

# Doggin' The Carolina Coasts

***The 50 Best Places  
To Hike With Your Dog Along  
The North Carolina and  
South Carolina Shores***

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**Cruden Bay Books**



*There is always a new trail to look forward to...*

**DOGGIN' THE CAROLINA COASTS: THE 50 BEST PLACES  
TO HIKE WITH YOUR DOG ALONG THE NORTH  
CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA SHORES**

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*“Dogs are our link to paradise...to sit with a dog on a hillside  
on a glorious afternoon is to be back in Eden,  
where doing nothing was not boring - it was peace.”  
- Milan Kundera*

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## *Introduction*

The Carolina coasts can be a great place to hike with your dog. Paw-friendly sand trails, shady maritime forests, some of the most historic grounds in the South, the estates of America's wealthiest families and some of the country's dog-friendliest beaches all beckon to your canine adventurer.

I have selected what I consider to be the 50 best places to take your dog for an outing on the Carolina coasts and ranked them according to subjective criteria including the variety of hikes available, opportunities for canine swimming and pleasure of the walks. The rankings include a mix of parks that feature long walks and parks that contain short walks. Did I miss your favorite? Let us know at [www.hikewithyourdog.com](http://www.hikewithyourdog.com).

I have defined the Carolina coasts roughly to be those areas east of US Highway 17. For quick reference the titles of North Carolina parks are in black, South Carolina parks in gray.

For dog owners it is important to realize that not all parks are open to our best trail companions (see page 14 for a list of parks that do not allow dogs). It is sometimes hard to believe but not everyone loves dogs. We are, in fact, in the minority when compared with our non-dog owning neighbors.

So when visiting a park always keep your dog under control and clean up any messes and we can all expect our great parks to remain open to our dogs. And maybe some others will see the light as well. *Remember, every time you go out with your dog you are an ambassador for all dog owners.*

Grab that leash and hit the trail!

DBG

# *Hiking With Your Dog*

So you want to start hiking with your dog. Hiking with your dog can be a fascinating way to explore the Carolina coasts from a canine perspective. Some things to consider:

## **Dog's Health**

Hiking can be a wonderful preventative for any number of physical and behavioral disorders. One in every three dogs is overweight and running up trails and leaping through streams is great exercise to help keep pounds off. Hiking can also relieve boredom in a dog's routine and calm dogs prone to destructive habits. And hiking with your dog strengthens the overall owner/dog bond.

## **Breed of Dog**

All dogs enjoy the new scents and sights of a trail. But some dogs are better suited to hiking than others. If you don't as yet have a hiking companion, select a breed that matches your interests. Do you look forward to an entire afternoon's hiking? You'll need a dog bred to keep up with such a pace, such as a retriever or a spaniel. Is a half-hour enough walking for you? It may not be for an energetic dog like a border collie. If you already have a hiking friend, tailor your plans to his abilities.

## **Conditioning**

Just like humans, dogs need to be acclimated to the task at hand. An inactive dog cannot be expected to bounce from the easy chair in the den to complete a 3-hour hike. You must also be physically able to restrain your dog if confronted with distractions on the trail (like a scampering squirrel or a pack of joggers). Have your dog checked by a veterinarian before significantly increasing his activity level.

## **Weather**

Hot humid summers do not do dogs any favors. With no sweat glands and only panting available to disperse body heat, dogs are much more susceptible to heat stroke than we are. Unusually rapid panting and/or a bright red tongue are signs of heat exhaustion in your pet.

Always carry enough water for your hike. Even days that don't seem too warm can cause discomfort in dark-coated dogs if the sun is shining brightly. In cold weather, short-coated breeds may require additional attention.

### **Trail Hazards**

Dogs won't get poison ivy but they can transfer it to you. Some trails are littered with small pieces of broken glass that can slice a dog's paws. Nasty thorns can also blanket trails that we in shoes may never notice. At the beach beware of sand spurs that can often be present in scrubby, sandy areas.

### **Ticks**

You won't be able to spend much time near the Carolina swamps without encountering ticks. All are nasty but the deer tick - no bigger than a pin head - carries with it the spectre of Lyme disease. Lyme disease attacks a dog's joints and makes walking painful. The tick needs to be embedded in the skin to transmit Lyme disease. It takes 4-6 hours for a tick to become embedded and another 24-48 hours to transmit Lyme disease bacteria.

