

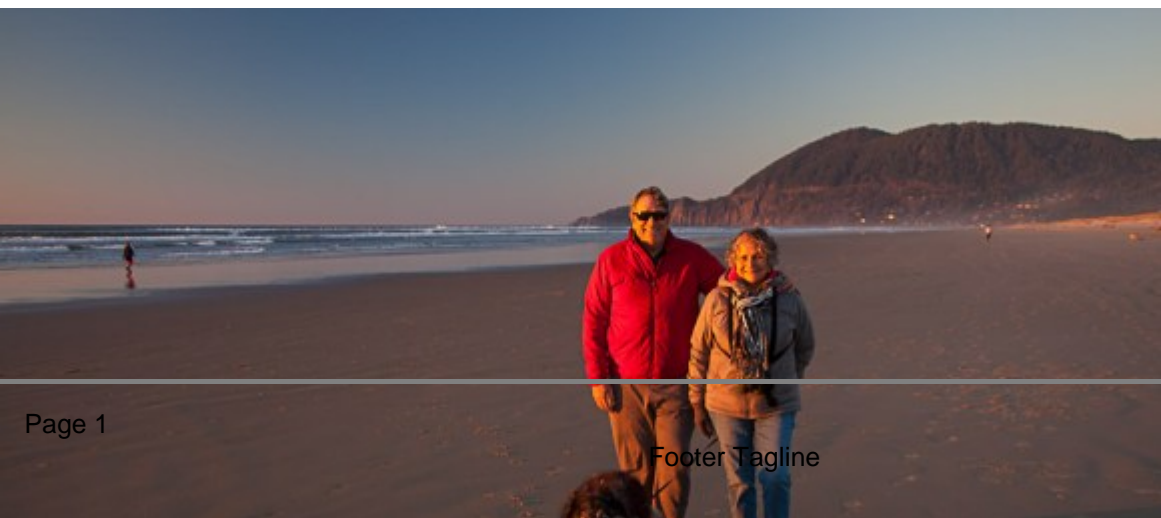


The Beautiful Beaches of Northern Oregon



We headed down

the coast with no real destination in mind, but the beautiful beaches of Northern Oregon were too alluring. So we decided to make it a short drive and stop near the adorable town of Manzanita.



We camped at Nehalem Bay State Park, which we had
sand spit with the ocean on one side and the bay on the

