



THE DOG SPOT, Huntsville's original dog park. | Photo by Dave Dieter

EVERY DOG HAS HIS DAY,
SO MAKE IT A MEMORABLE
ONE BY VISITING SOME
OF HUNTSVILLE'S MOST
POOCH-FRIENDLY LOCALES.

BY DIANA LaCHANCE

Dogs may be man's best friend, but they're also a great excuse to check out the many dog-friendly events and activities around Huntsville this summer. Here, you'll find the ultimate itinerary for how to spend the perfect day with your four-footed friend.

Start off with a hearty breakfast at **3 SKILLETS**, located downtown at 121 Northside Square (256.533.2233). There, you and your pup can enjoy dining al fresco on classic American dishes - before you have to burn it off! To do that, head over to...

THE DOG SPOT

Huntsville's original dog park. Tucked away on Cleveland Avenue between Church and Meridian Streets, this popular gathering place is open from sunrise to sunset every day of the year (www.hsvcity.com/animal/dogpark/index.html). And don't worry about your furry friend hitting any mud puddles, because your next stop is...

GOIN' TO THE DOGS, where the self-serve dog wash with raised tubs, towels and dryers makes bath time a cinch. "It's the only indoor one in Huntsville or Madison, and we get everyone from little Chihuahuas all the way to Great Pyrenees," says shop co-owner Erin Braley. Even better? "We clean the mess up after!" (www.petsupplyhsv.com). Of course, by then you'll be getting hungry again, so pack a picnic and hike on up to...

GOIN' TO THE DOGS, a self-serve dog wash. | Photo by Eric Schultz



LONE GOOSE SALOON, happy hour on the dog-friendly patio. | Photo by Bob Gathany

MONTE SANO STATE PARK, one of eleven Alabama parks with dog-friendly cabins. You'll also find miles of hiking trails for you and your canine companion to explore and plenty of open spaces to share a packed lunch with a view (www.alapark.com/montesano). Just don't forget the water, because you're going to need to hydrate before grabbing a tall cold one at...

LONE GOOSE SALOON, where you can enjoy happy hour on the dog-friendly patio, complete with water fountain and doggy pool for your pooch (256.715.0705). Don't dally too long, though, or you'll miss...



LOWE MILL'S CONCERTS ON THE DOCK,

held Fridays starting at 6 p.m. during the warm summer months and featuring toe-tapping music from local and out-of-town live performers (lowemill.net). Dogs are not only invited but are a welcome addition to the lively scene. And you can find plenty of food for you and your companion at HAPPY TUMMY, which serves everything from Greek wraps to jerk tofu quesadillas. After that, it's time to...

HIT THE HAY - because your dog is sure to be up early and ready to go another round tomorrow!

LOWE MILL'S CONCERTS ON THE DOCK | Photo by Bob Gathany



LOWE MILL'S CONCERTS ON THE DOCK | Photo by Bob Gathany



While this only begins to cover the fun things to do with your pup around town, there's plenty to fill your canine calendar year-round, like the Huntsville Botanical Garden's Dog Days of Winter Festival, Bow Wow Bone-anza, and 5K race; the annual Huntsville Obedience Training Club Dog Fair; the Greater Huntsville Humane Society's "Prancing with the Stars" benefit ball; and the Greater Huntsville Humane Society and Therapy Partners, Inc., Dog Trot Charity 5K.

**After all, it's a dog's life.
He's just letting us help him live it!**