When hiking, walk in the middle of trails away from tall grass and bushes. And when the summer sun fades away don't stop thinking about ticks - they remain active any time the temperature is above 30 degrees. By checking your dog - and yourself - thoroughly after each walk you can help avoid Lyme disease. Ticks tend to congregate on your dog's ears, between the toes and around the neck and head.

### **Water**

Surface water, including fast-flowing streams, is likely to be infested with a microscopic protozoa called *Giardia*, waiting to wreak havoc on a dog's intestinal system. The most common symptom is crippling diarrhea. Algae, pollutants and contaminants can all be in streams, ponds and puddles. If possible, carry fresh water for your dog on the trail - your dog can even learn to drink happily from a squirt bottle.

At the beach, cool sea water will be tempting for your dog but try to limit any drinking as much as possible. Again, have plenty of fresh water available for your dog to drink instead.

**🐾 Rattlesnakes and Copperheads, etc.**

Rattlesnakes and their close cousins, copperheads, are not particularly aggressive animals but you should treat any venomous snake with respect and keep your distance. A rattler's colors may vary but they are recognized by the namesake rattle on the tail and a diamond-shaped head. Unless cornered or teased by humans or dogs, a rattlesnake will crawl away and avoid striking. Avoid placing your hand in unexamined rocky areas and crevasses and try and keep your dog from doing so as well. If you hear a nearby rattle, stop immediately and hold your dog back. Identify where the snake is and slowly back away.

If you or your dog is bitten, do not panic but get to a hospital or veterinarian with as little physical movement as possible. Wrap between the bite and the heart. Rattlesnakes might give "dry bites" where no poison is injected, but you should always check with a doctor after a bite even if you feel fine.



**🐾 Black Bears**

Are you likely to see a bear while out hiking with your dog? No, it's not likely. It is, however, quite a thrill if you are fortunate enough to spot a black bear on the trail - from a distance.

Black bear attacks are incredibly rare. In the year 2000 a hiker was killed by a black bear in Great Smoky National Park and it was the first deadly bear attack in the 66-year history of America's most popular

national park. It was the first EVER in the southeastern United States. In all of North America only 43 black bear mauling deaths have ever been recorded (through 1999).

Most problems with black bears occur near a campground (like the above incident) where bears have learned to forage for unprotected food. On the trail bears will typically see you and leave the area. What should you do if you encounter a black bear? Experts agree on three important things:

- 1) *Never run. A bear will outrun you, outclimb you, outswim you. Don't look like prey.*
- 2) *Never get between a female bear and a cub who may be nearby feeding.*
- 3) *Leave a bear an escape route.*

If the bear is at least 15 feet away and notices you make sure you keep your dog close and calm. If a bear stands on its hind legs or comes closer it may just be trying to get a better view or smell to evaluate the situation. Wave your arms and make noise to scare the bear away. Most bears will quickly leave the area.

If you encounter a black bear at close range, stand upright and make yourself appear as large a foe as possible. Avoid direct eye contact and speak in a calm, assertive and assuring voice as you back up slowly and out of danger.

## **Alligators**

Alligators are no longer endangered and range right through the Carolinas up through northeast North Carolina. Alligators are found in marshes, swamps, rivers and lakes as well as neighborhood drainage ditches and canals. Use common sense and do not allow your dog in waters where alligators may be lurking. Don't walk your dog close to water if you can avoid it.

If you see an alligator on land, just walk your dog away from the alligator - alligators do not run down prey on land. They may run on land to escape danger or protect a nest but will not come after you if it has an escape route to the water. Make sure you give him one.

# Outfitting Your Dog For A Hike

These are the basics for taking your dog on a hike:

▶ **Collar.**

It should not be so loose as to come off but you should be able to slide your flat hand under the collar.

▶ **Identification Tags.**

Get one with your veterinarian's phone number as well.

▶ **Bandanna.**


Can help distinguish him from game in hunting season.

▶ **Leash.**


Leather lasts forever but if there's water in your dog's future, consider quick-drying nylon.

▶ **Water.**

Carry 8 ounces for every hour of hiking.

 *I want my dog to help carry water, snacks and other supplies on the trail. Where do I start?*

To select an appropriate dog pack measure your dog's girth around the rib cage. A dog pack should fit securely without hindering the dog's ability to walk normally.

