

# Paws & Relax

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YOUR RUFF GUIDE TO HOLIDAYING IN SUFFOLK

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THE CANINE CHRONICLE



**“Come on in. Make  
yourself at home!”**



# What's it all about?

This little publication is all about holidays in Suffolk with your dogs.

Discover our Holiday retreats, where luxury meets wagging tails. We offer you and your dogs a truly dog-friendly base from which to unwind or enjoy endless country or riverside adventures.

All this is complemented by creature comforts to ensure your relaxation is as indulgent as their play.

Nestled in the heart of rural Suffolk, Woodfarm Barns features eight dog-friendly Cottages & Barns, each a haven for you and your dogs.

On top of that, we also have two fully converted historic Dutch Barges to choose from. These fantastic 'floating holiday cottages' are moored at Snape Maltings and Woodbridge – two iconic Suffolk locations.

A warm welcome awaits up to three dogs, free of charge in each of our properties.

'Paws & Relax' goes way beyond Woodfarm though, and is your introduction to our beautiful county. As a business, we spend so much time every week gathering as much information as we can to inform you of everything that Suffolk has to offer.

Our website has a plethora of content, all geared towards giving you the most comprehensive guide to Suffolk, hoping that you will make it your holiday destination of choice. Of course, we then keep our fingers crossed that you will make Woodfarm Barns or Barges your base.

# Unleashed adventures



## WOODFARM BARN'S & BARGES

A bit about our Barns,  
Cottages & Barges in  
Suffolk

## GETTING YOUR DOG HERE SAFELY

Top tips for getting  
your Dog to their  
destination happily

## POOCH-PERFECT PERKS

All the things we  
provide for happier  
Stays

## THOUSANDS OF PAWESOME REVIEWS

Tripadvisor, Facebook  
& Google reviews  
aplenty

## A PAWFECT DOG- FRIENDLY COUNTY

Suffolk, and what  
your Dogs will love  
about it

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

You ask questions,  
and we answer them  
for you

## FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF...

Ok, I'm not actually an editor, but it sounded good didn't it?

I'm just the chap who owns and runs Woodfarm Barns & Barges. For the uninitiated, I started Woodfarm in 2009, and from the word go, we have always been very Dog-Friendly. It's one of the key points that I wanted to base the business on, and from there, we have built a solid reputation in the industry.

Woodfarm is still very much an independent business, but it's encouraging how we've developed, how many guests return with their Dogs time and again, and the feedback and reviews that we get week in, week out.

I'm lucky to have such an incredible team that make me look like I know what I'm doing! I hope you enjoy this little publication, and find it a useful and practical guide to holidaying with us in Suffolk.



*Carl Scott*

Editor-in-Chief  
(still not really an editor)

## WOODFARM BARNES, STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK

Shelter from the world in your very own Suffolk retreat, down a quiet lane in the heart of the beautiful rural Suffolk countryside. Seven of our eight holiday havens include their own private hot tub.

Each personal sanctuary comes with your own fully enclosed garden. With up to 3 dogs very welcome, it's pawfect for some mutts meditation.

There's also a fully enclosed two-acre communal meadow for our canine guests to let loose.

We are surrounded by fields, public footpaths, walks, clear skies, hedgerows, wildlife and tranquillity that'll make your shoulders drop if you are visiting from a town or city!

Within half an hour, you have the choice of our stunning heritage coast, not one but two designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a plethora of historic villages and small towns.

In the middle of nowhere, yet the middle of everywhere!



## FULLY ENCLOSED, DOG-FRIENDLY, PRIVATE GARDENS

### What is a dog-friendly garden?

To ensure your canine friend, and other guests and dogs at Woodfarm, are safe and happy, all of our holiday cottages have fully enclosed gardens.

This feature is just part of what earned us our Pets Welcome accreditation and allows dogs to roam around their own private space, which is essential for owners of nervous dogs.

