

Bringing Fido out to dinner? Here are 5 South Bay restaurants

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Nick and his owner at Hermosa Beach Fish Shop's outdoor patio in Hermosa Beach.

This summer both of my twins got married; heading off on their honeymoons, leaving me behind, slightly poorer and in charge of their dogs. Let's hope this isn't meant to be training for grandchildren, because I am not remotely prepared. That being said, the least I could do was teach their wayward canines some table manners.

Fortunately, here in the South Bay there are plenty of places you can dine with your dog. Most are casual breakfast and lunch spots, including all Four Corners of the Eggpocalypse in North Manhattan (Local Yolk, Sloopys, 4DK and NorthEnd).

But in the land of sun and strand, there are a handful of restaurants where you can also get a decent dinner with your dog. Here are five that get a big paw up from my pooches.

Rockefeller in Manhattan Beach, a New York style gastropub, has four patio tables for doggie diners. Management tells me they get all sorts of breeds, from Mastiffs to teacup Chihuahuas. They'll provide a water bowl, and if you want to order Fido something off the menu, they suggest the Manhattan meatballs. Guests of the two-legged variety can enjoy their seared ahi tostadas, braised short rib tacos, and the healthy steak salad. They also have 20 craft draft beers on draft.

Note: the Hermosa location does not have a dog-friendly patio.

Rockefeller: 1209 Highland Ave Manhattan Beach; open daily for dinner and weekend brunch.

Pitfire Pizza opened in the Metlox center in Manhattan Beach in 2013. One of nine Pitfire locations, they offer a fresh spin on classic pies like Margherita or pepperoni, and seasonal specials like cherry heirloom tomato or squash blossom, all baked in wood burning ovens. The patio has twenty tables with a nice grouping of water bowls. While your hound enjoys one of their specially made dog treats, you might treat yourself to one of their smothered cookies—a soft baked chocolate chip with ice cream and your choice of toppings. Beer and wine are available.

Pitfire Pizza: 401 Manhattan Beach Blvd Manhattan Beach; open daily for lunch and dinner.

The **Hermosa Beach Fish Shop** at Pier and PCH, has plenty of easy parking, a plus when you are wrangling a dog. The exterior patio has seventeen dog-friendly tables, with water bowls and treats for their furry guests who run the breed gamut from retrievers to bulldogs—along with plenty of mutts. The salmon is the most popular menu item for those looking to slip a nibble or two below the table, but other folks favor the TKO mahi-mahi taco, classic New England clam chowder, and traditional fish and chips. Beer and wine is available.

Hermosa Beach Fish Shop: 719 Pier Avenue Hermosa; open daily for lunch and dinner.

The **Bottle Inn** in Hermosa has been serving up classic Italian dishes since 1974. Their ten table patio would be the perfect romantic, go-to location for your Lady or your Tramp to reenact the famous spaghetti slurping kiss from the film—although it might be smarter (and tidier) to just stick with the water bowls offered. Beyond their menu of pastas, paninis, salads and pizzas, they are famous in the South Bay for their extensive wine list.

Bottle Inn: 26 22nd St. Hermosa Beach; open weekdays for lunch and dinner seven nights.

If your dog likes his meals a little fancier, **Hostaria Piave** in Redondo serves elegant Northern Italian cuisine with an emphasis on seafood and pastas made from scratch. The pretty dog-friendly patio has ten tables and owner, Angelo Calderan, says they see five or six pups a week. When I dined there on a recent night, I did spy a sweet lap dog at a corner table, and Angelo's wife, Anna, who runs the front of the house, did not flinch an inch when I showed up with my monsters. To their credit, after perusing the menu, Cal and Tito settled quietly beneath my table where they were rewarded with an occasional morsel of duck ragu from that evening's special gnocchi, or a tidbit of wild boar from the yummy pappardelle sauce. Beer and wine only, but a nice list.

Hostaria Piave: 231 S PCH Redondo Beach; open daily.