 *Will my dog wear a pack?*

Wearing a dog pack is no more obtrusive than wearing a collar, although some dogs will take to a pack easier than others. Introduce the pack by draping a towel over your dog's back in the house and then having your dog wear an empty pack on short walks. Progressively add some crumpled newspaper and then bits of clothing. Fill the pack with treats and reward your dog from the stash. Soon your dog will associate the dog pack with an outdoor adventure and will eagerly look forward to wearing it.

**🐾 *How much weight can I put into a dog pack?***

Many dog packs are sold by weight recommendations. A healthy, well-conditioned dog can comfortably carry 25% to 33% of its body weight. Breeds prone to back problems or hip dysplasia should not wear dog packs. Consult your veterinarian before stuffing the pouches with gear.


**🐾 *How does a dog wear a pack?***

The pack, typically with cargo pouches on either side, should ride as close to the shoulders as possible without limiting movement. The straps that hold the dog pack in place should be situated where they will not cause chafing.

**🐾 *What are good things to put in a dog pack?***

Low density items such as food and poop bags are good choices. Ice cold bottles of water can cool your dog down on hot days. Don't put anything in a dog pack that can break. Dogs will bang the pack on rocks and trees as they wiggle through tight spots in the trail. Dogs also like to lie down in creeks and other wet spots so seal items in plastic bags. A good use for dog packs when on day hikes around the Carolina coasts is trail maintenance - your dog can pack out trash left by inconsiderate visitors before you.



 *Are dog booties a good idea?*

Dog booties can be an asset, especially for the occasional canine hiker whose paw pads have not become toughened. In some places, there may be broken glass. Hiking boots for dogs are designed to prevent pads from cracking while trotting across rough surfaces. Used in winter, dog booties provide warmth and keep ice balls from forming between toe pads when hiking through snow.

 *What should a doggie first aid kit include?*

Even when taking short hikes it is a good idea to have some basics available for emergencies:









- ▶ 4" square gauze pads
- ▶ cling type bandaging tapes
- ▶ topical wound disinfectant cream
- ▶ tweezers
- ▶ insect repellent - no reason to leave your dog unprotected against mosquitoes and yellow flies
- ▶ veterinarian's phone number

*"I can't think of anything that brings me closer to tears than when my old dog - completely exhausted after a hard day in the field - limps away from her nice spot in front of the fire and comes over to where I'm sitting and puts her head in my lap, a paw over my knee, and closes her eyes, and goes back to sleep. I don't know what I've done to deserve that kind of friend."*

*-Gene Hill*

## *Low Impact Hiking With Your Dog*

Every time you hike with your dog on the trail you are an ambassador for all dog owners. Some people you meet won't believe in your right to take a dog on the trail. Be friendly to all and make the best impression you can by practicing low impact hiking with your dog:

-  Pack out everything you pack in.
-  Do not leave dog scat on the trail; if you haven't brought plastic bags for poop removal bury it away from the trail and topical water sources.
-  Hike only where dogs are allowed.
-  Stay on the trail.
-  Do not allow your dog to chase wildlife.
-  Step off the trail and wait with your dog while horses and other hikers pass.
-  Do not allow your dog to bark - people are enjoying the trail for serenity.
-  *Have as much fun on your hike as your dog does.*

## *The Other End Of The Leash*

Leash laws are like speed limits - everyone seems to have a private interpretation of their validity. Some dog owners never go outside with an unleashed dog; others treat the laws as suggestions or disregard them completely. It is not the purpose of this book to tell dog owners where to go to evade the leash laws or reveal the parks where rangers will look the other way at an unleashed dog. Nor is it the business of this book to preach vigilant adherence to the leash laws. Nothing written in a book is going to change people's behavior with regard to leash laws. So this will be the last time leash laws are mentioned, save occasionally when we point out the parks where dogs are welcomed off leash.

