



LocalGetaways.com™  
Great Deals. Closer to Home.

# The Best Dog-Friendly Beaches

THE GETAWAY GURU



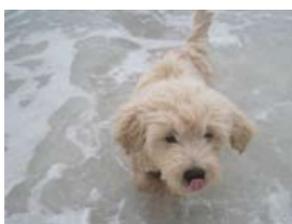
Matthew Poole  
Publisher, LocalGetaways.com

Have you ever seen anything as happy as a dog playing on the beach? Me neither. Sometimes I borrow my neighbor's dog just to take him to the beach and watch him go nuts chasing after his tennis ball into the roiling surf, completely oblivious of the chilly water and crashing waves. It's not only fantastic exercise for the dog, it's cathartic for humans as well, being able to bring so much joy to a dog's day. So open your day-planner right now, find a free weekend, then call your dog over and let him know that he's about to have the best beach getaway a pooch could ever hope for.

## SLURPS UP IN SANTA CRUZ

Santa Cruz offers more dog-friendly beaches than any other city or town on the Northern Coast. Many of the beaches in Aptos, Capitola, and Santa Cruz allow dogs on a leash, and one—**Mitchell's Cove Beach** off West Cliff Drive at the intersection of Almar Avenue—even allows dogs off-leash from sunrise to 10am and 4pm to sunset. If you're planning a trip to Santa Cruz with your pooch, your best bet is to call the Santa Cruz County Visitors Council

at 831/425-1234 and ask them to fax or mail you their "Dogs at Play in Santa Cruz County" flyer, which lists all the dog-friendly parks and beaches in the entire county (it's very handy).



And if you're looking for a place to stay while visiting Santa Cruz, the **Chaminade Resort & Spa** is offering a special rate starting at \$129 for LocalGetaways dog lovers, including complimentary breakfast for two (but they do charge an extra \$75 a day for hosting your pet; see our hotel deals for details).



## FOUR-LEGGED FUN IN SF

My sister lives in Sacramento and makes frequent trips to San Francisco because both she and her dogs (Toula, a Pembroke Welsh Corgi, and Buster, a Borderdoodle) have a ball in this pet-friendly city. First she takes them for a stroll to the off-leash area along **Crissy Field**—with incredible views of the Golden Gate

Bridge—to play with the other dogs. Then it's a short drive to the off-leash area at **Ocean Beach** for some serious ball-throwing exercise, or to nearby **Fort Funston** ([www.fortfunstondog.org](http://www.fortfunstondog.org)), one of the best and most popular doggie parks in the Bay Area, with plenty of sand dunes, trails, and wide-open spaces where dozens of happy and sociable dogs play daily.

On day two, when it's time for some serious shopping at Union Square, she drops them off at **Wag Hotels**

([www.waghotels.com](http://www.waghotels.com); 415/876-0700) near downtown San Francisco

for some paw-dicures, dog play sessions, and swim time in the pet pool (well, Toula's not into the swimming part—it's a short-leg thing). And if you're looking for a pet-friendly place to stay while you're in the city, LocalGetaways is currently offering a fantastic \$129 deal (pets stay free!) at the **Serrano Hotel** near Union Square (see our hotel deals for details).



## SECRET TAHOE DOG BEACH

Just about all the beaches in Lake Tahoe are off limits to dogs, but here's a little secret: Near the **Zephyr Cove Resort** in South Lake Tahoe there's a place called North Beach that's part of Tahoe National Forest and allows dogs (and boy-howdy do dogs love this beach). You can park at the Zephyr Cove parking lot, then walk about 100 yards north to the beach. Better yet, stay the night at one of Zephyr Cove's pet-friendly lakeshore cabins and pay just \$129 when booked through LocalGetaways (see our hotel deals for details).



Another great pet-friendly Tahoe inn is **Tahoma Meadows Bed & Breakfast Cottages** (866/525-1553) on Tahoe's West Shore. It's one of the few properties in Tahoe that welcomes pets, and they even provide a doggy welcome basket for each visiting pooch. Be sure to check out their "Adventures with Your Dog at Lake Tahoe" page on their website at [www.tahomameadows.com](http://www.tahomameadows.com) (click on "Pet Info").

## CANINE BLISS IN CARMEL

My stepmom and dad love taking their dog Pogo (a Hungarian Kuvasz) to Carmel-by-the-Sea, so I asked her to write about their last trip: "We had a lovely time in Carmel with Pogo. I have never been anywhere that dogs are so ubiquitous—there were breeds of every kind. We ate dinner one evening at **Forge in the Forest**

([www.forgeintheforest.com](http://www.forgeintheforest.com)). They have an outdoor area,

laughingly referred to as the 'dog pound', which is where we ate beside a roaring fire in the fireplace. The waiter brought Pogo a water bowl, and there were even menu items for dogs.