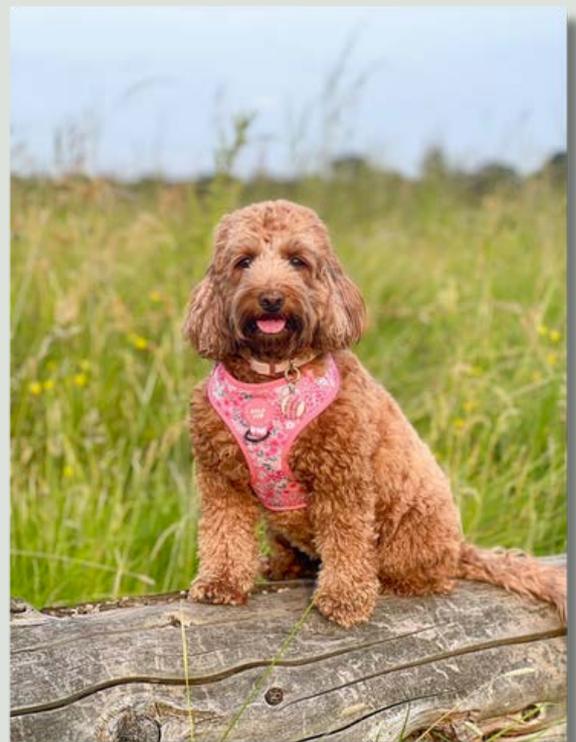
We always get asked if our gardens really are enclosed.

We've met so many guests who have experienced 'dog-friendly' holiday cottages without enclosed gardens, so we're proud to be able to offer this feature as part of our comprehensive dog-friendly experience.

### Woof-farm Meadow

As if that wasn't enough, we also have a secure, fully enclosed private meadow as well, just for your dogs!

They get to run around in two acres, mostly set to long wild grasses and wild flowers, with a path mown all around the perimeter. They live their best life, going bonkers and making new friends.



## WOODFARM BARGES, SNAPE & WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK

We have two truly unique, dog-friendly ‘floating holiday cottages’ in iconic Suffolk locations, on the River Alde, and the River Deben. Both have appeared on TV and featured in The Times, as well as a number of canine publications.

### **Onderneming: Sleeps 8 Snape Maltings**

A haven for family and friends by the Suffolk coast. Our cavernous Dutch Barge is the ideal idyll for families and small groups of friends seeking a unique getaway.

### **Twee Gebroeders: Sleeps 4 Woodbridge**

Moored at the Tidemill, she is the perfect romantic refuge for couples, with room for a couple of kids too.

Both Barges offer stunning river walks in either direction and are a stone’s throw from great pubs and a range of boutique shops, coffee shops and delis.

With up to 3 dogs very welcome, either choice gives you the perfect spot to paws and reflect.



## POOCH-PERFECT PERKS

### For Happy Dogs and Happier Stays

We pride ourselves in going out of our way to provide everything we can possibly think of to ensure that we've got you covered. We like to ensure that if you've forgotten something when packing the car, or it'd help you to not pack absolutely everything, then we can step in.

Here's a bunch of the things that we do, we provide, or we have upon request, to make for happy hounds & humans.

- Dogs Stay Completely FREE
- Fully Enclosed Private Gardens
- Dog treats waiting for every pooch
- Optional Doggy Hampers (£15 each)
- Dog Beds
- Bowls
- Dog Crates
- Stair Gates
- Spare collars and leads
- Dog Passports
- Woodfarm branded Poop Bags
- Woodfarm dog tags
- Woodfarm branded Travel Bowls
- Dog Buggy
- Car Ramp
- Shower Stations
- Dog Shampoo
- Dog Towels
- Dog First Aid Kits
- List of nearby Vets



## SUFFOLK: THE PERFECT DOG-FRIENDLY DESTINATION

At our Barns, you and your furry companions will find yourselves near Stonham Aspal, at the heart of Suffolk, where every path leads to adventure in stunning surroundings; from open fields to tranquil woodland trails, picturesque river walks, and inviting coastal beaches nearby.

Our Barges are located by the coast, and what a coast it is! The ‘Heritage Coast’ of Suffolk is awash with amazing walks, as well as dog-friendly pubs and restaurants.

Venture beyond to explore historic market towns and quaint villages nearby. Here, you can enjoy traditional country pubs and fantastic restaurants & cafes; all against a backdrop of cultural and historic attractions.

Join in local festivities like country fairs and food & drink festivals, immersing yourself in Suffolk’s community spirit.

