



SHAWS BAY CELEBRATES RECORD NUMBER OF PET VISITS IN A YEAR

Dog lovers looking for convenient holiday options will be pleased to see North Coast Holiday Parks (NCHP) Shaws Bay celebrating one year of being pet friendly with more than two thousand 'pet guests' having stayed at the park in the past year.

NCHP Shaws Bay has hosted 2,237 pets and their families since July last year and is rejoicing in its pet-friendly status. The park is part of the NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust (NSWCHPT) group which has 24 of its 36 parks and boutique accommodation now providing pet-friendly accommodation or camping sites.

NCHP Shaws Bay Managers Mitch and Mel Spinks are avid animal lovers and said the change in the park since becoming pet friendly a year ago has been enjoyed by all.

"With 2,237 pets coming through our doors in the last year we have seen pampered pooches in handbags, lap dogs who just want to snuggle, dogs bred for racing and big beautiful beasts," they said.

"We have also seen a rise in guest occupancy even over the colder months now that we are pet-friendly, which shows just how much demand there is for holiday options that allow people to include their four-legged friends.

"It has been a wonderful year with lots of unconditional love that we know pets can provide and we are proud to have added pet-friendly to our list of park positives. Dog owners love our convenient, warm-water hydro bath and the nearby pet-friendly beaches and walking areas."

Mitch and Mel had a few suggestions to ensure holidays with pets were enjoyed by all including:

- Always using a pet-friendly seatbelt or harness when traveling in the car.
- Keeping your pets calm in the car with food, water, pet treats and a favourite toy.
- Taking regular breaks on your car journey as dogs need toilet breaks and a chance to stretch their legs, just like us.
- Never leaving your pet alone in a hot car even if the windows are down.
- Keeping pets on a leash while in the park and ensuring mess is disposed of correctly.
- Making sure your pet is not distressed or barking for hours while you are off site.
- Ensuring your pet has a collar and tag and that your microchipping and contact details are up to date as pets can easily escape and go missing in a strange environment.

"Holidays are for the family and with a little planning pets can enjoy a holiday too," they said.

Park guest and professional dog trainer, David Kotek said it was the perfect holiday spot for the family, including the family dog.

"We only live five minutes away from the park and we like the idea of taking out the caravan and getting away from home without being too far away as we have little kids," Mr Kotek said. "We really enjoy the facilities, the fact that it is dog-friendly and of course, the amazing views."

Other pet-friendly parks in the NSWCHPT group include:

- **North Coast Holiday Parks:** Boambee Creek Reserve, Bonny Hills, Coffs Harbour, Corindi Beach, Evans Head, Ferry Reserve, Jimmys Beach, Moonee Beach, Nambucca Headland, North Beach, North Haven, Scotts Head, Shaws Bay and Tuncurry Beach.
- **South Coast Holiday Parks:** Bermagui and Eden.
- **Inland Waters Holiday Parks:** Copeton Waters, Cudgegong River, Grabine Lakeside, Lake Burrendong, Lake Glenbawn, Lake Keepit, Mookerawa Waters and Wyangala Waters.

To book a pet-friendly holiday, visit www.northcoastholidayparks.com.au, www.southcoastparks.com.au or www.inlandwaters.com.au. Follow NCHP Shaws Bay on Facebook for the latest park updates.

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Media Contact: Kimberly Rigby, 0418 383 296

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***Photo attached.**