

For additional State Park information contact:

**Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

1115 Commercial St NE, Suite 1

Salem OR 97301-1002

1-800-551-6949



Check out other  
Oregon State Parks by visiting  
[www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org)

[www.shoreacre.com](http://www.shoreacre.com)



This brochure is available in alternative formats on request.  
Write to OPRD, 1115 Commercial St NE Suite 1, Salem, OR 97301-1002;  
or call (503) 378-6305 (for the hearing impaired 1-800-735-2900).

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*Nature*

**HISTORY**

*Discovery*

# Shore Acres State Park



Photo: Luis Velasquez



# Welcome...

to Shore Acres State Park.

Perched on a scenic bluff high above the Pacific Ocean, Shore Acres began as a private estate with luxurious gardens featuring trees, shrubs, and flowering plants brought from around the world aboard the sailing ships of pioneer lumberman and shipbuilder Louis J. Simpson.

Simpson developed the summer home into a showplace three-story mansion complete with a heated, indoor

swimming pool and a large ballroom. The grounds contained five acres of formal gardens, including a Japanese-style garden built around a 100-foot lily pond.



Louis J. Simpson, entrepreneur

When fire destroyed the mansion in 1921, Simpson began to build an even larger replacement – two stories high and 224 feet long. However, financial losses during the Depression caused both house and grounds to fall into disrepair. In 1942, Simpson's beloved Shore Acres was purchased by the state of Oregon for use as a public park.

While structural deterioration eventually forced the mansion to be razed, the restored formal gardens continue to attract thousands of visitors. The garden features year-round displays of floral and scenic beauty and the annual "Holiday Lights at Shore Acres" event that runs from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day.



Photo: Coos County Historical Society

"The showplace that was"

A fully-enclosed observation building now occupies the site of Simpson's mansions, offering spectacular views of rugged seascapes, towering storm waves, and glimpses of migrating whales from December through June.

One mile north of Shore Acres, Sunset Bay State Park offers extensive picnic and overnight camping facilities. One mile to the south, Cape Arago State Park has hiking trails, picnic tables, and excellent opportunities for viewing tidepool life and marine mammals (whales, seals, and sea lions). All three parks are connected by a segment of the Oregon Coast Trail.



Photo: Shirley Brigham

# The Year of Beauty...

## Seasonal Peak Bloom Periods

Ever since its beginnings as Louis Simpson's private estate, the plantings at Shore Acres have been designed to take advantage of the area's mild climate. They have created a garden for all seasons—with showy "peaks" of different kinds of flowers for almost every time of the year.

Photo: Shirley Brigham



Hundreds of spring bulbs and daffodils  
—Late February through March

4,000 tulips  
—Late March through April



Photo: Luis Velasquez

Hundreds of rhododendrons and azaleas  
—April through mid-May



Photo: Andy LaTormine

5,000 flowering annuals/perennials  
— May through September



Photo: Luis Velasquez

More than 600 rose bushes  
—June through September



Photo: Luis Velasquez

200 dahlia  
—August through mid-October

250,000 or more holiday lights  
—November through December



Photo: Luis Velasquez

## Year-Round Flora

Interesting and unique flowers, evergreen shrubs and trees, including the largest Monterey pine in Oregon (near the greenhouse).

Bloom times are based on normal/average conditions at Shore Acres and may vary. If you have questions, please talk to a member of the garden staff or call (541) 888-3732.

