

ISSUE 50

Best

2011

FIDO*Friendly*
proudly presents
50 Fido finds
beyond compare.

BY Carol Bryant



We've turned 50—issues, that is. In dog years though, we're still puppies at heart. The roads and skies we've traveled over these past ten years have been adventurous, curious, enlightening and never boring. We've truly left no dog behind in our travels as we took to the highways, byways and even the skyways. Narrowing down our 50 favorites in the *FIDO Friendly* world was no easy task, as we laboriously retreated to our doghouses and poured over the finalists. Check out our top 50 and then surf on over to our website for even more *FIDO Friendly* semi-finalist fun. We raise our water dishes to you, our loyal fans, as we celebrate and point our tails onward to the next 50. Cheers!

PHOTOGRAPHY ISTOCK/MRPLISKIN

SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

Considered to have more dog companions per capita than perhaps any other city in the world, San Francisco tops our list. There are 29 areas designated for off-leash play in various city parks, beaches and trails in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Sally Stephens, Chair of *sfdog.org*, shared, "There are more dogs in San Francisco than children." San Franciscan dog mom, Sharon Castellanos, noted: the Giants' DOG DAYS OF SUMMER event in August, PET PRIDE DAY at Golden Gate Park each fall and a bevy of restaurants and cafes with outdoor seating for Fido al fresco dining. San Fran has our vote as our favorite city!



PORTLAND MAINE

Maine has its own dog-themed newspaper, *Downeast Dog News*. So, when publisher/owner, Wendi Smith, reported 17,000 dogs living in Portland, 46 dog parks and Fido-friendly beaches, 25 restaurants with Fido-friendly sections, dozens of doggy day cares, dog businesses and home of Planet Dog, we fell in love. Portland's resident baseball farm team is the Sea Dogs and 18 Black Dog gift shops call Portland home. Most notable is the Old Port section.

AUSTIN TEXAS

Touted as one of the biggest small towns one will encounter, Austin boasts 12 off-leash dog parks, über-hip festivals and Barton Creek Greenbelt, an eight-mile tract of green space to explore with dogs. With its bevy of boutique hotels and resorts, locale such as The San Jose on South Congress and the Four Seasons cater to canine guests. Saddle up with Fido for a horse-drawn carriage ride about town. *Yee-haw*, Austin!

PROVINCETOWN MASSACHUSETTS

When Pilgrims first dropped anchor in Provincetown Harbor in 1620, dogs were aboard the Mayflower. The town has been an East Coast Mecca for pooches ever since. With over 30 lodging choices available for Fido, patio and beachside restaurant seating and merchants on famed Commercial Street catering to dogs, Fido fans rejoice. Every fall, CASAS (Carrie A. Seamen Animal Shelter) hosts a pet appreciation week culminating with a blessing of the animals. Coastal canine class!

PORTLAND OREGON

Over 32 leash-free dog parks and a thriving pet business scene, ranking only second to NYC for most designated off-leash areas, Portland, OR, rounds out our top five. The Hotel Monaco is not only Fido-friendly but has a pet psychic available. Discover doggy delights at the Portland Rose Gardens and Saturday Outdoor Market. Unwind at Lucky Labrador Brewing Company as Fido chills in a way that can only be done on the West Coast. Dog-inspired brews allow something for every taste.



DUFFEL BAG

BY DOGGY BAGGAGE™

This Duffel Bag has been used for a solid year from coast to coast and has outperformed itself. doggybaggage.com.



WATER BOTTLE

BY H2O4K9™

This stainless steel water bottle for dogs with neoprene sling stays cold and the lid contours to a dog's natural drinking style. h2o4k9.com.



PICK UP PALS

BY PET FLYS™

Trendy way to carry dog waste bags—cute and fashionable. Giraffe, Zebra or Leopard print with 150 lightly floral scented bags. petflys.com.



TO GO BOWL

BY FURRY TRAVELERS

Travel water bowl designed to fit into a car's cup holder. We love taking pit stops and letting Fido cool off with ease. furrytravelers.com.



