

FLORIDA'S BEACH IS PET-FRIENDLY WITH PARKS, BEACHES AND ACCOMMODATIONS THAT WELCOME FURRY GUESTS

The St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area, also known as Florida's Beach, is recognized for its 35 miles of white sandy beaches in addition to a multitude of nature-based and cultural opportunities. A variety of areas throughout Florida's Beach are thrilled to welcome visitors and their pets to the resort area. Listed is a round up of parks, beaches and area accommodations that are available for those who brought a pet on their travels.

PET FRIENDLY PARKS

Fort DeSoto County Park

3500 Pinellas Bayway S. Tierra Verda, FL 33715 727-582-2267

This 900-acre park and beach has a leash-free open field zone designated for dogs near the North Beach area of the park. The area is about 250 yards wide and 600 yards long. Dogs are allowed in all other areas of the park on a leash except for the beaches, piers, restrooms and campground areas. At the east tip of Fort De Soto, dogs are allowed on the beach and may be off a leash in the water. www.pinellascounty.org/park

Boca Ciega Millennium County Park

12410 74th Ave. N. Seminole, FL 727-464-3347

The 1.5-acre park features drinking fountains and cooling stations for dogs and benches for their owners. The park also has separate areas for small and large dogs. Dogs are able to romp without leashes. Pets are allowed in other areas of the park if they are on a leash not longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in campground and swimming areas and places where food and drink are sold. www.pinellascounty.org/park

Sand Kev County Park

1060 Gulf Blvd. Clearwater, FL 33767 727-588-4852

The 1.5-acre park features drinking fountains and cooling stations for dogs and benches for their owners. The park also has separate areas for small and large dogs. Dogs are able to romp

without leashes. Pets are allowed in other areas of the park if they are on a leash not longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in campground and swimming areas and places where food and drinks are sold. www.pinellascounty.org/park

Anderson County Park

39699 U.S. Highway 19 N. Tarpon Springs, FL 34689 727-943-4085

The 1.5-acre park features drinking fountains and cooling stations for dogs and benches for their owners. The park also has separate areas for small and large dogs. Dogs are able to romp without leashes. Pets are allowed in other areas of the park if they are on a leash not longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in campground and swimming areas and places where food and drink are sold. www.pinellascounty.org/park

Walsingham County Park

12620 102nd Ave. N. Largo, FL 33778 727-549-6142

The 1.5-acre park features drinking fountains and cooling stations for dogs and benches for their owners. The park also has separate areas for small and large dogs. Dogs are able to romp without leashes. Pets are allowed in other areas of the park if they are on a leash not longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in campground and swimming areas and places where food and drink are sold. www.pinellascounty.org/park

John Chesnut Sr. County Park

2200 East Lake Road Palm Harbor, FL 34685 727-669-1951

This 255-acre park has a leash-free fenced area designated for dogs located at the front of the park near the playground and softball field. The 1.5-acre paw playground has a canine water fountain, cooling station and separate areas for large and small dogs. Pets are allowed in other areas of the park if they are on a leash not longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in campground and swimming areas and places where food and drink are sold. The dog park is expected to open in spring 2003. www.pinellascounty.org/park

Coquina Key Dog Park

3595 Locust St. SE St. Petersburg, FL 33704 727-893-7335

This leash-free dog park is 1-acre enclosed by a 6-foot chain link fence and includes a faucet and water bowl area, disposal bags for feces and a time-out area for overly-enthusiastic dogs. Owners are required to clean their dogs' messes and keep a leash in their hands at all times. The park is open from a half-hour after sunrise until a half-hour before sunset. The dog park is located past the skate area and behind the tennis courts. www.stpete.org/dogparks.htm

Lake Vista Dog Park

1401 62nd Ave. S. St. Petersburg, FL 33712 727-893-7335

This leash-free dog park is 1.5-acre enclosed by a 4-foot chain link fence and includes a faucet and water bowl area, disposal bags for feces and a time-out area for overly-enthusiastic dogs. Owners are required to clean their dogs' messes and keep a leash in their hands at all times. The park is open from a half-hour after sunrise until a half-hour before sunset. www.stpete.org/dogparks.htm

North Shore Park

Behind the softball field at North Shore Drive and 9th Ave. NE St. Petersburg, FL 33701 727-893-7335

