

Wine Country Pet Resort

“It’s Where the Pets Stay”

By Jim Brumm

“What do dogs do on their day off? They can’t lie around, that’s their job.” George Carlin

The entrance to Wine Country Pet Resort has four vintage fire hydrants for their guests to, ahem, “sign in.” This is obviously a company that understands their clients. Since being taken over by new owners Alan Parker and Phyllis Colgan, Wine Country Pet Resort has been catering to the well-loved pets of Napa County and beyond with personalized care, grooming, activities and overall pampering.



“This is where the champions stay,” said Parker, who raises show dogs including “Paris,” a Best in Show Champion Newfoundland who lives on-site and is happy to mingle with the regular guests.

“The idea is to get away from putting a dog in a kennel box or a cage where they stay for the duration of their visit,” said Colgan.

Dogs definitely don’t stay caged up at Wine Country Pet Resort. It is situated on five acres in a secluded country setting in the Carneros district of Napa, safe and away from highways. They offer over four acres for exercise and fun. There is a dog playground as well,

where the coddled visitors may play and socialize with other four-legged visitors. According to their literature the facility is the largest pet-designed facility in the valley, offering four play parks, and exercise areas benefiting from bay breezes and shade trees.

“Don’t leave your pets home alone,” said Colgan. “Many people hire dog sitters or neighbors to look in on their pet while they’re away. But one hour a day of contact is not good for the pet.”

At Wine Country Pet Resort, dogs have company all day and have the opportunity to run in a pack, play with toys provided by the management, interact with humans and other dogs, and generally have a good time. The only things they don’t offer are conga lessons and shuffleboard.

“The hardest problem is the dog that doesn’t want to go home when their owners return,” laughed Parker. “Sometimes owners are a bit surprised when their dog clearly wants to stay.”

But, hey, who ever wants their vacation to end?

For a variety of reasons, not all dogs wish to be exercised or socialized with other dogs. For these dogs, the staff of Wine Country Pet Resort will schedule them to be exercised alone.

Around 90% of Wine Country Pet Resort’s clients are from the Napa area though some visitors to the wine country will take advantage of their day service and drop their pets off as

they head up the valley for wine tasting.

“People like to know their pet is being taken care of while they’re away,” said Colgan. “Dogs are like children to their owners. People want the highest standards for their companion.”

In addition to activities and companionship, the resort provides heat, air conditioning, classical music and good food for their guests. Special diets can be accommodated as well and grooming or training is available. And, of course, the staff are all animal lovers and enjoy serving their guests. “I give them all treats and a biscuit at bedtime,” said Colgan.

Owners drop their dogs off for a variety of reasons. Some are vacationing for a week or two; some just want a day away and don’t wish to leave their dog at home alone.



Dogs romp with Wine Country Pet Resort Staff during playtime

“We had one man who dropped his dog off while his wife was in labor so they could concentrate on having a baby and not worry about their pet,” said Colgan. “Another couple was remodeling their home and needed someplace for their dog to stay until they were finished.”

The resort also takes cats. They have a “cattery” where felines listen to classical music, have a “kitty play area” and a view of the front of the resort where they can see guests coming and going all day. Among the other critters they can accommodate are rabbits, rodents and birds.

And how much will it cost to give your pet a few days in the lap of luxury? Surprisingly, just \$18 per day. Grooming and bathing is extra. For such a low price, you can leave knowing that your best friend will be pampered and well taken care of. Afterwards, you can pick up a pup that’s refreshed, happy and ready to get back to the daily grind - you know, napping, drinking from the toilet, chewing your shoes; the usual.

But be prepared. After a stay at Wine Country Pet Resort, Rover will be expecting a dog biscuit on his pillow at bedtime.

Wine Country Pet Resort is located at 1199 Cuttings Wharf Road in Napa. 707-252-7877



Toys for the guests

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