

DOP

REHOMING PORTUGUESE DOGS

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EVENTS

You know that the sterilisations are our priority. The dogs we give for adoption are always neutered. To deal with many new animals that entered the shelter since the beginning of the year, we will concentrate on sterilisations in April. Your help is very important as we need to buy anesthesia (each bottle of 10ml is more than 50€), antibiotics (a bottle of Convenia is over 100€), sutures (a box of sutures is more than 20€), plastic collars for the dogs, etc. Without your help we cannot do it!

So we've created two special products - a key-ring and a fridge magnet. If you buy them, you are contributing to the sterilisations fund!



URGENT! AMIEL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Amiel and another galgo were found attached to the fence of a local municipal pound a few months ago. They were quickly rehomed but not well... The new owner gave them back a few months later, Amiel being in a miserable state.

The blood tests were done immediately and Amiel gave positive to tick fever and leishmaniose. The tick fever was already treated. Now the treatment of leishmaniose has been also started. Without this treatment she will die. And we hope that with this treatment she will survive... She eats well and is in good mood so there is a chance... The medication used it called *Multiforan* and costs 150€. Moreover, as this treatment is heavy on kidneys, she needs to eat renal food and the bag of 14kg costs 80€. And after the treatment new blood tests. So basically the treatment will be a minimum of 350€. This is where your help is needed...



DOP would like to present you the coolest product we have ever had: Hoodies! Amazing colors, nice design and good quality!

Contact us if you would like to get one!



Dear Friends and Supporters, we would like to thank everyone who contributed to Nina's eye surgery. She had both eyes operated on the 12th of March. She is still under the vet supervision but the operation went well and she can see. We have changed her life! Now she just needs to find a permanent home...



PICKING UP BEATRIZ...

"I saw Beatriz at the Site of Dogs of Portugal and I kind of fell for her.



I saw something about Dogs of Portugal on Facebook and found Beatriz at the Danish website and then we visited the Portuguese site, where there were so many more dogs to choose from and I did not want to pick the first one I saw (Beatriz), so we spent the rest of that evening looking at dogs and reading about them. We had 12 names and narrowed it down to two: Tuareg and Beatriz. The choice wasn't easy, but in the end Beatriz won. I have always talked about that if I were to have a dog again, I would find one from a shelter, so this was a good place to look. Of course I could find a dog at a Danish shelter, but I kind of like the idea to bring a dog from Portugal home and we had already planned a trip to Italy for Christmas, but Spain and Portugal was nice to. We could have had Beatriz flown in to Denmark as they normally do, but we thought, it would be more fun to go and pick her up ourselves.

We have recently retired and have therefore lots of time for a dog. We live in a small house in the country side, grow our own vegetables, have chickens and rabbits. We travel a great deal, often twice a year, in a medium size van in which we sleep. So, plenty of room for a dog.

We talked through e-mail with Signe in Copenhagen, as well as with Gosia in Portugal, before we finally met with Signe and Tine and they apparently liked us enough to trust us with a dog from Cantinho da Milú.

So Monday, the 17th of Dec. 2012 we began our trip to the Southern part of Europe. We followed the coast from Taragona to Portugal and then to Setúbal. It wasn't difficult to find Cantinho da Milú. We arrived in the afternoon, found a nice place to stay for the night.

Sunday, the 6th of Jan. we went back to the place with all the dogs. We met with Gosia and said hello to Beatriz and then took her for a walk. Already on this first trip she felt like our dog. Our plan was to stay until the next day to give Beatriz a chance to get to know us, but it turned out to be unnecessary. We took her for a little ride to see how she would behave in the car and after 25km we sent Gosia a text message saying that this was going so well that we wouldn't be coming back. Beatriz sat in the seat between us for a while and then she rolled herself in and fell asleep. We couldn't believe our luck. After all it was some chance to take, planning to drive 3300km with a dog we did not know. After 88km we found a nice place to stay for the night. Beatriz got her long leash on and walked around and checked out the area before she lied down, barked a little of the other dogs in the neighborhood barking and she was very relaxed and calm. We were sitting in our car watching. It seemed as if it might be easier than expected. When it was time to go to sleep, we called her in and showed her the mattress on which she was supposed to be sleeping next to ours. She stayed on it all through the night and she didn't bark once.



