

BAY WOOF

NEWS WITH BITE FOR BAY AREA DOG LOVERS

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IMAGES: Maria Goodavage

JANUARY 2011 Selected Articles:

BEAST OF THE BAY AWARDS 2011

THE DETAILS

The Andiron Seaside Inn & Cabins
707-937-1543 or 800-955-6478;

www.theandiron.com

Rates: \$89-299; dogs \$20 extra for one, \$30/two, \$40/three per night

Casa Munras

831-375-2411 or 877-411-3436;

www.larkspurhotels.com

Rates: \$119-249; dogs \$50 for up to two per visit

Inverness Valley Inn

415-669-7250 or 800-416-0405;

www.invernessvalleyinn.com

Rates: \$149-219. You can bring as many dogs as you like here - another unique aspect of this inn - and your whole pack will cost you only \$25 for the first night, \$10 for each additional night.

PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn

530-583-1576;

www.plumpjacksquawvalleyinn.com

Rates: \$165-365; dogs \$150 each per visit (ouch), so stay awhile. (A second dog is \$50.)

Solage

866-942-7442; www.solagecalistoga.com

Rates: \$295-595; dogs \$75 for up to two per stay



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Grrr-eat Winter Escapes

By Maria Goodavage

January and February are great months to get away for a little R&R with your furry pal. With the holidays past, prices are at their lowest and crowds are almost non-existent, leaving more dog-friendly rooms available for spontaneous travelers. Jake and I pawed through the manuscript for the upcoming 7th edition of our book, *The Dog Lover's Companion to California* (in bookstores in June), and selected five stellar, dog-friendly lodgings. They're close enough that it won't take you long to get there, yet far enough that you'll feel worlds away. The inns range from super luxurious to delightfully down-to-earth. They're all brand-new entries in the 7th edition, and we're happy to provide Bay Woof readers with a sneak peek.

The Andiron Seaside Inn & Cabins, Little River (Mendocino)

If you love the quirky, fun, and unique, there's no better place to stay than the cabins at the Andiron. Sunset magazine calls the Andiron "a retro-chic hideout." The new owners have remodeled the 11 rooms and housekeeping cabins from the 1950s to create a cute and comfy, eco-friendly, vintage yet modern destination inn. Half of the lodgings are housekeeping cabins, so you and your pooch(es) can cook your own meals. Some rooms have wood-burning stoves. All are redwood and have a super warm and cozy vibe. They're stocked with fantastic reused furniture and textiles, old-style games, and fun goodies like telescopes and vintage View Masters.

The rooms have different themes. The "Write" cabin, for instance, comes with an old-fashioned typewriter, writing reference books, old manuscript pages as decoration, a settee from a famous (now-closed) San Francisco bookstore, curtains from an old library, and a chalkboard wall. It's connected to "Read," which features lots of books and a mural of an old-fashioned library.

Happy hour here is outstanding, complete with local beers, wines, and fondue. Yes, fondue! There's always to-die-for coffee in the morning, along with fresh, local artisan breads and jams. Dogs get a generous welcome kit upon arrival.

Casa Munras, Monterey

The rooms at this lovely hybrid hotel/motel are simple and clean, with comfortable beds and affordable rates. Some rooms have fireplaces. The inn is within walking distance of Fisherman's Wharf, which dogs think is grand, but what they really love is the way they're treated here. Canine visitors receive a welcome kit including a ball, treats, and poop bags. Kennels, beds, and bowls are available for the asking.

Inverness Valley Inn, Marin County

Feel like going on a farmy getaway with your dog, only clean and pretty, and without the cows? Look no further than this friendly inn, where the rooms and suites are airy and pretty, the 15 acres beautiful even in winter, and the farm animal population just right for the tastes of a city or suburban dog - one llama, one alpaca, and assorted goats and geese.

The inn's rooms and suites come with



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kitchenettes, which is very appealing when traveling with a dog. When away from the city, it can be tiresome to seek out a dog-friendly eatery for every meal.

