



Dog and Animal Policy

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To find a balanced approach and in response to community feedback, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) has developed the following policy to provide clarity on when and how dogs and other animals may stay in its caravan parks.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. This policy applies to all Caravan Parks operated by the Authority.
- 2.2. Dog and animal access to other Crown land managed by the Authority falls under the relevant Victorian or local government legislation and rules. This policy does not supersede any other legalisation regarding dogs or animals.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

Dogs

- 3.1. Guests must notify and discuss the prospect of dogs staying with them at an Authority Caravan Park before their arrival. Failure to do this may result in the refusal of the guest's dog(s) stay at the Caravan Park.
- 3.2. Dogs will only be permitted to stay in the Authority's Caravan Parks during the periods set out in the Annexure.
 - (a) Management reserves the right to alter these periods at their sole discretion.
- 3.3. While the Authority does not provide 'dog friendly' Camping Sites at all its Caravan Parks, a limited number of dog friendly Camping Sites (not the whole park) will be made available at some Caravan Parks. Caravan Parks will advise guests if they offer dog friendly Camping Sites when enquiries are made.
- 3.4. While these Camping Sites will generally be available at participating Caravan Parks:
 - (a) The Authority cannot guarantee the availability of any particular dog friendly Camping Sites; and
 - (b) From time to time, due to operational requirements or grounds maintenance, the Authority may need to alter the availability, total number or which Camping Sites are dog friendly.

- 3.5. Guests that are permitted to have dogs stay with them must:
- (a) No more than two (2) dogs are permitted per allocated dog friendly Camping Sites.
 - (b) Dogs must be kept under effective control at all times and must not be left unattended.
 - (c) Dogs must be registered.
 - (d) Dogs must have received the C3 vaccine (for canine distemper virus, canine adenovirus and canine parvovirus).
 - (e) When dogs are outside the van/tent/annexe/RV etc they must always be on a lead under the effective control of a person who can manage the dog.
 - (f) Dogs are not permitted in common areas unless advised by Caravan Park management.
 - (g) At night, dogs must be tied up or corralled in a suitable enclosure from which the dog cannot escape.
 - (h) Owners must not allow the dog(s) to enter other Camping Sites.
 - (i) Dog owners must clean up after their dogs immediately and dispose of the waste in designated bins.
 - (j) Excessive barking will not be tolerated and will be treated as excessive noise issues as per the Caravan Park and Camping Grounds Rules.
 - (k) Aggressive behaviour by dogs will not be tolerated. Owners will be asked to take steps to correct the aggressive behaviour in the first instance. If the aggressive behaviour cannot be mitigated the Dog(s) may be required to leave the Caravan Park.
 - (l) All other relevant Victorian and local council regulations must be followed in respect to the dogs, including, but not limited to, dog regulations (such as timeshare regulations and lead regulations) on surrounding beaches.
 - (m) No exceptions to these conditions will be made for any camper without the express permission of the relevant Caravan Park Manager.
- 3.6. Any dog that has been declared a dangerous dog, menacing dog or restricted breed dog, within the meaning of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, must NOT be brought into any Authority managed Caravan Park.

Assistance Animals

- 3.7. The Authority complies with all Victorian and Commonwealth legislation regarding Assistance Animals. These animals are permitted in all Authority managed Caravan Parks.
- 3.8. Guests may be asked to provide proof, in advance, that the animal is a certified assistance animal as outlined within Victorian and Commonwealth legislation.

- 3.9. The Authority seeks to provide the best experience for all its guests. Guests with an assistance animal should speak to the relevant Caravan Park management to arrange the best access and location (subject to availability) for their stay.
- 3.10. The rules relating to dog control and behaviour, set out above, shall also apply to assistance animals.

Cats and other animals

- 3.11. Cats and other animals (excluding assistance animals) are not permitted in any Authority managed Caravan Parks. Any guest who brings a cat or other types of animals into the Caravan Parks will be asked to remove them immediately and may also have their booking cancelled. In this instance, the guest(s) will only be entitled to a refund for the portion of their stay that was not used.

4. LIABILITY

- 4.1. Dog owners are personally responsible and will be held to be so, for any and all personal injuries and/or property damage or losses in relation to any actions by or because of their dog or other animal.

5. DEFINITIONS

Assistance Animal:	<p>An assistance animal is a trained support designed to facilitate the participation of people with disability in accessing various aspects of personal and public life.</p> <p>Section 9 of the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i>, sets out the legal definition of an assistance animal as a dog or other animal that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is accredited under a State or Territory law to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effects of disability; or (b) is accredited by an animal training organisation prescribed in the regulations; or (c) is trained to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effect of the disability and meets standards of hygiene and behaviour that are appropriate for an animal in a public place.
Caravan Park:	Any Authority managed facility providing overnight accommodation.
Camping Sites:	<p>Any space as designated by the Authority at its Caravan Park. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camping spaces, both powered and unpowered • Cabins or similar structures used for accommodation; or

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- Permit sites

Areas that constitute a ‘Camping Site’ shall be at the discretion of the Authority.

6. RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)*
- *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*
- Caravan Park and Camping Grounds Rules

7. APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approved By	Approved Date	Review Date	Version
CEO	23 February 2023	23 February 2024	2

ANNEXURE

Anglesea

Bring your Pooch! Dogs are welcome seasonally.

Dogs are permitted in our Dog Friendly sites from – February 1 to December 15 (excluding Easter, Labour Day weekend, Melbourne Cup weekend, AFL Grand Final and Kings Birthday weekend, and other dates as may be notified).

Dogs are only permitted in our designated dog friendly cabins. #37 & #38 from – February 1 to December 15 (excluding Easter, Labour Day weekend and Melbourne Cup weekend and other dates as may be notified).

When making a booking online, please ensure you select the Dog Friendly Sites option.

Kennett

Bring your Pooch! Dogs are welcome seasonally. (excludes cabins)

Dogs are permitted in our Dog Friendly sites from – February 1 to December 15 (excluding Easter, Labour Day weekend, Melbourne Cup weekend, AFL Grand Final and Kings Birthday weekend, and other dates as may be notified).

Lorne

Bring your Pooch! Dogs are welcome seasonally (excludes cabins).

Dogs are permitted in Ocean Rd and Top Bank Camp sites only. 1st February - 15th December (excluding Easter, Labour Day weekend, Melbourne Cup weekend, AFL Grand Final and Kings Birthday weekend, and other dates as may be notified).

Erskineriver and Queens Park are dog free parks.

If you would like to bring your dog, please ensure when making your reservation online that you book a Top Bank or Ocean Road campsite.

Torquay

Bring your Pooch. Dogs are welcome seasonally (excludes cabins).

Dogs are welcome from 1 May – 31 Oct (excluding Melbourne Cup weekend) on our Grove Camp Sites. We offer sites perfect for your van, motorhome or tent, as well as your dog.

If you would like to bring your dog, please ensure when making your reservation online that you book a Grove Camp Site.

Marengo

Bring your Pooch! We love dogs at Marengo Family Caravan Park and just like any other family member, they are welcome all year round.

Wye

Bring your Pooch. Dogs are welcome seasonally (excludes peak dates).

Dogs are permitted in our Dog Friendly sites from – May 1 to October 28 (excluding Melbourne Cup weekend, AFL Grand Final and Kings Birthday weekend, and other dates as may be notified).

Apollo Bay

Bring your Pooch! We love dogs at Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and just like any other family member, they are welcome all year round.

Skenes

Bring your Pooch! We love dogs at Skenes Creek Foreshore Caravan Park and just like any other family member, they are welcome all year round.