FIRST AID BANDANA

BY WAG'N ENTERPRISES

An essential for every dog owner's first aid kit is the first aid bandana. Covers basic first aid, poison control, CPR and more. wagn4u.com.



FENWAY BARK BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Fenway Bark hits a home run! Oceanfront and overnight, roomy private quarters with glass doors and bedding choices are available. Luxury boxes overlooking the pool and play yard complete with televisions and webcams set the standard. Pack leaders engage with dogs at temperature-controlled playground facilities, indoor splash pool and anti-microbial grass. Birthday parties and bark-mitzvahs are also hosted here with party favors and games for all. Choosing to set the standard in New England dog care, a vet tech is on staff 24 hours a day. Bow wow wow, talk about a grand slam! fenwaybarkonline.com.



**CAMP BOW WOW®
109 LOCATIONS**

With over 100 locations in the United States and Canada, certified camp counselors and live Camper Cams® means safety and seeing Fido in action are first and foremost. Dogs romp and play in a supervised environment all day while overnight campers get special “campfire” treats before retiring to Camp Bow Wow cabins for the evening. Fleece blankets and climate-controlled atmosphere ensures Fido is comfy cozy at this home away from home. campbowwowusa.com.

**NEMACOLIN WOOLFANDS
FARMINGTON HILLS,
PENNSYLVANIA**

Touted as the region’s premier pet resort and spa with a veterinary hospital. Dogs choose from nature hikes, play swims, ice cream treats, exercise and even dog group sessions. Private-themed doggy condos featuring Kuranda elevated beds, televisions, webcams, butler service and 100 percent fresh air returns are but a few of Wooflands’ many *fidomazing* amenities. nemacolinwooflands.com.

**CANYON VIEW RANCH
TOPANGA, CALIFORNIA**

So magical is the Ranch that it has separate yards: Wonderland Park for large dogs and Munchkinland for smaller dogs. Free shuttle service for daycare, grooming, training and waterfalls with ponds and romping ramps make this doggie daycare extra special. During rest breaks and meals, dogs stay in climate-controlled bedroom villas with soft music and the sounds of nature playing softly in the background. Dogs must be properly socialized. canyonviewdogs.com.

**ADVENTURE DOG RANCH
MARYSVILLE, WASHINGTON**

Founded by Steve and Kerri Pinkston as a cage-free alternative to traditional kennels, dogs play all day in a supervised pack environment. Safety and comfort are elemental for the Pinkstons. Crating is done only at customer request. Located on five acres, boarding and training packages are available. Winner of the 2010 Best of Marysville Award, Adventure Dog Ranch allows dogs to romp, explore, play and engage. adventuredogranch.com.



**EYENIMAL
BY DOGTEK®**

Ever wonder what Fido does while you’re away? The EYENIMAL petcam, which attaches simply and securely to Fido’s collar. dogtek.com.



**CANINE GOOD CITIZEN
BY AKC**

Ten elements of good dog etiquette equates to this AKC title and proves your dog is sociable and handles situations well. ffdo.gs/hzVvyZ.



**BASIC SKILLS
MAKING THE GRADE**

Fundamental commands and essentials such as sit, stay and walking properly are crucial to Fido’s success in a doggy daycare.



**DOODIE PACK
BY DOODIE PACK**

This canine utility backpack is endorsed by behavioral trainers as an effective training tool. Dogs carry the waste. doodiepack.com.



**DIETARY NEEDS
WHAT’S IN THE DISH?**

Send Fido to daycare with the proper food to ensure no tummy upset or diarrhea occur. Alert the staff what Fido should be fed and how often.

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY FENWAY BARK; NEMACOLIN; CANYON VIEW RANCH; CAMP BOW WOW; KERRI PINKSTON (ADVENTURE DOG RANCH); ISTOCK/WILLECOLE

Dogs romp and play in a supervised environment all day.



OVERNIGHT CAMPERS
GET SPECIAL "CAMPFIRE"
TREATS BEFORE RETIRING
TO CAMP BOW WOW
CABINS FOR THE EVENING.



CHAMP WARING

Soon, Champ will be kayaking and heading to Bark at the Park.

