

25 Gorgeous Coastal National Parks

From sea to shining sea, these protected lands (national parks, seashores, lakeshores, and more!) are brimming with breathtaking scenery, amazing wildlife, and activities galore.



Cape Lookout National Seashore, North Carolina

The adventure to these undeveloped barrier islands three miles off the North Carolina shore begins with a trip on a ferry (<http://www.nps.gov/caloc/planyourvisit/>) or a breezy boat ride from the mainland. Once you arrive, there's plenty to do, including fishing, bird-watching, camping, and climbing the Cape Lookout Lighthouse's 207 stairs to take in the view.