### *How To Pet A Dog*

*Tickling tummies slowly and gently works wonders.*

*Never use a rubbing motion; this makes dogs bad-tempered.*

*A gentle tickle with the tips of the fingers is all that is necessary to induce calm in a dog. I hate strangers who go up to dogs with their hands held to the dog's nose, usually palm towards themselves.*

*How does the dog know that the hand doesn't hold something horrid?*

*The palm should always be shown to the dog and go straight down to between the dog's front legs and tickle gently with a soothing voice to accompany the action.*

*Very often the dog raises its back leg in a scratching movement, it gets so much pleasure from this.*

*-Barbara Woodhouse*

# No Dogs

Before we get started on the best places to take your dog, let's get out of the way some of the trails that do not allow dogs:

## North Carolina

Currituck County Parks - all county parks  
E-V Henwood Nature Preserve - Wilmington  
Hoop Pole Creek Trail - Atlantic Beach  
Nags Head Woods Preserve - Nags Head  
Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge - Hatteras Island  
Roosevelt Trail at North Carolina Aquarium - Bogue Banks

## South Carolina

Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge - Bull Island  
Caw Caw Interpretive Center - Ravenal  
Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site - Charleston  
Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge - Hilton Head



O.K. that wasn't too bad. Let's forget about these and move on to some of the great places where we CAN take our dogs along the Carolina coasts...

# 10 Cool Things To See On Carolina Coastal Trails With Your Dog

“If your dog is fat,” the old saying goes, “you aren’t getting enough exercise.” But walking the dog need not be just about a little exercise. Here are 10 cool things you can see on the Carolina coasts while out walking the dog.



## PLACES YOU’VE SEEN ON THE SILVER SCREEN

Wilmington is often called “Hollywood East” and movie productions have made extensive use of the Carolina coastal scenery. The Vietnam scenes from *Forest Gump* were filmed in **Hunting Beach State Park**. The trees come right down to the beach and the lush, tropical feel of the vegetation indeed give off the aura of a jungle. A trail leads along the length of an inland lagoon where Forrest saved Lieutenant Dan. A few years later, Hunting Island doubled for Quang Tri Province in Vietnam when Samuel Jackson and Tommy Lee Jones showed up for *Rules of Engagement*. In 1982, Louis Jordan was a mad scientist trying to create new species at **Magnolia Plantation’s Swamp Garden** in *Swamp Thing*. And if you hike with your dog along the *Sugarloaf Trail* in **Carolina Beach State Park** you might recognize some spots where corpse Terry Kiser did some water skiing in *Weekend at Bernie’s*.



## MYSTERIOUS OYSTER PILES

One of the most unique destinations of any trail on the Carolina coasts is the 12-foot high pile of oyster shells in **Edisto Beach State Park** on the *Spanish Mount Trail*. The oyster pile, known as a shell midden, is typical of American Indian rings found throughout the coastal islands. The Spanish Mount is estimated to be 4,000 years old, the second oldest known in South Carolina. These piles of bleached shells might have been built for ceremonies or possibly they are just ancient trash heaps.



### HIGHEST SAND DUNES ON THE EAST COAST

It is one giant sandbox for your dog at **Jockey's Ridge State Park** on the Outer Banks, whose 90-foot dunes are the highest along the East Coast. Trails are laid out across the sand. On the mainland the *Sugarloaf Trail* in **Carolina Beach State Park** leads to a 50-foot sandpile that was often used as navigational aid in years gone by.



### FAMOUS RESIDENCES

Archer Huntington designed his Moorish castle, Atalaya, in Murrells Inlet from memory after a trip to Spain. It can be seen today in **Huntington State Park**. The most spectacular home ever built on the Outer Banks was Edward Kinght's Corolla Island. He spent \$400,000 on the Beaux Arts showcase in 1925 and it has been restored to its original splendor in **Currituck Heritage Park**. But the most-visited home on the Carolina coasts may be a World War II bunker in the dunes of **Fort Fisher State Recreation Area**. For 17 years the "Fort Fisher Hermit," Robert Herrill lived here. When word got out about Herrill's lifestyle, so many people came to hear his philosophies of life that North Carolina officials called him the state's second largest tourist attraction behind only the battleship *North Carolina*.



### 900 DIFFERENT CAMELLIAS

The extremely dog-friendly **Magnolia Plantation** gives your dog a rare chance to hike through a formal garden, one of America's oldest. Besides the 900 varieties of camellias on display the Charleston garden is planted with over 250 types of azaleas.



### PREHISTORIC CANOES

Over the years 29 prehistoric Algonquian Indian canoes have been uncovered in **Pettigrew State Park's** Lake Phelps, preserved in the shallow waters. The canoes were fashioned by burning straight cypress logs over a slow fire and scraping away the charred sections. They were stored for the winter in the muds of the lake. Two are on display in the park - one from 380 A.D. and the other 1440 A.D.



