

Britain's most dog-friendly towns & cities

# Brighton beautiful



**ABOUT ANNA**  
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Famous for its vibrant music and arts scene, quirky shopping areas, diverse communities... and dog friendliness, Anna Webb gets to know more about Brighton.

Boutique Hotel ([www.orientalbrighton.co.uk](http://www.orientalbrighton.co.uk)) dogs stay for free, while the centrally located Brighton Artist Residence ([www.artistresidence.co.uk](http://www.artistresidence.co.uk)) charges £15 per dog, per night, which includes a dog bed, treats, and a bowl. The uber-chic Malmaison ([www.malmaison.com/locations/brighton](http://www.malmaison.com/locations/brighton)) on Brighton's marina welcomes dogs too, with a £10 per night surcharge. The New Steine Hotel ([www.newsteinehotel.com/](http://www.newsteinehotel.com/)) allows dogs to stay for free and even permits small, well-behaved dogs into its glamorous French bistro (providing it's not too busy). If it is, the dog-loving staff will suggest an eaterie nearby, or room service can be arranged.

## SHOPPING

With several independent dog boutiques in Brighton, there's no concern about running out of food, replacing a broken lead, or buying a doggy souvenir.

Bone Idol ([www.boneidolbrighton.com](http://www.boneidolbrighton.com)) is situated close to the sea front, independently run, and offers everything with the view to



Bone Idol.

## PLACES TO STAY

Maximising the soaring value of the 'hound pound', holiday lets and Air B&Bs are increasingly dog friendly with agents like Crown Gardens ([www.crown-gardens.co.uk](http://www.crown-gardens.co.uk)) and Brighton Holiday Lets ([www.brightonholidaylets.com](http://www.brightonholidaylets.com)) offering accommodation for dogs and their owners.

In terms of dog-friendly hotels, there's a choice to suit all budgets. At the Oriental

keeping your dog happy, healthy, and as fabulous as he can be! From harnesses to bespoke collars and leads, the shop offers a range of doggy gear, from life jackets and bandannas to winter woollies, and a selection of toys for the most curious minds.

Across town, The Pet Shed ([www.thepetshedbrighton.co.uk](http://www.thepetshedbrighton.co.uk)) is also an independent pet store. With its friendly atmosphere, the shop caters for every dog's needs, offering a wide range of foods, toys, and accessories.

## PLACES TO EAT

If the sea air makes you hungry, there's a vast choice of dog-friendly eateries whether it's for a sandwich, a Sunday roast, or à la carte.



Enjoying the vibe at The Thomas Kemp.

- **The Thomas Kemp** situated in Kempton in the east of Brighton and close to the beach offers an award-winning menu and an eclectic atmosphere. [www.thomaskemp.pub](http://www.thomaskemp.pub)
- **The Charles Street Tap** on Marine Parade offers food and a tipple, from a selection of craft beers to stylish cocktails

so you can enjoy a pint with your dog. [www.craft-pubs.co.uk/charlestreetafbrighton](http://www.craft-pubs.co.uk/charlestreetafbrighton)

- **The Daddy Long Legs** bar restaurant



A canine guest at The Charles Street Tap.

offers a relaxed vintage-themed style with a pleasant garden for you and your dog to enjoy.

[www.daddylonglegs.co.uk](http://www.daddylonglegs.co.uk)

- **The Amsterdam Bar & Kitchen**

right on the seafront, minutes from the pier, offers a large terrace that's ideal for dogs.

[www.amsterdambrighton.com](http://www.amsterdambrighton.com)

- If a cafe is more your choice, check out **The Laughing Dog Cafe**, an award-winning destination that's situated in the heart of the marina.

[www.laughingdogbrighton.com](http://www.laughingdogbrighton.com)

- **The Green Kitchen** is a vegan cafe close to Preston Park to the north of the city.

[www.greenkitchenbrighton.com](http://www.greenkitchenbrighton.com)

- **A Cup of Joes** near the famous Palace Pier offers delicious light bites and is perfect for people watching and soaking up the Brighton vibe.

[www.cupofjoebrighton.co.uk](http://www.cupofjoebrighton.co.uk)

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Brighton seafront with its famous pier in the background.

## A PIECE OF HISTORY

Why not grab a sarnie and enjoy a picnic in the stunning grounds of the majestic Royal Pavilion? A landmark feature of Brighton, the Royal Pavilion is an exotic palace, right in the city centre, with a colourful history.

Built as a seaside pleasure palace for King George IV, this historic house mixes Regency grandeur with the visual styles of India and China. While only assistance dogs are allowed inside, you and your dog (on a lead) can stroll in the stunning gardens.



