

The 32 Best Dog-Friendly Beaches in the U.S.

U.S. News Hotels Editors April 2, 2024



1/35

[View as article](#)

You and your pet will have a doggone good time at one of these dog-friendly beaches.

Pack up your pup, grab your sunglasses and hit the beach for a paws-itively fantastic trip that you'll never forget. Many beaches in the U.S. offer special amenities to accommodate beachgoers who bring their BFFs – best furry friends – with them.

Travel to the rugged shoreline of the West Coast or splash in the warm and clear emerald waters of the Gulf of Mexico. You can also beach hop through Florida or California and then venture up to Maine along the East Coast. No matter where you choose, there's a perfect beach getaway awaiting you and your furry pal.

Next: Carmel Beach: Carmel-by-the-Sea, California



2/35

[View as article](#)

Carmel Beach: Carmel-by-the-Sea, California

This iconic stretch of beach, located along California's central coast and overlooking the Pacific Ocean, is one of the most scenic places in the state to walk your pup. It's also known as one of the most dog-friendly beaches in the U.S.

Your canine friend can run off-leash and play with other dogs on the beach and in the surf – but they must be under voice command. Dogs need to be on a leash when you hit the Scenic Road, which meanders along the beach and affords spectacular views of the coastline, the town's famous cypress trees and [Pebble Beach Golf Links](#). You'll also find "Mutt Mitts" (poop bags) at the top of every access point to the beach. Many restaurants will seat dogs with owners either on the patio or indoors and come complete with pup-approved cuisine like steak tartare and grilled chicken.

More than 25 [hotels in Carmel](#) are pet-friendly and feature VIP treatment with amenities like "yappy hour," doggie room service menus, turn-down service and designated areas to wash off after playing on the beach. When you're ready to take a stroll in town, [Carmel-by-the-Sea](#), located south of [Monterey](#), is one of the nation's most welcoming towns for dogs, so you may find shopkeepers greeting your furry friend with dog biscuits and water bowls. There's even a Fountain of Woof in the Carmel Plaza for dogs to drink from.