

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SOTOGRADE AND PETS



Sotogrande is one of the most exclusive residential complexes in all of Europe, where family life and open spaces play a crucial part in its lifestyle. Of course, pets have a leading role for many families in Sotogrande, therefore having facilities and spaces in place is a very important matter for the community and a challenge to improve on in the future.

Although Sotogrande has open spaces, paths and avenues for enjoying with animals, it is also true that it does not have a regulated area of beach for pets or a park with notable facilities within the resort. So, El Periódico de Sotogrande, got together two good friends and dog lovers for a fun interview. Stephanie Noll, from Noll & Partners as the interviewer, and Kim Soudavar, a resident in Sotogrande who is really passionate about her dogs

How is living with a pet in Sotogrande in comparison to anywhere else? What activities do you do with your dogs?

Unfortunately as there are no designated safe dog areas in Sotogrande activities are limited. The beaches are dangerous because of the abundance of discarded fish hooks still attached to nylon lines.

We used to be able to run our dogs in La Reserva but because of new developments this is no longer possible. The same thing has happened to the polo ground at Río. This results in the only place to exercise is to walk on the lead along the three metre verge between the properties and the road. That is what my dogs do for 45 minutes every morning. The only time they can run is in the garden.

What would you change or improve in Sotogrande regarding the facilities for dogs?

I would like to see the creation of two dog parks – one in Sotogrande Alto and one in Sotogrande Costa. Ideally they would be fenced in, have water available, a bin for refuse which would be emptied daily and some benches for the owners to sit on. In other words a dog park. This would not only socialize the dogs but the owners as well. A minimal amount of landscaping would be essential to provide shade and fit in with the general appearance of this development.

Luxury pets: do you consider your pets have a luxury lifestyle?

No. Privileged yes. Luxury no.

I have 3 dogs. Hugo – a Basset Hound. Lily – a Dachshund. Nina – of dubious lineage. They do not eat pet food as I have no idea what is in it. Also as a cook I cannot bear to think that they would eat 3 times a day dried pellets for 365 days a year.

They eat roast or boiled chicken or minced beef mixed with carrots, cabbage or kale, rice or bread or pasta. The ratio is 1/3 protein, 1/3 vegetable, 1/3 carbohydrate. Once a week I add liver strips (which we



fry) or salmon cubes (which we steam).

Should your dogs show signs of sickness offer them cheese or lamb. If they reject it run for the vet.

My dogs each have a cushion in the kitchen. However at night they sleep in my bedroom – on the bed. Is this luxury or is this having some peace?

They do not have designer coats or collars or leads – EXCEPT Lily has a jumper with SECURITY on the back!

Have you tried canine massage therapy? If not would you try?

I would try it if they pulled a muscle but my dogs spend most of their waking hours getting massaged, being entertained, eating, sleeping and above all loved. I'm the one who needs massage therapy!

If you are looking for a property that suits a life with pets, these villas are paradises for dogs!

<https://www.noll-sotogrande.com/properties/sotogrande-alto/villa/SASOTR877>

<https://www.noll-sotogrande.com/properties/sotogrande-alto/villa/SASOVI180>

<https://www.noll-sotogrande.com/properties/sotogrande-costa/villa/SASOVI436>

Contact Stephanie Noll to resolve any questions you may have when purchasing a property with pets!