



GRAND JUNCTION

Through Your DOG'S EYES

Four-legged visitors adore Grand Junction's outdoor splendor just as much as you do — so why leave a member of the family at home? Here are some signature activities that will earn you two paws up from your canine best friend.

HUNTING

Whether you have a fowl- and small-game pointer or retriever or large-game tracking hound, we know your furry friend is an indispensable hunting companion. Bring them along for an epic elk- and deer-hunting adventure in the **Grand Mesa National Forest** or **Uncompahgre Plateau**, or to help you peg geese and ducks along the **Colorado River (public lands portions only)**. Learn more about hunting in the Grand Valley on page 28 and at VisitGrandJunction.com/Hunting.

PATIO CHILLIN'

Soak up some sunshine together on one of the many patios that allow leashed pooches. Grab some hearty grub at **Spoons Bistro and Bakery** or savor some après-hike bites and cold brews on **Old Chicago's** shady back patio. **Copper Club Brewing**, **The Hot Tomato** in **Fruita** and **Palisade Brewing Company** are also great spots to bring your doggie.

SUP

There are seemingly endless places to launch your stand-up paddleboard, from **Grand Mesa National Forest's** 300 glassy lakes to the peaceful Colorado River, and pups with stellar balancing skills can go along for the ride. Need a board? Outfitters like **Grand Junction Stand Up Paddle Board** have your back.

TRAIL SNIFFING

Enjoy hiking with your tail-wagging pal? With the exception of **Colorado National Monument**, where dogs are prohibited on trails, most hiking routes in the Grand Valley are open to dogs. Go for an easy ramble through cottonwood groves and wetlands on the 30-mile **Riverfront Trail** (one-way) or score unparalleled sunset views of the Grand Mesa on the 3-mile **Palisade Rim Trail**. Leash laws vary at different locales, so be sure to review them before you head out.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JACK MILLARD; INSTAGRAM@DESERTFLOWERFARMS; INSTAGRAM@ELLENMYE; INSTAGRAM@MARTYUKESLIFE; INSTAGRAM@ABOVEALPINEPHOTOGRAPHY; LEE GELATT PHOTOGRAPHY; VISIT GRAND JUNCTION.



MESA LAKES

Lodging

While many hotels in Grand Junction accommodate travelers with furry family members in tow, here are some cozy options to consider. Browse lodging listings starting on page 38 for more options.

- Clarion Inn
- Hampton Inn
- Days Inn
- Home2 Suites by Hilton
- Econo Lodge
- La Quinta Inn & Suites
- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- SpringHill Suites



Off-Leash Areas

While all of our city and state parks permit leashed dogs, here's where you can let your companion frolic off leash.

GRAND MESA & UNCOMPAHGRE NATIONAL FORESTS

Our expansive national forests, including the Grand Mesa, have areas that are great places to let your pal explore untethered as long as they are under voice control. Other areas allow dogs on leashes no longer than 6 feet in developed recreation areas. Check regulations in individual destinations for details.

CANYON VIEW DOG PARK

Views of the Book Cliffs and two separate areas for small and large breeds make Canyon View Dog Park a favorite for two-and four-legged friends alike.

RIVERBEND PARK

Conveniently tucked right off Interstate 70, this Palisade green space is a nice spot where pups can take a dip in the Colorado River.



Follow the Locals →

"If you want to enjoy a hike on the Colorado National Monument but have dogs you want to bring (since they're not allowed on park property), check out McInnis Canyons outside Fruita. It's got great monument views without the no-dogs restriction — just be sure to leave no trace!"

— Amanda Helmick, Grand Junction-based photographer ([Amanda Matilda Photography](#))