

The Pawfect beach day

Common beach hazards for dogs

Nothing beats a day at the beach with your dog – it's the perfect way to enjoy the sun and make memories.

But the beach also comes with hidden hazards. From hot sand to dangerous sea creatures, being prepared is key to keeping your dog safe. Let's take a look at the common risks and how you can ensure a fun and safe day by the shore!

1 Ingesting sand

Dogs can swallow sand when digging or playing with sandy toys.

Risk

This can lead to a serious intestinal blockage (sand impaction).

Top tip

Rinse toys regularly and offer fresh water to limit sand intake.



2 Swimming dangers

Not all dogs are natural swimmers and waves and currents can be dangerous.

Risk

Strong tides can exhaust dogs and pull them under.

Top tip

Keep them in shallow water and use a dog life vest.

3 Dead fish and jellyfish

Washed-up sea creatures may contain toxins harmful to dogs.

Risk

Jellyfish can cause painful stings and dead fish may be poisonous.

Top tip

Keep your dog on a lead in areas where sea life is washed up.

4 Drinking salt water

Dogs often lap up seawater, which can lead to salt poisoning.

Risk

This can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, and dehydration.

Top tip

Bring plenty of fresh water and encourage frequent drinking.

5 Fishing hooks and foreign objects

Dogs are drawn to shiny lures and smelly bait.

Risk

Swallowing a hook can cause severe internal injuries.

Top tip

Avoid areas where fishing is common and watch where they sniff.

Risk

Overexertion can lead to heatstroke, which is potentially fatal.

Top tip

Visit the beach in cooler hours, bring shade, and check the sand temperature.

6 Heatstroke and hot sand

Running on hot sand can burn paw pads.