BOY SCOUTS MOVE OVER, CHAMP IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE LOCAL DOG SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP AND PAW-TICIPATES IN CANINE ADVENTURES TO THE MAX!

MR. PISH

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Mr. Pish is a 14-years-young Jack Russell Terrier who epitomizes dog exploration with mom K.S. “Kat” Brooks of Spokane, Washington. He posed with the Olympic Torch in Trail, BC, Canada; met tiny burrowing owls in Moose Jaw, Manitoba, Canada; stood at the starting line at the Talladega Super Speedway; explored Garnet Ghost Town in the mountains of Montana; was interviewed on CBS42’s morning TV news program in Birmingham, Alabama; and posed in front of our nation’s Capitol,” reported Brooks. March on, Mr. Pish. *FIDO Friendly* salutes you!



JACKSON

DALLAS, PENNSYLVANIA

Jackson is a working dog. He is a Hospice Therapy Dog, a Reading Education Assistance Dog and works from time to time with specific companies or organizations doing general therapy work, such as the National Guard or the VA Hospital. While Jackson loves his job as a Therapy Dog and does it quite often, owner Joshua Colgan said it can be emotionally draining. Hiking and exploring give the duo a chance to just relax without any schedule or requirements.



BELLA THE BOXER

PORTLAND, OREGON

Ellen Galvin loves urban exploration but began hiking and snowshoeing on Mount Hood with her pooch, Bella. At five-years-old, Bella has puppy energy but is mature enough to stick by Galvin’s side. “It’s refreshing to let go of the ‘digital leash’ and simply enjoy nature,” Galvin shared. Her most outrageous adventure was motor boating with Bella on Wallowa Lake in Oregon. Once docked, Bella bolted like lightning. New sights and smells energize this duo.



CHAMP WARING

MIAMI, FLORIDA

“We don’t see a lot of bulldogs doing athletic activities, and we always get a lot of attention when we are out,” mom Neely Waring said of her dog, Champ. Boy Scouts move over! As an active member of a local Dog Scouts of America troop, Champ loves hiking, geocaching and even letterboxing, a search for hidden stamps. Soon, Champ will be kayaking and heading to BARK AT THE PARK, where the Florida Marlins allow dogs into the ballpark.



ABBIE

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Abbie is known as the world’s top surfing dog and also dubbed by Animal Planet™ as “the extreme sports dog.” She also paraglides, does competitive sheep herding, paddleboarding, snow sledding, trail running, mountain biking, climbs trees, swims and jogs with owner Michael Uy. While paddleboarding, the duo ended up in a pod of nine dolphin pups swimming all around them. Abbie was on the nose of the board sniffing for their scent and trying to interact with the dolphins.

PHOTOGRAPHY K. S. BROOKS (MR. PISH); JOSHUA COLGAN (JACKSON); ELLEN GALVIN (BELLA BOXER); NEELY WARING (CHAMP WARING); MICHAEL UY (ABBIE); PAWMMAZING.COM (SURF DOG RICOCHET); HARDGRAVE PHOTOGRAPHY (SIREN); KATHIE MEIER (GRET); SHIBBERING CHEETOS (MATTIEDOG); DEBRA JO CHAIAPUZIO (EMMA ZEN)



RICOCHET

SURF DOG

This three-year-old Golden Retriever is pawing it forward. Ricochet has raised \$76,000 in the last 17 months. surfdogricochet.com.



SIREN

THE FIRE SAFETY DOG

Siren’s predecessor, Sparkles, saved the lives of seven children and two adults. Siren’s mission is fire safety. sparklesthefiresafetydog.com.



GRET

THERAPY DOG

Author Kathleen Meier witnessed the Bernese Mountain Dog, Gretl, touch and improve the lives of thousands of children.



MATTIEDOG AND CO.

RAISING AWARENESS/FUNDS

MattieDog Brutus the Dane and the Trailer Park Dogs, form Shibbering Cheetos (SC). Raising money for abused animals. shibberingcheetos.com.