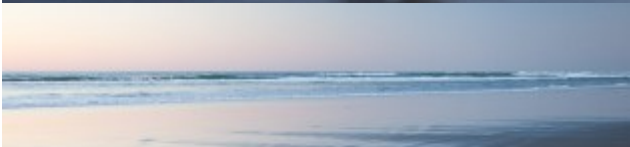
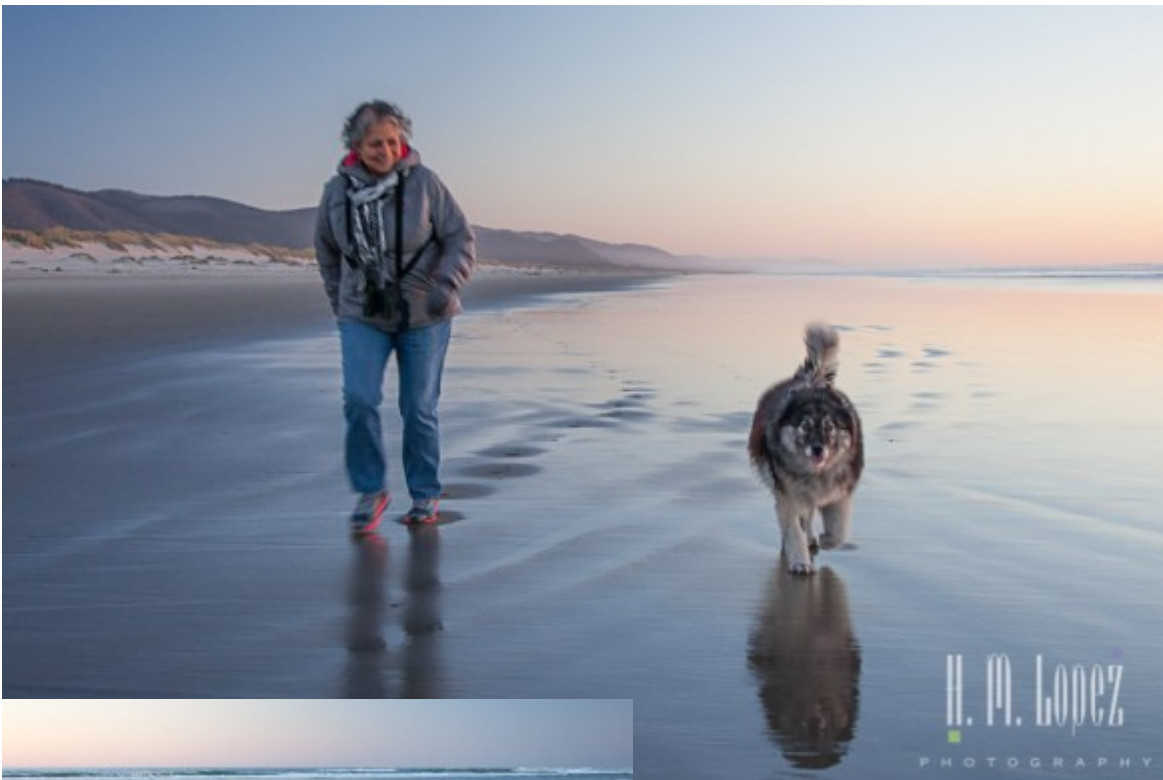


out. The park is on a
Cannon Beach.

Perfect. Check out my review of the campground [here](#).



default watermark



There was a path to the beach right behind our site. The trail to those long, wide beaches that dot this coast. More beach walk



to one of
s on the

program, as we were fortunate to have clear skies once again.

Stacks of driftwood have washed ashore many of the untamed landscape. Some of the huge logs are from



in
old

when they succumbed to the forces of nature or man.