The Brighton Pavilion.



Explore the beautiful countryside around Brighton.

## FRESH AIR AND EXERCISE!

Part of Brighton's popularity is the sea air, the stunning surrounding scenery of the South Downs — just a stone's throw away — and its beaches and iconic seafront.

The South Downs National Park has it all: rolling hills, glorious heathland, river valleys, ancient woodlands, thriving villages, and coastal paths that combine sea views across 1,600 square kilometres in the most valued lowland landscape in the UK.

Dogs are welcome in the South Downs National Park provided owners behave responsibly, picking up, never allowing

dogs to become a nuisance, and keeping them under control, even on a lead, especially close to any livestock.

Devil's Dyke is owned by the National Trust and situated on the South Downs Way in the South Downs National Park.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The South Downs Way is one of 15 national trails in England and Wales. It runs for 100 miles from Winchester in Hampshire to Eastbourne in East Sussex.

● At the time of writing, many of the attractions and amenities featured here had closed temporarily or were operating under restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic. Readers are urged to visit the relevant websites to get the most up-to-date information. Even though restrictions may well still apply, we hope our focus on dog-friendly Brighton gives you a glimpse of what you can look forward to once life returns to normal.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

The South Downs is the newest national park in the UK, officially opened on March 31, 2010. It is home to a number of rare species, including the Adonis blue butterfly.

A 100-metre, V-shaped valley, it's the longest, widest, and deepest dry valley in the UK, and has been a landmark tourist attraction since the early Victorian era.

Local folklore suggests that the valley was the work of the devil. The legend holds that the devil was digging a trench to allow the sea to flood the many churches in the Weald of Sussex.

But the Devil was surprised by a rooster and, assuming dawn was breaking, fled, leaving his trench unfinished.

The Devil's Dyke Pub overlooks the valley with stunning views. It's perfect for a well-earned rest after a day exploring the South Downs. Dogs are allowed in the bar and welcomed with water bowls and biscuits.

● Find out more at [www.vintageinn.co.uk/restaurants/south-east/thedevilsdykebrighton](http://www.vintageinn.co.uk/restaurants/south-east/thedevilsdykebrighton)

The Devil's Dyke.



Taking a stroll past the colourful beach huts.



Dogs and owners enjoy a splash at the Saltdean Lido.



Image: The Dogvine.

## TAKE A DIP

It would be rude to visit Brighton and not take a stroll on the beach. Dogs are allowed on all beaches in Brighton and Hove between October 1 and April 30, and they are permitted to stroll along the upper and lower promenades on the seafront on a lead.

The rest of the year, May 1 to September 30, dogs are only permitted on beaches listed as dog friendly.

At the time of writing, Brighton and Hove City Council had relaxed its standard by-laws regarding beach policy and dogs, due to the coronavirus pandemic. In a bid to facilitate social distancing, dogs and their owners could continue to enjoy a walk along the city's beaches while maintaining social distancing and staying safe.

It's important that common sense prevails with dogs on beaches. These are treasured shared spaces, so dogs must be kept under control as not everyone is a dog lover!

If your dog paddles out too far and gets into difficulty taking a dip, the RNLI is there to help (never attempt to rescue your dog yourself!), but it's also a good idea, if you own a natural water baby or gundog, to invest in a doggy life vest for peace of mind.



It may be best for your dog to wear a life vest.

## SPLASH OUT!

Since the re-opening of Saltdean's stunning Art Deco Lido in 2017, every September dogs and their owners make a splash in the beautifully restored 43m X 20m pool. Tickets must be booked in advance, and proceeds go to the ongoing restoration of the stunning cruise-liner-shaped 1930s building.

● For more information about walking your dog on the beach, and which beaches are open and dog friendly, visit [new.brighton-hove.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-arts/seafront/seafront-by-laws-and-accessibility/dogs-beach](http://new.brighton-hove.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-arts/seafront/seafront-by-laws-and-accessibility/dogs-beach)

## WALK THIS WAY

Brighton's coastal walks start from the pier and head towards Hove (five miles), along the seafront and past Hove Lagoon, or towards Saltdean (three miles) along the Undercliff Walk. In fact it's possible to journey part of the way on the famous Volks Electric Railway.

Apart from being the oldest continuously running electric railway in the world, it welcomes dogs for the ride. Constructed by Magnus Volk, the railway opened in 1883 and runs between March and October. It runs a mile up the seafront and is a great way to travel from the Brighton Palace Pier to Black Rock and Brighton Marina.