All units have fireplaces, and most have decks or patios. The inn even has its own grassy little dog run. It's not large, but it's a fenced area where you can let your dog enjoy a little off-leash time.

Dog guests here get a dog bed upon check-in, as well as towels and poop bags to help keep the farm tidy. If your dog asks nicely, innkeepers Alden and Leslie will tell him about some secret dog-friendly spots nearby.



PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn, Squaw Valley

If you like a little luxury feel with your mountain vacation, you'll love the PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn. The rooms are furnished in a simple, elegant, mountain-chic style and are ultra comfy. Some look out on the mountains and one even has a piano! The hotel features a great little fitness center, outdoor pools (not open in winter), and hot tubs, plus free WiFi throughout. A really delicious gourmet breakfast buffet comes with your stay. PlumpJack's chefs make all the breads, muffins, and even the granola.

But what does a dog care about WiFi and tasteful décor? Here's what will set his ears to twitching: the canine package includes use of a luxurious dog bed and bowls, fresh-baked organic treats, and a little dog tag that reads, "I'm a guest of PlumpJack Squaw Valley Inn." It provides all the pertinent info in case your dog wanders off.

There's even more to love about this place: PlumpJack's bar/café welcomes dogs at the patio seating, and you can even dine together inside in colder months, as long as you're at the table in the lobby, next to the bar entrance. How cool (or warm) is that?

Solage, Calistoga

For most of us, winter is the best season to visit this magnificent, world-class resort, as rates are lowest January through March. It's still not a bargain, but the resort becomes more within reach for the budget minded.

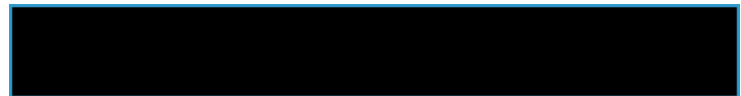
Solage is top-rated by Conde Nast Traveler, Travel & Leisure, and just about any other entity that gives grades to hotels. It's a sprawling, luxurious, relaxing, utterly exquisite resort. The guest studios feature warm woods, polished concrete floors, gorgeous furnishings, organic bath amenities, super high-end bedding, and everything else you could desire of a sumptuous getaway. If you don't want to get away completely, you'll be pleased with your room's WiFi connection, flat-screen TV, and iPod docking station.

Guests have use of fun cruiser bikes, but of course dogs prefer for you to stay firmly planted on two feet. The pool here looks like something out of a magazine, flanked as it is by royal palms. (Oh, it actually is something out of a magazine. Solage's pool has been featured in publications all over the world.) The spa is also world-renowned. Dogs have it really great here, too. They're welcomed with plush dog beds, water bowls, treats and special food. And they have 22 private acres to explore during their stay.

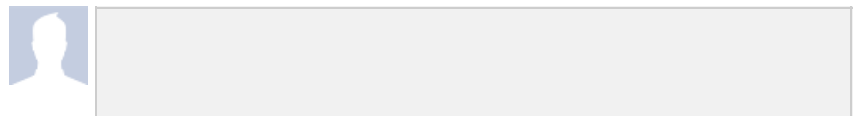
Maria Goodavage and her yellow dog, Jake, travel all over California seeking out new entries for their indispensable travel guide, [The Dog Lover's Companion to California](http://TheDogLoversCompanion.com). Learn more about them and the book at www.caldogtravel.com.


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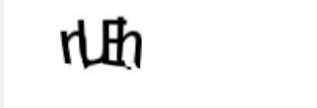
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Dawn Matthews Culp Mar 31

Nice article on "of Cars and Canines" from Chad Culp with Thriving Canine. Handy tips!
<http://www.ThrivingCanine.com/>



Salv Sammut Mar 13

animals must be treated the same way as humans because more than ever, they are the most loyal and friendly creatures. before adopting an animal one must be sure of giving the best care to the adopted animal.