This leash-free dog park is 1.5-acre enclosed by a 4-foot chain link fence and includes a faucet and water bowl area, disposal bags for feces and a time-out area for overly-enthusiastic dogs. Owners are required to clean their dogs' messes and keep a leash in their hands at all times. The park is open from a half-hour after sunrise until a half-hour before sunset. www.stpete.org/dogparks.htm

Walter Fuller Park

7883 26th Ave. No. St. Petersburg, FL 33710 727-893-7335

This leash-free dog park is 1.5-acre enclosed by a 4-foot chain link fence and includes a faucet and water bowl area, disposal bags for feces and a time-out area for overly-enthusiastic dogs. Owners are required to clean their dogs' messes and keep a leash in their hands at all times. The park is open from a half-hour after sunrise until a half-hour before sunset. www.stpete.org/dogparks.htm

Crescent Lake Park

1320 5th St. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33704 727-893-7335

This leash-free dog park is 1-acre enclosed by a 6-foot chain link fence and includes a faucet and water bowl area, disposal bags for feces and a time-out area for overly-enthusiastic dogs. Owners are required to clean their dogs' messes and keep a leash in their hands at all times. The park is open from a half-hour after sunrise until a half-hour before sunset. www.stpete.org/dogparks.htm

Honeymoon Island State Park

#1 Dunedin Causeway Dunedin, FL 34698 727-469-5942

This area is located at the end of the Dunedin Causeway and provides a variety of walking trails for bird watching and other activities. A beach area for dogs is located on the south end of the

island. Dogs are required to be on a hand-held leash no more than six feet long. Retractable leashes are prohibited.

Clearwater Dog Park

1500 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd. (corner of Crest Lake Park) Clearwater, FL 33758 727-562-4837

This three-acre facility has three double-gated, fenced play areas and features doggie drinking fountains, paw washers, waste collection facilities and supplies and observation benches. Park hours are from sunrise to 11 p.m.

Abercrombie Park

Located on Park St. at 38th Ave. N.

The park is open from sunrise to sunset and has a picnic area. Dogs must be kept on a leash throughout the park. Dogs that are under control of their owners may be unleashed at the back of the park near the water.

Belleair Bluffs Dog Beach

Located on the intracoastal of the Belleair Causeway across from the side of the boat ramp and bait shop. Dogs are allowed off leash in the water.

Shell Key

This island and nature preserve is located off the coast of St. Pete Beach. On Shell Key, areas open to dogs are located east of the northern fence and south of the southern fence. This island is reachable through a variety of canoe and kayak outfitters as well as boating vessels.

PET-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATIONS

Bay Street Villas & Resort Marina

7201 Bay Street St. Pete Beach, FL 33706 727-360-5591

The property is part of the Superior Small Lodgings program and accepts pets that weigh no more than 25lbs. There is no deposit required and the daily charge for pets is \$5 per day.

Lorelei Resort Motel

10273 Gulf Boulevard

Treasure Island, FL 33706

Phone: 800-354-6364 or 727-360-4351

Email LoreleiTl@aol.com

The Lorelei resort welcomes all types of pets (even pigs!) and there is a fenced in area available for pets to play freely.

Chart House Suites

850 Bayway Blvd.

Clearwater Beach, FL 33767

Phone: 727-449-8007

MEDIA CONTACT: Wit Tuttell, St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention & Visitors Bureau 800-822-6461 or 727-464-7213; Fax 727-533-2183; wit@FloridasBeach.com

The Chart House Suites welcomes all types of small pets that are no more than 25 lbs. Property amenities include a pet-walking area and pet treats. There is a \$25 nonrefundable fee.

Sandy Shores Motel

816 Gulf Blvd.

Indian Shores, FL 33785 Phone: 727-595-3226

All pets of all sizes are welcome and there is a \$10 fee per stay. The motel is located near the

Belleair Bluffs Dog Beach.

Safety Harbor Resort & Spa

105 N. Bayshore Drive Safety Harbor, FL 34695 Phone: 727-726-1161

Pets are allowed that weigh no more than 25 lbs. There is a \$50, nonrefundable fee.

SeaHorse Cottages & Apartments

10356 Gulf Blvd.

St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Phone: 727-367-2291

Dogs, cats and birds are welcome that weigh no more than 20 lbs. There is a \$6 fee per day.

PET FRIENDLY CAMPGROUNDS

Dunedin Beach Campground

2920 Alt 19 N

Dunedin, FL 34698 Phone: 800-345-7504

Pets are welcome on a leash at this RV campground area just a few miles away from the petfriendly Honeymoon Island Park. Other activities are available throughout the campground as well as a General Store.

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