

How to use this Guide

Introduction

This book will be useful to anyone wishing to take their dog along while getting away from it all in Australia's great outdoors.

Originating from an idea by Peter and Sandy Dennis (the original authors of the best selling book 'Holidaying with Dogs'), this guide is designed to fill the gap left by that book for people who wish to camp with their dog in a tent, camper trailer or RV in natural surroundings, rather than stay in hotel, motel or bed and breakfast accommodation.

Locating a Campsite in this Guide

The book has been divided into sections – one for each state of Australia. Check the contents page for a quick reference to each state. Camp sites are arranged under headings in alphabetical order according to the park, reserve, forest or town they are in or close to.

There are two ways a camp site can be located using this guide. If the name of the camp site, park, reserve, forest or town is known, it can be looked up in the index at the rear. Then simply go to the page number listed.

Alternatively, if you wish to travel to, or through, a particular part of a certain state, go directly to the main map for that state (find the page number in the contents), locate your approximate desired location on the map and then look up any camp site numbers near this location in the relevant section.

Once a proposed camp site has been chosen, it is recommended you contact the relevant forest office, ranger, manager or caretaker to check current access and fees (if any) as details may have changed since information was collected for this guide. Also confirm that dogs are still permitted and under what conditions, if any.

Dogs Permitted, or Not

It is important to understand the differences in land tenure terminology used throughout this book as defined by the various state government authorities around the country.

As a general rule applying to all states of Australia, dogs are NOT permitted in national parks, conservation parks, conservation reserves and nature reserves. Dogs ARE generally permitted in state forests, some historic reserves, foreshore reserves and various other local parks and reserves.

After this it gets complicated. Dogs ARE permitted in most state parks in New South Wales, but NOT in any state parks in Victoria. They are allowed in all state forests in Queensland, but not in all state forest camping areas. See each state section for more details.

Other Notes

Some commercial caravan parks, tourist parks and campgrounds have been included in this guide and even though they are not strictly bush camping, in some areas there are few other options for camping with dogs. Please verify ahead of your arrival that the park manager still accepts dogs and under what conditions.

Some roadside rest areas have also been included in the lists. These are generally ones where overnight stops are permitted by the relevant state authority and are perhaps more suited to campervans, caravans or motorhomes (RVs) than campers with tents. If signs at the site forbid camping, please move on to another site and do not leave rubbish outside the bins.

Be aware that at all times your actions and those of your pets are a direct reflection on all of us who like to travel with our animals. Please be a responsible dog owner and make us all look good.

A Word on Maps

Wherever possible, users of this guide should obtain the most detailed maps available before attempting to navigate to any of the camp sites listed. Each site listing suggests more detailed map references, ranging from small and medium scale regional road maps, to larger scale (a higher level of detail) state road atlases, or even more detailed topographic maps at scales of 1:50,000 or greater.



























Modern GPS units with built in maps are certainly useful for vehicle

navigation but be wary of using them outside the major cities and without a good quality published map as backup. There are a number of other digital mapping products available and one of the best in terms of coverage and value is the NATMAP Digital Maps, a digital copy of all 514 topographic maps covering Australia at a scale of 1:250,000. The latest release includes all maps updated to July 2006.

To obtain the best possible maps for the area you wish to visit, contact a specialist map shop. Check the web site to find a store in your state at www.mapshopsaustralia.com.au

Camp Site Symbols

The legend below shows the definition of all symbols used for each camp site listing, indicating the facilities and activities available. Facilities are usually at the actual camp site while activities may be at the camp site or close by.

-  Bookings or permit required
-  Camping fees payable
-  4WD recommended for access
-  Caravan and RV access possible - use your own discretion
-  Water available (may require treatment)
-  Toilets (maybe flushing, composting or pit)
-  Ranger or caretaker on-site or patrols the area
-  Picnic tables
-  Fireplaces or fire pits
-  Showers available (may be hot or cold)
-  Information signs or shelter
-  Wheelchair accessible facilities (generally toilets)
-  Rubbish bins on-site
-  Barbecues (gas or electric)
-  Swimming (may be in a pool, river, lake, estuary or ocean)
-  Canoeing or kayaking
-  Windsurfing
-  Sailing
-  Waterskiing
-  Boating (may require 4WD beach launch or small craft only)
-  Fishing
-  Scenic or casual family walking trails (generally easy)
-  Bushwalking or hiking trails (more difficult)
-  Horse riding (with own horse)
-  Cycling or mountain biking
-  Scenic views, birdwatching or wildlife spotting

Abbreviations used in the text

N	north	NP	national park
E	east	NR	national route
S	south	SH	state highway
W	west	km	kilometres
CP	conservation park	m	metres