Frequently Asked Questions

What are my responsibilities?

Keep parks and beaches doodie free! You’re responsible for picking up after your pet. Look for waste disposal bags at Woof Waste stations in many parks. Respect quiet hours. Please make sure pets are calm during quiet hours (10 p.m.–7 a.m.).

Help Fluffy mind her manners: In general, you’re responsible for your pet’s behavior, including any noises and aggressive actions. Remember that you’re liable—not the park—if your pet injures someone. Don’t tie them up where they might react defensively to a child or other unsuspecting visitor while you’re away from your site.

What should I bring with me?
The obvious items: a leash, food, water, and plenty of waste disposal bags. We also strongly recommend putting a collar and identification tag on your pets so you can be contacted if they get loose and someone finds them.

Are pets allowed inside park buildings?

Unless otherwise specified, no. We make exceptions for service animals, and pets are of course welcome in designated pet-friendly yurts and cabins.

What are the rules for service animals?

In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a service animal is defined as a dog trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Providing emotional support or deterring crime are not considered qualifying tasks. Except under special conditions, service animals must also be restrained while in state parks.

When does my pet need to be on a leash?

Your pets need to be physically restrained at all times, meaning you must be holding them, holding onto their collar, or have them on a leash no longer than six feet. Exceptions:

• In a designated off-leash area
• Inside your vehicle, tent, or pet-friendly yurt or cabin

Why does my pet need to be on a leash?

Leashing your pet prevents them from tangling with wild animals or other people’s pets, getting lost, ransacking campground garbage, damaging plant life, or being hit by a car. It also avoids a citation!

Can my pet run free on the beach?

Generally, yes, unless signs indicate otherwise. If you choose to allow your dog to run free on the ocean shores, you are still responsible for their behavior. You must carry a leash with you at all times, and your dogs must be under direct control (within sight and responsive to commands). Please make sure they are not interfering with others’ recreational enjoyment or harassing seabirds or other wildlife.

Pets are not permitted on some beaches from March 15–Sep. 15 to protect western snowy plovers during nesting season. Follow rules posted at beach accesses and signs posted in the sand.

Learn more at bit.ly/pawsitiveORparks
Pets are welcome in nearly all state park, including in campsites and on many trails. Many parks also have pet friendly yurts and cabins that allow up to two pets (dogs and/or cats only). Some parks have designated off-leash exercise areas.

PAWsitive Parks and Trails for Dogs

ON THE COAST
South Beach State Park: Just south of Newport, this dog-friendly campground has 14 pet-friendly yurts. Walk your dog on one of several trails, and be sure to visit pet-friendly Gleneden Beach nearby.

Tugman State Park: Escape the crowds at this quiet campground on Eel Lake, south of Reedsport. It features 8 pet-friendly yurts, an off-leash dog area, and swimming areas along the North Eel Lake and South Eel Lake trails.

NEAR PORTLAND
Stub Stewart State Park: Muddy pups are happy pups, and Fido is sure to get good and muddy while exploring more than 30 miles of trails and a fenced off-leash dog area. You both can clean up after a day well-spent at the rinse station. Be sure to watch for mountain bikes and horses on the trails.

Williamette Mission State Park: An un-fenced off-leash dog area and tons of trails make for a dog-centric day-trip. Note that horseback riding and mountain biking are also popular here.

Molalla River State Park: Fluffy will enjoy romping in the large, grassy unfenced off-leash area at this day-use park, or take her hiking with you on the easy 2-mile out-and-back trail that follows the Willamette River and farmland.

SOUTHERN OREGON
Elijah Bristow State Park: This day-use park southeast of Eugene might be dog paradise. It features five miles of trails plus an expansive, grassy off-leash area divided in two sections: one fully fenced with drinking water, and the other partially fenced.

Joseph Stewart State Park: An inviting reservoir, miles of hiking trails, a fenced dog park and proximity to loads of attractions, including Crater Lake — what more could you want for your Fido-friendly getaway? If you plan ahead, you may be able to snag one of the D Loop tent sites with a lake view.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN OREGON
LaPine State Park: This quiet campground south of Bend makes a great home base for exploring Newberry National Volcanic Monument. Just be sure to tire out Spot first. He can run free in a fenced off-leash area or hike with you on 12 miles of dog-friendly trails, including the 3.5-mile Deschutes Loop that follows the river.

Emigrant Springs State Heritage Area: Near Pendleton, this campground offers year-round recreation. The three pet-friendly cabins are particularly inviting in winter, when snow blankets the park. Hike (or snowshoe) for miles on uncrowded trails, but do watch for horses.

Reservations: oregonstateparks.org | Information: 800-452-5687