

BEST DOG FRIENDLY BEACHES NORTH OF BOSTON

*A CURATED GUIDE FOR BEACH ADVENTURES
WITH YOUR DOG*



WELCOME TO THE SHORE!

As a photographer and lifelong New Englander, I've spent countless hours exploring the coast with dogs and their people. The North Shore is filled with breathtaking beaches, some iconic, some tucked away, and many are as welcoming to dogs as they are to us.

This guide highlights a few of my favorite dog friendly spots north of Boston. Whether your pup loves to splash in the shallow water, run along the sand, or simply sit beside you taking in the view, these beaches are the perfect backdrop for adventure and connection.

Rest assured each of these picks have not only stunning shore lines but offer up some amazing golden hour skies!



Behind the scenes from a North Shore beach session.

FOREST RIVER PARK (SALEM)

Dog Policy:

- October 1st - March 31st (off season) dogs are allowed on the beach during all hours and can be off leash, but must be under voice command.
- April 1st - September 30th, dogs are permitted on the beach only before 9:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m..

Why we love it:

Forest River park is a mix of sandy shore line and grass parkland overlooking Salem Harbor. It is perfect for an afternoon walk with your dog or a great place to enjoy the water on one of the two beaches. There are benches and picnic tables as well as a playground! The rocks on the shorelines of one of the beaches offers a great spot to enjoy the sunset over the harbor is beautiful!



LONG BEACH/PEBBLE BEACH (ROCKPORT, MASS)



Dog Policy:

- September 16th to May 31st, dogs are allowed on Long Beach and other public beaches, but they must be on a leash or under voice control.
- June 1st- September 15th, dogs are not permitted on the beach
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Why we love it:

Long Beach is a mile long stretch of soft sand with sweeping views of Thatcher Island's twin lighthouses. At it's southern end it flows into Pebble Beach which gives you two shorelines, one classic sand and one rugged stones. Best enjoyed at low tide as there is limited beach at high tide.

WINTER ISLAND (SALEM)

Dog Policy:

- Seasonal restrictions April 1st to September 15th
- September 16th to March 31st dogs are welcome on both beaches but must be leashed.

Why we love it:

Winter Island is a tucked away gem in Salem! It offers short trails, sandy coves, rocky shorelines, two beaches, and a lighthouse at the point! It is filled with New England charm and a spot where you can slow down and enjoy the coast.



WINGAERSHEEK BEACH (GLOUCESTER)

Dog Policy:

Dogs are prohibited at Wingaersheek Beach from May 1st to September 30th each year. During the off-season, from October 1st to April 30th, unleashed dogs are permitted on odd-numbered days of the month

Why we love it:

Wingaersheek is loved for it's wide sand flats at low tide, shallow waters and rocky outcrops. It is a great place to let your dog explore the water's edge while offering a serene spot for you to enjoy. The sweeping views across the Anisquam River make every walk feel special. Golden hour skies are magnificent!



SINGING BEACH (MANCHESTER BY THE SEA)



Dog Policy:

Dogs are permitted at Singing Beach in Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA from October 15th to April 14th

Why we love it:

Singing Beach is famous for its “singing” sand that squeaks beneath your feet. Rocks to explore along with elevated benches to enjoy the perfect New England scenery. Limited parking makes it feel private. Sunrise golden light is spectacular here.

TURN COASTAL MOMENTS INTO LASTING ART

The coast has a way of slowing us down and letting us breathe a little deeper and notice the quiet beauty of the world around us. For our dogs, these moments are pure joy. For us, they become the memories we hold onto long after the pawprints wash away.

A beach session is more than a walk by the ocean. It's the chance to preserve this chapter of your story with artwork that feels as timeless as the sea itself.

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something unforgettable together!](#)



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Hello there!

I'm Beth, a dog photographer based on the North Shore of Massachusetts. My work is about more than just photos, it's about honoring the animals you love most through portraits that tell their story.

➡ [Learn more at Elizabeth Boudreau Photography.](https://elizabethboudreauphotography.com)



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