

## A guide to the Burrows zones:

### Zone 1:

Area extends from Saunton Beach car park to Sandy Lane car park. Access is from both car parks. From Sandy Lane turn right at the main gate (Dog Lane) and follow the path to the first kissing gate. Pass through Zone 2 in the direction of the beach until you reach the perimeter fence (\*note in Zone 2, please keep your dog on a lead).

### Zone 2:









Area extends from Sandy Lane car park, south to J Lane (the sandy track which leads off to the beach from the American Road). Note the fencing that segregates Zones 2 and 3 is on your left if you are walking to the beach along J Lane. Access is from Sandy Lane car park.

### Zone 3:

Area extends from Broadsands car park (at Crow Point via the Toll Road), north to J Lane. Note the fencing that segregates Zone 3 from Crow Point is on your right if you take the boardwalk to the beach. Access is (north) from Broadsands car park and (south) from Sandy Lane Car Park, via the American Road.



## Braunton Burrows - Key facts for dog walkers:

-  Please keep your dog on a lead in zones where cattle and sheep are grazing.
-  Please keep your dog under close control at all times in other zones, which means on a lead if not able to do so.
-  Remove dog waste. Dog fouling on paths is offensive to other Burrows users and creates health risks for livestock. It also affects soil and consequently biodiversity.
-  Please close all gates. A calf can easily escape through a kissing gate, causing its mother distress.
-  Know your zone! Refer to grazing info maps. These can be found on posts in all car parks and on the Braunton Burrows Public Information page on Facebook.
-  Remember it is against the law for a dog to be dangerously out of control.
-  The Burrows is used as a military training area (including the use of vehicles and pyrotechnics). Please use caution and do not touch or remove any military debris.
-  If you want to avoid livestock, it's simple! Please take your dog to a livestock free zone.

# Dog Walking



Braunton Burrows is a special place that is enjoyed by locals and visitors to the region. Please take a minute to read this guide for dog walkers. It contains some useful information to help you and your dog make the most of the Burrows while minimising your impact on this special environment.



# Introduction

Braunton Burrows is privately owned by Christie Estates and managed in conjunction with Natural England. The Estate welcomes members of the public to make use of the area but asks that users respect this right by following a few simple guidelines.

The Burrows is at the core of the UNESCO North Devon Biosphere Reserve and holds a Special Area of Conservation status. It needs careful management to allow this abundant flora and fauna to flourish. This is achieved through a variety of measures, from a programme of mechanised scrub clearance to land management through grazing and even authorised use of military vehicles to churn up pathways and brush.

We all know that dogs make great companions and that walking your dog is one of life's simple pleasures. However, dog walkers need to remember that the Burrows is a managed environment and grazing

livestock play a vital role, as recognised by Natural England.

Information regarding the zones currently being grazed is displayed on information boards in the main car parks serving the Burrows - Sandy Lane, Saunton Beach and Broadsands (Crow Point) car parks. The latest information is also updated on the Braunton Burrows Public Information Facebook page (non Facebook users can access this by typing the phrase into a search engine).

The majority of dog owners act responsibly by keeping their dogs under control and cleaning up after their pets. However, it only takes the actions of a few to paint a bad picture for everybody.

To report an issue, please contact [brauntonburrows@gmail.com](mailto:brauntonburrows@gmail.com)



## Things to be aware of:

**Livestock:** Grazing animals play a crucial role in the management of the Burrows. Due to the harsh grazing conditions, hardy traditional breeds such as the Devon Ruby Red, are used. They display distinctive behavioural characteristics, for example hiding their young like deer, which dog walkers should be aware of.

Mothers will hide their newborn calves, for up to 8 hours, while they go off to forage. They will also nurture the calves away from the herd for the first few days. A spooked calf, disturbed by even the friendliest of dogs, can bolt. Estrangement from its mother could lead to rejection and potential death from starvation.

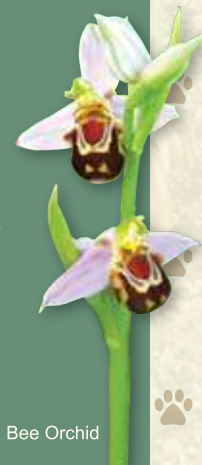
**Animal and Plant Life:** The Burrows is home to many bird species, some of which make their nests on the ground. Dogs that are not under control can easily disturb nesting birds. The Burrows is also home to 470 species of flowering plants including 11 species of orchid, a delicate micro environment that is adversely affected by litter and dog faeces.

**Dog Waste:** Increasing the nutrients in the soil dog waste encourages coarse grasses and scrub to take over existing diverse dune turf species. Dog waste is also a hazard to livestock, spreading diseases such as neosporosis and sarcocystosis which can kill animals. If you have a dog, please pick up after it and dispose of it responsibly (ie not throw it into a bush or tree). There are dog waste bins in Sandy Lane and Saunton Beach car parks.

**Other Waste:** Litter, especially plastic bags, pose a danger to the lives of cattle and native wildlife that has a home on the Burrows. It also causes offence to other recreational users. Please pick up your litter and take it home with you.

Thanks for taking the time to read and understand. Remember that the bad actions of a minority undermine the good work of the majority. Please help the Burrows by spreading the word to fellow dog walkers.

*Many thanks for your support.*  
**Christie Estates**



Look for the posts showing which zones have cattle on

Bee Orchid