

15 Beaches with the Best Seashells in the World

Cape Lookout National Seashore, North Carolina



You may recognize the iconic lighthouse on [North Carolina's Crystal Coast](#), but it's the 56-stretch of undeveloped shimmering beaches accessible only by boat that will catch any shell-lover's attention. Knobbed whelks, bay scallops, Scotch bonnets, and other types of shells can be found washed up on these shores—try to comb the beach early in the morning, at low tide, after a storm, or during times of lower visitation such as the winter months for the best yield. A basketball-sized helmet shell—four times bigger than average—was found here recently!