

POOCHES ON BEACHES:

THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF DOGS ON BEACHES

With the holiday season at hand, families are gearing up for hit the beach. However, it serves to be noted that not all "family members", especially four-footed ones are equally welcome on some of Mossel Bay's beaches. Mossel Bay boasts five beaches with Blue Flag status. This includes Santos, De Bakke, Hartenbos, Klein Brak River and Glentana. This is now also applicable to Tweekuilen and Suiderkruis, which have been named Blue Flag pilot sites in 2023.

Dogs are not allowed on any of the Blue Flag beaches, nor pilot site especially during the flag been hoisted.

During the period of 1 December to 31 January annually, dog-owners are allowed to walk their dogs on the certain beaches only on the demarcated areas between the hours of 05:00-08:00 and 18:00-20:00.

These are:

- Dias beach - between the estuary and Bayview
- Hartenbos - between the river mouth between Hartenbos and Klein Brak River mouths
- Little Brak River - excluding the Blue Flag Beach between the river mouth and the northern boundary of the parking lot, between Klein Brak and Hartenbos river mouths Rheeboek/Tergniet
- Dana Bay - between First and Second Beach
- Souwesia

TAKE NOTE:

- The Pienaarstrand and Glentana areas are not on the list of dog friendly beaches. The closest alternative would be Great Brak River or Souwesia.
- As far as Hershams is concerned, Hershams is considered part of Great Brak River.
- Santos is not a dog friendly beach at any other time, unless it is an officially proclaimed "doggy walk"

Boggoms Bay and Vleesbaai:

- Dog owners are allowed to walk their dogs between the hours of 06:00 and 20:00 on the beach area between the southern part of the beach at Boggoms Bay and the north of First Beach at Vleesbaai. During the period from 1 February to 30 November annually, dog-owners are allowed to walk their dogs daily on the aforementioned beaches.

Dog owners must also note the following:

- Dogs must be leashed and under strict control of its owner or a dogwalker at all times.
- Dogs must be under control of their handlers and not interfere with the pleasure of others using public beach areas.

- Dogs that are ferocious, vicious or dangerous must be muzzled and held on a leash and under control of some responsible person when in a public place.
- Right of way must be given to people unaccompanied by dogs.
- Dog handlers are responsible for removing their dog's faeces from all areas used by pedestrians. Removal of faeces must be done immediately and placed in appropriate bins.
- Bitches in heat may not be walked in public beach areas.
- Dog handlers must ensure that their dogs do not disturb, chase or injure wildlife.
- Dog owners must comply to public beach notices.
- Dog handlers are to remain on public beach access areas, approved paths and tracks at all times. No new paths or shortcuts may be created.
- Failure to comply may result in fines being issued by municipal law enforcement officers.

Report concerns to 044 606 5000, download the Collab Citizen smart phone app from Apple App Store, Huawei AppGallery or Google Play Store or send an email to admin@mosselbay.gov.za

ANIMALS: DID YOU KNOW?

Section 13 of the municipal by-law relating to the control of seashore and sea states that no animals (including, but not limited to house pets) are allowed in the bathing area, unless demarcated so by the municipality and indicated by use of signage. The only exception, is guide dogs, performing their duties.

Any monkey/primate (pet monkey with or without a nappy) is unlawful in terms of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Ordinance. Within the boundaries of the Western Cape, all primates must have an import permit/transport permit and captivity permit. In other words, all primates within the boundaries of the Western Cape must be kept in captivity. Any sighting of a primate in a mall, on the street or at the beach, can be reported to CapeNature (George office - 044 802 5300 or 087 087 3000).

