A PET OWNER'S GUIDE TO HIRING A PROFESSIONAL PET SITTING AND DOG WALKING COMPANY

PET SITTERS IRELAND

LOVE YOUR PETS!

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About Us

Who Are The Owners Behind Pet Sitters Ireland?

My name is Kate McQuillan and I am the Co-owner at Pet Sitters Ireland along with my husband Mike McQuillan. We live in County Carlow with our 2 dogs (Coco and Joey) and Cat (Smug).

We are the very proud owners of Pet Sitters Ireland, Ireland's largest Pet Sitting and Dog Walking Company.

We both feel so blessed that people trust us, and our team, into their homes to take care of their pets, whether they are travelling away, at work or attending a special event.

We are the leading voice in the Industry for Pet Sitting and Dog Walking, and it's an absolute honour to help people with their pet care needs on a daily basis.

Why we started Pet Sitters Ireland

We started Pet Sitters Ireland to solve our own problem. I hated travelling away and putting the cat and dogs in kennels. I used to feel so guilty driving away and leaving them there, knowing that it was such a different environment to what they were used to.

Coco and Joey aren't used to being in Kennels, they are used to either being on our bed, on the sofa or in their own very comfy beds. And our cat is used to having the freedom to go out for a stroll around the neighbouring fields when he wants. So I used to feel really guilty that when we went somewhere nice they got chucked out their lovely home for the duration.

That was where Pet Sitters Ireland came from - a solution to the problem we were having when we travelled away.

What Do We Offer Our Customers?

One of the things that was important to us when we started Pet Sitters Ireland was that we wanted to make sure everyone received the same high level of service that we wanted for our pets.

Part of that philosophy meant that it was really important that we were able to understand our customers pet care routine and follow that exactly. I know I have different routines for feeding the dogs in a certain order, I like them to go out around a similar time and I also want to know they got their normal cuddles and love.

So by focusing on being the expert in following your pet care routine we have 1000's of extremely happy pets and customers. Customers that just want the same love and care for their pets that we have for ours.

What Makes Pet Sitters Ireland Different To Other Pet Care Companies?

We believe so much in this Industry that when we opened our door we created our own Professional Pet Sitting and Dog Walking standard, and we strongly believe that this should be the benchmark for all companies that want to offer the same services.

Because we are so committed to the Industry, and the welfare of animals in general, we believe that when a Pet Professional is caring for your pets they should receive the following as an absolute minimum.

These are things which Pet Sitters Ireland and all the franchise family adhere to daily.

- Educated Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers

- Online Booking and Payment Facility
- GPS Tracking Of Visits
- Pet Care Journal and Profiling System
- Back Up and Support

You can read more about our Code Of Conduct that we adhere to as a Professional Pet Sitter and Dog Walker on our Pet Sitter & Dog Walker Industry Standard Page .

Who Are The Team Behind Pet Sitters Ireland?

We have a fantastic team of Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers that represent Pet Sitters Ireland all over the country, along with a great Management and Administration Team.

You can read more about the Team behind Pet Sitters Ireland on our Meet The Team Page of the website.

Why Choose Pet Sitters Ireland?

Why Choose Pet Sitters Ireland To Care Of Your Pets

Family Run Business

Pet Sitters Ireland is a family run business, operated by Kate and Mike McQuillan. When we started our business in 2010 it was purely from a need to solve our own problems when we travelled away with our pets. We didn't want to put them in kennels and wanted to know that they were safe at home in their own surroundings.

From a small start in our local area, we now service pet owners all around Ireland. In late 2015 we expanded our business by allowing pet lovers, just like us, to join our Franchise team. Our franchise owners are truly part of the Pet Sitters Ireland family and we are excited to have them on board.

Animal Lovers

Both myself and Mike are huge animal lovers, having both had pets throughout our life. We now have 2 pointer dogs, Joey, and Coco, who are the most fun and lively dogs. We also have a cat called Smug, who loves the quiet country life. A turtle and 3 donkeys complete our animal family.

When we take care of your pets we know exactly how much you love them, because I am sure it's the same amount of love that we feel for our pets. All our businesses processes are put in place with your animals at the centre of them. We want them to love the experience of using our services!

We Offer Services That We Love

Before owning Pet Sitters Ireland, we used to really struggle to find someone to

take care of our pets, to the point that we just stopped going away so much. It someone asked us if we wanted to go somewhere our first thought would always be what about the pets.

So, when we looked at what services we would create we looked at the type of care we needed for our pets. We wanted a service that was flexible that we could use when we were out all day, away for weekends or even longer periods of time.

So whether you want a quick pop in service to let your dog out to the toilet or you want someone to sleep over with your pets then we have you covered.

Certification We Adhere to

We are really passionate about raising the standard of all pet care in Ireland. We want the industry to grow and be one that pet owners can trust in. We knew that a certification was needed and as there is nothing in the industry we created our own standards and certification that we, and anyone that represents us, adheres to.

It's something that makes us better and want to continue to improve. And as a pet owner is gives you confidence that we take our role in your pet's life very seriously and want the best for them.

Pride Ourselves On Being Educational

We love everything about your pets and are totally committed to providing you with honest and transparent information about all things pets. Whether that is answering questions about our services, rates or procedures or educating pet owners, it's something we put a lot of hours into each week. Just check out our Pet Learning Centre.