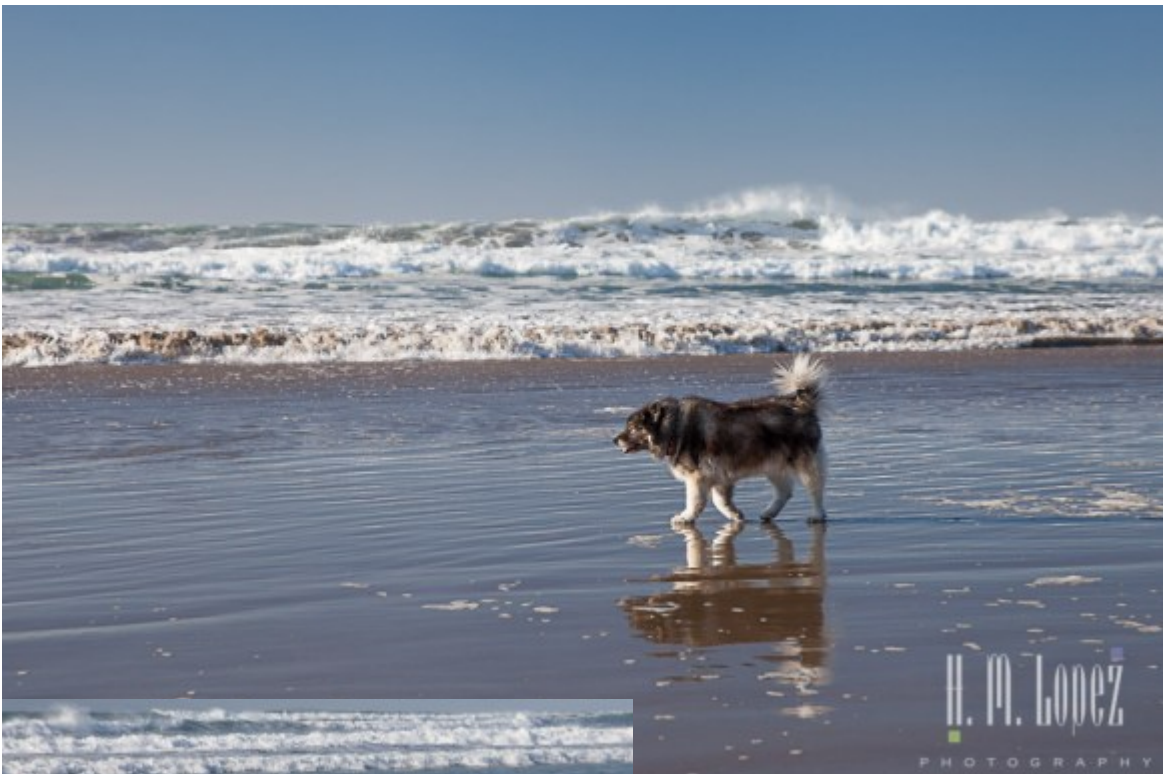


All of that driftwood has contributed to the tradition amongst those of the Oregon Coast of building “forts”, structures that serve as shelters on these wild, windy beaches. Most of them are built during the summer, and the ocean waves wash many of them away. But others are thoughtfully built structures that are sturdy enough to withstand the elements.





The next morning we returned to our “private” beach at Nehalem Bay. Angel loves to run around on the beach and skim the water’s edge, but she never jumps in the water, whether it is the ocean or a lake or a river. She seems to like the water on her paws, but just is not a water dog.



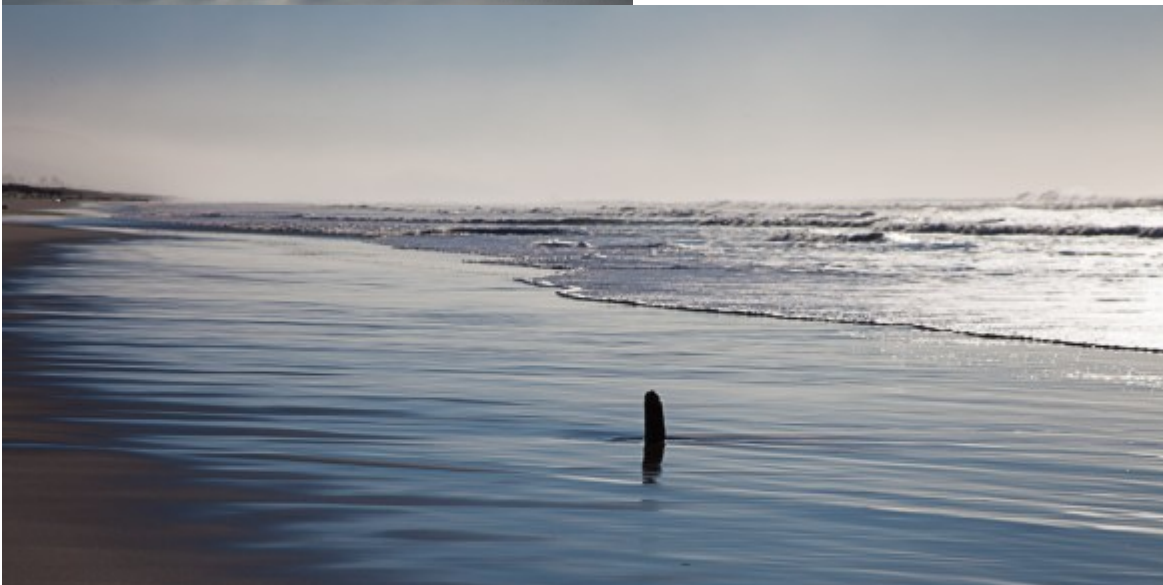
The waves had just receded a bit and Angel was following the water's edge back, when I realized she was too close. This is something I am always aware of since Oregon is known for "sneaker" waves that suddenly surge much higher than the preceding waves.



