

Doggin' America's Beaches

***A Traveler's Guide To
Dog-Friendly Beaches -
(and those that aren't)***

DOUG GELBERT

illustrations by

ANDREW CHESWORTH



Cruden Bay Books



*There is always something for an active dog
to look forward to at the beach...*

DOGGIN' AMERICA'S BEACHES

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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

It is hard to imagine any place a dog is happier than at a beach. Whether running around on the sand, jumping in the water or just lying in the sun, every dog deserves a day at the beach. But all too often dog owners stopping at a sandy stretch of beach are met with signs designed to make hearts - human and canine alike - droop: NO DOGS ON BEACH.

In *Doggin' America's Beaches* a beach regulation regarding dogs is listed for each beach. If the beach allows dogs at any time during the year, that rule is highlighted in **bold print**. Beaches that do not allow dogs are indicated by *italicized print*. The listed regulations are current as of the summer of 2007. As any dog owner knows, laws pertaining to dogs on the beach can literally change overnight - almost always to the detriment of sand-loving dogs. You can count on the topic of dogs being on the agenda at just about every government meeting in a beach community. So, if you are planning a special trip to a specific beach- call ahead. Did I miss your favorite? Let us know at www.hikewithyourdog.com.

The book lists American beaches in a rough circle from Maine to Florida, across to Texas, over to California, up to Washington and the the Great Lakes from Lake Superior east to Lake Ontario. Within each state the beaches are listed by region, if necessary. Within each region, the beaches are organized by town, which are listed alphabetically. If there is more than one beach in a town, the individual beaches are also listed alphabetically. If the state has only a few beaches and no regions, the beaches are not listed geographically from

north to south but alphabetized by town as above. The only exception to these rules is that national seashores and lake-shores are always listed first and underlined.










Most beaches are listed by name and town with a phone number. Beaches are regulated by any one of a number of government agencies - town governments, county governments, state governments or federal governments. Since most beaches do not have phones, the numbers listed range from town halls to recreation departments to chambers of commerce to visitor centers. If someone at the other end of the line can't answer your beach question, they will no doubt be able to direct you to someone who can.

For dog owners 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 beach always keep your dog under control and clean up any messes and MAYBE more beaches will open to dogs. *Remember, every time you go out with your dog you are an ambassador for all dog owners.*

So the next time you plan a trip to the shore, don't forget to include the dog. Grab that leash and hit the beach!

DBG

Tips For Taking Your Dog To The Beach

-  The majority of dogs can swim and love it, but dogs entering the water for the first time should be tested; never throw a dog into the water. Start in shallow water and call your dog's name - or try to coax him in with a treat or toy. Always keep your dog within reach.
-  Another way to introduce your dog to the water is with a dog that already swims and is friendly with your dog. Let your dog follow his friend.
-  If your dog begins to doggie paddle with his front legs only, lift his hind legs and help him float. He should quickly catch on and will keep his back end up.
-  Swimming is a great form of exercise, but don't let your dog overdo it. He will be using new muscles and may tire quickly.
-  Be careful of strong tides that are hazardous for even the best swimmers.
-  Cool ocean water is tempting to your dog. Do not allow him to drink too much sea water. Salt in the water will make him sick. Salt and other minerals found in the ocean can damage your dog's coat so regular bathing is essential.
-  Check with a lifeguard for daily water conditions - dogs are easy targets for jellyfish and sea lice.
-  Dogs can get sunburned, especially short-haired dogs and ones with pink skin and white hair. Limit your dog's exposure when the sun is strong and apply sunblock to his ears and nose 30 minutes before going outside.
-  If your dog is out of shape, don't encourage him to run on the sand, which is strenuous exercise and a dog that is out of shape can easily pull a tendon or ligament.



*Your Dog On The
Atlantic Coast
Beaches...*

Maine

Maine is known for its rocky coastline, especially in the northern stretches, but the many coves offer small sandy beaches in places. Maine is in the middle of the pack for dog-friendliness on its beaches. Dogs are not allowed on state beaches and you will have to wait until the off-season to take advantage of most of the town beaches.

Recommended Tail-Friendly Beaches



York Harbor Beach. A big, convenient parking lot next to a wide sand beach in a sheltered cove. You have to arrive early or come late in the summer but your dog can play here under voice control.



Old Orchard Beach. A classic resort beach with plenty of white sand and a long fishing pier. No dogs allowed on the beach mid-day during the summer but you don't have to get off the beach until 10:00 a.m.



Drakes Island Beach. Wells is a dog-friendly place with several beaches. Drakes Island is a wonderful, secluded choice.