We produce articles at least 3 times a week, we create ebooks and we have a podcast for the pet industry. As business owners we are very much committed to the pet industry and helping pet owners with their pets.

Customer Service

This is something we invest a lot of time and money into, as without happy customers we wouldn't have a business. We want to hear from you when you aren't happy as much as we do when you are. You'll notice we follow up with you, we thank you when you say something nice and we are always available on social media to chat.

If you have something to say we want to hear from you today!

Convenience

There is nothing worse than finding a service or product you love and then it's a hassle to try and book or buy it. Complicated systems are a pain! Which is why we try to simplify things as much as we can while still maintaining a quality service.

We offer you 24-hour online booking and payment, and pretty much 24-hour phone support – unless of course we are sleeping!

It's important to us that we don't make work for you when you use our service, but instead, you go away safe in the knowledge your pets are getting spoilt by us and come home to happy pets at home.

Our Pledge To You

When you let us take care of your pets:

- We will show them the same love and care that we show our own pets.
- We will follow your pet care instructions so they maintain their normal pet care routine.
- We will let you know, via our online pet care journals, that your pets are safe and your home is secure.

Our Pet Care Certification

The Pet Sitters Ireland Pet Care Provider Certification

A certification for Pet Care Professionals In Ireland.

This Pet Sitting Standard ensures that:

- You have peace of mind visits are being completed
- Your pets are getting the standard of care you want them to
- You have someone to raise any concerns with at any time

This means if you are using a Professional Pet Sitter In Ireland they adhere to the following:

Educated Pet Sitters & Dog Walkers

All our Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers follow our best practices when it comes to caring for your pets. We follow systems and procedures to make sure that your pet gets the same level of care that you give them.

Our online Pet Care profiling system means that you can be assured that we know what you want us to do on a daily basis and that level of service is maintained.

We take great pride in following your exact instructions 100% of the time, to ensure you and your pet(s) have the best experience we can provide. If we are guessing about what you want us to do then we have not done our job properly.

Online Booking

Every pet owner should have access to book their services online. With online booking, you can be assured that your schedule is booked correctly and you are also able to check up on your visits daily/weekly.

Mistakes get made when things are written in diaries and on pieces of paper, so online booking is the most reliable way to book your Pet Sitting and Dog Walking services.

It's also the most reliable way to make sure that your pet care instructions are followed. Things get forgotten, notes get misplaced and people misunderstand – that is why online pet care profiles are key to ensuring your pet gets the care they deserve.

GPS Tracking

Pet Sitting and Dog Walking services should be tracked online, for the safety of both the pet and the pet sitter. We know where everyone who works for us is when they are delivering services. We can tell if jobs have been completed and the time they started and ended.

We offer complete transparency in the length of visits and walks, and can tell you when your visits were completed daily.

There should be no need for you to worry if your dog is getting walked for the correct amount of time or if you cat is fed at the correct time of day, your pet care journal will show you the time(s) of our visit each day.

Personal Support and Back Up

Pet owners want to know that they can contact someone about their pet care at any time of the day. They don't want to be travelling away wondering whether a visit has been completed or not.

This is why personal support is key when using a Pet Sitter or Dog Walker. Having only one phone number/person to speak with is not enough. If something happens to that person and you are lying on a beach in Florida then who is going to feed your pets? Back up is a key element of this service that every company has to offer.

Knowing who that backup person before you travel away is important. You don't want a friend of a friend stepping in to take care of your pets. The backup should also be a representative of the company you are trusting the care of your pets with.

Pet Care Journal and Photos After Every Visit

Every pet owner should receive automatic notification of services being completed

after every visit. There should be no need for you to chase your Pet Sitter down for an update every time you use them.

Pictures are a vital part of our service when taking care of your pets. We want you to be able to see happy and contented pets in our care.

Why Are These Standards Important For You?

You need to protect the well being of your pets and our belief is that without these standards being met then that well being cannot be guaranteed.

What Does A Pet Sitter Do? (Cost & Benefits)

When you think about hiring a Pet Sitter to take care of your pets you might wonder what does a pet sitter do, how does the service work and what can you expect?

A Pet Sitter is an alternative to using a kennel or a cattery. Instead, your pets stay in their own home and a Pet Sitter calls into your home as many times a day as you need to take care of your pets.

What Does A Pet Sitter Do?

When we meet with you to take care of your pets we will find out how you normally take care of your pets and those are the exact things that we will do. Our policy is to match your pet's normal pet care routine as closely as possible.

Some of the tasks that we typically carry out are:

- Feeding
- Playing
- Take dogs for a walk (this is included in a Pet Sitting visit)
- Turn lights on/off
- Close/open curtains and blinds
- Put out bins
- Bring in post

What Are The Benefits Of Using A Pet Sitter?

One of the main benefits of using a Pet Sitter is that there is **no disruption to your pets normal routine**. They don't have to leave the house and stay in unfamiliar surroundings, instead, they get to spend time at home enjoying the comforts they are used to.

Using a Pet Sitter **allows you to travel at short notice**. There is no need to book weeks in advance to secure your place at a boarding kennels instead you can just decide to take off on holiday at a moments notice.