The waves that followed were not exactly sneaker waves, but they came

up to Angel's chest. She looked confused and I ran in after her. When the wave rolled back she was having a bit of a tough time with her footing in the undertow so I went in to the water and supported her to help her get back on dry ground.

Hector hesitated, wondering if he needed to jump in also, so he only got one photo of Angel with her scared face. All was ok though.



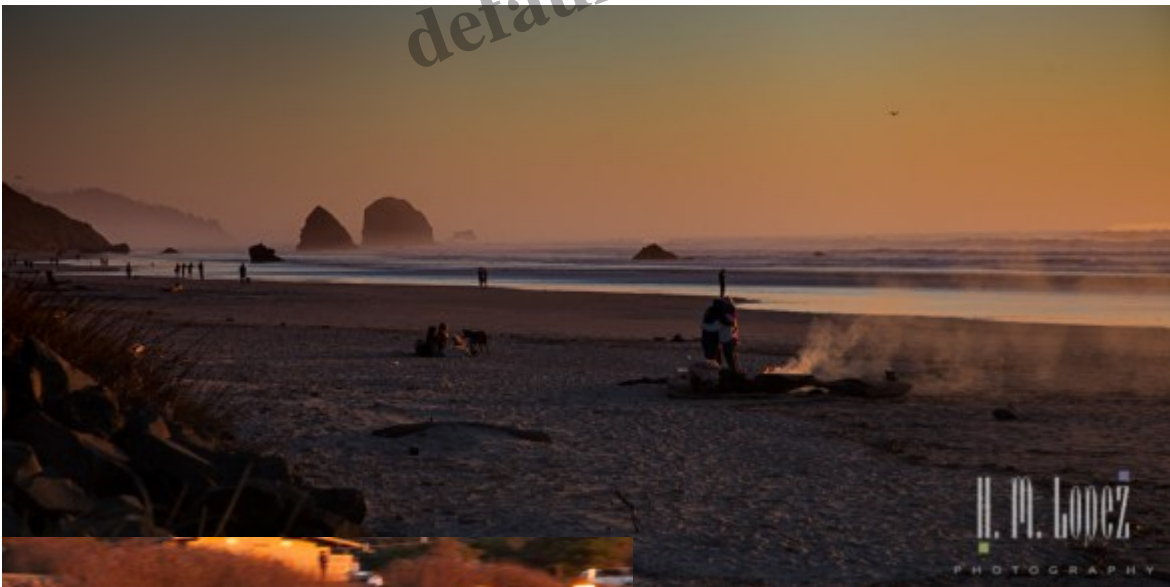
That afternoon we headed to Cannon Beach, a picturesque town and popular weekend getaway for Portlanders. The town was renamed after a cannon that washed ashore when the US Navy schooner Shark hit land while attempting to cross the Columbia River Bar in 1846. The original cannon sits in the town's museum.