## SPECTACULAR LIGHTHOUSES

There are five lighthouses on the Outer Banks your dog can visit - three in the **Cape Hatteras National Seashore**. The oldest operating lighthouse in North Carolina is the 75-foot tower on Ocracoke Island and the 150-foot Bodie Island Lighthouse dates to 1872. The most famous, and America's tallest at 208 feet, is the black-and-white swirl-striped Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. In South Carolina your dog can trot around the only public light in the Palmetto State at **Hunting Island State Park**.



## ANIMAL EATING PLANTS

At several locations along the Carolina coasts your dog can hike through the unique habitats of pocosins, boglands called by the Indian term for "swamp on a hill." Plants living in these nutrient-poor soils have evolved to trap insects and digest them in lethal juices. Such killers as Venus' Fly Traps, bladderworts and sundews can be seen in North Carolina in **Carolina Beach State Park** and in South Carolina in the **Audubon-Newhall Preserve**, among others.



## FORTS, FORTS AND MORE FORTS

Starting with the first English earthworks in the New World at **Fort Raleigh**, the defense of coastal Carolina has always been a military priority. Your dog can examine the defensive earthworks at **Moore's Creek**, site of a critical American victory during the Revolution, and hike through the Civil War masonry bastion at **Fort Macon**. Or the more primitive Civil War earthworks at Fort **Lamar**. For a look at modern fortification, take the dog to Battery Jasper at **Fort Moultrie** - but don't be disappointed if he's more interested in the beach.



## OLD MINES

The lowcountry was once an ancient seabed, a vast graveyard for millions of years of sea creatures. These marine deposits near the soil surface contain phosphate and calcium, minerals valuable in cement making and for fertilizing fields. The minerals were enthusiastically mined in the 1800s and phosphate mines brought prosperity to towns devastated by the Civil War. The **Edisto Nature Trail** leads to an old mining site and processing plant where phosphate was loaded on barges and shipped down-river to Charleston.



*The 50 Best Places  
To Hike With Your  
Dog On The Carolina  
Coasts...*

# Hunting Island State Park

## The Park

The 5000-acre island was once a hunting preserve, hence its name. Before that it was a stopover for sailors and pirates. Much of the park was developed as a Depression-era project and its 1120-foot fishing pier is one of the longest on the East Coast.

The lighthouse in the park, built in 1859 and destroyed in the Civil War before being rebuilt with cast iron plates designed to be dismantled and moved, is the only public light in South Carolina. When open, you can climb the 167 steps - without your dog - to the top for a commanding view of the shoreline.

## The Walks

Hunting Island State Park is one of the best places you can bring your dog. Dogs are allowed on the park trails and the ocean beach - four miles of natural sand - is open for long canine hikes beside the Atlantic waves.

The formal trails include a one-mile nature trail near the lighthouse and a 4-mile long hiking trail that travels on parallel courses deep into the island.

Both are easy going for you and your dog. The surface is sandy and easy on the paw. Extended hiking is available on some of the lightly traveled roads, service roads and bike paths. As a side trip, a marsh boardwalk has been constructed over a salt water marsh overlooking Johnson Creek.

## Colleton

Phone Number  
- (843) 838-2011

Website  
- [www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1019.aspx](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1019.aspx)

Admission Fee  
- Yes, per person

Hours  
- Sat-Th 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.;  
Fri 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (hours extended to 10:00 p.m. daily during Daylight Savings Time)

Directions  
- *Hunting Island*; take US 17 to Gardens Corner, then take a left on Highway 21 to the park.



### *Bonus*

There is a good chance that you have already seen Hunting Island. The Viet Nam scenes from the movie *Forrest Gump* were filmed here. The trees come right down to the beach and the lush, tropical feel of the vegetation indeed give off the aura of a jungle.

A trail leads along the length of the inland lagoon - man-made from sand dredging - that is where Forrest saved Lieutenant Dan in the movie.

Movie buffs will want to stop in Beaufort on the return trip - some of the big movies filmed here include *The Big Chill*, *The Prince of Tides* and *The Great Santini*.

You will find an abundance of cabbage palmetto forests - the South Carolina state tree - on the island. Although the palms form a thick canopy it will get hot at Hunting Island and there are few fresh water sources so make sure you bring water for your dog when hiking here. The dog-friendly campground is only a few steps from the beach.