If you decide to use a boarding kennel or an in home dog minding service your dog will be mixing with other dogs. While your dog might be the most friendly and well-behaved dog you do not know the dogs they will be hanging out with. When you use a Pet Sitter your pets don't mix with any other pets that they don't know, meaning they are **safe at all times**.

Home Security is an ever increasing problem and with a Pet Sitter, you have someone visiting your home every day to **make sure your home is secure**. Turning lights on and off, and closing and opening blinds gives your home a lived in look.

What Type Of Pets Does A Pet Sitter Take Care Of?

A Pet Sitter will take care of all types of pets. So whether you have rabbits, snakes, a spider, a horse or a cat or dog, a Pet Sitter can take care of them.

Part of the Meet and Greet process that Pet Sitters Ireland carry out is to get to know your pets and their routine. So once we know how you normally take care of them we can follow those instructions exactly.

You can read more about the Meet and Greet process in the following article:

- What To Expect At A Meet And Greet With Your Pet Sitter

How Much Does A Pet Sitter Cost?

The cost of a Pet Sitting service depends on a number of factors such as length of visit, the number of pets and time of day.

We cover the details of the cost of a Pet Sitter in the article below:

- How Much Does A Pet Sitter Cost?

Can I Find A Pet Sitter Near Me?

Pet Sitters Ireland are a Nationwide service, so we provide services to pet owners all over Ireland. Contact us to arrange to meet with your Pet Sitter today.

Factors To Consider When Using A Pet Sitter

When you are choosing a Pet Sitting service there are so many factors to consider to make sure that you select the right company and person to take care of your four-legged family members.

- Is the company you are hiring a professional company?
- Is the business insured?
- Does the business have an online presence?
- What are the companies terms and conditions?
- Who works for the company?
- How long will the visits be and what do they include?
- Where will your personal information be stored?
- How will you know your pets are safe and your home secure?

You can read more about all of these issues in the article below:

- Questions To Ask Your Pet Sitter Before You Hire Them

And also download our checklist for hiring a Professional Pet Sitter at the link below:

- Checklist For Hiring A Pet Sitter

How Can Pet Sitters Ireland Help You?

Are you thinking of travelling away, staying late after work or have a night out planned then let us know how we can help.

We operate services 24/7, 365 days a year and guarantee to be there for you 100% of the time. With back-up systems in place we never miss a visit.

Got more questions then visit our Pet Learning Centre at the link below to find out more about our services and how we can help you.

- Pet Sitters Ireland Pet Learning Centre

Questions To Ask Your Pet Sitter or Dog Walker Before You Hire Them

We get lots of calls every day from people looking for a Pet Sitter or Dog Walker for their pets. They are wondering what the service is, how much it costs and how do they know we are the best option for them.

I totally get it, your pets are like your babies and you want the best for them. You are maybe nervous about leaving them for the first time or wondering if someone can really take care of them the way that you do.

In order to help you with your decision, we have put together some questions you need to ask your Pet Sitter or Dog Walker before you use their services.

So, whether you decide Pet Sitters Ireland is the right service provider for you or not, you have a handy checklist at the ready to make sure you make the right decision for you and your pets.

Questions To Ask Your Pet Sitter or Dog Walker Before You Hire Them

Is The Company You Are Considering Hiring A Professional Company?

You might wonder how you decide whether a company is professional or not, but what we are talking about here is whether this is the persons full-time business. Are they a registered and legitimate company, and, more importantly, are they fully committed to their business on a full-time basis.

If someone is Pet Sitting or Dog Walking as a side hobby then when something

comes up for them personally it is unlikely that caring for your pets is their primary concern. With a professional company, your pet care IS their business. This is what they do full time, it's what pays their mortgage and puts food on their table - so they are committed to making you their top priority.

Is The Pet Sitting / Dog Walking Business Insured?

It's important that the business you hire is insured, so that if anything happens while they are caring for your pets then you are covered. Every company, whether they are caring for pets or not, requires insurance. It's part of running a business, it's what makes you a professional rather than a hobby business owner.

You might think there will never be a need for insurance, but it's unlikely you would be a homeowner without insurance - so why hire a business that doesn't insure themselves.

Does The Pet Sitter Have An Online Presence?

We live in a world where everything is online, and while written reviews on a company website are brilliant, there is nothing more authentic than looking at what a company is doing online and what is being said about them.

Pretty much every company now has a Facebook page, a Twitter account and maybe Instagram or Pinterest as well. If they are not active online and only have a website (which most companies rarely update) then how can you check them out and find out more about them.

If a company is online, what are people saying about them? Are they updating their pages and available online for their community? Are you able to get hold of them quickly via Facebook or Twitter (if you want to!)

What Are The Companies Terms And Conditions?

If a company has no terms and conditions then run...now! It's impossible to do business with a company without terms and conditions. How will you know what you can expect from the company, what their guarantees are, what their policies and what they will or will not do?

You might feel that someone taking care of your pets doesn't need to go to that extent, but if you don't have terms and conditions and something happens to your

pets, or you are not happy with the service, what are you going to do? You have nothing to refer to.

Who Works For The Company?

If you are allowing someone into your home then you want to know who it is. That is why the Meet and Greet is so important, as it gives you a chance to find out more about the person and see how they interact with your pets.

