

# KEEPING PETS SAFE ON HOLIDAY: Beach Safety



## BEFORE YOU GO:



Is the beach dog friendly?



Check **tide times**, and read up about **currents** ahead of time.



Teach your dog how to wear a **dog life jacket** in advance. This can help keep your dog safer in the water - a strong grab handle on the back is essential to help your dog out of the water if needed.

## AT THE BEACH:

Provide some shade consider bringing a tent or beach umbrella to help protect your pup from heatstroke.



Use pet safe sunscreen.



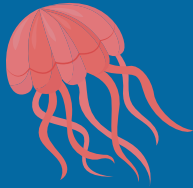
Avoid high tide and the crashing waves.



Check **water temperature** Swimming in cold water can aggravate conditions such as arthritis or other joint issues.

## BEACH HAZARDS:

### Submerged dangers



Beware of submerged dangers in the water such as sharp rocks, shells, coral and coastal wildlife (jellyfish, seals).

### Sand



Eating and swallowing sand can cause stomach issues for your dog, as the sand can compact in their stomach and cause a blockage - choose toys that pick up less sand such as a frisbee.

### Salt



Drinking salt water is a bad idea - it can cause stomach upset, diarrhoea and dehydration, so pack plenty of fresh water to keep hydrated.

Rinse your dog off thoroughly after your beach trip, getting rid of any salt and sand, and make sure to dry their ears to help prevent ear infections.

## WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY?



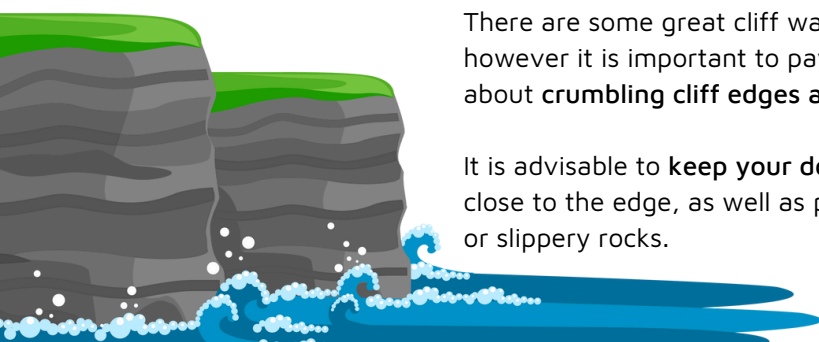
Ring **999** and ask for the **Coastguard**.

It could be helpful to continue calling your dog from the shore to give them some direction if they're disorientated in the waves. Going into the water could put your life in danger and make the situation worse if the coastguard has to rescue you too!



If your dog gets into trouble, please resist going in after them.

## CLIFFTOP WALKIES



There are some great cliff walking routes along the British coastline, however it is important to pay attention to warning signs and notices about **crumbling cliff edges** and **stick to the path**.

It is advisable to **keep your dog on a lead** to stop them getting too close to the edge, as well as protecting them against any strong winds or slippery rocks.



[www.nawt.org.uk](http://www.nawt.org.uk)

