

Hiking with dogs in the Coachella Valley

Draft v. 1 -- 3/1/19

Goal and audience:

1. Steer visitors and residents away from trails where bighorn sheep are present.
2. Promote alternate dog-friendly routes.
3. Identify sources of conflicting information so that these can be corrected.
4. Provide feedback to city governments and tourism agencies.

Questions/issues TBD:

1. How big should the scope be? "Coachella Valley" or "Greater Palm Springs Area"?
2. Include text explaining why dogs aren't allowed on certain trails? (Who writes/approves?)
3. Include text re. safety, heat, water? (Who writes/approves?)
4. Should descriptions be included or just special notes re. length/ease/difficulty?
5. In case of conflicting info, who determines whether or not dogs are allowed?
6. Which city parks should be included?

DATA:

Source: Greater Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau and City of Palm Springs P&R

URL:

<https://www.visitgreaterpalmsprings.com/blog/post/trail-tails-dog-friendly-hikes-in-greater-palm-springs/>

- Araby Trail (website includes photo of Araby trailhead but doesn't say whether dogs are allowed. AllTrails says dogs are only allowed on a portion.)
- Homestead/Cross
- La Quinta Cove Oasis (is this different from "East Cove"?)
- Mission Creek Preserve (anywhere or just certain trails?)
- Palm Springs Museum Trail
- South Lykken (conflicting info on whether dogs are allowed on North Lykken. Is the portion from W. Crescent Drive OK?)
- Whitewater Canyon Loop (closed at this time)

Source: *AllTrails.com*

- Boo Hoff
- Butler Abrams
- Dunn Road
- Earl Henderson
- East Cove La Quinta
- East Indio Hills Badlands
- Goat Trail (is this considered Palm Springs or Cathedral City?)
- Homestead/Cross

AllTrails also lists the following as dog-friendly:

- Apache Peak
- Cedar Springs
- Devil's Slide to Saddle Junction
- Ernie Maxwell Scenic Trail
- Gene Autry Bikeway Trail (is there a trail alongside the road or is it just a bike path?)
- Lion Peak
- Pyramid Peak
- Ramona Trail
- Tahquitz Peak via Devils Slide

Source: *140 Great Hikes In and Near Palm Springs, 2009 edition*

- Araby Trail
- Hahn-Buena Vista Loop (only if accessed by Dunn Road? Can't bring dogs on Fern Canyon.)
- Murray Hill (Alltrails says no dogs allowed.)
- North and South Lykken
- Palm Springs Museum
- Shannon Trail (so that would also include Earl Henderson? Can you go beyond where it intersects with Clara Burgess or Garstin?)

Book also lists 29 hikes in Mecca Hills/Box Canyon, 24 in San Jacinto Mts, 6 in Santa Rosa Mts + 20 more in surrounding area (Gorgonio Pass, Orocopia Mt, Chuckwalla Mts) as being dog-friendly.

Source: *Afoot and Afield Inland Empire, 2018 edition*

- Dos Palmas Preserve
- Horsethief Creek
- Pinyon Trail
- Sawmill Trail

- Vargas Palms
 - Whitewater Preserve
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Source: Hike Greater Palm Springs

URL:

<http://www.hikingingps.com>

- Araby
 - Black Mountain
 - Cactus Spring
 - Cedar Spring
 - Devils Slide
 - Ernie Maxwell
 - Godwin
 - Hahn-Buena Vista
 - Hurkey Creek
 - Earl Henderson
 - North Lykken
 - South Lykken
 - Wild Horse
 - Jo Pond
 - Meccacopia
 - PCT
 - Ramona
 - Santa Rosa Mountain Road
 - Sawmill
 - Shannon
 - Slot Canyon Cave
 - South Fork
 - South Ridge
 - Spitler Peak
 - Thomas Mountain
-

Source: City of Rancho Mirage Planning Department

URL:

<https://www.ranchoirageca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Web-version-final-12-11-18.pdf>

- All city parks including Blixseth Mountain Park and Michael S. Wolfson Park
- Bighorn Overlook
- Butler-Abrams

- Chuckwalla
- Clancy Lane
- Jack Rabbit
- Roadrunner

Source: City of Palm Desert P&R

URL:

<https://www.cityofpalmdesert.org/home/showdocument?id=616>

- City parks including Civic Center, Cahuilla Hills, Cap-Homme
- Gabby Hayes
- Homestead/Cross
- Segment of the Hopalong Cassidy that connects Homestead and Gabby Hayes

Note: Rules about hiking with dogs are hard to find on PD website. It's in very small print on PDF map. Suggest adding text here: <https://www.cityofpalmdesert.org/departments/parks-recreation/park-rules>

Source: City of La Quinta P&R and Tourism

URLs:

<https://www.laquintaca.gov/visit/hiking-trails-986>

<https://www.laquintaca.gov/home/showdocument?id=23041>

<https://www.playinlaquinta.com/see-do/hiking/> → links to AllTrails which states that none of the listed trails are open to dogs.

- Only trail open to dogs is Cove Oasis
- Website and print map (PDF) say Boo Hoff is **not** accessible to dogs

Note: First URL says "Below is an interactive map featuring the La Quinta Cove Trails," but there's no map.

Source: BringFido.com

URL:

https://www.bringfido.com/attraction/trails/city/palm_springs_ca_us/

- Homme-Adams Park

- Idyllwild Park Nature Center
 - Lake Cahuilla Recreation Area
 - Palm View Peak
 - Pyramid Peak
 - Sheep Mountain
 - South Lykken
 - Tahquitz Peak
 - Thomas Mountain
 - Toro Peak
 - Whitewater Preserve
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OTHER:

Indian Wells city website points to www.hikingingps.com

Cathedral City website does not include hiking info. Suggest adding to <http://www.cathedralcity.gov/residents/shop-dine-play>

Indio website mentions city parks only. Search on “hiking” brings up a link to a local senior club: https://www.indio.org/your_government/community_services/senior/clubs/hustle.htm

These URLs list hikes but do not say whether they are dog-friendly:

<https://www.visitpalm Springs.com/overview/play/hiking-in-palm-springs/13681>

<http://www.hiking-in-ps.com/palm-springs-hiking-trails/>

Website notes which trails are off-limits to dogs, once you click through to description: <http://www.hiking-in-ps.com/the-palm-desert-bump-n-grind-trail/>