But, do you know who else works for the company? Have you spoke or met with them?

If something happens to your Pet Sitter while you are away, which can happen as people get sick, have family emergencies or just can't make it, then who will be visiting your pets? Who will be checking that the replacement person knows what they are doing? What is their back up plan?

Make sure you know who this will be. Don't assume nothing will happen, as things do happen and you need to make sure the company is prepared with a backup team member and not just a friend they ask to cover for them.

How Long Is The Visit And What Does It Include?

When your terms and conditions are outlined to you, then make sure that you

know exactly how long the company will be with your pets and what exactly is included.

For example, will they be there 30 minutes, 45 minutes, 1 hour or longer? Will the visit include a dog walk and how long will that be? What if your dog messes in the house, will they clear that up? Do they change cat litter and what is their processes for getting rid of waste?

Make sure this is all clearly laid out, documented and in your formal agreement. Also, check how the length of visits is monitored, is this tracked with GPS to give you peace of mind.

Where Will Your Personal Information Be Stored?

You might not have thought about how your information is being stored, but it's important that the information about your home, your pets, your security systems are all stored on a secure server.

Think about it, do you want all the information about your trip away stored in a diary or in a notebook that someone could easily lose and someone else could then gain access to.

Make sure you find out how the information is stored and what security measures are in place. Also, what is the key storage and security policy?

How Will You Know Your Pets Are Safe And Your Home Is Secure?

When you are away from home you want to know that you will receive constant communication from your Pet Sitter about how your pets are and if your home is secure.

The most efficient way to do this is online via a Pet Care Journal. This is something that allows you to see all the tasks that have been done during the visit and also see the cute pictures of your pet.

It also is a record of everything that was done on your trip, so you have an online journal of your Pet Sitters time with your pets.

How Can Pet Sitters Ireland Help You?

If you are struggling to make a decision about the best pet care provider for you

then we would love to hear from you and answer your questions.

We have an extensive library of articles that explain all about our services and continue to write more about the industry.

Make sure you download the checklist below and educate yourself about the questions you need to ask. Have it handy when you are hiring and make sure you check off all the important questions as you ask them.

Who Will Be My Pet Sitter / Dog Walker?

When customers are calling to book Pet Sitting and Dog Walking services for the first time one of the questions that they ask is who will be my Pet Sitter.

It's natural that you would want to know who was coming to take care of your pets and into your home – I know I would.

How do we select the right Pet Sitter for you and your pets?

1. Everyone who work for Pet Sitters Ireland starts out by filling out an application. It's important that we find out about the people that are potentially going to represent Pet Sitters Ireland.

2. Once the application is accepted and we have positions to fill in an area we then start interviewing.

3. If an applicant is successful at Interview then any references will be checked.

What happens before you schedule the services of a Pet Sitter?

1. Once you have decided to use our services we will send your Pet Sitter around to meet you and your pets. This is your chance to check out the person and make sure they are a good match. We know that we like them, and would be happy for them to take care of our pets, but it's important that you feel the same.

It's also a chance for you to run through your pets daily routine and the things that you want us to to. Even things like when do you put your bins out, where do you want us to put the post.

2. If you are not happy with the person you meet, for any reason, then you can call the office and we will send you someone else. We realise that sometimes you just don't take to someone, and that's fine, we want you to travel away feeling 100% comfortable that you have the perfect Pet Sitter.

3. Once you are happy with the Pet Sitter they will be your primary Pet Sitter and Dog Walker. In the event of an emergency, and your Pet Sitter cannot make your visits, will we advise you of your secondary Pet Sitter and you can arrange to meet them as well.

We offer complete peace of mind by having back up Pet Sitters in place.

What are the benefits of Hiring a Pet Sitting and Dog Walking Company with a team of Pet Sitters?

1. If you are hiring one person to take care of your pet and they get sick or can't provide services when you need them – what do you do? We always have Pet Sitters available to take care of your pet.

You will never receive a call or text to say we can't visit your pets. It's our standard to complete 100% of all visits.

2. If your Pet Sitter is not doing things exactly the way you want – do you want to have that awkward conversation with them – or would you rather have someone deal with that for you?

We monitor the performance of all our Pet Sitters and Dog Walker to make sure that they follow your instructions and report back to you via the daily journal.

3. What if you are out of the country – you will need someone to check on your Pet Sitter and make sure your visits are being completed. We have an online scheduling system to monitor visits daily.

How many Pet Sitting Visits do I need per day?

When choosing to use the services of a Pet Sitter it is important to make sure that you have a schedule of visits that match the needs of your pet.

You should firstly consider your pets normal routine. One of the benefits of using a Pet Sitting service is that you can maintain this routine to minimise the hassle and stress for them.

Factors to consider when deciding on the number of visits include:

#1. Is you pet an inside or outside pet?

If your pet does not have access to the garden during the day then they will need more than one visit a day.

For inside dogs we require a minimum of 2 visits per day.

For cats we require a minimum of 1 visit per day.

#2. How many times a day do you normally walk your dog?

Sticking to your pets routine is key and if your dog is used to 3 walks a day then we would advice you stick to that. Each Pet Sitting visit includes a Dog Walk, but if you want to book additional longer walks you can.

#3. How many times a day do you feed your pet?

