



Pets in the Park



Visiting Crater Lake with Fido

Pets are wonderful animals; providing comfort, relaxation and companionship. They are welcome to visit Crater Lake National Park with their owners, but there are a few rules to follow.

Keeping Your Pet Safe & Legal

National Parks are afforded a special level of protection for natural resources. These resources include animals from the ground squirrels up to black bears and mountain lions as well as natural resources like volcanic soils and plants.

Some of these resources can harm your pets. The very geology of Crater Lake and its caldera means that below the rim roads, cliffs and rock slides abound. The lava rock can be very unstable making it dangerous and unsafe for you or your pet to enter the caldera. Most humans realize this as they gaze at Crater Lake. A dog chasing a ground squirrel will not.

Your domesticated pet can harm the wildlife in the park. Pets can chase, scare, kill and transmit diseases to wild animals. Even the scent dogs leave behind can disrupt the natural environment causing animals to avoid the marked territory.

Regulations

While visiting the park, please observe the following:

- Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet or in a crate.
- Pets are allowed on roads, established parking areas, Grayback Road, developed campgrounds, and designated picnic areas.
- Pets are not allowed in the backcountry, or on any trail within the park (including hiking trails and designated ski trails and routes).
- In the winter, pets must be on a plowed road.
- Pets are not allowed in any federal building.
- Pets can not be left unattended or tied to an object.
- All solid pet excrement must be picked up immediately by the owner or person in control of the pet and disposed of in trash receptacles.

These regulations do not apply to guide dogs accompanying visually impaired persons or hearing ear dogs accompanying hearing-impaired persons.