

Treasure your beloved pet forever with a beautiful photo portrait

ACTIVITY SUPERSTORE

## Pet Photoshoot

Are you exhausted from trying to achieve that perfect selfie with your beloved pet? Do you wish you could find a way of maintaining your companion's attention so that you can unleash their true model potential? If so, this experience is perfect for you. Put the camera in the hands of a professional photographer who will know exactly how to capture the essence and personality of your favourite animal and all the family.

Once you've completed your shoot, you will be invited to a viewing session where you can choose the picture which you feel brings out your pet's best qualities, whether that's their whiskers, paws, tail or puppy dog eyes. Your selected image will then be made into an 8" x 6" colour photograph, which you can treasure for life. A £20 credit will also be applied towards any wall portraits or art pieces purchased.

For an up-to-date list of locations and experience information please visit:

www.usemygift.com

### **Experience Information**

#### Availability

Throughout the year on selected Monday to Sunday dates.

#### Duration

Approximately 2 hours, including the separate viewing session.

#### Participants

It will be you, your family, your pet and the photographer during the photoshoot. You can take up to 12 family members

#### Restrictions

- A separate viewing appointment will be arranged shortly after your session where you will be able to select your favourite image.
- You may need to pay a £35 deposit on booking, which will be fully refunded after the experience.
- Most animals can be accommodated but some restrictions may apply. Please check at the time of booking.

#### Locations

- Bedfordshire (Leighton Buzzard)
- Berkshire (Reading)
- Bristol (Winterbourne)
- Buckinghamshire (Beaconsfield, Milton Keynes, Stoke Mandeville)
- Cambridgeshire (Cambridge, Fordham, Newmarket, St Neots, Wisbech)
- Cheshire (Chester, Ellesmere Port)
- Cumbria (Barrow-in-Furness)
- Derbyshire (Chesterfield, Darley Abbey, Derby, Dronfield, Renishaw)
- Devon (Ivybridge, Plymouth)
- East Sussex (Brighton, Lewes, Newhaven)
- Essex (Braintree, Chelmsford, Clacton, Coggeshall, Colchester, Romford, Upminster)
- Gloucestershire (Cheltenham, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Twyning)
- Gwent (Newport)
- Hampshire (Farnborough, Farnham, Hook, Romsey, Southampton)
- Hertfordshire (Chenies, Hertford, Hitchin, Sawbridgeworth, St Albans, Tring, Watford, Welwyn)
- Kent (Bexley Heath, Dartford, Herne Bay, Margate, Sidcup, Sittingbourne, Swanley)
- Lancashire (Blackburn, Bury, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale)

- Leicestershire (Lutterworth, Market Harborough)
- Lincolnshire (Boston, Cleethorpes, Grimsby, Scunthorpe, Spalding)
- Merseyside (Liverpool, Southport)
- Monmouthshire (Pontypool, Torfaen)
- Norfolk (Norwich)
- North Yorkshire (Scarborough)
- Northamptonshire (Corby, Kettering, Northampton, Towcester)
- Nottinghamshire (Nottingham)
- Oxfordshire (Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Witney)
- Somerset (Bath, Midsomer Norton, Shepton Mallet)
- South Glamorgan (Cardiff)
- South Yorkshire (Barnsley, Cudworth, Sheffield)
- Staffordshire (Cannock, Lichfield, Stafford)
- Suffolk (Battisford, Ipswich, Needham Market)
- Surrey (Guildford, Leatherhead, Reigate)
- Warwickshire (Leamington Spa, Sutton Coldfield)
- West Midlands (Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull, Walsall)
- West Sussex (Chichester, East Grinstead, Worthing)
- West Yorkshire (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Wakefield)
- Wiltshire (Westbury)
- Worcestershire (Redditch, Worcester)
- Yorkshire (Beverley, Hull, York)

Please note: Locations are subject to change as a result of quality monitoring or due to factors beyond our control.

# The History of Pets

It may feel like our feathered, furry and scaly friends have been by our sides forever. However, the reality is that historians aren't exactly sure when we first welcomed pets into our families, or even which member of the animal kingdom was first to make themselves at home amongst humankind.

It is thought that cats were among the first animals to be domesticated by humans around 10,000 years ago. At approximately 3500 BC, the Egyptians welcomed the wildcats of Africa into their homes believing they were demigods and therefore, ranked superior above us humans. Cats were used to control vermin and other pests to protect stores of food and were revered as hunters. As a result, the Egyptians treated their cats like true superstars and the penalties for injuring or killing cats were severe. When a cat died during this era, he or she was mummified and buried in sanctified plots often with an ample supply of mummified mice for the afterlife.