EMMA ZEN

PROMOTES ANIMAL SAFETY

A survivor of the 2007 Santiago Canyon fires, Emma Zen promotes public awareness of animals and their safety! emmazen.com.



EXECUTIVE CHEF MITCHELL KALDROVICH

INN BY THE SEA / CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE

Chef Mitchell has been cooking for VIPs (very important pets) since opening Sea Glass at Inn by the Sea in 2008. With a huge demand for guests to eat with their dogs in the fireplace lounge, dogs enjoy dinner fireside with a full-service meal. Highly recommended are the meat *roaff* with steamed rice, raw vegetables, natural ground beef and a dog cookie for dessert. “The Bird Dog” features a grilled chicken with a full course of sides. Chef Mitchell takes specialized dining requests. Dress code: casual leashes. innbythesea.com.



CHEF MARK BODINET
COPPERLEAF IN CEDAR BROOK LODGE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

“As much as we enjoy cooking for our two-legged guests in Copperleaf, I also find the same joy in feeding our four-legged friends,” Chef Bodinet reported. He said the excitement in a dog’s eyes make it fun for him. With a “Puppy Pantry Menu” including hand-formed pasta with natural glaze, garden vegetables and rabbit livers, Bodinet encourages readers to be creative and have fun feeding canine family members. cedarbrooklodge.com.



BRENT E. WERTZ, CEC AAC
NEMACOLIN WOODLANDS FARMINGTON HILLS, PA

Brent has been cooking for dogs for over 18 years and is currently at Nemacolin near Pittsburgh. Chef Brent follows directions of the owner or veterinarian when preparing a custom dog meal. “We keep proteins and fats such as chicken, beef and lamb available as well as oats, rice, corn or carbs,” he shared. We’ve got the inside scoop that the banana snap treats are paw-licking good. nemacolin.com.



WALDORF ASTORIA
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The Canine Culinary room-service menu at Waldorf Astoria sets the bark high. Featured are the German Shepherd’s Pie, Dachshund Delights (mini hot dogs with choice of sauce), Great Dane Danish, Mastiff Munchies (toasted peanut butter sandwiches), Pekingese Duck and Pomeranian Pasta. Fido receives a complimentary dog walk during his stay. With a canine concierge and Fido room service, our tails haven’t stopped wagging. waldorfastoria.com.



ROBERT MARHAMAT
TOULEH PET BOUTIQUE PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Eat raw and eat fresh at touleh pet boutique, where Robert Marhamat prepares customized meals on site for his canine clientele. “I decided to cook for pets as a sustainable means for us to take care of them,” Marhamat stated. Dog sushi and raw meat are available on Fido’s menu. Start with a sweet potato puff or soup and ease into shika roll (venison), ramu roll (lamb) or perhaps Salmon Tartar (wild Alaskan salmon). touleh.com.



NOSH RESTAURANT
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
 Every Saturday from 11AM–4PM, June 4 through September 3, the DOG DAYS OF SUMMER come to Nosh Restaurant. nosh121.com.



WAXY O’CONNOR’S
SAN ANTONIO, TX
 A true Irish pub, dogs are welcome to join their owners and take respite in the sights and sounds of the famed Riverwalk. waxyoconnors.com.



KOOPER’S TAVERN
BALTIMORE, MD
 Naming a restaurant after your dog screams, “Fido is welcome!” A walk-up raw bar on the sidewalk to rest weary dog paws. koopers.com.



THE LUMBERYARD
CANNON BEACH, OR
 Patio dining and tasty American fare. *FIDO Friendly* visited this restaurant in 2010 and gives it four paws up! lumberyardgrill.com



CAPE PIER CHOWDER HOUSE
CAPE PORPOISE, ME
 View of local lobster boats in the harbor, the dining deck is located over the water. capeporpoiselobster.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY INN BY THE SEA (CHEF MITCHELL K); CEDARBROOK LODGE (CHEF BODINET); NEMACOLIN (WERTZ – SENT PIC TO COREY); WALDORF ASTORIA NEW YORK (WALDORF); ROBERT MARHAMAT (TOULEH); LORI GUSTIN (WAXY O’CONNOR); KRISTIAN SMITH (KOOPERS); GARY HAYES (LUMBERYARD); DARLENE BRYANT (MAINE); ISTOCK/LILLISPHOTOGRAPHY (RESTAURANT)

The Canine Culinary room-service menu at Waldorf Astoria sets the bark high.

