

FUENGIROLA – DOG FRIENDLY CITY

The dog is considered as the man's best friend and Fuengirola has been committed for years to achieving a better coexistence between dog owners and the rest of the citizens.

As a result of this positive philosophy for the proper integration of these pets in the urban environment are the various initiatives launched in recent years.

DOG PARKS

- **Dog Park “Guau Guau 1”** in C/ Alcalá Galiano, Los Pacos (5.400 m²).
- **Dog Park “Guau Guau 2”** in C/ San Gabriel, by the Miramar Shopping Centre (3.610 m²).
- **Mini Dog Park**, with Agility training area, in C/ Castaños, Torreblanca (291 m²).
- **Mini Dog Park**, with Agility training area, in C/ Feria de Abril, Fairground (400 m²).
- **Mini Dog Park** in C/ Lanzarote, Carmen Díez Park (700 m²).

Fuengirola has two new dog parks planned between now and the end of the year:

1. Dog Park in Parque del Sol (750 m²).
2. Dog Park in el Consejo, Los Boliches (150 m²).

So, at the end of the year Fuengirola will enjoy 11,301 m² of dog areas for the use and enjoyment of pet friends.



CANINE BEACH

Since 2014, Fuengirola maintains a limited area on the beach of the Castle for the use and enjoyment of dogs and their owners.

This canine beach is located at the westernmost part of the Fuengirola coast, on the border with the Mijas municipality and has an area of 3,424 m². A series of information signs on the Promenade indicate its location.



The area is enclosed with wooden fences to separate it from the rest of the beach. In 2020, the part of the riverbank wall has been fenced off to prevent the dogs running into the road, providing two locked entrance and exit gates.



Five litter bins have been installed along the canine beach so that owners can deposit their pets' excrement.

Among the facilities that have been provided, the dog beach has:

- A shower.
- A footbath.
- Two specific showers for dogs.
- A source of drinking water for dogs.



A team cleans it manually every day and a screening machine filters the sand once a week.



In the beach bar located in front of the canine beach, dogs are welcome, it opens its doors to those who wish to sit on its terrace with their pets.

As an improvement for future bathing seasons, a new article is being considered for the Ordinance Regulating the Use of Beaches, by which dogs classified as potentially dangerous could be allowed to enter the beach, provided they comply with current regulations. This measure has been taken following the request of several owners of these breeds, who demand to be able to use this beach with their dogs.

TRIBUTE TO THE DOG

This initiative was born in 2010 with the aim of highlighting the importance of the dog breed in society as a whole, either as a companion or inseparable friend or because of its outstanding social function as a guardian, policeman, rescue and guide for people with disabilities. In 2019 the "10th Dog Day" was held at Sohail Castle.

On this day, in addition to the walk organised from the Town Hall Square to the slope of the Castle, several performances and exhibitions were held with the collaboration of the Andalusian Rescue Dog Unit, Firefighters Without Borders, the National Police Dog Unit and ONCE.

Stands were also set up to host local businesses related to animal activity such as veterinary clinics, hairdressers and food shops, as well as local animal protection organisations and the Animal Health Park for the adoption of animals.





OTHER INITIATIVES

- **Awareness, Abandonment and Responsible Animal Ownership Campaigns.** Through the Municipal Animal Health Park, the municipal television station FTV and the Health Department, continuous campaigns are carried out against animal abuse, abandonment and adoption.
- **Campaign in the city's schools** to make children aware of animal care, encourage adoption and educate them to respect animals.
- **Free Adoption Campaign for registered people in Fuengirola.** The Town Hall has launched a programme to try to achieve the **Killing 0** of the dogs collected from the Animal Health Park, encouraging adoption by covering all the necessary fees for adoption such as: vaccination, placement of the microchip and the identification health card; together with the collaboration with the Animal Protectors and Associations.
- **Public transport with access for dogs.** In 2014 the Municipal Ordinance on Animal Ownership was modified and Fuengirola became the third city in Andalusia to allow access to dogs on urban public transport.