**Carmel Beach** is a beautiful off-leash dog run. There were many dogs there, and Pogo loved the beach (the water, not so much). That evening we enjoyed a nice dinner at **Flaherty's Fish House** ([www.flahertysseafood.com](http://www.flahertysseafood.com)). We were welcome inside with Pogo. Overall it was a very enjoyable vacation for the three of us." **Tip:** Right now LocalGetaways is offering a special \$109 rate at the pet-friendly **Carmel Mission Inn** (see our hotel deals for details).

## MENDOCINO LOVES ITS MUTTS

If you really want to spoil your pooch (and yourself to boot), head over to Mendocino for a luxurious getaway to the **Stanford Inn by the Sea** ([www.stanfordinn.com](http://www.stanfordinn.com); 800/331-8884). Longtime owners Joan and Jeff Stanford, who love to travel with their dogs Murphy and Gypsy, always make sure that animals of every ilk get the royal treatment here. At check-in dogs get a welcome treat, stainless steel food and water dishes, pick-up bags, and even "dog sheets" to protect the furniture. There are three



nearby beaches that are dog-friendly, and Joan and Jeff will tell you everything you need to know about where to play with your pet in and around Mendocino. It's a wonderful place to go for a relaxing seaside getaway with your pet.

The dog-friendly beaches and hotels mentioned above are just a fraction of the places in Northern California that allow pets. For more information log onto [www.localgetaways.com](http://www.localgetaways.com), or better yet, add your own comments and advice to our blog on [The Best Dog-Friendly Beaches](http://TheBestDog-FriendlyBeaches.com). We'd love to hear from you.



## All Day Play Resort

OPENING IN ROSEVILLE

Book now and receive 50% off your first visit.

Call 1.888.wag.line (924-5464) for details!



600 Commerce Drive, Suite C, Roseville, CA 95678 [www.waghotels.com](http://www.waghotels.com)

## LOCALGETAWAYS.COM LOCAL HOTEL DEALS

### South Lake Tahoe

#### Horizon Casino

from **\$49**  
3rd Night Free!

Halloween at the Horizon: Bring the whole family to the Horizon Casino in South Lake Tahoe for the holiday extravaganza! A full afternoon of carnival games, a haunted maze, lots of prizes, free admission, and rates from \$49 per night. Exclusively for LocalGetaways customers: Buy 2 nights at Horizon Casino and get the third night free! Offer valid through Dec 23, 2009. 3rd night free may not be a Saturday. Blackout dates: Nov 26-27, 2009. To book by phone call 800/648-3322 and request promo code "3FOR2". Must book by Nov 25, 2009.

### Los Gatos

#### Toll House Hotel

from **\$119**

Shop & relax in beautiful Los Gatos—the Rodeo Drive of Northern California—while enjoying luxurious lodgings starting at \$119! Situated in the heart of Los Gatos at the base of the Santa Cruz Mountains, it's only steps away from a bustling array of chic shops, galleries, and eateries. Pet-friendly guest rooms available too. Offer valid through Dec 30, 2009. \$119 per night plus tax including weekends. Blackout dates: Oct 31; Nov 13-14, 2009. To book by phone call 800/238-6111 and request "Historic" rate. Must book by Nov 25, 2009.

### Santa Cruz

#### Chaminade Resort & Spa

from **\$129**  
Up to 30% OFF!

LocalGetaways Spa Special: Only \$129 (including weekends!) for a luxurious November or December getaway at the AAA 4-Diamond Chaminade mountaintop spa resort overlooking Monterey Bay—PLUS complimentary breakfast for two! For pet-lovers, no need to part ways; bring them along for \$75/day. Weekends sell fast, so book now. Special rate available Nov 1-Dec 31, 2009. To book by phone call 800/283-6569 and request "LocalGetaways Fall Special". Blackout dates: Nov 6-7, 25-27; Dec 24-26, 2009. Must book by Nov 18, 2009.

### South Lake Tahoe

#### Zephyr Cove Resort

from **\$129**

Exclusively for LocalGetaways customers: Enjoy your own private lakeshore cabin starting at \$129 a night AND two full breakfast entrees of your choice AND two-for-one tickets (\$39 value) aboard the MS Dixie II Scenic Day Cruise. This is a fantastic deal for both couples and families. Bring your dog along as well and play at the nearby pet-friendly North Beach! Offer valid through Dec 17, 2009. To book by phone call 800/23-TAHOE and request rate "Local Fall Getaway". Must book by Dec 17, 2009.

