

DOG FRIENDLY ADVENTURES

BEST



Trail Tip:

Leash laws vary throughout the area.
Please be aware of posted regulations.

James Island County Park Dog Park (James Island): With its sandy beach, swimming lake, and multi-acre field surrounded by woods, James Island boasts the Taj Majal of dog parks. The park provides drinking water, hoses for cleaning and cooling off, entry and exit gates, and bags and collection cans for your pooch's poo.

Directions from Charleston: Take Hwy 17 S and bear left after the Ashley River Bridge toward Folly Beach. Pass EarthFare on your right, cross another bridge, and take a right onto Maybank Hwy/SC 700. Take a left on Riverland Dr. at the stop light in between the golf course and head 2 miles to entrance on right.

Explore Fort Moultrie (Sullivan's Island): Fort Moultrie's legacy lives forever on the S.C. state flag—the fort's palmetto log sides famously absorbed a barrage of British cannonballs during the Revolutionary War. Today it's a fine place to take your four-legged friend. Dogs aren't allowed inside the fort itself, but when leashed they're welcome to play in the surrounding fields, which are lined with cannons and interpretive exhibits. Fort Moultrie is also directly on Charleston Harbor, so walk out on the rocky beach for an excellent view of Fort Sumter.

Directions from Charleston: Take Hwy 17 N to Mt. Pleasant and bear right onto Coleman Blvd. Continue straight to Sullivan's Island. Turn right at the stop sign and continue until you reach Fort Moultrie.

Kiawah Beachwalker Park (Kiawah Island): Among Charleston's beaches, Kiawah's Beachwalker County Park has the least restrictive dog rules. They're allowed year-round, all day long, as long as they're leashed. It's also one of the Lowcountry's most beautiful and fragile beaches. Walk to the end of Capt. Sam's Spit for a panoramic view of the Kiawah River, the Atlantic Ocean, and the island's dune and maritime forest ecosystems.

Directions from Charleston: Take Hwy 17 S and quickly bear left after the Ashley River Bridge toward Folly Beach. Pass EarthFare on your right, cross another bridge, and take a right onto Maybank Hwy/SC 700. Continue across James Island, cross a bridge, and continue straight. On Johns Island, take a left onto Main/Bohicket Rd. When you reach a traffic circle, bear left to Kiawah Island. Take the right to the park entrance just before the gate into the Kiawah community.

Tidal Creek Disc Golf Course (West Ashley): Charleston is home to a handful of disc golf courses, and Tidal Creek at West Ashley Park is one of the nicest. The wooded, technical course winds along marshland and includes some tight drives. Your furry pal will enjoy keeping you company, and he might come in useful if you launch a disc into the marsh!

Directions from Charleston: Take Highway 17 S to St. Andrews Blvd./SC 61. Follow for 4 miles (SC 61 becomes Ashley River Rd.) to left on Paul Cantrell Blvd. Follow for 2.8 miles (Paul Cantrell becomes Glen McConnell Pkwy.) to right on Mary Adler Ave. Head another .5 mile to course.

Paddle America's First Canal (Moncks Corner): Old Santee Canal Park boasts an impressive museum, visitor center and a boardwalk through the swampy area along the Cooper River. They also maintain the Santee Canal, built in the late 18th century to transport crops between the uplands and Charleston. Today, the canal is a fine place to explore and escape into nature. The park rents canoes for \$3 per half hour, and you're welcome to bring your own. Leashed dogs are welcome on the grounds and in the canoes.

Directions from Charleston: Take I-26 W to exit 209A (Hwy 52) and continue straight through Goose Creek. In Moncks Corner, turn right at the second stop light onto Stony Landing Rd. The park is at the end of the road past the hospital.

Related Resources

James Island County Park: 843-795-7275 / 871 Riverland Dr., Charleston / www.ccprc.com/jicp.htm

Fort Moultrie: 843-883-3123 / www.nps.gov/fofu

Kiawah Beachwalker Park: 843-768-2395 / Beachwalker Dr., Kiawah Island / www.ccprc.com/index.aspx?nid=59

Old Santee Canal State Park: 843-899-5200 / 900 Stony Landing Rd., Moncks Corner / www.oldsanteecanalpark.org