

Doggie Day Adventure FAQs

How do I take a dog on a day adventure?

Learn more about our Doggie Day Adventure program on our website, www.ccasd.org. There, you can register to become a Doggie Day Adventurer and select the date you would like to join us.

Which dogs are eligible for the program?

Dogs who are available for adoption and have been fixed and microchipped. Dogs with behavioral or medical management needs will be considered on a case by case basis.

When can I expect to hear back after registering?

You can expect to receive a confirmation message 1-2 days prior to the date requested on your questionnaire. If more information is needed to correctly match you with a dog, we may reach out earlier.

Can I bring my own dog for the adventure?

Yes, but you'll need to make special adjustments and notify us prior to your arrival. To have your dog participate make sure you have at least one person to handle the shelter dog and one to handle your own dog. The dogs must travel in separate vehicles. Additionally, an introduction must be done at the shelter with a member of the behavior team or assisting volunteer. You may be asked prior to arrival about your dog's preference for social interactions.

Where can I go on an adventure?

Just about anywhere! Popular locations have been the Martinez Waterfront, Lafayette Reservoir trails, Benicia Regional Shoreline and other East Bay Regional Parks. If you're looking for a more social day out, you might want to try local pet food or coffee shops or other areas with outdoor dining. Although some dogs may just enjoy visiting your home, napping in the sunshine or catching up on Netflix couchside.

Keep in mind that adventure buddies will not be allowed to meet any other animals while they are exploring the world. Please avoid areas where you may encounter off leash dogs. Always keep your adventure buddy ON LEASH (unless in your secure, fenced yard). Adventure Buddies are not allowed to visit dog parks

Can I give my adventure buddy a bath?

Typically, baths are fine. If a dog has special medical needs or sensitivities, we may ask to avoid certain activities, including bathing. If you do decide to bathe your buddy, please watch their body language and stop if they become uncomfortable.

Will I have to handle an 'Aggressive' dog or breed?

We will never ask someone to take a dog they are uncomfortable with. However, the majority of our eligible dogs are pit bulls, shepherds or other large breeds. All eligible large dogs will have an official behavioral evaluation or a number of positive experiences with volunteers and staff. Any management needs or behavioral issues/history will be shared before you meet your adventure buddy. Switching to a different dog is OK pending availability. We welcome you to share with us if there is any breed you are uncomfortable working with or any specific behaviors that you would not want to manage.

What should I bring?

For your first adventure, bring your photo ID and, if possible, your completed volunteer agreement form, don't worry- we'll send that out ahead of time. All gear will be provided! The dog will be wearing a harness, martingale collar, ID tags, and we will provide a leash, "adopt-me" bandana, seat belt tether for the car, poop bags, treats, toys (as needed), water dish and a backpack to carry it all.