



# Dog Walking



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## Respect

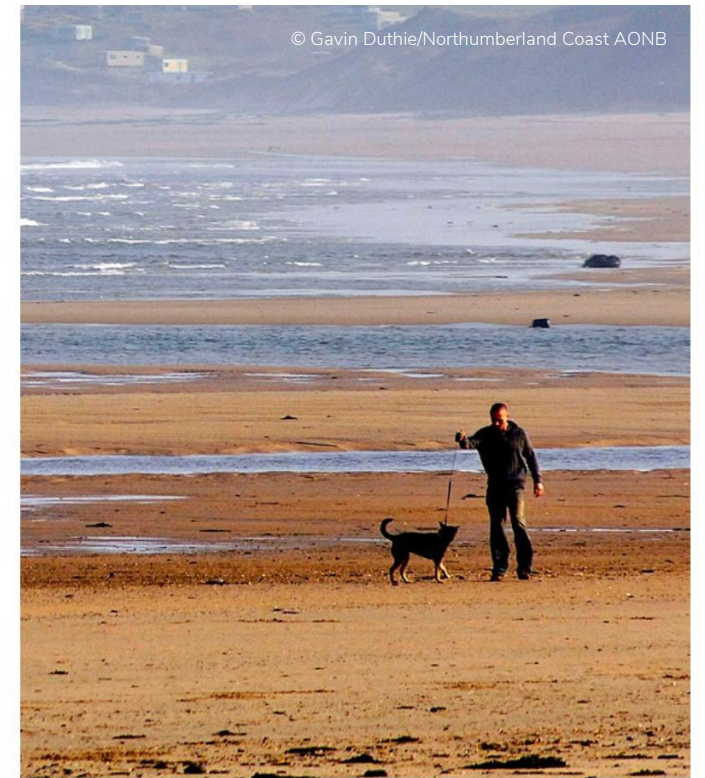
- Remember to follow the [Scottish Outdoor Access Code](#)<sup>1</sup> (Scotland) or [The Countryside Code](#)<sup>2</sup> (England) These give invaluable guidance on how to respect those living, working or enjoying the coast and countryside.
- Be aware of any local bylaws and restrictions effecting dog walking on beaches<sup>3</sup>. Look out for signage and always follow the guidance displayed or guidance given by site wardens.
- Respect wildlife and other beach users by keeping your dog(s) in sight and in control. If this is not possible, please keep your dog(s) on a short lead (around 4 foot or 120 cm).

## Protect

- Give space to wildlife. 40-50m is usually enough for birds, or 100m for seals
- If birds or animals react to you or your dog's presence by becoming watchful, moving or flying away, or making repeated alarm calls, then you're too close.
- Never let your dog chase birds. It gives them less time to feed, wastes valuable energy and can reduce their chances of survival over the winter period or while on migration.
- Carry a short lead (around 4 foot or 120cm) with you and use it when needed e.g. where signage requests it, around livestock, or near cliff edges.
- Some areas may be fenced, either permanently or temporarily, to protect habitats or vulnerable species such as ground nesting birds. Don't allow your dog to enter fenced off areas.
- After walking through dunes check your clothes and your dog for the seeds of the invasive Pirri-Pirri Bur. Take care to prise them from your clothing and put them into a rubbish bin.

## Enjoy

Dog walking is a popular activity along the many fine beaches of the Berwickshire, Northumberland, and North Tyneside coast. Advice on safe and happy walks with your dog, and how to avoid causing problems for others, is available from a number of sources including [the Northumberland Coast AONB](#)<sup>4</sup>, [The National Trust](#)<sup>5</sup>, [Space For Shorebirds](#)<sup>6</sup>, and [NatureScot](#)<sup>7</sup>.



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1. [www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot)
2. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code)
3. Seasonal prohibitions on dogs on beaches between 1 May and 30 September are in place on part of the beach at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Part of the beach at Blyth, [Whitley Bay](#) (South) Beach, [Cullercoats](#) Bay, King Edward's Bay and [Tynemouth](#) Longsands (South). Byelaws in place on the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve require that dogs are kept on a lead or at heel and are prevented from worrying or disturbing any animal or bird
4. [www.northumberlandcoastaonb.org/files/Downloads/Dog\\_Leaflet.pdf](http://www.northumberlandcoastaonb.org/files/Downloads/Dog_Leaflet.pdf)
5. [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/embleton-and-newton-links/features/visiting-the-northumberland-coast-with-your-dog](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/embleton-and-newton-links/features/visiting-the-northumberland-coast-with-your-dog)
6. [www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/dog-rangers](http://www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/dog-rangers)
7. [www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/practical-guide-all/dog-walking](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/practical-guide-all/dog-walking)