We are so lucky to have what we call ‘The Woodfarm Triangle’ joining our Barns to the two Barges. 20 to 30 minutes between any of the points will cover so much of our glorious county.



## OUT & ABOUT IN SUFFOLK

We have a whole series of pages on our website, taking a deeper dive into getting out and about in Suffolk.

### Eating and Drinking

- Pubs & Wine Bars
- Coffee shops
- Takeaways
- Cafes & Tearooms
- Fish & Chip shops
- Vegan and Veggie
- Speciality restaurants
- Sunday roasts



### Shopping

- Delicatessens
- Farm Shops
- Gifts & Homewares
- Clothes shopping
- The best Hampers in Suffolk
- Artwork from Suffolk artists

### Places to Visit

- Castles
- Dog-friendly beaches
- Breweries
- Historic Houses
- Green spaces
- Historical sites

### Activities

- Walks near our barns
- Walks near our barges
- Cycle routes
- Golf courses
- The landscapes of Constable & Gainsborough
- Seal watching in Suffolk
- Boating in Suffolk
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty



## WALKIES!

### These boots were made for walking

There are plenty of dog walking trails near Woodfarm Barns – there’s even a twenty-minute walk which begins right on our doorstep! Head next door but one to Crowfield Church, where you’ll find one of the last timber-framed churches in Suffolk, as well as a quick and convenient loop trail.

Dogs with more stamina will enjoy the many walks available around the county. In your cottage, you will find books about Suffolk walks worth exploring with or without dogs. However, if you would like some ideas before you arrive, you can read more on ‘Walking in Suffolk’ by following this QR Code.



### Suffolk Beaches

Suffolk is a great place to bring your dog on holiday with miles of beautiful beaches open to the public year-round. Our cottages are just half an hour from the beautiful heritage coast, and plenty of our guests head there for walks.

There are no dog restrictions in force on Suffolk’s beaches from October to April, so your pet can enjoy the benefits on any stretch of beach you like! However, some restrictions do apply during the summer.

This QR Code will take you to our beach guide.



## DISCOVER SUFFOLK'S AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

The UK boasts 46 designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and Suffolk is privileged to have two of them right in our vicinity! These AONBs provide numerous opportunities for both people and wildlife to enjoy the countryside, while also playing a crucial role in supporting the local economy and enhancing societal health and wellbeing.

### Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB

The Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB is situated along Suffolk's stunning Heritage Coast, covering an area of 155 square miles. A rich variety of landscapes awaits, including marshlands, shingle beaches, estuaries, cliffs, heaths, woodlands, and farmland. Aldeburgh, Southwold and Orford are popular destinations, and the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB offers many dog-friendly beaches.



### Dedham Vale AONB

Another treasure on the Essex-Suffolk border is Dedham Vale AONB. Known for its charming villages, rolling farmland, rivers, meadows, ancient woodlands, and diverse wildlife, this AONB is famously depicted in the works of artists like Constable and Gainsborough. Dedham Vale spans 35 square miles, stretching from Manningtree to within a mile of Bures.

### Taking it all in

Both AONBs offer a wealth of activities for visitors. In the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB, you can observe a wide variety of bird species at Thorpeness, Walberswick, Orford or Sutton Heath. Visit the well-preserved pier in Southwold, enjoy music at the Aldeburgh bandstand, or shop at Snape Maltings.

Dedham Vale is ideal for peaceful kayaking on the River Stour or exploring the landscapes that inspired famous artworks.

### Plan Your Visit

Whether you're staying at our holiday Cottages, Barns or Barges, exploring Suffolk's AONBs is essential. These areas provide breathtaking natural beauty and a range of activities to suit all interests. For more information, visit the official websites for the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB and Dedham Vale AONB. Come and experience the tranquillity and inspiration offered by these remarkable landscapes.

## WHAT TO PACK FOR YOUR DOG'S HOLIDAY

Far be it from us to teach you to suck eggs, but we've put together some guidance to be certain that you have their welfare, health and safety covered on your journey, and for the duration of your stay.



Unfamiliar surroundings might be simultaneously exciting and distressing for your Dog. So for the journey why not make sure you have something familiar from home, which will smell recognisable to them? Blankets, bedding and toys will do this nicely.

