

RESCUES, BOUTIQUES, TRAINERS, SITTERS & MORE

THE PET LOVER'S BIBLE

AUSTIN

M O N T H L Y

J U L Y 2 0 0 8



**AT HOME WITH
KINKY & HIS
CANINE CLAN**

**FACES ONLY A
MOTHER COULD LOVE**

**CITY COWS: MEET THE
FARMING HOLDOUTS OF
SOUTH AUSTIN**

**LUCY'S
OUR WINNER!**

Cover Dog Contest
see page 120

US\$3.95

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Amy Nelson's
Horse Sense

Meet Westminster
Winner Uno

www.austinmonthly.com

» **Eat:** Indulge the furry ones with the Nine Fish Melange for cats and Howling Kobe Stew for dogs at the Conrad Chicago, 521 N. Rush Street, Chicago, IL, (312) 645-1500, conradhotels.com.

» **Drink:** Sip from the champagne fountain while Fido nibbles dog treats at the Bubbles and Bones champagne cocktail bar at the Wyndham Orange County Hotel in Costa Mesa, 3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa, CA, (714) 751-5100, wyndhamorangecounty.com.

» **Do:** Let your pooch roam through the woods at the Lake Placid Lodge in New York's spectacular Adirondack region. Whiteface Inn Road, P.O. Box 550, Lake Placid, NY, (877) 523-2700, lakeplacidlodge.com.

» **Souvenir:** Bring home lip-smackin' peanut butter dog biscuits created by Chef Wayne Hirabayashi at Hawaii's Kahala Hotel & Resort, 5000 Kahala Ave., Honolulu, HI, (808) 739-8888, kahalaresort.com.



The Rome Cavalieri

Pamper Your Pet

ROVER AND FIFI TAKE ON THE WORLD

YEARN TO TAKE THE FOUR-LEGGED KIDS ALONG ON VACATION but concerned about a “no dogs allowed” reception? Agitate no further. A multitude of hotels cater to your canine and feline brood, so save room in your suitcase for those rhinestone collars. From special pet menus and to four-legged robes, these indulgent hotels pamper your darlings even better than you do.

The red carpet rolls out for puppy and pussycat patrons at Kimpton hotels (kimptonhotels.com), 11 of which have pets on staff. These bowwow buddies welcome their fellow fur balls with organic treats, toys, bowls, comfy beds and information about walking parks, doggie bakeries and other necessities.

Then there's Charlie, the handsome Bichon Frise who oversees Doggie Happy Hour at the **Hotel Monaco** (monaco-dc.com) in Alexandria, Va. Here, pets and owners meet socially for, depending on their

biological classification, puppy treats and bottled water or cocktails and gourmet bites.

Couture pups will be in their element at **The Rome Cavalieri, a Waldorf-Astoria Collection Hotel** (cavalieri-hilton.it). Donning personalized cashmere sweaters and robes designed by Odilia Prisco, pooches nibble on four-course meals served in Gucci dishes on gold vermeil trays. There's also a woofie spa and walking and pet-sitting services.

While some hotels limit pet type and size, **The Oxford** (theoxfordhotel.com) in Denver welcomes beasts of every sort with no deposit. Located in the hip LoDo district, this recently renovated historic property pampers mousers and barkers (and slitherers, too) with porcelain bowls, dog biscuits or mascot mats. Complimentary canine sitting and walking services seal the deal.

Finicky beasts can indulge in chef-prepared cuisine at the **Inn at Perry Cabin** (perrycabin.com), a country house hotel in St. Michaels, Md. Chef Mark Saltzer prepares dishes like succulent lamb stew and osso buco with seasonal vegetables. A post-meal romp along the shore aids in digestion.

The Mansion on Peachtree, a Rosewood Hotel & Residence (mansiononpeachtree.com), is a luxurious spot in Atlanta that greets humans with champagne but saves the really good stuff for their pet friends. Dishes include lamb and beef meatloaf wrapped in bacon, and éclairs with carob ganache. After dinner, a personal doggie butler will take Fido for a walk.

For bored pets, the **Conrad Chicago** (conradhotels.com) can't be beat. Besides a pet menu that includes a Nine Fish Melange for cats and Howling Kobe Stew for dogs, this grand hotel has a library of kitty and puppy movies and a battery of toys. **The James** (jameshotels.com), also in Chicago, offers pet raincoats and galoshes, plus a variety of amenities such as pet massage and pawdicure.

Heading to California? Book the Paws and Claws package at **Wyndham Orange County Hotel** (wyndhamorangecounty.com) in Costa Mesa. Spot will be greeted with treats and his people get a lint roller and biodegradable pet waste bags. On Sundays, snarf up the Paws and Claws breakfast buffet (pets eat for free) and lap up unlimited bubbly from the champagne fountain while Fido gets his fill at the Bubbles and Bones champagne cocktail bar. Pets can slurp Bark Vineyards selections such as Sauvignon Bark and Pinot Leasheo.

At the **Kahala Hotel & Resort** (kahalaresort.com) on Oahu, your woofie will be greeted with a custom lei, then personally escorted to his beach-view room. Old hounds can learn



ABOVE: Proceeds from the Wyndham Orange County's Paws and Claws package go to the nonprofit Greyhound Pets of America.

new tricks with the hotel's unusual Hawaiian language lessons. Using special cards, owners can teach their puppies to respond to commands in Hawaiian. They can be rewarded with peanut butter dog biscuits created by Chef Wayne Hirabayashi and taste-tested by volunteer dogs.

Rent a Woof Cottage from **The Cottages at the Boat Basin** (thecottagesnantucket.com) while you stay at **The White Elephant** (whiteelephanthotel.com) on Nantucket. Newly refurbished with dogs and cats in mind (our kitties, Ben and Jerry, felt right at home), these one- and two-bedroom cottages have stunning views of the sea.

No bones about it—**dogs** are welcome at **The Point and Lake Placid Lodge** (thepointresort.com, lakeplacidlodge.com) in New York's Adirondacks region. These hotels exude rustic luxury and return to the time when dogs roamed free through the woods on Paul Bunyan-like pursuits. At The Point, the resort's resident golden retriever, Maggie, makes sure all visiting pooches feel right at home.

Ruff it at the **Ritz Carlton Golf Resort Naples** in Florida (ritzcarlton.com). While you hit balls across the course, Fido can get obedience lessons. From kindergarten-level socialization to serious instruction, your pal will leave the resort with new tricks in his doggie bag.



Pet Accessory of the Month

Keep your pets hydrated on the road with the Water Rover portable bowl. The bowl attaches to the top of a water bottle and clips onto your belt so you can give your four-legged friends water wherever you are. Available for \$11.99 at waterover.com or Austin Canine Central, 706 Brentwood St., 458-8800, austincaninecentral.com.