

Chinook Bend Resort and Marina

Salmon and sea breezes on Oregon's central coast



Of course, fish aren't the only wild things in Oregon. Wake up early to see the herd of 84 elk grazing in the fields. Make friends with Chinook Bend's pair of pet goats, Sedrick and Billy, and resident llamas, Sandy and Diego. Dogs are welcome here too, on leashes, plus there's a mammoth off-leash dog run on the property.

Kids cluster at the resort's large playground with swings, a slide, a treehouse and climbing ropes. The whole family can enjoy playing horseshoes and volleyball and roam the half-mile riverfront or hike along 3 miles of trails, stopping to pick marionberries, blueberries and blackberries along the way.

Chinook Bend's nine-hole pitch-and-putt golf course uses fields for fairways and five-gallon buckets for holes, but the greens are groomed and the resort furnishes the golf balls. You'll need several balls to complete this rustic course.

Bring a bag of marshmallows down to the river for the weekend campfires.

LOCATION: Lincoln City, Oregon

RESORT TYPE: Coast Deluxe

SEASON: Year-round

WEBSITE: chinookbend.com

WOODALL FACILITIES: ♦♦♦♦♦

WOODALL RECREATION: ♦♦♦♦♦



Spot the big red barn on the Siletz Highway and you've arrived at Chinook Bend Resort and Marina, a Coast Deluxe property just 3 miles from the Oregon coast. The refurbished 1930s dairy barn is the spot to hang out and shoot a game of pool or watch TV, but it's the outdoors that's the main attraction here.

"It's a great place to feel nature without getting too dirty," says Chinook Bend's owner, John Telban.

Some of the largest salmon caught in Oregon are reeled in right off Chinook Bend's fishing docks. Trophy-size sturgeon, steelhead, cutthroat and 30- to 50-pound king salmon are often the catch of the day.

Most nights someone shows up with a guitar or harmonica, and the party really begins. It's a great way to meet your camping neighbors.

Brand new tiled bathrooms, large showers and a laundry facility are the pride of Chinook Bend. Extra-large pull-through RV sites with 50-amp service make it easy for big rigs to come and go.