



FEATURE

Fur-friendly Guide to the Central Coast

From beaches and brekkie spots to pet-friendly stays and places to play

For a growing number of us, the worst thing about taking a family holiday is leaving the fur-baby behind and let's face it, seeing those puppy eyes as you walk out the door doesn't put anyone into the holiday mood. Plus, there's the hassle, expense and fretting of planning a pet-sitter. So, why not check out these pet-friendly places on the sublime Central Coast and let your pup come along for the ride. After all, it's less than a 60-minute drive from Sydney.

A place for every pooch

From beachside retreats and coastal caravan sites to hinterland hideaways, there are myriad options for pets and their people up and down the coast.

- **Pearl Beach Shack, Pearl Beach** - Hamptons-inspired and fully fenced with three bedrooms, a large undercover deck and a lush lawn. An easy stroll to a beautiful beach with an off-leash area. Pictured top right.

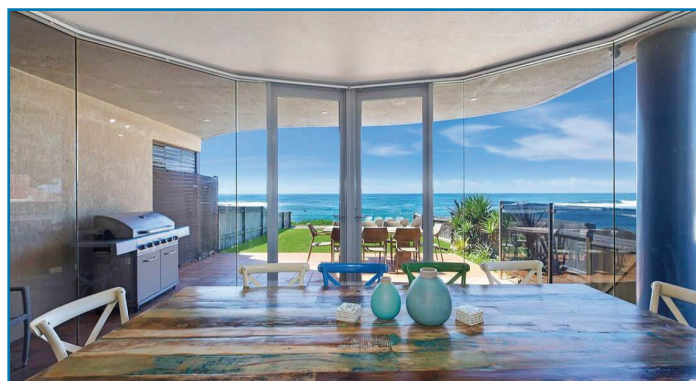
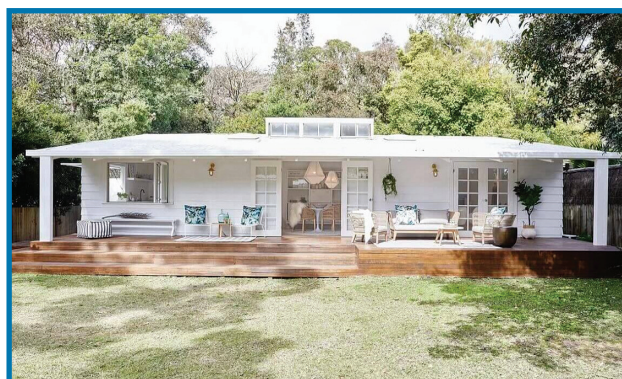
- **Breakfast Creek House, Spencer** - a renovated three bedroom farmhouse on 60 acres with a heated outdoor pool, separate one-bedroom cottage and sweeping valley views surrounded by Dharug National Park. Pictured second right.

- **Lakeside at MacMasters Beach** - a chic coastal rental opposite Cockrone Lagoon on the edge of Bouddi National Park with four bedrooms and a roomy backyard. Nearby Copacabana and MacMasters Beach are dog-friendly and so are many local cafes.

- **Scenic Heights in Terrigal** is a contemporary holiday home with a secure garden, sun-drenched deck and spa. Walk to fur-friendly cafes and the doggie zone at The Haven.

- **JoeAnne on Blue Bay Beach** is the ideal holiday house with four bedrooms, a fenced yard and a deck with beach views. Plus, there are boredom-busting bikes, kayaks, board games and table tennis. Pictured bottom right.

- **Toowoona Bay Holiday Park in Toowoona Bay** enjoys a prime beachside location and pet-friendly powered and ensuite sites, as well as a resort-style pool and jumping pillow. A popular off-leash sandy strip at Shelly Beach North is an easy walk away. See below and top right of page 15.





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• **Norah Head Holiday Park in Norah Head** welcomes well-mannered dogs at its powered, unpowered and ensuite sites and enjoys direct access to The Lakes and Soldiers Point beaches, making it the perfect pick for fans of fun in the sun and water sports.

