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**DOG FANCY**

SEPTEMBER  
2011

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ROTTWEILER

# dog

FANCY

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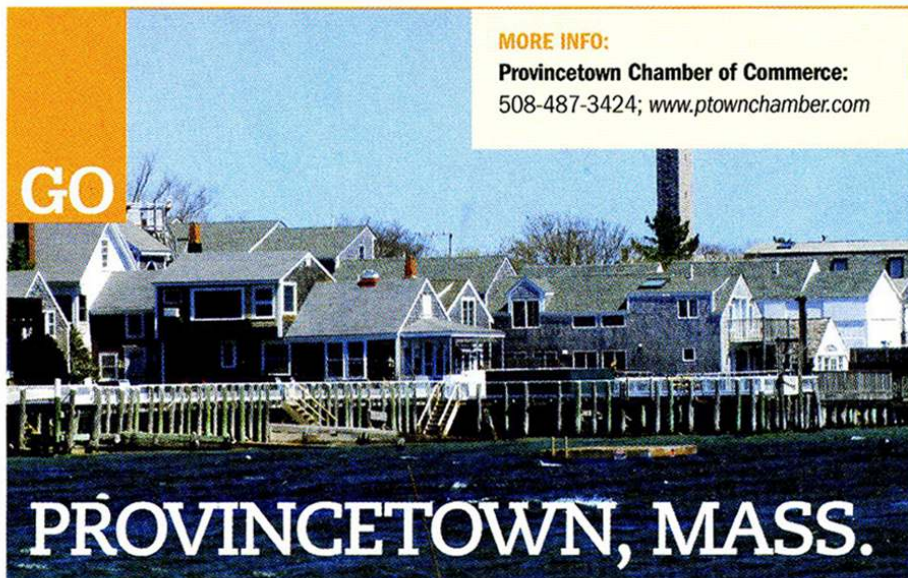


**Dog**  
Channel.com  
the website for dog lovers



**28-DAY  
CHALLENGE  
CHAMPION**





**MORE INFO:**

**Provincetown Chamber of Commerce:**  
508-487-3424; [www.ptownchamber.com](http://www.ptownchamber.com)



## PROVINCETOWN, MASS.

Not many people know that when the Pilgrims first dropped anchor in 1620 in what is now Provincetown Harbor, they brought along two dogs, an English Springer Spaniel and an English Mastiff. This seaside town's love affair with animals has continued unabated ever since.

Today, the historic whaling village has a wealth of activities, restaurants, and lodging establishments that welcome dogs. And it's fairly well-known that September is one of the best months to make a pilgrimage to the very tip of Cape Cod. The weather is beautiful, the ocean still warm enough for a swim, but the tourists who can clog this quaint yet festive village have largely departed.

### Spots for Spot

Provincetown won DOG FANCY'S DogTown USA® contest in 2010 for good reason. There is little a dog can't do in this town, from charter sailboat excursions to trolley tours to boat rentals.

Ptown Tours offers an hour and a half walking tour that focuses on architecture and art history, outlining how Provincetown attracted writers such as Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill, and painter Charles Hawthorne.

But your dog may prefer a wetter outing. Flyer's Boat Rental will let your pooch accompany you out to Long Point Lighthouse, accessible only by boat or by walking over a 1½-mile stone breakwater.

And, of course, there are miles of pristine, sandy beaches great for walking, swimming, or ball throwing. Dogs can be off leash on town beaches from 6

a.m. to 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. You can also stop by the art-infused Pilgrim Bark Park, the town's 1-acre dog park.

### Where to chow down

When hunger strikes, don't leave your dog behind. A variety of restaurants feature "doggie dining" areas, usually on outside patios. From a gourmet hot dog at Lucky Dog Ptown to a full lobster dinner at Central House at the Crown, dogs will be given a bowl of cool water and perhaps a biscuit while you feast on local cod and just-out-of-the-water clams and oysters. If it's cocktail hour, head over to the waterfront deck at The Red Inn to watch seagulls soar through the Cape Cod sunset.

### Stay

For such a small town, Provincetown has literally hundreds of inns, guesthouses, and B&Bs. To find out which accept pets, check out [www.ptown.org](http://www.ptown.org), which lists more than 25 lodging establishments ranging from the mid-priced 8 Dyer Hotel to the elegant and eclectic Land's End Inn, which offers panoramic views of the town, ocean, and if you're lucky, whales spouting just outside the harbor.

### Don't miss

There's another reason to wait until after Labor Day to visit Provincetown. September brings the annual Pet Appreciation Weekend (Sept. 23 to 25, 2011), a unique extravaganza sponsored by the local pet shelter featuring a pet parade, afternoon pet tea dance, dog

### TRAVEL TIP

"Just like you would slice a tennis ball to put on the legs of a walker, do it and put treats inside to keep hotel-bound pets busy."

Ronita Pitts  
Via DOG FANCY email

**Ronita will receive a Kurgo Surf n Turf Coat for sharing this tip.**

### SPONSORED BY KURGO

The Kurgo Surf n Turf Coat is a life vest and a three-season shell in one. Intended to comfortably fit your active dog in the water, the flotation layer can easily be removed for a perfect fit waterproof shell. [www.kurgo.com](http://www.kurgo.com)



athletic competitions, and a blessing of the pets at a local church.

Also check out the Cape Cod National Seashore, which stretches along the outer half of Cape Cod. Although dogs must be leashed, the Seashore offers gorgeous beaches, freshwater ponds, and intimate walking and bike trails through the pine tree-studded sand dunes.

And be sure to leave some time for shopping. The town's main drag, Commercial Street, is packed with unique stores and boutiques and most are happy to let you bring your dog inside. Even the local bank has pet treats next to each teller's window.

### Good to know

Both ferry services from Boston (Boston Harbor Cruises and Bay State Cruise Company) allow leashed pets. And the nine-seat airplane operated by Cape Air allows small pets in a kennel on the 20-minute flight from Boston for a \$10 fee. — Pru Sowers