I know my pets get really annoyed if their dinner is delayed. Joey knows exactly what time he gets fed and is ready and waiting.

If you feed your cat twice a day then we would recommend sticking to that.

#4. Is your pet used to a lot of companionship throughout the day?

Some pets are used to spending time on their own while their owners work. While others need more human companionship.

You know your pets better than anyone, so when you are booking your visits think about how much time they would be used to being with someone.

#5. Does your pet require any special medication at certain times of the day?

If you pets need medication at certain times of the day then we can arrange visits to suit their medical needs. It can be critical that medication is delivered at the same time each day.

How Can We Help?

These are just some of the things to consider when deciding on the number of visits you need each day.

We would be happy to chat with you over the phone to help you come up with the best pet care visit schedule for your pets.

How Do I Know My Pet Sitter/Dog Walker Has Visited My Pet?

We deal with 100's of clients every month and we know that when someone decides to use a Pet Sitting or Dog Walking service they can be nervous about what happens and how they will know their pets are safe and that someone turned up when they were meant to.

We totally understand that you might feel a little apprehensive, after all your pets are your family. No-one wants to be wondering if their cat has been fed or their dog has been walked.

How Do We Put You At Ease When Using Pet Sitters Ireland

Check in /out with GPS

Every time we visit our clients home we check into our online booking system to confirm the visit has started. GPS technology then allows us to track the visit until it is completed. So we can see what time we arrived and what time we left, and the exact location we visited.

This technology is so vital for us to be able to see where all visits are taking place and for us to be able to confirm they all took place at the correct time.

Call you from your home

If you live in an area with poor internet or mobile signal then we can always call you from your own home phone when we arrive. We realise that in Ireland not every location we visit has even a phone signal, so a call from a landline is certainly an option that is available if you require confirmation when we arrive for visits.

Take pictures

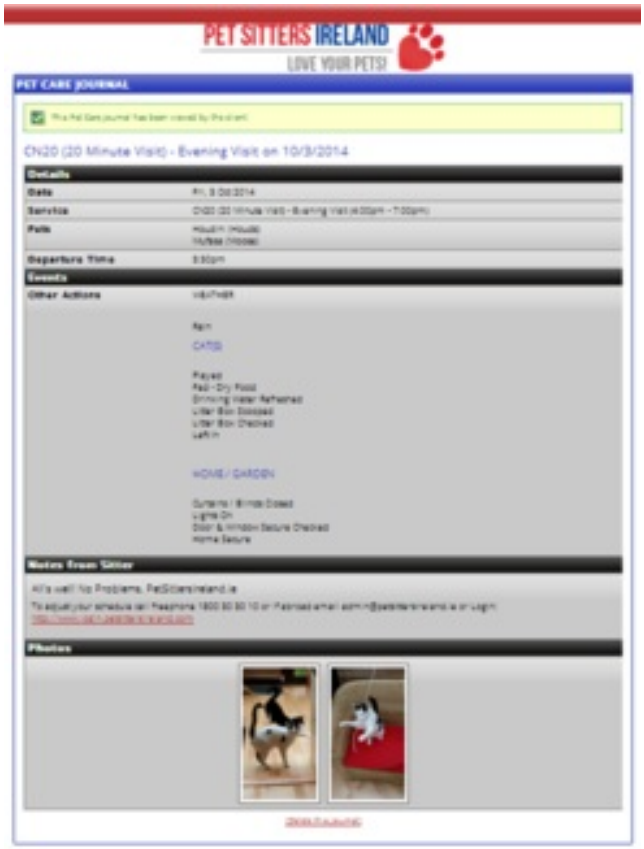
At every visit we take pictures of your pets so that we can send them to you at the end of the visit. It's lovely when you are away to be able to see your pets and how happy they are with their Pet Sitter or Dog Walker.

Our aim is to get the best possible photos of your pets for your enjoyment!

Send you a pet care journal

Keeping you updated after every visit is really important. We want you to know that we fed the cat, walked the dogs, brought in the post or put the bin out. So for each visit we email you a pet care journal including a photo of your pets.

As you can see below it's a very clear log of everything that happened at the visit, giving you peace of mind.



Office staff monitoring visits

You might wonder why this is important, but having someone checking to make sure your visits are done is extremely important. If you have an independent pet sitter visit your pets and they get sick and are unable to visit your pets then how will you know.

What if they are too sick to get to your pets? What if you can't get hold of them and you don't have anyone else to check on your pets? Do you really want that stress and worry?

These are all things to consider when you are hiring a Pet Sitter or Dog Walker.

Can I Meet My Pet Sitter Before The Pet Sitting Visit?

Every year at Pet Sitters Ireland we talk with 100's of people that want to hire a Pet Sitter for their pets. One of their first questions that they have is that they want to know if they can meet their Pet Sitter before they use our services.

This is a great question and we totally understand why people would have this question, because as pet owners we would want to know this too!

So in this article we are going to explain the process of hiring a Pet Sitter and how, and when, you meet you Pet Sitter.

Step 1: Speak With Our Office Manager

Your first point of contact, after you have visited our website, is with our office Manager.

She will be able to chat with you and understand the exact needs of your pets and the type of care you are looking for.

She will be able to discuss how often you need us to visit and design the perfect visit schedule for you. She will also establish if your pet has any special needs or particular routine that we need to know about.