Fast forward to the British Middle Ages and cats came under scrutiny due to being associated with witchcraft and it was believed the devil could transform herself into a black cat. Due to cats' nocturnal nature and tendencies to roam around at night, they were believed to be supernatural servants of witches, or even witches themselves. Even in the modern era, it is still considered unlucky for a black cat to cross your path.

Luckily, the reputation of felines has come a long way since folklore superstition and they are now considered one of the most popular household pets. With well-loved characters such as Garfield. Cat in the Hat. Bagpuss, Hello Kitty and Alice in Wonderland's Cheshire Cat, to name a few, gracing our screens, clothes, pencil cases and phone covers, it's fair to say that cats have certainly made their (paw) mark within society today.

But how did dogs win the title of man's best friend over cats? Fascinatingly, it is often disputed that rather than human kind domesticating dogs, it was actually them that domesticated us! Instead of welcoming the cuter members of the pack into our homes, some say that wolves approached humans



while mutually scavenging for food and eventually, the friendliest among the pack became our comrades.

As the bond between wolf and human grew, the wolf's appearance and psychology

altered alongside it. Tails began to waggle more, ears grew floppier and they even began to read human gestures. Pooch companions quickly became popular not only for hunting, but also within the home. Aborigines and Inuits welcomed their dogs into their bedrooms on particularly cold evenings to provide warmth and comfort. In fact, the phrase "three dog night" originates from both Native Australian and Indian Inuit culture, when families were sandwiched snuggly between three of their canines.

By the era of Victorian Britain, dogs were firmly on their way to being one of the nation's favourite pets and the first dog food was officially marketed in around 1860.

Owning a dog was not considered appropriate for the "lower classes" during this time, as it was thought to encourage the neglect of other social duties, meaning those accompanied by dogs were generally the more affluent members of society.

In the 1950s, some women considered their dogs to be the perfect accessory and would dye their poodle's fur to match their hair or clothing in order to reach the height of fashion.



However, the canine fascination of this time wasn't all based on dog's undeniable good looks. In 1957, a pooch named Laikia became the world's first dog astronaut and second earthling to visit the moon, when she was sent into space by the Russian government. Later on, a pooch named Ashley Whippet was the three time winner of Canine Frisbee World Championships which took place in the 1970s.

Other dogs which have made their mark throughout history include Gabi, who worked as a security guard in Belgrade Zoo in the 1980s and once prevented a jaguar's escape. Meanwhile, the legendary Faith spent her life relying on her two hind legs after being born with deformities. She frequently brought morale to soldiers worldwide when visiting them in hospitals and left behind her an inspiring reputation after her passing in 2014.

Today, dogs are one of the most adored members of households, with 8.5 million registered in the UK today, many making their mark for their heroic, kind and loving nature.

#### **Terms & Conditions**

- This pack is for a face value voucher that entitles the holder to any experience or other product\* supplied by the Activity Superstore, up to the value stated, including the experience(s) listed on the box or in the brochure.
- By purchasing this voucher you are bound by our full terms and conditions, which can be found at www.usemygift.com
- 3. From 1st January 2019, the retailer from whom the experience voucher is purchased is acting as agent for and on behalf of The Activity Superstore Limited and your contract is with The Activity Superstore Limited who is the issuer of the experience voucher.
- 4. The chosen experience must be registered, booked and taken by 1st December 2019.
- 5. Activity Superstore reserves the right to offer an alternative experience.
- 6. Standard retailer refund policies apply. Please see terms & conditions for the full refund policy.

\*Please note promotional products, tangible gifts (excluding books) and choice Vouchers are excluded from the list of exchangeable products.

# Registering and booking... ...your experience!

For security reasons, and so you have the most upto-date information you will need to register your details and validate your voucher with us, all you need to do is follow the steps below.

- Please visit the website stated on the back of your youcher.
- 2 Enter your activation number and then follow the online security steps.
- Once you have registered your details successfully with us please write down your unique voucher number in the space provided on the front of your voucher. You will then receive on screen booking information, which will also be sent to your e-mail address.
- Then all you need to do is book your experience and prepare to have the time of your life!

Please note: This information is correct as of time of printing. For an up-to-date list of locations and restrictions please visit: www.usemyqift.com