 residents / \$12 non-residents (State Parks Pass accepted).
Walk up to the lighthouse.
Take your time. Walk the beach.
Pull over whenever the view makes you smile.
Enjoy lunch.
Spend the afternoon browsing Old Town's galleries and shops.
Dinner reservation.
Another quiet evening on the deck.

Looking for more adventure...
Hobbit Beach - A beautiful forest trail to the beach (about 4.5 miles round trip).
Sea Lion Caves - Open year-round, activity varies by season. Check ahead.
Oregon Dunes - Explore on foot, rent a sandboard, or book a dune buggy tour.

Places I'd Happily Return

River Roasters Coffee - Go for the deck overlooking the Siuslaw River. It's the kind of place that makes you want to order one more cup just so you can sit there a little longer.

Waterfront Depot - Small, intimate, and absolutely worth making a reservation. Great food, fabulous cocktails, beautiful views, and one of the highlights of our weekend.

1285 Restobar - Good food, friendly atmosphere, indoor/patio/sidewalk seating.

Los Amigos Burritos - Casual lunch, warm chips and excellent Birria Burritos. Nothing fancy, just super tasty.



Until next weekend... Michelle

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