AFTER DEVOURING HIS
DOGGY DELICACIES,
FIDO RECEIVES A
COMPLIMENTARY DOG
WALK DURING HIS STAY.



HOTEL VINTAGE PLAZA

The Fido-friendly package includes a doggy gift box (including local retail services voucher), doggy truffles, overnight valet parking and a bottle of local wine.

GEORGIE, ENSURES
ALL GUESTS FEEL
WELCOME.

HOTEL VINTAGE PLAZA

PORTLAND, OREGON

The Fido-friendly package includes a doggy gift box (including local retail services voucher), doggy truffles, overnight valet parking and a bottle of local wine. Official dog greeter, Georgie, ensures all guests feel welcome. Send an e-mail to Georgie, Diva of Pet Relations, at georgie@vintageplaza.com, for a bark back! Extras like bowls, treats, waste bags, water, mats, toys and loaner leashes give us the warm fuzzies when staying here. No pet fees, no limit on number and no breed restrictions add up to extra “bone-us” points at Hotel Vintage Plaza. vintageplaza.com.



DELAMAR GREENWICH HARBOR

Each pet checking in receives a VIP amenity basket. No weight or breed restriction. With balconies overlooking gorgeous Greenwich Harbor, water gazing is a must. Nearby Greenwich Avenue is ripe for walking, shopping and a few Fido al fresco restaurants. Within 0.2 miles of the Delamar is Bruce Park. During cruise season, Fido is welcome to a 30-minute harbor cruise on weekends. Ahoy matey! delamargreenwich.com.

FESS PARKER DOUBLETREE HOTEL

All sizes are warmly welcomed on this 24-acre, Fido-friendly landscaped property. Check-in package includes *FIDO Friendly* magazine, *pawrific* pet menu for in-room dining, tennis ball and dog treat. On-site concierge assists with Fido-friendly beaches, places to visit as well as veterinary or pet sitting needs. We love the close proximity of the grassy lawn to guestroom doors for easy access. fessparkersantabarbarahotel.com.

HEATHMAN PORTLAND PORTLAND, OREGON

The Pampered Pet package includes deluxe overnight accommodations for two guests and their dogs, continental breakfast for two, walking guide, beverage credit, “Bark of Sleep” pet bed menu for Fido and “Art of Sleep Bed Menu” for humans, goodie bag and several other amenities. Zelda the famous bulldog stands guard at the hotel entrance. The Pampered Pet package waives the pet fee with no limit on breed or size. portland.heathmanhotel.com.

RITZ-CARLTON NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

Everything is tailored to guest wishes and requests for dogs. Some of the special requests have included plush beds, ceramic bowls for food and water, organic gourmet treats, toys, Burberry coats for rainy days, booties for dog paws, dog walking services, pet grooming services and arrangement for pet sitters as well. Located directly across from Central Park, dogs are treated like royalty and red carpet treatment is the norm. ritzcarlton.com/centralpark.



THE RESORT AT PAWS UP GREENOUGH, MT

A first class resort on 37,000-acre allows Fido in vacation homes. Not to be missed is the annual WINE & BITCH event. pawsup.com.

MOUNTAINTOP INN & RESORT

With 350-acres and a “dog in residence,” a warm and welcoming environment awaits. mountaintopinn.com.

LAZY L B&B LEWES, DE

Conveniently located near Atlantic Ocean beaches, the Lazy L offers a lighted dog run, play area with gazebo and outdoor shower lazyl.net.

LAZY DOG INN CHOCORUA, NH

Between the Lake Region and White Mountains, no breed or weight limits. A full country breakfast and doggy daycare. lazydoginn.com.

BARKWELLS MILLS RIVER, NC

Gated porches, dog doors, fenced yards and plenty of swimming for water-faring Fidos. A gorgeous vacation retreat. barkwells.com.