Step 2: Meet The Pet Sitter

Once you are happy with your schedule, and you have confirmed your booking, will we arrange for your Pet Sitter to visit you and pets. This is the perfect opportunity for you to make sure that your Pet Sitter is a good match for your pets.

I know when I go away I want to make sure that my Pet Sitter knows my pets and can show them the love and care that I want for them. It's important that I feel confident and comfortable that they can handle my pet care routine in my absence.

If for any reason you don't feel it's a good match, then of course you can contact us to arrange to meet with a different Pet Sitter. You and your pets happiness is important to us!

Step 3: Confirm Your Booking and Enjoy Your Trip

Once the 'Meet and Greet' has taken place and you are happy with your Pet Sitter then we go ahead and confirm your booking and assign it to your Pet Sitter.

You can then add all of your pet care details to our online booking system, so that we know exactly what to do when you are away. *For example if you put your bins out on a Tuesday then add a note to the system and we can do that during the visit.*

While you are away you will receive an email after every visit with pictures of your pets enjoying time with their Pet Sitter. I know I LOVE this when I am away, so I am sure you will too.

How Do You Know You Can Trust Your Pet Sitter?

When we started Pet Sitters Ireland we conducted a survey with Pet Owners that showed that people who were likely to use our service were mostly concerned that the Pet Sitter was an animal lover and pet owner themselves.

Things like home security were important to them, but they mostly wanted to know what the person would love their pet like they do.

Therefore all of our Pet Sitters and Dog Walkersgo through an interview process and are reference checked before they represent Pet Sitters Ireland and take care of your pets.

Note: Garda Vetting is not something that a Pet Sitter is able to get as it is reserved for people working with children or vulnerable people,

"Garda Vetting is conducted in respect of any person who is carrying out work or activity, a necessary and regular part of which consists mainly of the person having access to, or contact with, children or vulnerable persons." (Source: https://vetting.garda.ie/VettingProcedure/WhatIsVetting)

Finally, you get your chance to meet the Sitter and make your own mind up on the Meet and Greet. This is where you meet your Pet Sitter, get to know them and see how they interact with your pets.

If at this stage you don't feel that it's a good match then we can arrange for a different Pet Sitter to meet with you.

What Quality Control Measures Are In Place?

Meet and Greet

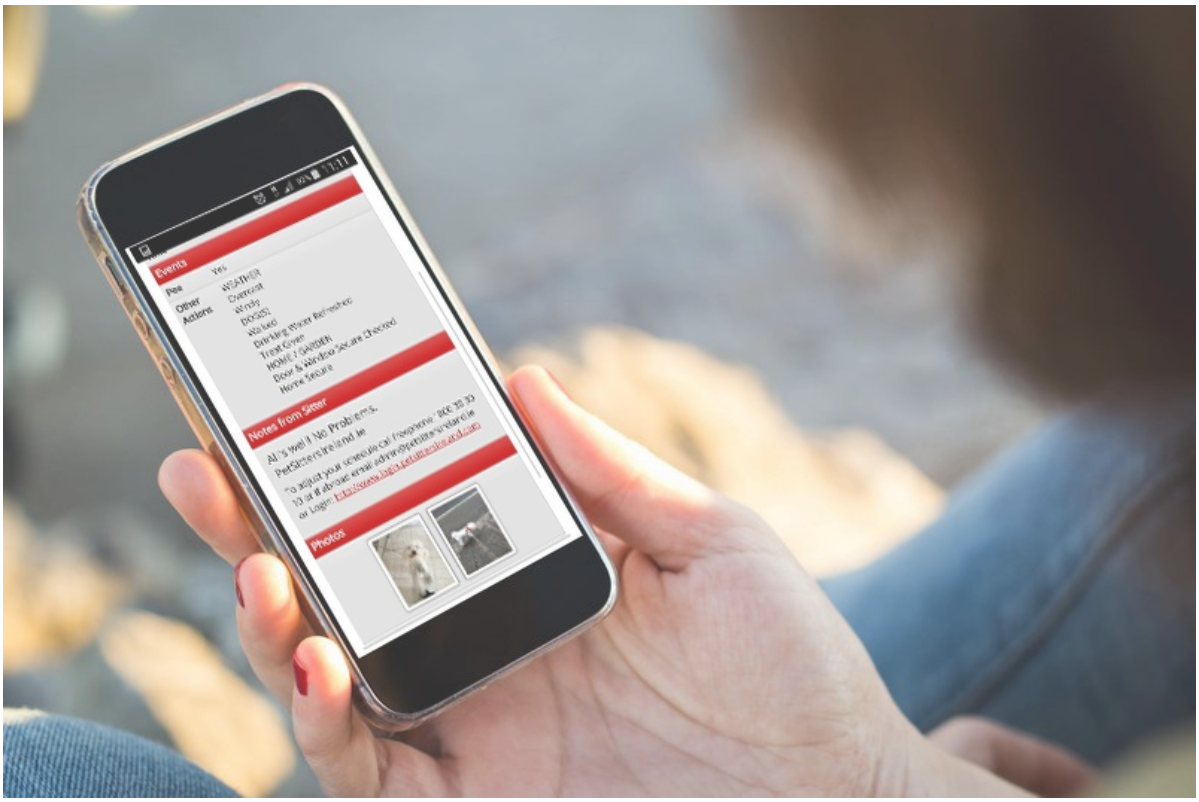
Every client that uses Pet Sitters Ireland has the chance to meet their Pet Sitter before they use our services at the Meet and Greet. This is a chance for you to

make sure you are happy with the person we have sent.

