

Samoens



Welcomes Dogs



TOU
TOU
RISME



samoens.com
TO FALL IN LOVE WITH

Samoëns welcomes dogs

**A 100%
PET-FRIENDLY
DESTINATION**



This welcome guide has been designed to help you make the most of your stay in Samoëns with your four-legged companion.

This guide includes information on pet-friendly places, grooming services, accommodation that welcomes pets, and the various organisations supporting companion animals in the area. If you need any help during your stay, our team will be delighted to assist you.

*We welcome you to our beautiful destination...
Enjoy your stay!*

76



What is "Toutourisme"?

** Toutou = affectionate term for «dog» in French*

Created in 2007 by the Troyes La Champagne Tourist Office, this label was introduced to make destinations more welcoming for visitors accompanied by their pets.

The member offices are committed to advising you so that your stay goes as smoothly as possible: places to visit, activities, accommodation and restaurants.

The Samoëns Tourist Office offers you a personalized welcome:

1. A DOG BAR

so that your pet can quench their thirst

2. A PET-FRIENDLY GUIDE

maps, activities, restaurants, accommodations, useful addresses...

3. A COMPLIMENTARY TREAT

Subject to availability

3. DOG WASTE BAGS



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

TOU 
 **TOU**
RISME

FONDATION



**MILLIONS
d'Amis**

reconnue d'utilité publique



In 1976, Jean-Pierre Hutin created the iconic television programme dedicated to animals. Two years later, he launched 30 Millions d'Amis magazine, continuing his commitment to the protection and welfare of animals.

Today, this legacy remains as strong as ever, with a particular focus on the place of animals in our towns, cities and society. For decades, the magazine has supported initiatives that promote the integration of companion animals into everyday life.

In 2016, 30 Millions d'Amis introduced a ranking of France's most dog-friendly cities, recognising local authorities that have implemented innovative

initiatives, including the creation of dedicated pet-friendly labels.

Each month, the magazine features in-depth articles, practical advice and expert guidance on animal welfare, health, behaviour and everyday life, alongside news and inspiring stories from the animal world.

30 Millions d'Amis is proud to support destinations committed to providing a warm welcome for pets and applauds those that make travelling easier and more enjoyable for visitors accompanied by their four-legged companions.



Good practice

AS A DOG OWNER

- ♥ I keep my dog on a lead in the village and on hiking trails.
- ♥ I bring dog waste bags with me.
- ♥ I regularly give my dog water.
- ♥ I avoid walks during the hottest parts of the day.
- ♥ I pay attention to processional caterpillars, ticks and grass awns when I'm out walking.
- ♥ I never leave my pet in the car, not even for a short break (the sun moves quickly, a car in the shade can quickly be in the sun).

AS A DOG

- ♥ I am tattooed or micro-chipped.
- ♥ I bring my up-to-date vaccination record or my passport.
- ♥ I bring my lead and collar.
- ♥ I avoid repeated barking.
- ♥ I respect the swimming bans or access.
- ♥ I am in the 1st* or 2nd category** so I have to wear my muzzle.

*First category: attack dogs

- dogs of the American Staffordshire terrier type (formerly Staffordshire terrier), also called "pit-bulls";
- Mastiff type dogs, also called "boerbulls";
- Tosa type dogs.

**2nd category: guard and defense dogs

- American Staffordshire terrier breed dogs (formerly Staffordshire terrier);
- Rottweiler breed and type dogs;
- Tosa breed dogs.

USEFUL INFORMATION

samoens.com



All **useful information** on our website.

INTERACTIVE MAP

explore.samoens.com



Go to the interactive map to filter your searches using the "**with my dog**" filter.

MAP PATOU

pasto-kezako.fr



Before you go out, find out about the **presence of guard dogs** on your route.



Dog waste bag dispensers

To maintain our village clean and pleasant for all, the municipality of Samoëns provides 13 dogs waste bag dispensers.

Locations of the dispensers:

- ⇒ Avenue Cognacq-Jaÿ
- ⇒ Marie-Louise Park
- ⇒ Place du Criou
- ⇒ Place des Dents Blanches
- ⇒ Rue des Billets
- ⇒ GME (Grand Massif Express)
- ⇒ Market Square
- ⇒ Municipal swimming pool
- ⇒ Camping Le Giffre
- ⇒ Parking du Veau Gras
- ⇒ Leisure Center / Lac aux Dames

Practical advice

Remember to always carry a dog wastebag with you on your walks. If you forget, these dispensers are there to help you out. Thank you for helping to keep our beautiful village clean!

