Pet-friendly Prevelly







COVETED SPOT: (clockwise from main) Prevelly's perfect beach; Beachside Prevelly Villas; and the stylish interior of the dog-friendly accommodation.

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Delightful dog's life

Even the family pet has been catered for on this holiday, writes **Katie Robertson**

NOT too many places welcome canine companions and are happy for them to traipse through a holiday home. So when I heard of pet-friendly holiday accommodation near Western Australia's gorgeous Margaret River region, I had to try it out.

Beachside Prevelly Villas' owners Peter and Deirdre Baldock had the same problem when going on trips with their two pooches and wondered why there were not more animalfriendly places. So they built their own.

There are five villas with enclosed backyards for dogs. The villas can each house up to six people. Situated in Prevelly, just 10km from the heart of Margaret River in WA's South West,

they offer a beachside stay in a popular area.

My partner and I stayed the weekend in the "beachfront house" across the road from a glorious white sand beach that locals told me was one of the best swimming spots in the area. The Baldocks also have two doublestorey houses and two single-level houses available. I had some trepidation at the thought of holidaying in a house that had served as a play area for numerous dogs so I was pleasantly surprised upon discovering the place was spotless.

I didn't find a single dog hair. The sun-filled home had three bedrooms and separate living, dining and kitchen areas. The master bedroom was a comfortable size, with a wall-mounted TV, walk-in wardrobe and ensuite. My beagle, Banjo, was more than happy to sniff around the big fenced backyard, a highlight of the property.

Plenty of dog towels and sheets were provided and there are rules if you intend to let your dog into the home,

including vacuuming before leaving and using sheets to protect furniture.

The home is ideal for families and you are allowed up to two dogs. There are dog-friendly beaches minutes away. The tiny Prevelly township, about 290km south of Perth, is a haven just a short drive away from the myriad wineries and restaurants Margaret River has to offer.

There is plenty to do in the area, including wine tours, visiting the popular Margaret River Chocolate Factory or exploring caves along nearby Caves Rd. Prevelly is also world renowned for its surf breaks.

A good find on our trip was the Sea Gardens Cafe, a 10-minute walk from our villa. The cafe allows you to tie up your pooch under a tree. The area has plenty of tracks to go for long walks. And there is something about knowing your pet is safe and you aren't shelling out hundreds of dollars for a kennel that makes a holiday that much better.

See prevellyvillas.com.au

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