You get to see how they interact with you and your pet, if they can handle your dog on a walk, and whether you feel in general that they are the right person for you.

You get the final decision on whether the Pet Sitter is the right person for you.

Pet Care Journals



Every time we visit your pet we take pictures on them and send them to you via the pet care journal. We also let you know that your pets are safe and your home is secure at the same time.

These journals give you the peace of mind that your pets are ok and you get to see them in person via the cute pictures.

GPS Check In/Out

We GPS track all of our pet care visits so that we know when our Sitters arrive at each job and when they leave.

There are a couple of reasons for this:

1. We can monitor jobs are taking place at the correct time

2. We know that our sitters are safe throughout the day

Office Staff Monitoring Jobs

Throughout the day we monitor that jobs are in progress at the right time and they are being completed as requested.

We also have a Freephone number (1800 30 30 10) that you can call and chat with us about your services at any time.

We are also in contact with Pet Sitters and Dog Walker throughout the day to ensure all jobs are being carried out in accordance with your requirements.

24/7 Availability

This isn't something that we do as a hobby, this is a full-time professional business where we are servicing pet lovers 24/7 365 days per week.

If you need us then we are here for you all of the time.

How Can A Pet Sitter Make Your Home More Secure?

Leaving home doesn't just cause concern for pet owners' about the health and well-being of their beloved pets. Many homeowners also worry about the security of their homes: Will they return home to an unexpected leak that has flooded the house or a broken heating system that has resulted in cold pets?

Ease your concerns about your pets and your home. Pet Sitters Ireland's staff of professional pet sitters takes precautions to ensure your home is more secure while you are away.

5 Ways a Pet Sitter Can Make Your Home More Secure

Turn the lights on and off

Drive or take a stroll down the street in the evening and look at the houses. You probably just assume that there's someone home when you see a lit house and no one home when the house is dark. A house that is dark all day and night or lit 24 hours a day is a sure sign that no one's home. Turning lights off during the day and on in the evening will give your home a lived in look and that's just what your professional pet sitter will do.

Pick up the post

Overflowing post can alert neighbours and those of unsavory character that you're not home. We pick up the post and put it in a secure place in your home to ensure that none of it gets lost and to give the appearance that someone is home like normal.

Bring in the bins

Bins left outside after rubbish pickup provides pretty solid clues that no one is home. A professional pet sitter with Pet Sitters Ireland will bring in your bins and

put them out again just in time for pickup to give an appearance that someone is home.

Take immediate action in an emergency

Imagine returning to a flooded home. Fortunately, a pet sitting professional can take immediate action, starting with contacting you immediately, when the unexpected occurs, which will help minimize the risk of long term damage to your home.

Be discreet

But, all of those precautions become meaningless if you do not have a professional pet sitter who remains discreet at all times. Pet Sitters Ireland's professional pet sitters never wear uniforms nor do they display signs on their vehicles. Discretion is key to ensuring your pets' and your home's security.

Why Hire A Dog Walker?

There are many reasons why you might feel that you need to hire a Dog Walker.

#1. Work Commitments

Maybe you have had a change in your work schedule which means you have less time to walk your dog. It could be that you work hours which don't fit in with your dog walking routine. If you work shifts and you are home at 5am it's unlikely your dog will want to go out for a walk at that time!

Sometimes you have meetings to attend at work or you can't get home during the day to let your dog out for a toilet break.

Puppies cannot be left for long periods of time so you may need to consider availing of our Puppy Package.

2. Injury

Maybe you have recently injured yourself and that is making it hard for you to physically walk your dog. We get so many calls from people who have hurt their back and can't actually take their dogs out.

Often during pregnancy women struggle to manage long walks and when the baby arrives they need additional help.

A dog walker can help out until you are back on your feet and ready for dog walking duty again.

#3. Extra Walks

Maybe you just feel that your dog needs extra walks on top of the walks you are already committed to. Some dogs just have A LOT of energy to burn and need to be out more than you would have time to.

A dog walker can fill in when you don't have the time for long walks during the day.

#4. Boredom

Maybe your dog is destructive during the day and you need a dog walker to break the day up for them. Getting your dog out during the day can wear them out and means you don't come home to a bored dog who decided to empty the bins to entertain themselves.

Certain breeds need a lot more exercise than others, so you should consider this when choosing a dog.

5. Convenience

Maybe there is no particular reason and you just want to hire a dog walker for the convenience of it. Much like we hire a cleaner or a gardener.

Whatever the reason your dog will definitely thank you for it! What dog wouldn't love extra dog walks!

How Can You Contact Pet Sitters Ireland?

We are really transparent when answering customer questions on our website and have a great Pet Learning Centre where you can really get to know us.

But if you have a question just pick up the phone and we are here to help.

How Can I Contact Pet Sitters Ireland?

If you want to get to know us there are loads of places you can look on the website for information.

