**Jetty Park: Beachfront cabins & camping in Cape Canaveral**

Cocoa Beach has a gorgeous beach, and Jetty Park is all about being close to it.

Located where the beach meets the Port Canaveral Inlet, Jetty Park lets you forget about the commercial tackiness through which you drive to reach it.

It is owned by the Canaveral Port Authority and is basically inside the port. (You could walk to the port terminals.) A leafy entrance takes into a park-like setting, leaving the industrial scene behind.

You can camp at Jetty Park – RV or tent – and even rent little cabins (no kitchens or showers but there is AC and a bathroom. Bring or rent pillows and linens.) Daily admission for non-county residents is basically prohibitive -- $15 per car – so if you’re not local, you’re not likely to visit for the day.

But for an overnight stay at the beach, Jetty Park can be an appealing getaway.

**The positives:**

All camping and cabin sites are within a block of the beach, which is broad and so hard-packed you can ride a fat-tire bike on it for miles. There can be a strong current running toward the inlet but the beach stays shallow for such a great distance, we didn’t see many people swimming in water deeper than their chests. (There are lifeguards.)

The fishing jetty offers a beautiful stroll, with sea turtles often sighted. (We saw a juvenile.) You can fish here without a license.

The port inlet allows you to watch everything from cruise ships to submarines coming and going. (A Trident submarine facility is directly across the inlet from the campgrounds but there were no subs present when we visited.)

If you’re lucky and there’s a rocket launch from the space center, you’re in THE spot to see.

It can be a bargain. On weeknights, the four-person cabins are just $55; weekends are $83. Off-season camping costs from $27 to $39 a night; in season it’s $37 to $49.

**The negatives:**

Camp sites are small and some are quite close together. Some lack shade, vegetation or trees. The worse sites look like you’re camping in a parking lot. (It’s not a sure bet, but I’d suggest you’re better off in a site along the perimeter rather than the center of loops. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee of site assignments, according to the Jetty Park website. )

[Tripadvisor visitors give mixed reviews](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g34117-d610028-Reviews-or10-Jetty_Park_Campground-Cape_Canaveral_Brevard_County_Florida.html#REVIEWS), with several people complaining about noisy neighbors, so your experience may depend upon the luck of where you are assigned and who camps next door.