DOWNEAST/ACADIA

Bar Harbor
207-288-3338

Acadia National Park
NO DOGS ON BEACH BUT ALLOWED ON TRAILS

Boothbay Harbor
207-633-2353

Barrett Park
LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
Grimes Cove Beach
LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Castine
207-326-4502

Back Shore Beach
DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH UNDER VOICE CONTROL OR ON A LEASH

Dennysville
207-726-4412

Cobscook Bay State Park
NO DOGS ON BEACH

Eastport
207-941-4014

Shackford Head State Park
NO DOGS ON BEACH

Lamoine
207-667-2242

Lamoine Beach
LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Lubec
207-941-4014

Quoddy Head State Park
**DOGS ALLOWED ON CARRYING PLACE
COVE BEACH OUTSIDE PARK**

Rogue Bluffs
207-255-3475

Rogue Bluffs State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Seal Harbor
207-276-5531

Town Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH OCT 15 TO
MAY 15**

Stockton Springs
207-567-3404

Sandy Point Beach
DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

MIDCOAST

Brunswick
207-725-6009

Thomas Point Beach
**NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH DURING
EVENTS**

Georgetown
207-371-2303

Reid State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Owls Head
207-941-4014

Birch Point State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Phippsburg
207-389-1335

Popham Beach State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
Town Beach
DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Richmond
207-582-2813

Peacock Beach State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

GREATER PORTLAND

Cape Elizabeth
207-799-5871

Crescent Beach State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Portland
207-874-8793

East End Beach
**DOGS UNDER VOICE CONTROL FROM
DAY AFTER LABOR DAY TO DAY BEFORE
MEMORIAL DAY; NO DOGS IN SUMMER**

Scarborough
207-283-0067
207-883-7778

Ferry Beach State Park
NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
Higgins Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH EXCEPT
MID-DAY DURING THE SUMMER**

207-883-2416

Pine Point Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH EXCEPT
MID-DAY DURING THE SUMMER**

207-883-7778

Scarborough Beach State Park
NO DOGS ON BEACH
Western Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH EXCEPT
MID-DAY DURING THE SUMMER**

South Portland
207-767-3201

Willard Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH FROM OCT-
APRIL AND MAY-SEPT BETWEEN 6 AM
AND 9 AM**

SOUTHERN COAST

Biddeford
207-284-9307

Beach Avenue
**LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
EXCEPT BETWEEN 9 AM - 8 PM FROM
MAY 25 TO SEPT 15**

Biddeford Pool
**LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
EXCEPT BETWEEN 9 AM - 8 PM FROM
MAY 25 TO SEPT 15**

Fortunes Rocks Beach
**LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
EXCEPT BETWEEN 9 AM - 8 PM FROM
MAY 25 TO SEPT 15**

Hills Beach
**LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
EXCEPT BETWEEN 9 AM - 8 PM FROM
MAY 25 TO SEPT 15**

Rotary Beach Park
**LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH
EXCEPT BETWEEN 9 AM - 8 PM FROM
MAY 25 TO SEPT 15**

Kennebunk
207-967-4243

Gooch's Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Middle Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Kennebunk
207-967-4243

Mother's Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

207-985-2102

Parson's Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Kennebunkport
207-967-4243

Arundel Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Cleaves Cove Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Colony Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Goose Rocks Beach
**FROM DAY FOLLOWING LABOR DAY
UNTIL JUNE 15 DOGS ALLOWED ANY
TIME; OTHERWISE DOGS NOT
ALLOWED ON BEACH 9 AM - 5 PM**

Kittery
207-439-0452

Fort Foster Park
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH BEFORE
10 AM AND AFTER 5 PM**

Seapoint Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH BEFORE
10 AM AND AFTER 5 PM**

Ogunquit
207-646-5139

Foot Bridge Beach
NO DOGS MAY 1 TO OCTOBER 15

Moody Beach
NO DOGS MAY 1 TO OCTOBER 15

Ogunquit Beach
NO DOGS MAY 1 TO OCTOBER 15

Old Orchard Beach
207-934-2500

Old Orchard Beach
**DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH EXCEPT
MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY FROM
10 AM - 5 PM**

Saco
207-284-4831

Bayview Beach
LEASHED DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH

Wells
207-646-5113

Drakes Island Beach
**FROM 6/16 TO 9/15 NO DOGS
ALLOWED ON BEACH FROM 8 AM TO
6 PM; BEFORE 8 AM AND AFTER 6 PM
UNDER CHARGE OF RESPONSIBLE
PERSON; ANYTIME FROM 9/16 TO 6/15**

Wells Beach
**FROM 6/16 TO 9/15 NO DOGS
ALLOWED ON BEACH FROM 8 AM TO
6 PM; BEFORE 8 AM AND AFTER 6 PM
UNDER CHARGE OF RESPONSIBLE
PERSON; ANYTIME FROM 9/16 TO 6/15**

York
207-363-1000

Cape Neddick Beach
**IN SUMMER NO DOGS ALLOWED ON
BEACH FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM; DOGS
WELCOME ANYTIME IN OFF-SEASON**

Harbor Beach
**IN SUMMER NO DOGS ALLOWED ON
BEACH FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM; DOGS
WELCOME ANYTIME IN OFF-SEASON**

Long Sands Beach
**IN SUMMER NO DOGS ALLOWED ON
BEACH FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM; DOGS
WELCOME ANYTIME IN OFF-SEASON**

Short Sands Beach
**IN SUMMER NO DOGS ALLOWED ON
BEACH FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM; DOGS
WELCOME ANYTIME IN OFF-SEASON**

*“My dog is worried about the economy because
Alpo is up to 99 cents a can. That’s almost
\$7.00 in dog money.”*

-Joe Weinstein