There are spray products on the market that will aid them while travelling, and you'll also need to have enough food and drink for the journey.

We ask that dogs aren't left alone in our properties, as the unfamiliar setting can be really unsettling for them. Bear this in mind when you're out and about as well.

If you're heading to us in the summer, or you are taking them aboard to Woodfarm Tuscany, then do take precautions to prevent sunstroke, sunburn, and the associated issues with parasites.

As we have said, we have a comprehensive inventory of accessories to make your travelling lighter and less stressful, but make sure you go through this list and check with us if you would like to ensure that we have any of the items available for you.

We have done everything we can think of to ensure your Dogs will want for nothing when they stay at Woodfarm Barns & Barges.

Whether we provide them or not, here are your must-haves. Some of them will seem obvious, but it's easy to overlook the glaringly simple things. We do have most of these items for you, but do double check with us if you're not sure...

This is a handy checklist that you can save to your phone if you wish:



## FETCHING REVIEWS: THOUSANDS OF PAWESOME RATINGS



### Dogs and their owners love Woodfarm!

From wagging tails to satisfied smiles, our commitment to excellence is reflected in well over 1000 5-star reviews across Tripadvisor, Facebook and Google Reviews.

#### **Gail and Allan with Macey:**

“Such a cosy barn after muddy, waterlogged dog walks and the outside hot water doggy shower was very much appreciated by Macey. Simply the best dog friendly place we’ve ever stayed.”

#### **Kay and Neil with Evie:**

“The Barn was absolutely charming, and all the little added extras were very much appreciated. Always a bit nervous going anywhere new with our rescue dog but enclosed garden was perfect for our crazy mutt. She’s usually a bit of an escape artist but she was so settled and happy at the barns.”

#### **Rona and Alan with Buddy:**

“Our dog loved the walks in the secure field and the garden was secure and safe for our dog, whilst we enjoyed a glass of bubbles in the hot tub!”

Our accommodation promises an unforgettable retreat for both you and your furry friend.

We now have thousands of testimonials from our guests with dogs, which we upload to our website every month.

It’s so nice to be recognised for offering truly dog-friendly holidays. Most people struggle to find this, so we score massive K9 brownie points.

These testimonials were taken from the guest recommendation books in our accommodation.

Head over to our website to read lots more...



## **YOU ASK, WE ANSWER...**

At Woodfarm Barns & Barges, we understand that planning the perfect getaway involves many questions and uncertainties. To help you navigate through these and to ensure you have the best experience possible, we follow a 'You Ask, We Answer' philosophy.

This approach isn't just about promoting our Barns, Cottages and Barges; it's about providing valuable information, solutions, and peace of mind to our prospective guests.

### **Tell me what you want, what you really really want!**

From the very start in 2009, we have endeavoured to second-guess what guests need and want for a truly dog-orientated break. In addition to this, we have built an arsenal of frequently asked questions that we have answered as openly, frankly, and as fully as we can.

We pride ourselves in adapting to new-found needs and solving any challenges to make your stay safer, more relaxed, and happier.

### **Why 'You Ask, We Answer'?**

In today's fast-paced world, information is at our fingertips, yet finding accurate and helpful details can still be a challenge. We want to bridge that gap by answering your most pressing questions with clarity and depth. Our goal is to inform the market, making us your go-to resource for all things related to holidaying in Suffolk.

That's why we have hundreds of Blog posts, writing as much as we possibly can about everything to do with Suffolk and all its dog-friendly attributes.

If you can't find the answer to your question, then just get in touch and we will get back to you as soon as humanly possible.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We believe that our commitment to 'You Ask, We Answer' goes way beyond simply tackling a few regular questions. That's why we spend a ridiculous amount of time working on our website, our YouTube channel and our social media exposure, in addition to our relentless marketing strategy.