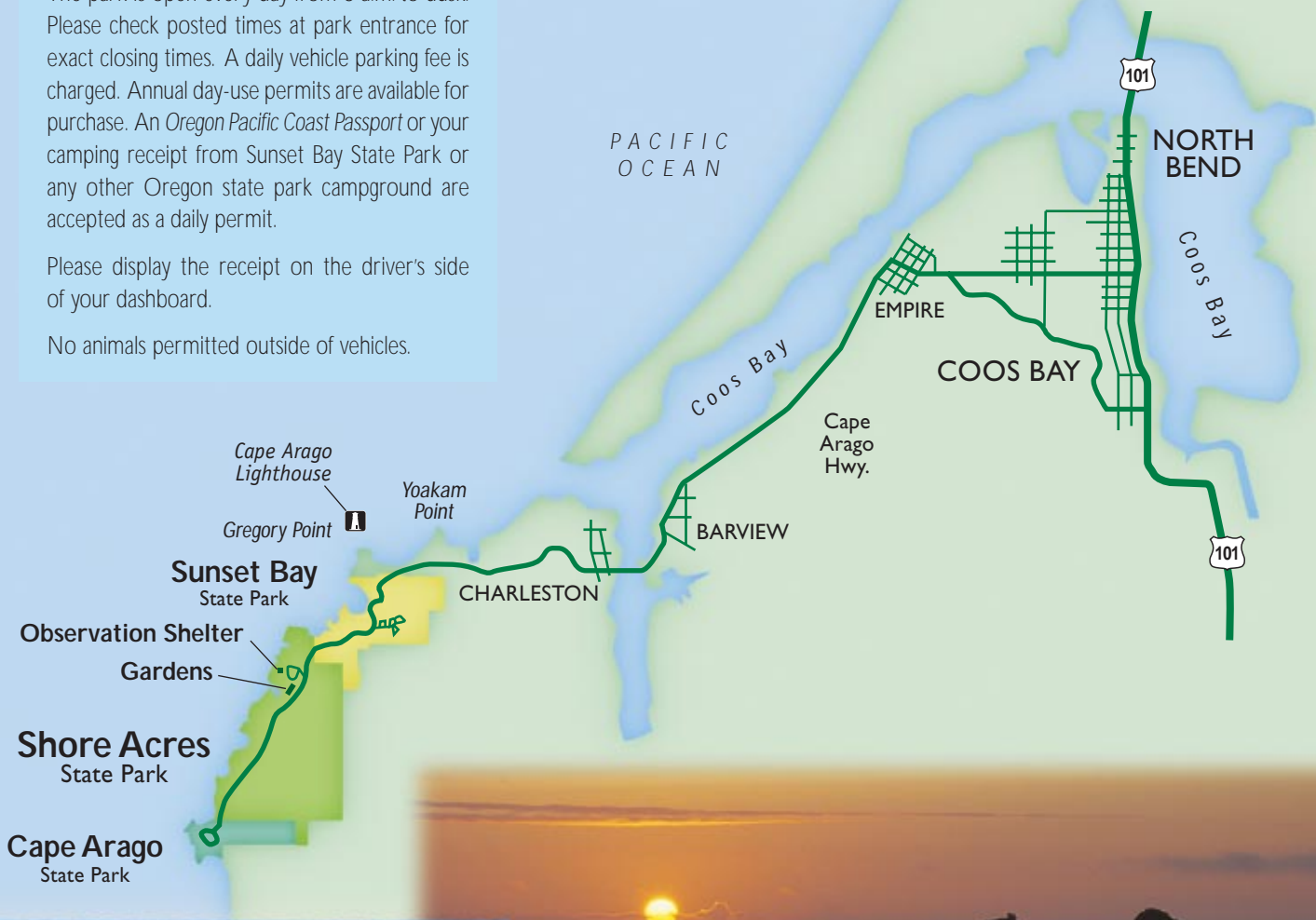
## VISITOR INFORMATION

Shore Acres State Park is located on the Cape Arago Highway, 13 miles southwest of Coos Bay/North Bend and U.S. Highway 101.

The park is open every day from 8 a.m. to dusk. Please check posted times at park entrance for exact closing times. A daily vehicle parking fee is charged. Annual day-use permits are available for purchase. An *Oregon Pacific Coast Passport* or your camping receipt from Sunset Bay State Park or any other Oregon state park campground are accepted as a daily permit.

Please display the receipt on the driver's side of your dashboard.

No animals permitted outside of vehicles.