Contents

Getting around with my dog	p. 09
Where can I put my dog's bed?	p. 10
Where to enjoy a meal together?	p. 11
Where to walk and explore?	p. 12-18
	
Easy walks	p. 12-13
Hikes and refuges	p. 14
Swimming and cool spots	p. 15
Protected natural areas	p. 16-17
Livestock guardian dogs	p. 18
Your dog's safety	p. 19
Useful contacts	p. 20
Wildlife in distress	p. 21

Getting around with my dog

*In Samoëns, the **shuttle buses** make it easy to travel between the village, the hamlets and the main tourist attractions.*

- Dogs other than category 1 are allowed on the shuttles.
- Dogs not in carriers must be kept on a leash and muzzled (except guide dogs).
- Category 1 animals are strictly prohibited.

This service is ideal for accessing hiking trails, places of interest or the ski area in winter without a car.

 **SUMMER SHUTTLES**

 **WINTER SHUTTLES**

**DOWNLOAD
BUS AND SHUTTLE
ROUTES AND
TIMETABLES**



Good to know

- ♥ Transport conditions may vary depending on the season and the level of demand.
- ♥ The shuttle services operate in winter as well as summer, with routes adapted to each period.

Where can I put my dog's bed?

Discover the full range of pet-friendly accommodation by scanning the QR code to view all the places that welcome pets across the Samoëns destination.



*All the
accommodation*



Pets allowed

- ♥ Apartment
- ♥ Chalet
- ♥ Hotel
- ♥ Holiday residence
- ♥ Bed and Breakfast
- ♥ Gîte
- ♥ Holiday village
- ♥ Holiday center
- ♥ Holiday rental
- ♥ Outdoor accommodation



Where to enjoy a meal together?

Discover the full range of options by scanning the QR code to find all the **bars and restaurants** that warmly welcome dogs, both on their terraces and/or indoors!

*All the bars
and restaurants*



INTERACTIVE MAP

Bars & Cafes

Restaurants

using the **"WITH
MY DOG"** filter.





Where to walk and explore?



Good practice

To avoid disturbing wildlife, dogs must be kept on a leash in public places and on shared trails.

EASY WALKS



LA BOURGEOISE

A short hike accessible to all, joining the Bourgeoise from the Col de Joux Plane. This summit, located at 1770 meters altitude, offers a superb viewpoint overlooking Mont Blanc and the surrounding peaks of the Giffre massif.

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes round trip

Distance: 5 km

Elevation gain: 79 m D+



ALONG THE GIFFRE RIVER

This route along the Giffre River allows you to choose between reaching the town of Morillon or the town of Sixt-Fer-à-Cheval. This path is very pleasant in hot weather due to its proximity to the river and offers a beautiful panorama of the Giffre Mountains.

Samoëns → Sixt Fer à Chavel

Duration: 3 hours round trip

Distance: 12 km

Elevation gain: 50 m D+

Samoëns → Morillon

Duration: 2 hours round trip

Distance: 7 km

Elevation gain: 25 m D+



Dogs are not allowed at the Lac Bleu leisure park in Morillon, but they are welcome at the Lacs aux Dames leisure park in Samoëns.





LOOP OF THE VALLONS

Explore the village of Vallon, divided into two parts: Lower Vallon and Upper Vallon. The banks of the Giffre river will offer you a refreshing break!

Duration: 2 hours loop

Distance: 6.6km

Elevation gain: 39 m D+



THE THREE CHAPELS

Explore the chapels in the hamlets of Bérrouze, Mathonex, and Vigny. Discover the village of Samoëns from a different perspective by gaining a little altitude!

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes loop

Distance: 7 km

Elevation gain: 300 m D+



INTERACTIVE MAP

*All the walks
and hiking*



Hiking trails

using the "WITH MY
DOG" filter



LA ROSIÈRE

Rutines Mountain Pasture

Slightly off the beaten hiking trails, this route offers everything you would expect from a mountain landscape: cows grazing in the fields, the freshly mown meadows of La Rosière opening up towards the Mont Blanc range, standing proudly among the alpine pastures.

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes loop

Distance: 4 km

Elevation gain: 206 m D+



THE NANT D'ANT WATERFALL

This shaded route allows you to reach the foot of the Samoëns Waterfall without difficulty.

Duration: 50 minutes round trip

Distance: 1.4 km

Elevation gain: 80 m D+



⇒ **Botanical garden**



DOGS NOT ALLOWED

HIKES AND REFUGES



HIKE TO THE CHALETS AND AOUILLE DU CRIOU

This hike will take you to the summit of the Criou, an iconic mountain overlooking the village of Samoëns. The summit offers an exceptional panorama: the Giffre Valley, Mont Buet, the Pointe Rousse des Chambres and the Dents Blanches.