But to quickly answer our most common questions from dog owners:

**Are you Dog-Friendly?**

**It's what we do!**

**How many are allowed?**

**Up to 3 warmly welcomed!**

**What's the charge?**

**Nothing! They stay for FREE!**

**Are the gardens fully enclosed?**

**You bet!**

**Do you have dog owner reviews?**

**Thousands of 'em!**

**What do we need to bring?**

**We can save you lots of packing!**

**Do you have a strict cleaning regime?**

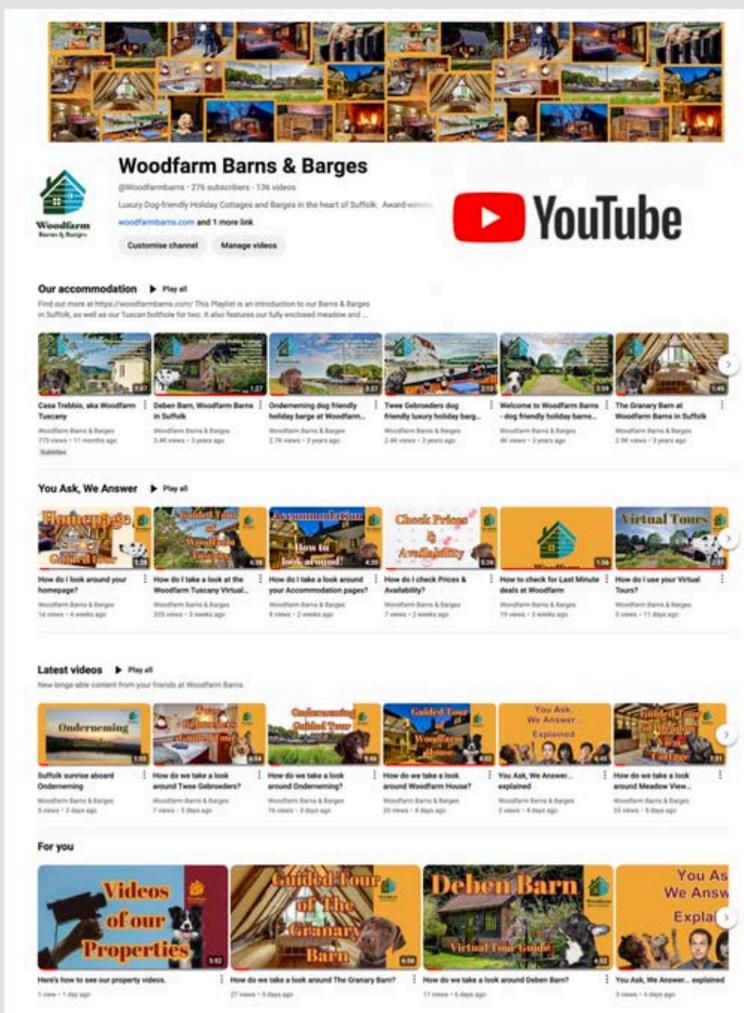
**Big time!**

# VIDEO KILLED THE RADIO STAR...

Ok, nobody was harmed in the killing of the radio star, it's just a metaphor! We have been on LBC and BBC radio, as well as the telly, but we spend a lot more time on video these days.

Do subscribe to our YouTube channel @Woodfarmbarns, where you can watch loads of informative and helpful videos that we've put together just for you. And some daft stuff!

It is evolving as we have way more ideas than time, particularly as we continue to build our 'You Ask, We Answer' collection for you.



Turn off the radio and watch us on YouTube

## GET IN TOUCH...

I really hope this magazine has been helpful. I'm happy to send you a few copies if you would like to pass them to friends.

As a business, we appreciate that real-time interaction and feedback are crucial for continuous improvement and customer satisfaction. We're always ready to provide prompt and honest answers, ensuring that you have all the information you need when you need it.

Sign up to our newsletters if you haven't already. There's a diddy form on the homepage, but you can just email if you want and I'll do it for you.

Woodfarm is a small, independent business, working hard to promote dog-friendly escapes from the norm in Suffolk. We don't ever pass your details on. We do not partake in skulduggery!

 Subscribe to our channel @Woodfarmbarns



Mobile 07810 371218 (call, text or Whatsapp)



Landline 01449 710032



carl@woodfarmbarns.com



woodfarmbarnsandbarges





**Woodfarm**  
Barns & Barges

[woodfarmbarns.com](http://woodfarmbarns.com)

01449 710032