*Trail Sense:* There are informational kiosks at the trailhead and a park map is available.

#### **Dog Friendliness**

Dogs are welcome across the park.

#### **Traffic**

This is South Carolina's most popular park - more than a million visitors a year so there will be times of the year when the trails will be noisier than others.

#### **Canine Swimming**

As much as your dog wants in the Atlantic Ocean.

#### **Trail Time**

More than one hour.



*The Hunting Island light is the only lighthouse in South Carolina open to the public.*

# Cape Hatteras National Seashore

## The Park

Cape Hatteras National Seashore stretches down the Outer Banks for 70 sandy miles across three barrier islands, two connected by a toll-free bridge and two connected by a free ferry. Today the seashore is known for its recreational opportunities on the land; historically it has been known for its dangers offshore. A bank of shifting sands known as the Diamond Shoals have caused more than 600 ships to wreck off Cape Hatteras, leading mariners to call the area the “Graveyard of the Atlantic.”

Cape Hatteras was designated America’s first National Seashore by Congress on August 17, 1937 and established on January 12, 1953.

## The Walks

There is no better place for *looong* hikes with your dog on dune-backed beaches than Cape Hatteras National Seashore but there are also a trio of short nature trails - one on each island - to try with your dog.

The best of the lot is in Buxton Woods on Hatteras Island, near the Visitor Center and lighthouse. This trail bounds across pine and oak-covered dunes with marshy wetlands tossed into the mix. The gnarled trees and shrub thickets provide a shady respite from a day on the beach with your dog.

Another leafy canine hike is on the *Hammock Hills Nature Trail* on Ocracoke Island which traipses through a maritime forest on the edge of Pamlico Sound for a bit less than a mile. For an easy hike with your dog in the sunshine

## Dare

Phone Number  
- (252) 473-2111

Website  
- [www.nps.gov/caha](http://www.nps.gov/caha)

Admission Fee  
- None

Park Hours  
- Daylight hours

Directions  
- *Outer Banks*; along Route 12 from the intersection with Route 64 at Whalebone Junction south through Ocracoke Island.



### *Bonus*

There are five lighthouses on the Outer Banks your dog can visit - three in the national seashore.

The oldest operating lighthouse in North Carolina is the 75-foot tower on Ocracoke Island and the 150-foot Bodie Island Lighthouse dates to 1872.

The most famous, and America's tallest at 208 feet, is the black-and-white swirl-striped Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Its light can be seen 20 miles out to sea and has been reported to have been seen from 51 miles. Although your dog can't do it, you can climb the 268 steps to the top.

and salt air stop at Bodie Island Lighthouse. Here you can explore freshwater ponds and marshes that were artificially created by building dams and dikes and artificial dunes to block the intrusion of ocean salt spray.

*Trail Sense:* A park map is available to find the trailheads and the trails are well-marked.



*The current location of the Hatteras Light is not the original - in 1999 the entire 208-foot structure was moved a half-mile away from the encroaching ocean. The journey took 23 days.*

### **Dog Friendliness**

Dogs are permitted year-round in the national seashore, save for three small swimming areas.

### **Traffic**

You can find a desolate stretch of beach or trail most times you seek them.

### **Canine Swimming**

If your dog is intimidated by the crashing Atlantic surf there is also access to Pamlico Sound.

### **Trail Time**

More than an hour - days if you want.

# 3

## Huntington Beach State Park

### The Park

The land for this park was once part of the 10,000-acre Brookgreen Gardens created by Archer Huntington, step-son of Collis P. Huntington, one of the builders of the Transcontinental Railroad. He purchased the former rice plantation to display the works of his wife, sculptor Anna Hyatt and others. When it was opened in 1932 Brookgreen was the country's first public sculpture garden.

Huntington State Park, which includes about 2,500 acres - mostly marshlands - was founded in 1960.



### Horry

Phone Number  
- (843) 237-4440

Website  
- [www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1020.aspx](http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/park-finder/state-park/1020.aspx)

Admission Fee  
- Yes, per person

Park Hours  
- Sat-Th 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.;  
Fri 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (hours  
extended to 10:00 p.m. daily  
during Daylight Savings Time)

Directions  
- *Murrells Inlet*; three miles  
south of town on the ocean  
side of US 17.