We held our normal eating breaks for 1 or 2 hours and Beatriz got her long leash on. We walked her too. And when it was time to continue, she got into the car herself and sat down in her seat. Sometimes she would sit up, looking out of the window before she lied down and went to sleep. When we stopped to buy food and stuff, one of us went into the store and the other one walked Beatriz. She was never left alone. She didn't take any notice of other dogs barking at us, which was very nice. All in all it went so well up through Portugal, Spain, France, Luxembourg, Germany and Denmark, where we arrived at our home Saturday evening on the 12th of January. Beatriz looked a little at the opened door to the house, but then followed us inside without hesitation. She didn't eat much on the trip, but she eats well now and is putting on weight. We go for long walks, 2-4 km and she likes that. Beatriz likes water. We walk along side a small creek on our trips and she often goes for a dip and sometimes she walks in it for 5 to 8 meters. We have seen pheasants, herons, crows, cats, deer and others. She is very interested and she wants to chase them. For now she's always on her leash, because I still cannot call her back every time. Beatriz has settled in and she likes it here in Lindum. She lies on her mattress or on the sofa. Outside she likes to lie on our garden tables.

She has become our dog and we are her people.

Steen Franch"

CATS AND DOGS = MORTAL ENEMIES MYTH OR REALITY?

Usually seen as mortal enemies, cats and dogs can actually be inseparable friends or, at least, live in a healthy relationship when sharing the same home. But for that you'll have to spend some time and be patient not to rush into it.



There are several differences between both of them that need to be taken into consideration, i.e.:

- * their body language is very different and can lead to miscommunication;

- * dogs have the tendency to be pack members while cats are usually independent;

- * age, size and temperament are also very important – for instance, a jealous pet will not like the arrival of a new one.

The secret to success is to take baby steps. So, when introducing a new pet of a different species to your home, make sure that they can both see and smell each other in a controlled environment such as the carrier, a glass door or using the leash for as long as they need to be in a more relaxed state of mind.

The next thing you should do is to allow the cat to wonder free in the house while the dog is on the leash. After that, allow the dog to explore the house while you keep the cat secure (in your arms, for instance).

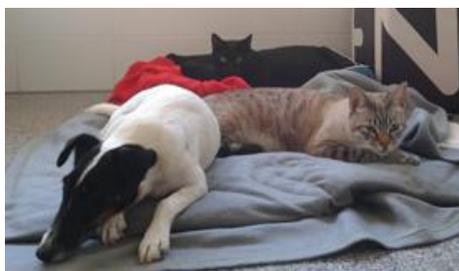
After they are both satisfied exploring the house, it's time to repeat step one and allow them to once again acknowledge, smell and see each other in a secure environment.

If both haven't shown signs of stress or anxiety or they have shown them but now stopped, you can then let them be together under your constant supervision. But do not be stressed yourself! Relax, take a deep breath and always bear in mind that animals can sense your feelings, even if you think you are not showing them.

At any sight of anxiety, stress or aggression between them, correct it! You don't have to be violent. Touching the animal when not expected or spraying water will make them snap out of it.

Only when you feel that your cat is more confident and at ease with your dog, can you leave them together alone without supervision. But start with shorter periods of time and keep moving towards bigger ones.

This process can take days, weeks and even months but in the end you'll see that the effort spent was well worth it so your cat and dog can tolerate each other enough that they can live peacefully together. Sometimes, more often than one thinks, they can even become best friends, sharing the same bed, playing with each other, missing one another and giving you the perfect Kodak moment...



ADOPTIONS THIS MONTH

In March 2013 a total of 17 animals were adopted!

Aramis (now Ambrogio), Azur (now Milo), Bolota (now Lotta), Ceylon (now Paula), Cookie, Goofy, Idefix, Jack, Kelly, Lassie, Lucky, Marquitos, Nodi, Noel (now Rocky), Patusca, Pulgita and Smart.

If you have adopted a dog or a cat from us, give us news!



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