Photos: Luis Velasquez

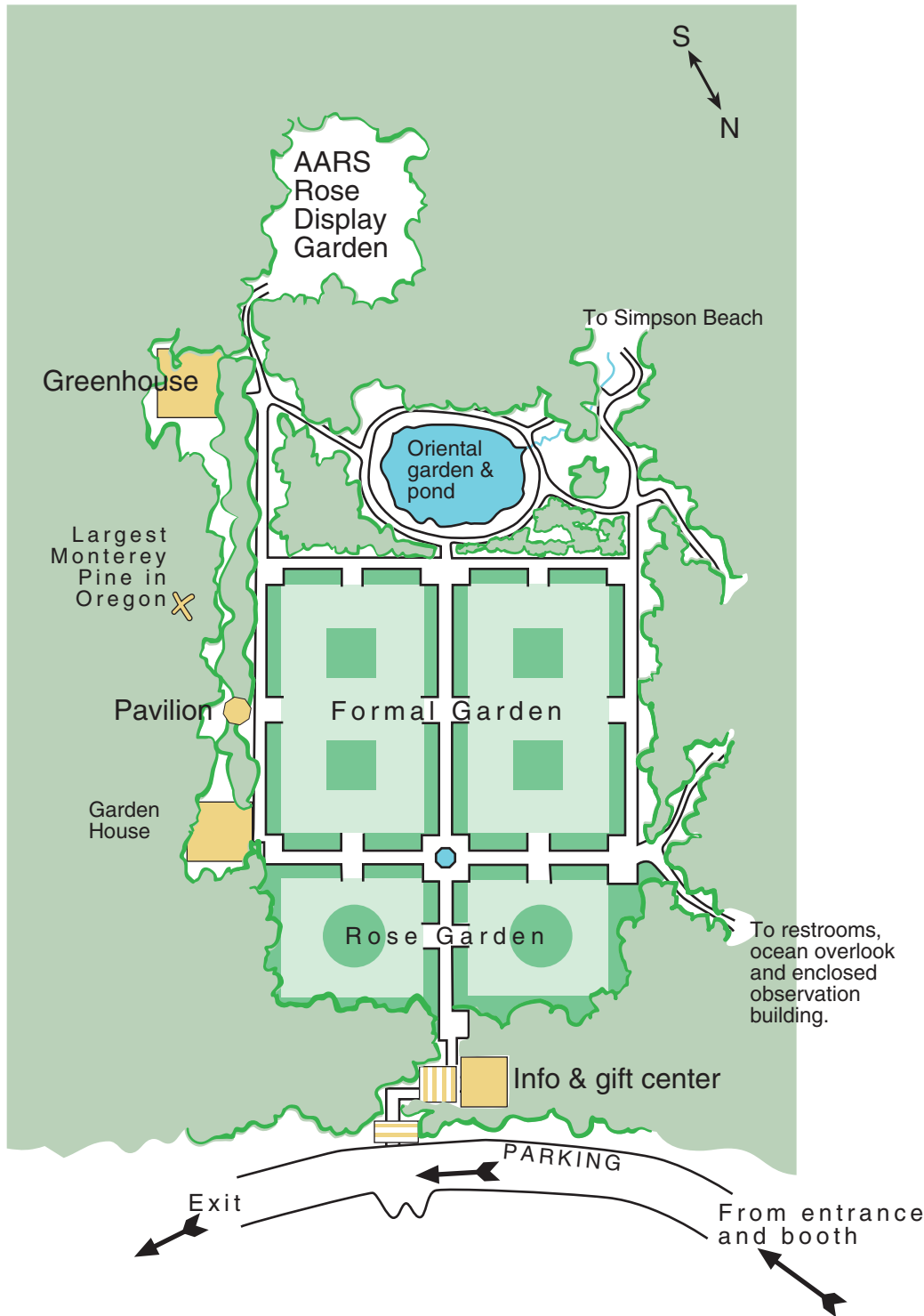


# Shore Acres Gardens

For more information, visit us on the web at [www.oregonstateparks.org/park\\_97.php](http://www.oregonstateparks.org/park_97.php)

A day-use fee is collected at this park. The fee is \$3 per vehicle per day, or buy a 12-month pass for \$25 (\$40 for a 24-month pass). Call 1-800-551-6949 to order your pass by phone with a Visa or Mastercard.

Fees subject to change without notice.



You'll be able to follow signs from Highway 101 to the Cape Arago Highway (and Sunset Bay State Park). From US 101, take Virginia Avenue west. Turn left on Broadway, then right on Newmark following the signs for OCEAN BEACHES and CHARLESTON. This becomes the Cape Arago Highway, passing through Charleston and Sunset Bay State Park. Follow it 8 miles to Shore Acres (about a mile past Sunset Bay).

