



GET OUT AND GO: LIFE'S A SUMMER CAMP

By [Mary Ann Rozance](#) on June 8, 2012

Head to Olympic Peninsula's Iron Springs Resort or Hood Canal's Alderbrook Resort for a well-deserved weekend getaway.

Starry nights, skipping stones, and adventure by land and water, childhood summer camp is filled with sweet innocent nothings. If you are looking for a vacation that mirrors your beloved camp dreams, there are two Washington resorts Seattleites can go and bask in the comfort of marshmallow roasting, moonlight swimming, and connecting to the sincerest and purest parts of oneself long ago forgotten.



Iron Springs Resort

On the last day of summer camp, when parents are set to meet their children, tears and expressions of not being ready to leave come flooding out. The end of summer is hard as time set aside solely for play and wonder is overshadowed by responsibility and reality. The [Iron Springs Resort](#) in Copalis Beach, Washington draws out a similar sense of attachment, leaving many adults not wanting to leave and always wanting to go back. The long and seemingly endless beach fills the heart with beauty that quickly turns into kinetic energy forcing your body to run, skip and jump out to touch the ocean. Located on the southern coastline of the Olympic Peninsula, The Iron Springs Resort is a mere three hour drive from Seattle, making summer time day dreaming a weekend trip away.



A beautiful 1940s two-bedroom cabin with views straight up and down the Pacific Ocean creates the perfect setting for playing cards, reading, and napping. The cabins at Iron Springs Resort have been completely renovated to capture the spirit and longstanding traditions of this special place. Each of the 24 guest cabins at Iron Springs is unique and some accommodate large groups of friends or families (up to 10) while others are better suited for a romantic or personal retreat. All of the cabins welcome dogs.

Many Seattleites have been vacationing at Iron Springs much of their lives (including the new owners) and are thrilled to see the legacy continue. With full kitchens and few local grocery stores, it is best to bring in groceries and cook. Each cabin is equipped with a deck BBQ, a fire place, a brand new TV (with cable and free DVDs to rent), and incredible views. The famous Iron Springs Resort Cinnamon buns round off a perfect morning of sipping coffee and watching the waves.



What to do: Let the world slow down and awaken the inner child buried beneath deadlines, projects and social engagements. Playing games on the beach, drawing in the sand, and yelling into the wind are activities that will quickly take your mind off of the busy Seattle lifestyle. The beach front campfire pit makes marshmallow roasting on a summer's night is an obligatory part of the experience. If it's a [clam dig](#) weekend, Iron Springs Resort is well positioned for access to the beds. There is no sense of urgency to want to do much of anything when you wake up and immediately look out your large picture window to the Pacific Ocean and Olympic Peninsula coastline. Iron Springs is set up to let oneself go by taking long beach walks intermixed with afternoon naps, cooking in the cabin, and reading on the porch. In sum, "What to do?" becomes a "Do nothing" approach.

Good to Know: Iron Springs has a great deal offered through June. Guests that pay for two nights get a third night free.

Side Note: [Coast Hotels and Resorts](#) are kicking off a contest for their guests. Stay at one of their properties between now and December 31st and you may win an unexpected free upgrade, your room for \$12, and be entered to win 2 nights at each of their 12 featured resorts (in places including Hawaii, California, Alaska...)