Duration: 8 hours round trip

Distance: 15km

Elevation gain: 1490 m D+



BOSTAN REFUGE

This hike will take you to discover the alpine pastures and the Bostan refuge.

**Duration: 3 hours 15 minutes
round trip**

Distance: 8.8 km

Elevation gain: 673 m D+



GERS REFUGE

Discover Lake Gers via this semi-shaded forest path and enjoy a short break at the Refuge.

**Duration: 3 hours 40 minutes
round trip**

Distance: 12 km

Elevation gain: 460 m D+



GOLÈSE REFUGE

Wide open and easily accessible, the path to the Col de la Golèse has been used for a very long time. This route allows passage to neighboring Switzerland via the Col de Coux..

Duration: 4 hours round trip

Distance: 7.8 km

Elevation gain: 550 m



FOLLY REFUGE

This hike will take you to discover the undergrowth and the Folly refuge, ideal during periods of intense heat.

**Duration: 3 hours 15 minutes
round trip**

Distance: 8.73 km

Elevation gain: 760 m D+

Swimming and cool spots

*Dogs may only swim in the **Giffre River** and in the small stream beside the **Lacs aux Dames** in Samoëns. Swimming in mountain lakes and all other lakes in the valley is strictly prohibited.*



Swimming allowed

THE GIFFRE



No swimming allowed

LACS AUX DAMES OF SAMOËNS

LAC BLEU OF MORILLON MOUNTAIN LAKES



Mountain lakes

Mountain lakes harbor a fragile ecosystem, comprised of fauna and flora adapted to specific and often rare conditions. These natural environments, often preserved and isolated, are particularly sensitive to external disturbances. Swimming by people and their four-legged companions can, unintentionally, disturb this delicate balance.

Protected natural areas in the Giffre Mountains



The Cirque du Fer-à-Cheval – a legendary site partially accessible to dogs.

To protect the flora of this sensitive area and avoid disturbing the fauna with the presence and smells of animals, the dogs are **permitted only on the first half of the Cirque du Fer-à-Cheval**.

♥ So you can walk with your four-legged companion from the entrance car parks to the Prazon refreshment stand.

➞ 1 hour 15 minutes round trip during which you can contemplate the magnificent rocky mountains and waterfalls of the Grand Site.



NATURE RESERVE AREA

Protected area intended to preserve environments, species, landscapes or remarkable geological heritage.



BIOTOPE PROTECTION AREA

A legally protected area designed to safeguard a natural habitat that is essential for the survival of protected species (birds, amphibians, rare plants...).



NATURA 2000 AREA

European device aiming to preserve biodiversity while allowing the continuation of human activities compatible with the protection of natural environments.

La Rivière



Verchaix

ere-Enverse



Morillon



Samoëns

**CIRQUE DU
FER-À-CHEVAL**



Sixt-Fer-à-Cheval

**LES
ESSERTS
MORILLON
1100
GRAND
MASSIF**

**PLATEAU
DES SAIX
SAMOËNS
1600
GRAND MASSIF**



No dogs allowed



Allowed on a
leash



Sign indicating that it is
time to turn back.



Livestock Guardian Dogs

The livestock guardian dog protects their flock from predators (wolves and stray dogs). Your dog may therefore be perceived as a potential intruder, even if they are under your control.

MAP PATOU

pasto-kezako.fr



Share your experience
with the pastoral
services.



ANTICIPATE

- **Avoid alpine pastures whenever possible.**
 - Before the walk, check whether or not there is a guard dog present (see Map Patou).
- **Give the herd a wide berth.**
 - If possible, change your route.
 - Otherwise, pass by calmly while keeping your distance.

AS THE HERD APPROACHES

- **If you choose to take your dog into alpine pastures, they must be kept on a lead at all times.**
 - A dog running loose can be perceived as a threat.
- **Slow down and stay calm.**
 - Don't run.
 - Avoid sudden movements or shouting.
 - Adopt a neutral attitude.
- **Do not stare at the dog.**
 - Direct eye contact can be perceived as a provocation.

- **Let the livestock guardian dog approach and identify you.**
 - The dog may bark, approach, or circle you. This is normal evaluative behavior. Remain still or move slowly without staring.
- **Let the dogs interact.**
 - The guard dog is telling your dog to submit, "This is my territory." If your dog doesn't submit, release the lead so they can interact as equals.

ABSOLUTELY DO NOT DO THIS

- **Do not try to pet the livestock guardian dog.**
- **Do not shout, do not run, and do not threaten them.**
 - By remaining calm, you show them that you understand their message. If I respect their presence and their work, they will calm down on their own.