Pamela Wyman Mar 6

Proud of my biz partner Kelley Filson, for winning BEST PRIVATE TRAINER in SF BAY AREA! Well-deserved!



Ron L Gaydos Mar 2

Best News for dog lovers - Baywoof !



Alessandro DeSogos Mar 2

Nice work Angela.



Tracy Locke Moczowski Mar 2

What a great dog-friendly fun find! Can't wait to make our way through the list!



William L Carman Feb 15

Bay Area Dog Owner Groups ALERT.

The East Bay Regional Park district (EBRPD) is beginning the process to update their Master Plan. One component of the survey is Question 34 and 35. (continuance or elimination of off leash dogs on the trails). Please make your voice heard in the early planning process.

Currently they have a policy of allowing dogs off leash in most undeveloped areas, they are considering changing this. If the EBRPD eliminates off leash trail use, it could start a domino effect.

If you wish to continue having places to walk your dog off leash in the East Bay, or even want a fenced in dog park to train your puppies nearby, then please fill out the survey. If you like bicycling with your dog off leash you might like the multi use aspect of the trails, or perhaps you want some trails that are single use for what ever activity you like doing. Please take the time to be heard, your response will affect the regional planning, and the local parks managed by EBRPD.

Link to Survey
<http://www.ebparks.org/planning/mp/survey>.

Current off leash rules for EBRP. Paste into your browser the following if you want to learn about current policies.
<http://www.ebparks.org/activities/dogs/faq#q2>

Bill Carman
bcarman@lamorindadogs.org

PS.
The survey is being hosted by survey monkey which means you can fill it out often from the same computer, but rumors suggest it must be filled out completely.



MaSnax DogTreats Feb 12

woops! missed the voting. congrats to all the noms and winners.



Stephen Bauwens Feb 12

Looking for a young Aussie blue heeler male to adopt
Pleas call (775)848-1005



Alison Smith Feb 8

Dog Management Policy at Albany Waterfront

Published by admin at 8:38 am under Waterfront Planning

The meeting on February 10 will discuss the Dog Management Policy:

The new policies would ban dogs from the beach, the mudflats, the small lagoon, and probably the big lagoon. Dogs would have to be on-leash in the parking lot, the viewpoint/seating area above the beach, on the paved trails, Plateau, Neck trail, and low road along the water. Dogs may be allowed off-leash on the "Bulb" proper (at the end of the Neck).
Plateau, Neck, parking lot, paved trail to benches: 100 percent on-leash

Lagoon: Dogs on-leash or banned
Bulb proper: Possible off-leash area. Dogs would have to be within six feet of handler
Beach: Dogs banned

Please show your support for off-leash dogs and attend the February 10th meeting.

Joint Meeting of the Albany Park & Recreation Commission and the Albany Waterfront Committee

Subject: Draft Proposal regarding Dog Management Policy at the Albany Waterfront for Discussion Purposes

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm Location: Albany City Council Chambers 1000 San Pablo Avenue

The Park & Recreation Commission and Waterfront Committee will be holding a joint meeting to discuss issues concerning dog management at Albany's Waterfront. The purpose of the meeting is to present work to date drafted by the Waterfront Committee regarding a dog management policy proposal. The meeting agenda will include a presentation by staff, questions from the Commission and Committee members, and receipt of comments from the public.

Issues include, but are not limited to:

- * Multiple jurisdictions, each with different park rules
- * Sensitive habitat areas
- * Interest for more official off-leash dog areas
- * Interest for more areas free of off-leashed dogs at the Waterfront
- * Commercial dog walkers
- * Areas proposed for dogs off-leash/under voice control, dogs on-leash, and dogs not allowed (see map).

This is the first of three meetings to discuss this issue at the Commission/Committee level. Two more meetings (one each) will be held by the Waterfront Committee and Park & Recreation Commission (dates and times to be announced).

For more information, please contact Ann Chaney, Community Development Director at (510) 528-5760 or achaney@albanyca.org

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