- Learn About Us
- Learn About our Growing Team

- Let Us Answer Your Pet Questions
- Read Our Latest Blog
- Get in Touch (the old fashioned way) and Call Us! 087 745 3847 or 1800 30 30 10

We are here to make sure your services are carried out the correct way, that you are happy while you are away and also to answer any questions, queries or concerns you have.

Want to Request Services

There are 2 ways to request services:

1. Give Us a Call and we can take details over the phone from you. We will run through the entire process of what happens and then set you up with your schedule.
2. Book Online. If you are a regular customer you can just book services online as you need them. Some people prefer to do everything online while other like to talk to someone in person.

- Call Us On 1800 30 30 10
- Book Online HERE

Got A Complaint?

We strive to be the best at what we do, but we also know we are human and sometimes things don't happen exactly the way you want them to. So of course if you are not happy we want you to let us know.

We could give you an email address to send that complaint to, but instead we invite you to phone us personally.

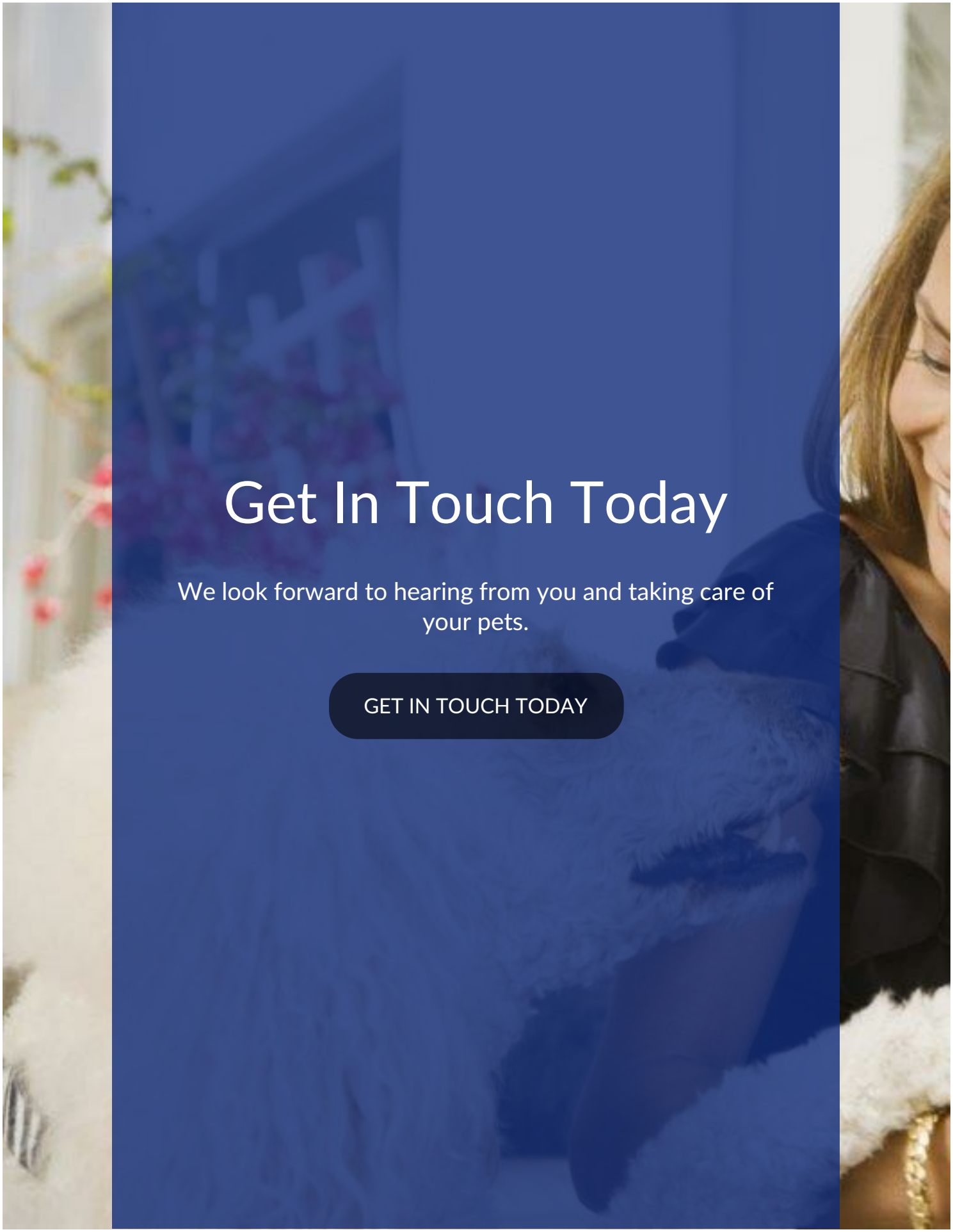
You can call or text Mike (087 7453847) any time of day to talk about any issues you have with the service you receive. As a company we want your feedback, as without that we can't become better pet care providers.

It’s always great to hear the good things, but it’s just as important to hear what didn’t work for you.

Got More Questions?

If you want to ask a question and you don’t want to phone us, then please always feel free to email us through our Contact Form.

We will come back to you straight away via email, if preferred, or by phone.



Get In Touch Today

We look forward to hearing from you and taking care of your pets.

GET IN TOUCH TODAY