• **Kim's Beachside Retreat in Toowoona Bay** is an adults-only retreat which also welcomes small pooches in select bungalows. Nestled with sub-tropical rainforest, Kim's has an on-site restaurant, cocktail bar and spa for an indulgent escape.

• **Two Shores Holiday Village in The Entrance North** is a lakefront escape beloved by fans of boating, fishing and kayaking with easy access to beaches and national parks. Choose from pet-friendly cabins, powered sites and ensuites powered sites. Pictured right.

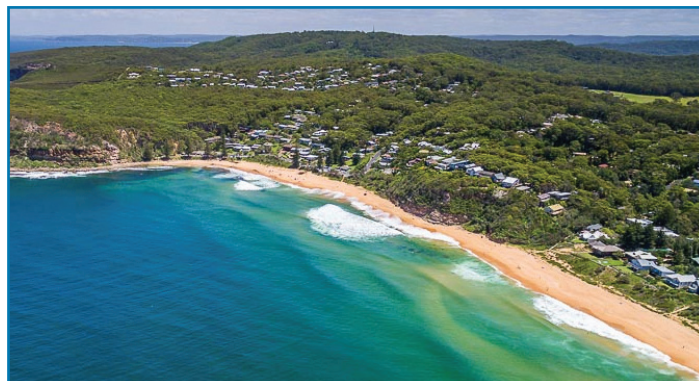
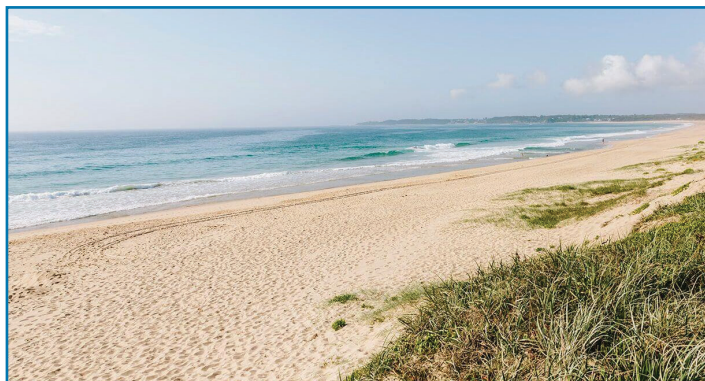


How to fill your dog-friendly days

The Central Coast is home to a collection off-leash parks, reserves, picturesque, shared pathways and beautiful beaches where your four-legged mate can enjoy the great outdoors with the whole family.

Barking good beaches

What pooch doesn't love an endless stretch of soft white sand? Or some waves to paddle in? Whether entirely fur-baby-friendly or featuring designated off-leash zones, popular picks include North Avoca Beach, the long stretch from Copacabana to MacMasters Beach, Budgewoi Beach, North Shelly Reserve at Toowoona Bay, The Entrance North, Patonga Beach, Ettalong Beach and Putty Beach Road Reserve.



Images

Budgewoi Beach (pictured above left)

MacMasters Beach (pictured above)

Ettalong Beach (pictured left)

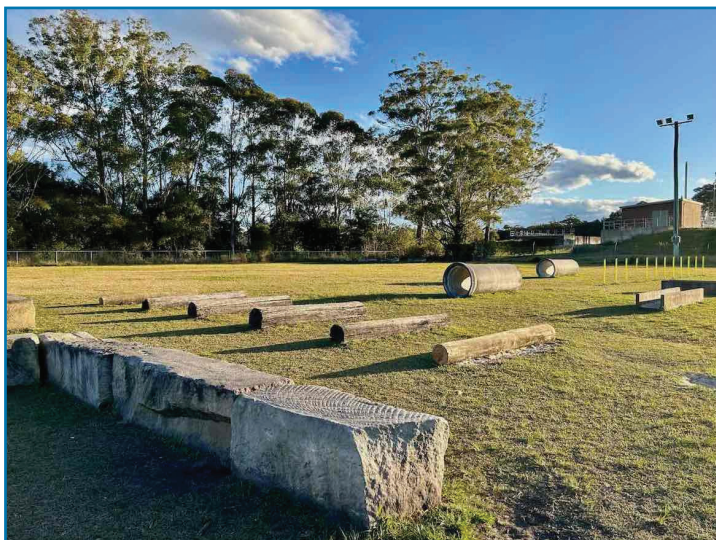


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Woof-erful walks & paw-fect parks

