



## *Questions & Answers ~ 2009*

### **Why is Pension Milou so special?**

Pension Milou is literally a 'Home from Home' for your dog. Freedom above all. At Pension Milou your dog can loll about on a sofa all day, run about the garden playing with other dogs, do as he wishes. The aim is to make your dog's stay here as much like home as possible. I like to feel there is an easy and natural transition from your home to Pension Milou and vice versa.

### **Can I come and visit Pension Milou and look around?**

Absolutely! In fact, I don't take a dog without seeing him or her first. The initial visit to Pension Milou gives you the opportunity to look around, see other dogs currently 'en pension' and it gives me the chance to get to know your dog and note his requirements.

### **Do you take all breeds of dog?**

No. Because all the dogs live and sleep together, the priority has to be the temperament of the dog. For this reason, some of the guarding breeds and also certain terriers I wouldn't consider. I also don't take uncastrated males of any breed.

### **How do I know my dog will be properly cared for?**

I have 35 years experience looking after dogs - as a top breeder of Old English Sheepdogs in England where I cared for, bred and exhibited dogs for 20 years. I am also an International judge of Old English Sheepdogs and have written many articles on dogs and their care. I have also owned West Highland White terriers, Shih-tzus and as a child had spaniels and poodles. I have a good 'eye' for a dog and if your dog was even slightly off-colour, he or she would go to the vet immediately if I felt it was something that needed professional attention. Eyes and ears are examined every day and treated if necessary and your dog will be regularly groomed. Pension Milou is also recommended by many many vets in the area, from Menton to Monaco to Cannes to Nice and into the Var. Also by several Salons de Toiletage. You can also read recommendations by clients under Recommendations. Aside of all this, the dogs live with me, share my life and are treated as I treat my own dogs - with love. Rest assured, if your dog is used to sitting on your lap whilst you watch television, he'll let me know it - and that's where he or she will be!

### **Is Pension Milou officially licenced?**

I am licenced by the 'L'inspecteur en chef de santé publique vétérinaire' (Ministry of Agriculture) and also have a 'Certificat de Capacité' (Certificate of Capability) issued by the Services Vétérinaires at the Préfecture of the Alpes-Maritimes.

### **Where will my dog sleep?**

Where he wishes. Mostly the small dogs sleep in my bedroom and the bigger ones in the living room, study, where they wish but it's not unheard of for a big dog to find his or her way into my bedroom if that's what he's used to!

### **What will my dog eat? How many times a day will you feed him?**

Your dog will eat whatever he is used to. Food is included in the price unless it is a particular brand of food I don't keep on a regular basis, in which case, some owners prefer to bring their dog's food with them. However, I keep in stock several brands of croquettes, including Hill's Science Plan 'Light' and Hill's Science Plan 'Senior' - also various varieties of tinned food, and there is always chicken in the freezer. The dogs get treats before going to bed - normally Frolics or small bone-shaped biscuits. Your dogs dietary requirements will be noted when you come for the initial visit. Dogs are fed once or twice a day according to owner's instructions.

## **What happens if my dog gets sick?**

He will be taken to his own vet, if not too far away, and if not will visit my nearest veterinary surgery. At the initial visit, I will take details of your vet's name, address and phone number in case my vet needed to consult with him.

## **Do you accept puppies?**

Normally I don't take puppies under six months but it rather depends on the breed. Please email or phone me to discuss.

## **Do you give special care to older dogs?**

Yes, I'm very happy to take older dogs provided they are able to get up and down the steps (easy steps) that lead from the terrace down to the large garden area. I will note any special care needed when you come for the initial visit and all medication will be given as per instructions and scrupulously adhered to.

## **How secure is your fencing?**

The fencing is totally secure - strong wire, securely fixed to metal posts embedded in concrete with the portion of fencing, where it touches the ground, securely cemented in. The best doggy-diggers in the world can't get below the fence and it's too high for jumpers.

## **Can I bring my dog's toys when he comes to stay?**

Yes, but don't bring any toys that are absolutely precious. At some point another dog is likely to play with them and there is no guarantee they will remain in one piece! There are always various toys lying about plus tennis balls and lots of Nylabones (these are indestructible bones from America). The dogs don't argue over Nylabones as they might over edible chewy bones. Many dogs who are used to toys at home, ignore them here because there are too many other distractions.

## **How many dogs do you care for at Pension Milou?**

Maximum of 9 dogs for which I am officially licenced. In addition I have two dogs of my own: Milou (American cocker) and Flavia (Labrador) a retired guide-dog for the blind. Milou, for whom the Pension is named, and Flavia are both 13 years old.

## **What do I need to bring with me when my dog comes to stay?**

- Vaccination certificate (passport)
- Your dog's bed (or cushion or an old pullover so he or she feels at home)
- Special food if necessary (see above 'What will my dog eat?')
- Any medication

## **How much will it cost?**

Please refer to the Terms and Conditions page for the current tariffs.

## **Jilly Bennett**

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