



# Mornington Peninsula National Park



## Dog Regulations

National parks and conservation reserves are declared to conserve Australia's unique native flora and fauna. In order to protect these species, dogs, cats and other introduced animals are restricted or prohibited in these areas. In 2013, dog regulations in the Mornington Peninsula National Park underwent a community review with the intention to further protect a number of threatened fauna species. The following regulations have been established and are strictly enforced to avoid conflict between beach users as well as protecting native wildlife.

### National park regulations:

#### Dogs are **permitted** between sunrise and 9am on a leash only at the following:

- Portsea Surf Beach (visitor precinct in front of Surf Lifesaving Club)
- Between Sorrento Back Beach and Brewsters Road, Rye (Orr Point)
- Rye Ocean Beach (east of car park)
- St Andrews Beach (west of car park)
- Flinders Ocean Beach (King Street to West Head)

#### Dogs are **prohibited** at all times at:

- Between London Bridge and Portsea Surf Beach (excluding visitor precinct)
- Between Portsea Surf Beach and Sorrento Back Beach
- Between Brewsters Road, Rye (Orr Point) and Rye Ocean Beach (west of car park)
- St Andrews Beach (east of car park)
- Gunnamatta Beach
- Fingal Beach & Picnic Area
- Cape Schanck
- Bushrangers Bay
- Main Creek
- Highfield
- Greens Bush
- The Blowhole
- Tea Tree Creek
- Flinders Ocean Beach (adjacent to Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary)

*Prohibition includes dogs on beaches, dunes, walking tracks, in vehicles and in car parks. Penalties apply and dogs found unattended will be impounded.*

Detailed maps showing dog walking areas are available online at [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)

#### Where else can I walk my dog?

Mornington Peninsula Shire provide some reserves where dogs may be walked leash free. Many of these areas are fenced and have onsite parking. For a full list of these areas visit Mornington Peninsula Shire on [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au)

#### Why not in national parks and conservation reserves?

Beaches are popular places for people to enjoy time with their dogs. However, most coastal parks, including Mornington Peninsula National Park, are highly sensitive areas. Regulations have been implemented to protect the fragile ecosystems, whilst also allowing dogs and their owners some opportunity to enjoy these places.

The Mornington Peninsula National Park is home to many native animals which are threatened by predatory animals like dogs. Furthermore, the park protects a number of rare species such as the White-footed Dunnart, Long-nosed Bandicoot and the endangered Hooded Plover. This tiny bird nests at the high tide mark right on the beach. If dogs were allowed in all coastal areas at all times of day it is likely these birds would be constantly disrupted and limit their breeding. The consequences could mean extinction of the Hooded Plover and other such threatened species.

Many people also visit beaches and national parks to relax, something that can be difficult with dogs around, particularly off leash. We ask that you respect other park users and their needs, especially the wildlife.

For further information

Call Parks Victoria on **13 1963**  
or visit [www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)

Park Office  
44 Hinton Street  
P.O. Box 400, Rosebud  
Call **5986 9100**

Point Nepean Visitor Centre  
Point Nepean Rd, Portsea  
Call **5984 4276**

### Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish home with you for recycling and disposal

Keep to the formed walking tracks

Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks

Dogs are prohibited in Greens Bush and along sections of the coast from Portsea to Flinders

Dogs are permitted in designated and signed locations along the coast between sunrise and 9:00am only

In areas where dogs are permitted, they must be on a lead at all times

Firearms are not permitted in the park

Fires are not permitted in the park

All native plants and animals are protected. Leave the park as you found it

Remain on the beach or tracks at all times. Dune systems are extremely fragile environments

**Healthy Parks Healthy People**  
Visiting a park can improve your health, mind, body and soul. So, with over four million hectares of parkland available to Victorians, why not escape to a park today!



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## Dog Walking Areas

### Dog walking area

Dogs on leash only permitted from sunrise to 9.00am within hatched area on access roads, car parks, defined tracks and sign posted beach areas



Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information. Data source acknowledgements: State Digital Mapbase, The State of Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.