

DOP

REHOMING PORTUGUESE DOGS

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SUMMER IS HERE!

Aaahh! Summer... Sun, hot weather, a day at the beach or even holidays! So nice... Remember that you can ask us to recommend you a dog hotel.

Today we would like to present you K9Crackers:

<http://k9crackers.webs.com/> located in Silver Coast.

They have a few boxes where they can accommodate dogs whose owners go on holidays and they are planning on building more soon. But the most important is the excellent dog school they have. After you came back from your holidays do not miss signing up there with your dog! The classes are every Tuesday: obedience and agility course and they also provide private training.

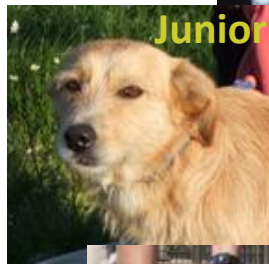
K9Crackers supports Cantinho da Milu shelter.



Lilli



Molly



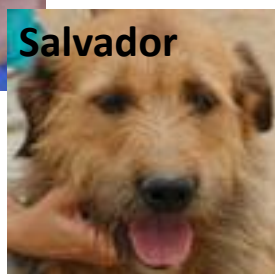
Junior



Leia



Daisy



Salvador



Farrusca

The Portuguese Podengo is an ancient hound breed from Portugal. It comes in three sizes – small, medium and large. Each size comes in two hair coats: smooth and wire coat. All three sizes love to hunt and they are used to live in a pack with a human as a leader.

The large podengo was developed for deer and wild boar hunting. Large podengos are now very rare in Portugal.

The medium podengo was developed for rabbit chasing, flushing, hunting and retrieval.

The small podengo was also developed for flushing rabbits from cover. It is also a good mice and rat hunter and was probably kept on board explorer ships when the Portuguese initiated the European world exploration in the 15th and 16th centuries.

It is a healthy breed and small podengos' average lifespan is approximately 15–17 years. The medium ones live to be approximately 12–15 years.

The coat, both smooth or wire type, is one layer and does not shed much.

All podengo types are intelligent and lively dogs, excelling at agility and making fine family companions. They are good and playful with children. They are watchful and observant and will bark when something attracts their attention. They enjoy running but they are quite independent so they should be either let run in an enclosed space or otherwise, without the leash, only after an appropriate training of obedience to the owner.

They would enjoy practicing agility in a school and they have predisposition to become champions.

Now there is a downside for the status of podengos in Portugal: they are quite common, pure breed or crosses, so they can be found in any shelter. Moreover, due to the fact that they are common, people don't want to adopt them. People come to the shelter and look for cocker spaniels, golden retrievers and labradors. But podengos are always overlooked regardless their wonderful temperament.

We are intermediating a few podengos for adoption, among others those that you can see below on the pictures:

- Lilli, small (9kg, 35 cm height), 3 years old, female
- Molly, medium (18 kg, 45 cm height), 2 years old, female, loves children
- Junior, medium (18 kg, 50 cm height), 2.5 years old, male
- Daisy, big (22 kg, 60 cm height), 3 years old, female
- Leia, small (7 kg, 30 cm height), 1 year old, female
- Salvador, big (30kg, 60 cm height), 6 years old, male
- Farrusca (smooth coat), medium (20kg, 45 cm height), 3 years old, female

If you are interested in adoption, contact us at:

dogsofportugal@gmail.com

DOP PHARMACY

Let's Talk About Tick Fever

If you want to donate, there are things we always need:

- deworming tablets
- spot-on against fleas and ticks such as *Advantix* and *Frontline* and also *Advocate* for dogs with skin allergies
- collars and leashes
- dog food
- *Actidox* and *Becozyme* for treatment of tick fever and *Conofite* and *Oridermyl* for treatment of ear infections (all can be bought at the pharmacy)

EVENTS

For autumn this year we are preparing a big sterilisation project - two generous vets will devote their skills and time and we have to provide only medications and equipment. Fortunately the clinic in the shelter is equipped enough for this kind of operations but we still need to buy things like gloves, scalpels, sutures, needles, syringes, catheters, plastic collars for the dogs, bandages, compresses, etc.



We also need to buy medications: mostly anesthetics for the operation (such as *Zoletil* and *Rompun*), pain killers and antibiotics after the operation (such as *Amoxiciline*, *Synulox* and *Convenia*).



To give you an example, a bottle of *Convenia* costs 130€, a bottle of *Zoletil* 25€ (and we will need at least 10 bottles) and each plastic

collar for a dog costs 2 - 10€ depending on the size.

The plan is to sterilise between 70 and 100 dogs and cats in the shelter which will allow us to keep our commitment of giving always a neutered animal for adoption. (In comparison, dogs adopted from municipal pounds are never neutered even if the pounds benefit from the municipal budget.)

Neutering is also important for the balance of our shelter. Taking into consideration that the space houses over 450 dogs, it is vital that all or the highest number possible of them should be neutered.