Enjoy a family frolic in Strickland State Forest (pictured right), where fur-babies can bushwalk with you. From wildflowers and woodlands to lush rainforest, the forest is a family favourite and one of the Central Coast's ecotourism gems.

Let them loose in one of many wide-open spaces along the Central Coast – some even have agility obstacles for pups who love to show off. Favourites include **Tuggerah Dog Park** (see pictured below), **Mataram Ridge Park** in Woongarah, **Adcock Memorial Park** in West Gosford, **Captain Cook Reserve** in Green Point, **Fagan Park** in Point Clare, **Kariong Recreation Reserve, Terrigal Haven**, and **Colongra Bay Reserve** at Lake Munmorah.

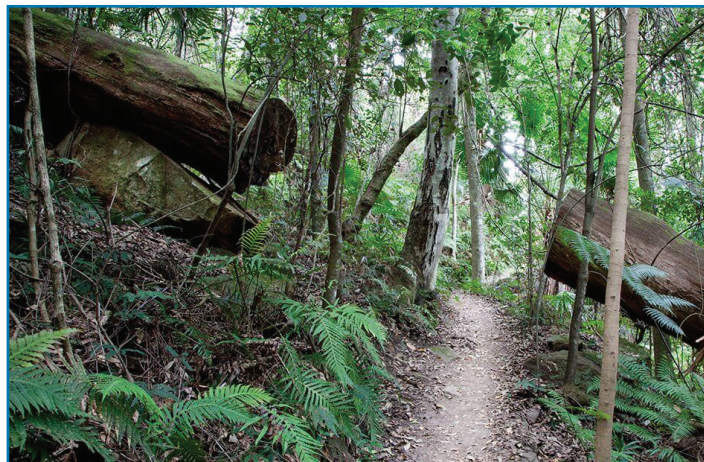


The Boathouse Hotel Patonga, **Bay Rd Brewing** in Gosford, **Firescreek Botanical Winery** in Holgate, or the **tavern at The Wyong Milk Factory** where your four-legged friends will love the creek walk.

Top Tips

- **See an extended list of pet-friendly cafes on The Central Coast here:** <https://www.lovecentralcoast.com/news/dog-friendly-cafes>
- **Tips to holidaying with your dog on the Central Coast here:** <https://www.lovecentralcoast.com/holidaying-with-your-dog-on-the-central-coast>
- **Pet-friendly Accommodation on the Central Coast here:** <https://www.lovecentralcoast.com/holidaying-with-your-dog-on-the-central-coast>

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Canine-friendly cafes

Fancy a puppuccino in between days at the beach and playing fetch in the park? The Central Coast is home to plenty of cafes and restaurants which are ready and willing to welcome your four-legged friends.

Local favourites include **The Point** and **Like Minds** in Avoca Beach (the shaded garden at this zero-waste café is a hidden gem); **The Bees Knees Eatery and Burnt Honey Bakery in Copacabana**; **Belly-fish Café and Terrigal Beach House** in Terrigal (pictured below); **Café Mocha and Local Hero Coffee Brewers** in Bateau Bay; **Bark'n'Bone** in Erina (the doggie treats looks as good as yours); and the Balinese-style vegetarian and vegan **Bamboo Buddha** in Holgate.

If you'd rather take your pup for a pint or a pinot than a hot cup then check out **The Kincumber Hotel**,