default watermark

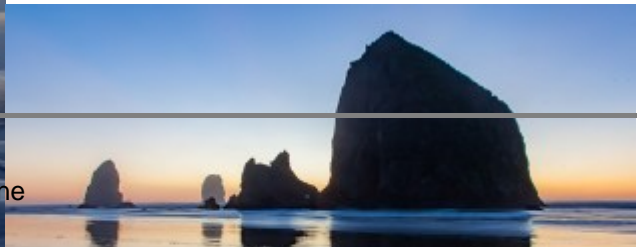
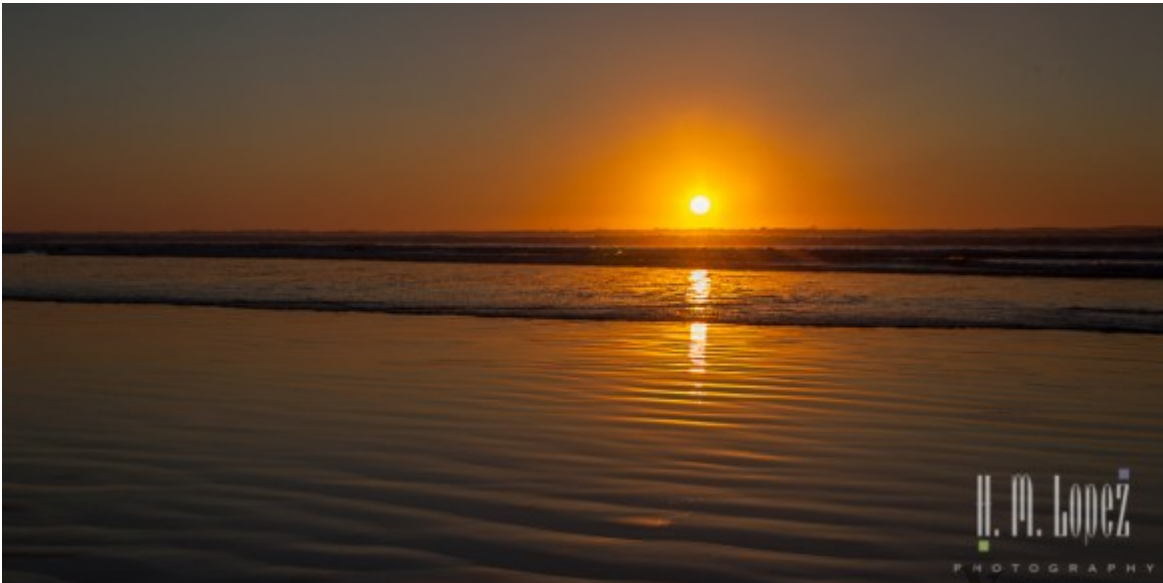


default watermark



Cannon Beach has lots of shops and restaurants but no

chain stores. Established regional artists have created a thriving arts scene which continues to attract emerging artists. And its fabulous beach is graced by towering sea stacks including the iconic Haystack Rock, at 235 feet, the third largest coastal monolith in the world.



visit to this beach is a must for us anytime we are nearby, and this time we planned a sunset visit. Even this late in the season, this beach is popular, although not by any means crowded. The three of us joined others the beach; some walking, some beach combing, some gathered around bonfires.

default watermark

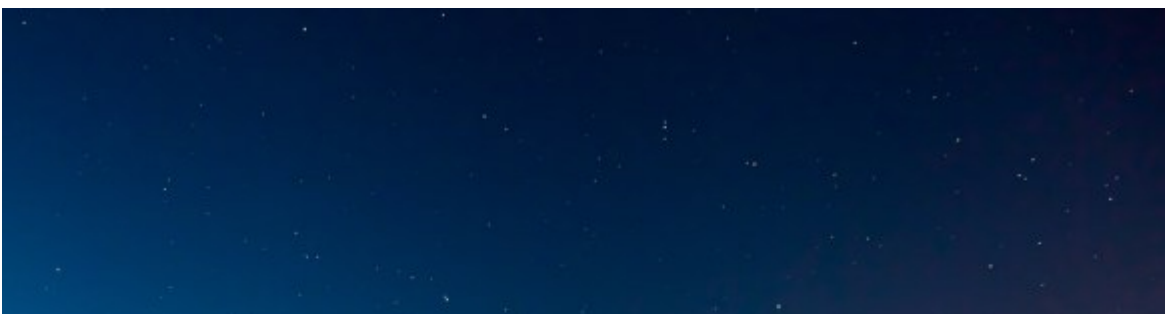


Haystack Rock is part of the Oregon Island National

Wildlife Refuge, as well as a designated National Wilderness area and it never fails to take our breath away when we see it. Two years ago we were fortunate enough to visit during nesting season, when tufted puffins, among others, nest on Haystack Rock.



The sunset was



somehow we never
 reach.

last outin
cooperate
further so

d not
ow to head



~ Brenda

default watermark

Category

1. Oregon
2. RV fulltimers
3. States Visited

Tags

1. beaches
2. State Parks
3. sunsets

Date Created

December 2015

Author

islandgirlwalkabout