We will also try to give our contribution to nearby cat colonies to prevent their growth.

The biggest problem in Portugal is the number of unwanted dogs and cats that are born on the streets or in house of their owners and are abandoned afterwards.

Any donations, material or financial for this very important project ARE WELCOME AND MOST NEEDED!

The name "tick fever" englobes a group of contagious diseases caused by either bacteria or protozoa, transmitted through an infected tick bite, being the most common the *Lyme Disease* or *Borreliosis*, *Ehrlichiosis*, *Babesiosis*, *Anaplasmosis*, *Hepatozoonosis* and *Rickettsioses*.

There are two main types of ticks, the first ones have a rigid dorsal exoskeleton, also known as "hard ticks" (*Genus Ixodidae* - they tend to spend long periods of time attached to the hosts) and the "soft ticks" (*Genus Argasidae* - they do not spend too much time on their hosts, they await most of the time in the environment the appearance of a new host to feed from).



If a tick is found on the body of a dog, it is reasonable to strongly suspect the presence of tick fever; even if sometimes the symptoms only appear after the tick has already left the host (these diseases have an incubation period from 10 to 21 days); which may impair a proper diagnosis. The main symptoms are fever, weakness, dark urine, loss of weight and appetite, skin problems, nose hemorrhage and polyarthrits.

The diagnosis is done by clinical examination of the symptoms and blood tests that allow to confirm the presence of the infection, through the direct observations of the red cells of the blood (one of the favored places for the parasites to be found, where they continue to destroy the cells).

The treatment involves the administration of either antibiotic or anti-parasitical medication, specific for the causing infectious agent. In some more serious cases, it might be required to hospitalize, fluid therapy and even blood transfusions. The prognosis varies depending on the extent of the symptoms and the kind of infectious agent, the age and general health condition of the animal, being always convenient the early diagnosis and quick start of the proper treatment.



The best way to prevent the tick fever and its consequences, and keeping in mind that the period of higher risk of infection is between April and October, is the use of external de-parasiting methods such as collars, sprays and spot-ons. There are even vaccinations that may protect against some bacteria that provoke tick fever. For further advice please do consult your veterinary.

Protect your pets the whole year round, and help those that no one else would... Therefore we appeal for donations of anti-parasites products (such as tick collar, preference for

Scalibor) and spot-on (preference for *Advantix* and *Frontline*) to protect the dogs and anti-bacterial medication (like *Actidox*, *Doxiciline*, *Ronaxan*) to treat the dogs that are already infected and are being treated.

Our Experience with DOP

by Bernd Schieber

“Our forest ranger told us when he first met us with our new family member: „This is the beginning of a big love“
And I think he was right...

On 14 December 2011 our second wire-haired dachshund „Dino“ died just before his 12th birthday. It was a very sad and difficult time for us. After a month I started to search the internet: “wire-haired dachshund, female, 3 years old”. I searched and



searched, shelters, dachshund clubs, everywhere. Then after 3 days one click and I saw “Pituxa”, dachshund cross from Portugal. I liked her immediately. I discussed it with my wife and she agreed. On the next day I searched for Pituxa once more, it took me 3 hours to find her and I didn't let her go again. “Dogs of Portugal” was the name of the association. We looked at the pictures and videos, read everything very thoroughly – our decision was final! On the evening of the 18th January I called Marion Velten, a really lovely, responsible and competent woman, I have to say, “Chapeau”!

We mailed and had several phone conversations, our home near Stuttgart was visited, and everyone was satisfied. We adopted Pituxa! A medical check and a blood test was done before the travel, everything ok. On 9 February the time had finally come and at 23:00 h we took Pituxa in our arms, we were happy and drove back home. We called her Lisa. In the first 2 weeks she was very scared, but then it improved from day to day. All the dog-owners I know (and that's a lot!) and also non-dog-owners congratulated us and everyone likes



Lisa. She is a happy, playful and very pretty little dog lady. She gets along with every other dog and she loves cuddles.

Today, after 5 months, I don't regret one single day and I am glad that we did this contract with DOP. Lisa is healthy and full of joy and we are very happy to have her on our side, as a fully respected family member. Lisa also seems to be happy and thanks us in giving us kisses. In the meantime she speaks Swabian, the dialect of our region.”



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LOOK FOR THE GROUP “DOGS OF PORTUGAL”



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ADOPTIONS THIS MONTH

In July 2012 a total of 23 animals were adopted!

The lucky ones were: Africa (now Rhoda), Anya (now Elly), Bonnie, Bruce, Cinzinho, Isabel, Jaqueline, Jerry (now Jack), Joyce, Kaia, Kelly, Konai (now Marlowe), Maçã (now Mira), Maria (now Luna), Miranda (now Mia), Nancy, Piggy (now Daisy), Pink (now Mel), Piratinha, Roxana (now Milla), Timon, Zara (now Tova) and Zoi.

If you have adopted a dog or a cat from us, give us news!
We love to hear from our adoptants...

