



Creating a Dog Friendly Holiday Home

Dog ownership in the UK is at an all time high and becoming one of our 'Dogs Welcome' holiday homes will give you a better chance of enjoying that fully booked feeling!

In 2024, **36% of UK householders owned at least one dog**, so if you don't accept dogs that's more than a third of our holidaymakers you're missing out on! Having so many more holidaymakers who will potentially consider your property could give your bookings a great boost. Your property will show up in our dog friendly searches and pages giving you more exposure for your ad.

Making the decision to become dog friendly is **a great move for your business** and with a few simple considerations you can make sure these visitors have a great time at your holiday home and leave you a positive review or even consider booking again!

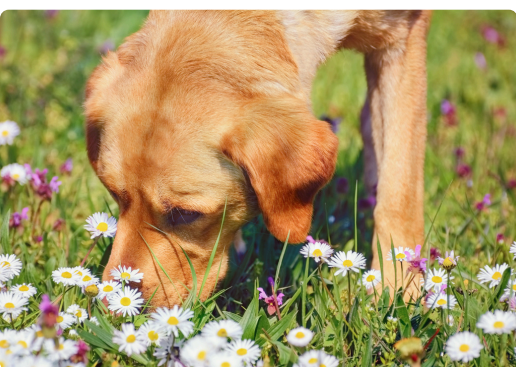


First things first...

Once you've decided to become a Dogs Welcome property there are a couple of other decisions you need to take...

How many dogs will you accept?

Most Dogs Welcome holiday homes accept one dog so accepting more will give you a chance to stand out even more. It can be a struggle for visitors to find a property that accepts 2, 3 or even more dogs! It gets harder for them the more dogs they have so if you can be their solution your chances of securing their booking will be high as they have far less to choose from. But of course you need to consider the space you have available in your property and garden, and how many dogs would be appropriate. You can always start with one and if these bookings go smoothly for you then up the amount you are happy to accept gradually.



Your do's and don'ts!

We find most dog owners are very considerate but it is sensible to have a short list of doggie rules so that everyone knows where they stand.

This could include things like, do you allow dogs on beds or furniture? if you do, do owners need to use their own blankets to protect your soft furnishings? are they allowed in the bedrooms? do you allow dogs to be left in the home alone?

Remember you can charge an extra fee per dog booking and this can cover any extra cleaning required and hopefully allow you not to go too overboard on your rules!

The average
charge for a dog in a UK
holiday home is £20 and £49
per week



Dog safety...

It's a great idea every now and then to take a walk through your property trying to look at things from your guests point of view but this time your viewpoint should be that of a four legged friend!...

Our top tips...

- ♥ Cleaning products can be harmful to dogs so make sure they are on a high shelf or tucked away in a cupboard
- ♥ Cables for electronics and appliances should also be tucked away out of sight so they are not mistaken for toys!
- ♥ Don't use any pesticides, slug pellets or weed killers in any of the outdoor spaces. Check the plants in the garden some common ones can be harmful to dogs including bluebells, daffodils, hydrangeas.
- ♥ Ensure doors close properly, particularly if your rules do not allow dogs in certain areas of the home. If you don't allow dogs upstairs consider providing a stair gate your guests can use.



Make sure guests have access to a vacuum, they will be used to giving places a quick once over and will often happily continue this habit in your property!

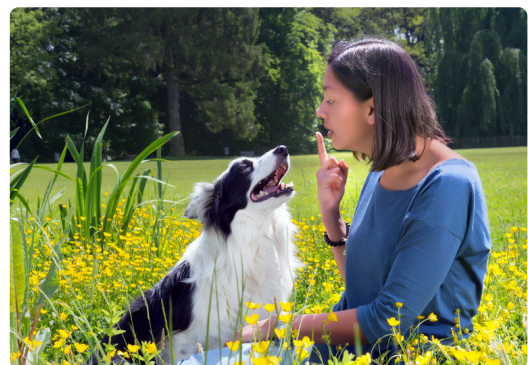


Enclosed gardens...

Some dog owners will prefer an enclosed garden, providing this will again up the amount of holidaymakers that are interested in booking your property.

If you choose to offer this option your guests will expect their pup to be able to roam freely and safely unaccompanied in the space.

Take a walk through your garden and make sure there are no gaps or holes in hedges or fences and that gates can be closed and secured properly. Ensure they cannot get into sheds or garages where sharp tools or other dangerous items could harm them.



A warm welcome...

If you provide a welcome pack for your guests they will love it if you remember their furry friend too! A little bag of treats, a roll of poop bags or even a small toy will make them feel you've gone the extra mile. Guests will always be more inclined to take care of your home if you take care of them!



**Don't forget to make
sure your holiday property
insurance covers damage
caused by domestic pets
just in case**



Up your game!..

If you want to up your dog friendly game think about providing a few extras that will make your guests appreciate you and could make your life easier too!

- ♥ Dirt trapping rugs at entrances and exits will allow your guests to worry less and protect your property.
- ♥ Stair gates can be useful for guests but also help them to adhere to any no go areas you require.
- ♥ Cheap fleece dog blankets are perfect for protecting your soft furnishings, let your guests know this is their purpose... they can be thrown in the machine and can even double up to dry wet dogs or protect floors from muddy paws!
- ♥ Food and water bowls are a great idea just in case they forget to bring their own. A tin water bowl for the garden is also a thoughtful extra.
- ♥ A good supply of poop bags makes sure your outside areas will be kept poop free!



We
appreciate
you choosing to be
Dogs Welcome!

