

TOP DOG-FRIENDLY BEACHES AND PARKS IN MONTEREY COUNTY

Enjoy the outdoors with your furry best friend at your side.



Carmel Beach

ASK A LOCAL

Essential tips from influential Monterey County luminaries.



DENESE SANDERS
Founder and director,
Open Ground Studios

Favorite annual event?

"The West End Celebration, hands down. It's held in Sand City each August, and it's the best place for arts, crafts, music, and food. It's a great place to meet locals."

Whether pooches prefer sandy paws or grassy hillsides, Monterey Peninsula's dog-friendly spots are worth sniffing out. — Dana Rebmann

CARMEL BEACH

Dogs can romp off-leash at this seaside paradise. Poised pups wanting to make waves can hang 20 with a surfing lesson.

ASILOMAR STATE BEACH

Opt for the mile-long stretch of sand, the slightly shorter Asilomar Coast Trail — or both. Dogs must remain on leash at all times.

GARRAPATA STATE PARK

Near Big Sur, the beach at Garrapata State Park is open to dogs on leash. Spy nearby sea lions and otters from the sandy stretch.

GARLAND RANCH REGIONAL PARK

Specially designed water fountains help dogs (and humans) stay hydrated at this Carmel Valley hiking spot. Off-leash pups must be kept nearby, under voice control.

FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

The more than 86 miles of trails running through this former military base vary from easy to difficult, and are open to leashed dogs.

Asilomar State Beach



Garland Ranch



Garrapata State Park

