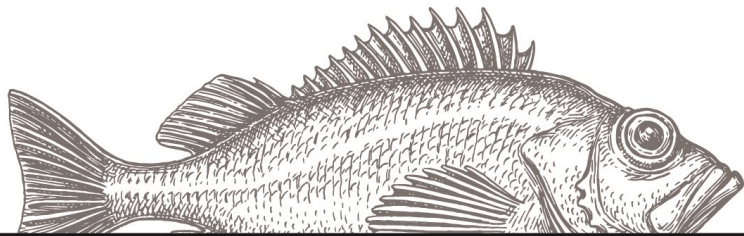




# A guide to exploring local beaches



## Saltwater State Park

**Land acknowledgement:** Muckleshoot, Puyallup, Umatilla, Walla Walla and Cayuse territories

### **About the beach:**

This is a beautiful park tucked away in Des Moines, WA, that is popular with scuba divers. There is a large parking lot that provides lots of space for buses to pull in and park, however you must have a Washington State Discover Pass. There is a small stream that flows into the Puget Sound here that you might have to cross to access the other side of the beach. There is a large gravel path along the beach for those who do not want to get wet, as well as bathrooms and a playground. This beach is very flat, and the substrate consists mostly of sand and cobble making for an easy walking experience.

### **Parking:**

There is plenty of parking spaces at this park. Buses can easily pull in, drop off and park for the day. A Washington State Parks Discover Pass is required for entry to the park. You can purchase a day-use or a yearlong pass online. A day-use pass costs \$11.50 and a year pass is \$35. This grants you access to over 100 state parks. Note that some public school buses have exempt license plates meaning that they can enter the park without a Discover Pass, but make sure to double check with your district's bus company before arriving.

### **Bathrooms:**

There are gendered, ADA-compliant bathrooms in the parking lot.

### **Accessibility:**

This beach has a flat, paved path that runs parallel to the beach. There are a few trees that provide shade near the parking lot, but there is no area on the beach itself that allows someone to take a break from the sun. There is a reservable picnic shelter as well as uncovered picnic tables scattered throughout the beach area for sitting. The only potable water source is the sinks in the public restrooms so it would not be good for filling up water bottles. There may be running water at the campgrounds, but you must reserve those to use the amenities.

### **Best tide level:**

This beach is best visited on tides that are less than 2.0 feet.

### **Animals you might meet:**

Sea snails, small and large crabs, hermit crabs, chitons, mussels, limpets, geoducks, gunnells, clingfish, nudibranchs, moon snails, giant blue heron, harbor seals, sea lions

### **Address:**

25205 8th Place S

Des Moines, WA 98198

### **Park hours:**

Mon-Sun 8am to dusk