

## Lara's Guide to Dogs on Poole Beaches

Here are two of my mates Russ and Scruff enjoying the beach at Sandbanks.



### Sandbanks

We are not permitted on the main beaches between 1st May & 30th September except for two areas of beach one to the west of Sandbanks promenade and the other on the eastern side of Branksome Chine where we are welcome all year round.

At Sandbanks, the dog friendly area is the stretch of beach between the west of Sandbanks promenade and the Sandbanks ferry terminal. This area of dog friendly beach can be accessed either by parking at the main Sandbanks beach car park and then walking to the right along the promenade (we must be on a lead along the prom) or when spaces are available by parking in the small car park on the left hand side of the Sandbanks ferry terminal - just follow the signs for the ferry and then turn to the left just past the parade of shops.

Once parked follow the road back past the shops for a few minutes until you reach the footpath on the right which leads straight to the dog walking beach. Dog waste bins are available at the beach entrance at the end of the footpath but waste can be placed in normal refuse points. Although we are welcomed on this section of the beach just be warned that if you like swimming, like me, there are strong currents which mean that it is not particularly safe for swimming so don't be tempted to swim too far after the ball!

### Branksome Chine Beach

Golden sands and a gently sloping beach make Branksome chine a safe beach for children and swimming. Branksome Chine beach is easily accessible from Sandbourne Road in Branksome Park with disabled parking, toilets and refreshments available.

Part of Branksome chine beach is dog friendly; this is the area from the Eastern side of the Beach Office to the Poole/Bournemouth boundary.

### Hamworthy Park Beach

Hamworthy Park beach is situated in Lulworth Avenue about a mile and a half from the site, the beach is sandy but not golden but it does offer good views of the Purbeck

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coastline. Its facilities include refreshments during the Summer months and disabled parking & toilets.

### Lake Drive Beach (Lake Pier Beach)

Also in Hamworthy this beach offers a mix of sand and shingle above the tide line but is quite muddy at low tide. Lake Drive beach also adjoins a small nature reserve and Special Site of Scientific Interest Hamworthy Common. Also known as Ham Common the area is a mix of shrub and heath land with a good sized lake, the lake is a disused gravel pit and is not safe for swimming but does attract a good variety of birds and other wildlife.



This is probably one of the best beaches in Poole for dog walkers especially towards high tide as there are some nice circular walks up through the common and back along the beach.

### Other beaches that are dog friendly all year:

#### **Abbotsbury**

Dogs are allowed.

#### **Bournemouth**

Beach Office 01202 451781. Between 1 May and 30 September dogs are allowed to the west of Durley Chine and east of Fisherman's Walk up to Hengistbury Head.

#### **Bridport**

Burton Bradstock Beach-no dogs between 1 May and 30 September, except on East Beach. West Bexington Beach-dogs allowed in a restricted area. Eype Beach-dogs permitted. West Bay-no dogs to the west of East Cliff. Cogden-dogs allowed (please note that Cogden Beach is a naturist beach).

#### **Christchurch**

Between 1 May and 30 September no dogs on Avon Beach, Friars Cliff Beach and Highcliffe Beach between Groyne H8 and H11. Dogs are allowed between the wave wall at end of Friars Cliff Beach and Groyne H8 at Highcliffe Crow's Nest Beach, Mudeford Sandbank and Gundimore Beach.

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### **Lyme Regis**

Between 1 April and 31 October no dogs on Lyme Regis's front beach and on leads for rest of year. Dogs allowed on Monmouth Beach, Cobb Gate and East Beach. Charmouth Beach-no dogs from 1 May to 30 September. Seatown Beach-no dogs.

### **Purbeck**

Studland Beach-no dogs on Middle and Knoll Beaches from the 30 June to 1 September. Dogs allowed on Shell Bay and South Beach all year if on a lead and owners clean up after them. Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Worbarrow Bay, Kimmeridge Beaches- dogs allowed.

### **Swanage**

No Dogs from 1 May to 30 September.

### **Weymouth**

No dogs on main beach from 1 May to 30 September. There is a dog area all year round at the Pavilion end of the beach and Preston Beach.

Have a great day out,

Lara XXXXX