



Dog Off Leash – Local Law Help Sheet

Unless designated otherwise, all areas across the municipality are dog on-leash.

There are also a number of parks and beaches where dogs are permitted off leash. Some areas change at different times of the day or the year.

There are also some areas where dogs are prohibited.

This help sheet provides all the information about where to find all of these areas and the requirements outlined in the local law regarding dogs.

Full details are available on our website - [Dog parks and beaches - City of Port Phillip](#)

Owners responsibilities

Both on lead and in off-leash areas are designated by Council under the Local Law. In these designated areas, dogs may be off-leash and owners are responsible for:

- keeping their dogs under effective voice and/or hand control and within constant sight
- ensuring they are capable of promptly bringing the dog under effective control
- ensuring that their dog/s do not worry or threaten any person or animal, or attack or bite any person or animal
- removing and dispose of all faeces deposited by their dogs in public space
- being considerate of other users of the site
- keeping dogs within the designated boundaries of the off-leash area
- returning their dog to a lead outside of the off-leash area
- abiding by all relevant regulations and Local Laws.

All dogs over the age of three months need to be registered with Council, this is a legal requirement under the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

If you own a **Greyhound**, your dog is required to be on-leash even in off-leash areas.

Effective Control

Council defines effective control as:

- the dog will return to you on command
- the dog does not bother, attack, worry or interfere with other people or animals
- the owner retains a clear and unobstructed view of the dog.



Dog Off-Leash Areas

Designated Areas

All DOLA are designated under the Local Law. The relevant section of the Local Law with detailed boundaries and designations can be found here - [Dog Off Leash Areas - Delegations](#)

Beaches

Off-leash areas on beaches change summer to winter.

All beach pathways and boardwalks are on-leash areas.

WINTER:

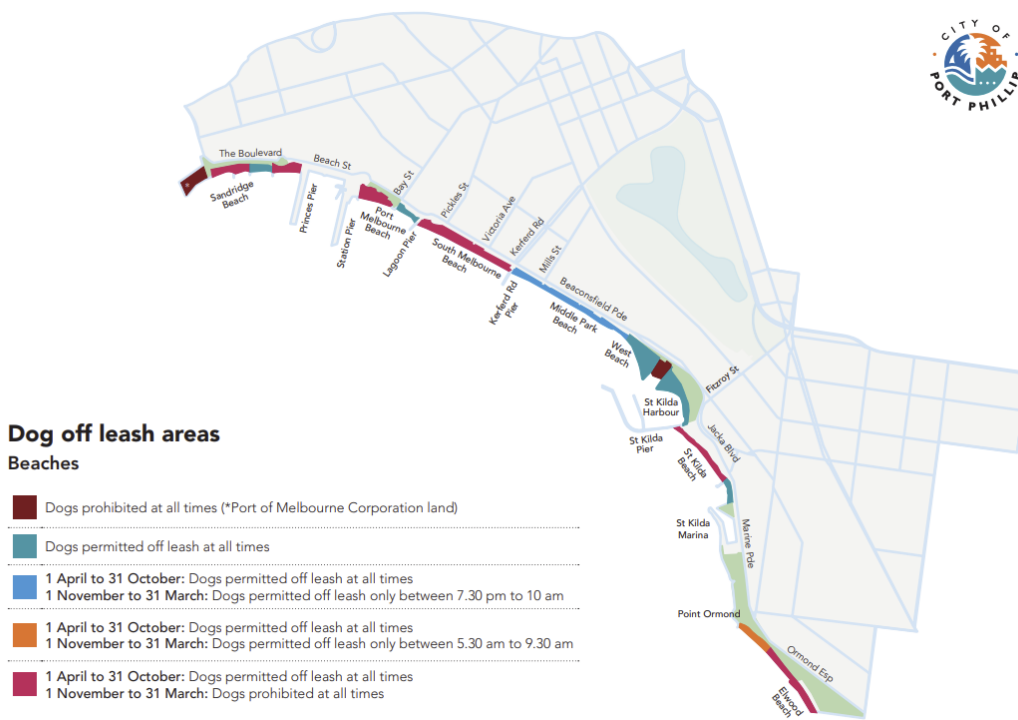
All beaches (with the exception of the environmentally sensitive areas of Perce White Reserve and the sand dune area on West Beach in St Kilda) are **off leash areas from 1 April to 31 October**.

SUMMER

The beaches have restrictions are in place between **1 November to 31 March**

- Sandridge Beach
- Port Melbourne Beach
- Middle Park Beach
- St Kilda West Beach
- St Kilda Beach
- Elwood Beach

The areas are represented in the picture below, which can also be found on our website - [DOLA Beaches](#)



Parks

The following parks are off-leash dog areas.

- Head Street Reserve, Elwood (garden area on corner Head Street and Ormond Esplanade only)
- Clarke Reserve, Elwood
- MO. Moran Reserve, Elwood
- Marina Point Reserve, St Kilda
- Peanut Farm Reserve, St Kilda
- Alma Park East, St Kilda East (north of oval – south of Dandenong Road)
- Alma Park West, St Kilda
- Gasworks Park, Albert Park
- Lagoon Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Howe Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Page Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Smith Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Hester Reserve, Port Melbourne
- L. Murphy Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Garden City Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Julier Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Eastern North Reserve, South Melbourne (Between 7.00am to 7.30pm.)



The areas are represented in the picture below, which can also be found on our website - [DOLA - Parks](#)



Sports Grounds

The primary use of all sports grounds is for organised sport.

The following restrictions are in place for sports grounds across the municipality.

- Peanut Farm Reserve, St Kilda
- Lagoon Reserve, Port Melbourne
- JL Murphy Reserve, Port Melbourne
- Julier Reserve, Port Melbourne



All Year Restrictions

There are some areas and times when dogs are prohibited, both on and off-leash, under the Local Law. These areas are:

- Frank and Mary Crean Reserve, Richardson Street, Middle Park.
- Within five (5) metres of any children’s playground or public barbecue or exercise equipment areas.
- That part of any ground/playing surface/training space, whilst an organised sporting event or training is taking place. (*and must be on lead within 20 metres of these spaces*)
- The environmentally sensitive areas of Perce White Reserve and the sand dune area on West Beach in St Kilda.

Albert Park Reserve

Albert Park Reserve is managed by Parks Victoria, even though it is located in the City of Port Phillip. The reserve is an on-leash park but has space for exercising your dog off a leash. More information is available at [Parks Victoria](#).