### San Francisco

#### Serrano Hotel

from **\$129**  
Up to 50% OFF!

The sweetest deal in San Francisco is at the pet-friendly Serrano Hotel, located in the heart of the city near fabulous shopping. Starting at \$129/night, offer includes \$20 daily food & beverage credit to be used at Ponzu restaurant and complimentary wine hour. Additional upgrades are 50% off. Offer valid through Feb 28, 2010. From \$129 per night. Blackout dates: Nov 3-5, 9-13, 17-19; Dec 12-17, 2009; Jan 10-13, 16-18, 24-27; Feb 8-11, 2010. To book by phone call 866/289-6561 and request booking code "GTY". Must book by Nov 25, 2009.

### Monterey

#### InterContinental The Clement Monterey

from **\$169**  
Up to \$120 OFF!

Save up to \$120 per night at Monterey's newest luxury hotel in the heart of Cannery Row and next door to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. This exclusive offer includes a \$50 daily lunch or dinner credit, an 80-minute spa treatment at a 60-minute rate at Energia Spa, and complimentary wine tasting at Scheid Vineyard Wine Lounge. Offer valid Nov 22-Jan 31, 2010. Blackout dates: Dec 11-12, 27, 31, 2009; Jan 1, 29-30, 2010. To book by phone call 866/781-2406 and request promotional code "IPQYP". Must book by Nov 25, 2009.

### Aptos

#### Seascape Resort Monterey Bay

from **\$132**  
Up to 50% OFF!

Tucked away along the Monterey coast, this sprawling oceanfront retreat is enticingly remote, with your only wake-up call the sound of the Pacific crashing far below against Seascape's cliff perch. And at more than 50% off the normal rack rate, there's no better time to get away. Offer valid through Nov 18, 2009. To book by phone call 800/929-7727 and request "LLG". Special rates are based on availability and subject to change. Not available to groups and not valid in combination with any other offer. Rates do not include \$18 resort fee (\$25 for two bedroom villas). Must book by Nov 18, 2009.

### Carmel

#### Carmel Mission Inn

from **\$109**

Come visit your favorite new place to stay and play in Carmel. Ideal location with easy access to Carmel's beaches, Big Sur, and Monterey Bay. Heated pool, fitness center, massage services & pet-friendly rooms for only \$109, including weekends! Offer valid through Jan 21, 2010. From \$109 per night, including weekends. Blackout dates: Nov 26-27; Dec 31, 2009. To book by phone call 888/475-8286 and request rate "SP". Limited weekend availability. Must book by Dec 1, 2009.

## LOCALGETAWAYS.COM RECOMMENDED EVENTS

### Out of this World Costume Exhibit, October 3 – January 10 Sacramento

Out of this World at The California Museum in Sacramento is one for sci-fi fans. Highlighting the crucial role costumes play in defining characters for visual storytelling, it displays pieces from Star Wars, Blade Runner, The Terminator and many more. Costumes from other popular film and television shows such as Star Trek and Battlestar Galactica are also displayed. [www.californiamuseum.org](http://www.californiamuseum.org)



Photo: Tomas Castelazo

### Dia de los Muertos November 2 San Francisco

San Francisco's Mexican community celebrates Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) on All Soul's Day. People pay tribute to the spirits of their ancestors with a nocturnal procession through the Latino Mission District in fantastic costumes. Activities include candle-lit prayers and a lively street procession, and everybody dresses up and throws food, flowers, and candles. [www.dayofthedeadsf.org](http://www.dayofthedeadsf.org)



### West Fest: 40th Anniversary of Woodstock, October 25, San Francisco

Come celebrate the 40th anniversary of Woodstock. Two full stages featuring an amazing array of musical history (including Jefferson Starship) are lined up for one killer concert. An eco-dome will also offer performers, speakers, the original cast of Hair, and an assortment of healers and eternal hippies to further embellish the experience. [www.2b1records.com/woodstock40sf](http://www.2b1records.com/woodstock40sf)

### World Qualifying Series O'Neill Coldwater Classic November 2-8, Santa Cruz

The O'Neill Coldwater Classic in Santa Cruz is a hugely popular surfing event that offers the winners a cool \$14,500,000 in prize money. The top surfers strive to make enough championship points to break into the following year's championship tour, but events are also a great opportunity for local surfers to showcase their skills. [www.aspworldtour.com/2009/](http://www.aspworldtour.com/2009/)

For more local travel deals visit [www.localgetaways.com](http://www.localgetaways.com)