For more information on guard dogs

Giffre Mountains Eco-guard

ecogarde@montagnesdugiffre.fr - +33 (0)7 68 87 36 13

Your dog's safety

Preventing ticks, processionary caterpillars and grass awns is essential for protecting your dog's health.



TICKS

Ticks are parasites that attach themselves to the skin and can transmit diseases. To prevent this, it is advisable to regularly use appropriate antiparasitic products (spot-on treatments, collars, or tablets). After every walk, especially in the woods or in tall grass, you should check your dog's coat and promptly remove any ticks.



PROCESSIONARY CATERPILLARS

Processionary caterpillars are very dangerous, especially in spring. Their hairs are irritating and can cause severe reactions, particularly in the mouth if a dog touches or licks them. To prevent risks, avoid infested areas (pine and oak trees with white nests) and keep your dog on a leash in these areas. In case of contact, it is urgent to consult a veterinarian.



GRASS AWNS

Grass awns are small, dry seed heads that can become embedded in the skin or enter the ears, eyes, or paw pads. They can cause significant infections or pain.



Useful contacts

VETERINARIAN

♥ **Delacoste Magali**
254 Chemin de la Cour - Samoëns
+33 (0)4 50 34 44 93

DOG GROOMER

♥ **En Un Coup de Patte**
62 Av. du Mont Blanc - Marnaz

♥ **Aux Bichonnes**
1 Rue du 8 Mai 1945 - Cluses

♥ **Cabohème Toilettage**
12 Rue des Grands Champs - Cluses

♥ **L'instant Canin**
30 Rue du Carroz - Bonneville

♥ **Frimousse Toilettage Canin & Félin**
135 Av. de la Gare - Bonneville

♥ **Beautiful Dog And Cat SAS**
332 Rue Pellissier - Sallanches

♥ **K9 Toilettage Morzine**
18 Place de l'Eglise - Saint-Jean-d'Aulps

PET SITTER

♥ **animaute.fr**
♥ **animalin.com**

DOG TRAINING

♥ **Canitrainer**
1059 Rte des Esserts - Morillon
+ 33 (0)6 03 06 00 04

♥ **Laurent Poncet**
Verchaix
+ 33 (0)6 21 93 14 32

PET SHOP

♥ **Gamm vert**
Route d'Annemasse - Taninges
+33 (0)4 50 34 22 48

♥ **Bricomarché**
281 Avenue des Thézières, Route de
Cluses - Taninges
+33 (0)4 50 34 25 26

♥ **Maxi Zoo**
ZAC du Val d'Arve, 404 Rue César
Vuarchex - Scionzier
+33 (0)4 57 65 51 80

ANIMAL SHELTER

♥ **Cluses S.P.A. (French Society for the Protection of Animals)**
280 Rue de la Garete - Cluses
+33 (0)4 50 96 00 83





Wildlife in distress

IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY:

112 (or 18 firefighters)

Call if the animal is seriously injured, dangerous, or inaccessible. Emergency services can assess the situation or direct you to the appropriate service.

♥ FOR A WILD ANIMAL

Wildlife Rescue Center "Le Tétrás Libre" (Savoie region)

+33 (0)7 83 80 05 46 (SOS wildlife hotline)

This is the main contact for advice and to organize care.

There is not yet a large official center in Haute-Savoie itself, but this network covers the area nonetheless.

♥ FOR A PET (dog, cat...)

Contact a veterinarian or emergency service:

+33 (0)4 89 65 20 20 (veterinary emergencies in Haute-Savoie)

What you need to do while waiting

- Place the animal in a quiet place in a cardboard box (if they can be handled)
- Do not feed them or give them water
- Avoid handling them (risk of stress or injury)

The Tourist Office team's pets



VAYA

Colyne's dog



OLLIE

Guillaume's dog



NALA

Leo's cat



LUPO

Mathilda's cat



CHAPARDEUSE
Stephanie's cat



VULCAIN
Isabelle's dog



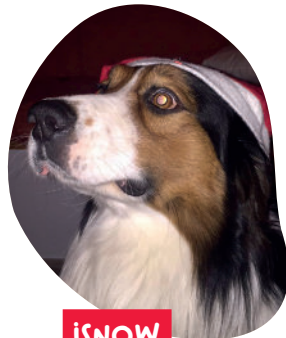
TUCHE
Louise's cat



POPS + TARA
Sandrine's rabbit and cat



VAUBAN + BOU
Melina's dog and cat



iSNOW
Maëlle's dog



Samoëns

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PARTNERS:

LAPSA, La Semaine Nationale du Chien,
30 Millions d'amis, Tourisme avec mon chien,
PlayDogs, Toutourisme Québec,
Mon-Bibou.

