



Cove Cottage is ultra-spacious and perfect for sharing with friends and fur-kids. Each terrace is sturdily fenced, and a king-sized dog bed takes pride of place in the living room. Pierre, who's recently taken up flower-arrangement, ponders the lavender patch. I spot rosemary for our roast dinner.

Just a few minutes' saunter down the hill is a lovely off-lead beach and the Pambula River entrance. Onyx woes a sleek Dalmatian, we enjoy meeting friendly locals.

Next morning, we watch whales leaping out of the ocean as we sip our coffee in bed.

After endless hesitation, we prise ourselves from the magnetic views to explore the southern Sapphire Coast.

We take in nearby Merimbula, with its dog-friendly eateries, art galleries, boutiques, lakeside walks and leash-free beaches. At Bega, we're awed by stately agrarian architecture. At Candelo, we wonder if we've stumbled upon a film set.

But we're impatient to return to homely Cove Cottage and simply stare out to sea. Right on cue, the whales put on a riveting show just as we pour our wine. <sup>UA</sup>

# DOG ON NORTON



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## ONYX SAPPHIRE COAST TRAVEL TIPS

### ROOM WITH A MOOD

56 Bunga St: [http://www.takeabreak.com.au/Bermagui/SapphireCoast/56\\_Bunga\\_Street.htm](http://www.takeabreak.com.au/Bermagui/SapphireCoast/56_Bunga_Street.htm)

Cove Cottage: [www.getawaymerimbula.com.au](http://www.getawaymerimbula.com.au)

For an extensive range of appealing dog-friendly accommodation:  
[www.southcoastholidayaccommodation.com.au](http://www.southcoastholidayaccommodation.com.au)

### FEASTING

At Bermagui: Bermys Café, Corky's Café  
Tathra Beach Café

At Merimbula: Waterfront Café, Crankies Café, Limetree Café

At Pambula: Café Lush, Wild Ryes Café, Pambula Deli Cae.

### SCENIC WALKIES

Merimbula boardwalk and Beach

Tathra promontory and Beach

The photogenic decay of Bega's old hospital

### URBANE PURSUITS

There's a village market somewhere on the Sapphire Coast just about every Saturday.

Pambula and Merimbula has cafes with excellent reading and bookshops galore

World class music festival at Bermagui: [www.fourwinds.com.au](http://www.fourwinds.com.au)

Live music at the old style Tathra pub

### DOG-SITTING

If you want to experience the wild, secluded beaches of nearby National Parks, Day care/ boarding is available at:

Pambula Boarding Kennels: 02 6495 6543

Kalura Sapphire Coast Kennels: 02 6494 4004

Bermagui Boarding Kennels: 02 6493 4551

Onyx suggests asking at the Visitor's Centre, pet stores and leash-free beaches for recommendations.

### TOURING TIPS

From Sydney the route via big-sky grasslands and heritage towns of Goulburn and Braidwood is super-scenic, as is the Snowy Mountains Highway. Victorians rave about the Gippsland route.

### FURTHER INSPIRATIONS

[www.bermagui.net](http://www.bermagui.net)

[www.sapphirecoast.com.au](http://www.sapphirecoast.com.au)

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