

"The secret of the therapeutic effect of the interaction with animals lies in the unique bond between human beings, nature and animals. The activation of unforgettable little moments is the engine of our work and our motivation to recover the joy of living".

Contact with people who are "different" represents a "matter of heart" for us. Living and working with animals is a gift that we enthusiastically share.

#### ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY: INTERACTION BETWEEN HUMANS AND ANIMALS

In recent years the effectiveness of interaction with animals has been discovered in sick or disabled people. Through this contact, social skills such as empathy are promoted. Dealing with animals builds self-confidence and helps to develop a sense of responsibility.

Human beings experience animals as companions on an equal footing. In exchange with them, deep and positive emotions arise and communication is stimulated. Animals are considered to "break the ice," which means that works as general stimulation in psychotherapy. They give people new attitude for life, increase self-confidence and gives moments of happiness.

### SEA LIONS CONTRIBUTE IN A SPECIAL WAY TO THERAPY AND PEDAGOGY

In the interaction with sea lions, the wonderful element of water appears in a totally natural way. Water has something essential; it flows, and has the capacity of adaptation and versatility and a balancing effect. Sea lions are affectionate, cheerful, social marine mammals with an incredible capacity for learning. In this interaction, their target as therapeutic companions are to become potential assistants.

Sea lions have a lot to offer to people with physical, mental and emotional disorders. In the interaction with animals, the cognitive, emotional and social development of people is reinforced and stimulated. We call it activating one's own strength, perception, and estimation. We know, with experience, that nature unfolds its full potential when therapy and understanding fail, and animals have beneficial effects on people. In this way, the living conditions of small and big "patients" can be supplemented or improved.

#### AN INTERACTION ARISES WITH BENEFICIAL SELF-HEALING CAPACITY

## THE ACTIVITIES ASSISTED BY ANIMALS ARE ORIENTED TO PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT PROBLEMS AND DISEASES

Stroke, burnout, dementia, depression, stress, stress disorders, phobias, fears, pressure, over-demand, self-esteem problems, conflicts, separation, sadness, mental and learning disabilities, psychomotor development disorders, victims of abuse and violence, Perception disorders, language disorders, behaviour problems, attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity, autism, gross and fine motor skills disorders, as well as balance and coordination difficulties and therapeutic fatique, among others.

## WINNING AN ANIMAL'S TRUST AND FRIENDSHIP IS A FANTASTIC ADVENTURE!



# THE ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS AND ANIMALS CAN POSITIVELY INFLUENCE THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OF PEOPLE

Our animal-assisted therapy is aimed to children, youth and adults who do not react to conventional therapies and development methods and are tired or resistant to them. We work with our sea lions according to the principle of free interaction. The encounter between the human being and the animal.

The affective work between humans and sea lions offers a fantastic relaxation to gather strength and continue progressing. Interactions with animals are alternative medicine processes that use animals as assistants. These effects help to ease symptoms of psychiatric, neurotic and neurological illnesses, as well as mental or psychic disabilities. The presence of sea lions establishes a space for personal development and an individualized positive learning environment. Animals gain confidence and "open the door" of the subconscious. Scientific studies show that numerous beneficial effects are attributed to the interaction with animals. Animals positively influence the psyche, attention and concentration capacity, functional social, emotional and cognitive skills, self-confidence and motivation of people.

Sea lions teach us to be attentive, to widen our vision and to live the moment. In many cases, they are the best therapists.



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MOMENTS IN LIFE ARE THE LITTLE MOMENTS WHEN YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME.



### THE MOST PRECIOUS THING WE HAVE IN LIFE, THE FAMILY

Parents of severely disabled children do an incredible job. Initially, they must cope with the disability of their own child. They have to learn to deal with different living conditions every day, to which are added the most diverse reactions that they must face from society and from the administration itself. Siblings are also often affected in most cases - conditioned by the situation - and bear a very important burden. They share responsibility, participate in care, suffer limitations and sometimes receive less affection. In these cases, a child-oriented family therapy is demanded in a holiday context.

### INTERACTION WITH SEA LIONS IN TERRA NATURA BENIDORM

Terra Natura is "fun for everyone". A lovely zoo in a wonderful setting. It offers numerous leisure possibilities for the whole family, either enjoying a swim in Aqua Natura or meeting the animals at Terra Natura.

Families with children and people with reduced mobility can visit the in an accessible and barrier-free way. Both the zoo - focused for families - and the friendly employees welcome all customers.

### SUPPLY AND DEMAND: SEA LIONS AS THERPEUTIC ASSISTANTS

Petra and Roland Duss are sea lion trainers of international renown and have a significant successful media coverage. For many years, the Duss family has lived together with their sea lions. Each of them is a companion, friend and member of the family.

Our therapy assistants are named Tino, Joe and Lucy. Sea lions are able to strength people and encourage them emotionally. And that is why Tino, Joe, and Lucy assist therapeutically in the realm of animal interaction.

The Duss family and their sea lions represent a true show of love in helping people in need. Their intention is to make people smile thanks to their animals, to bring light to their lives and to assist them in their development.

Interaction with animals includes all procedures whose contact with animals modify people's lives in a beneficial way in psychological and social inclusion aspects. They consciously take care of scheduled performances with people and animals.

Our sea lions cannot cure diseases, but they can give joy and desire to live, distract from mental and physical pain and loneliness and thus contribute to their own strengthening.

### WE WILL BE DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE YOU!



The dynamics of therapy depend on many factors, but we will know after the first contact between children and animals the most important.

The prices of the sessions are:

I-day therapy: I50€

Includes: I therapy session for person with disability (entrance to the Aqua Natura park included).

I-2 family members assisting in the water (care attendant) (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount).

I-2 more companions, without access to the animal facility (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount).

(Maximum 4 people).

3-day therapy voucher: 420€

Includes: 3 therapy sessions for person with disability (entrance to the Aqua Natura park included). I-2 family members assisting in the water (care attendant) (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount). I-2 more companions, without access to the animal facility (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount). (Maximum 4 people).

7-day therapy voucher: 910€

Includes: 7 therapy sessions for person with disability (entrance to the Aqua Natura park included). I-2 family members assisting in the water (care attendant) (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount). I-2 more companions, without access to the animal facility (entrance Aqua Natura park 50% discount). (Maximum 4 people).

It is necessary to hold a previous meeting to get close with the person and find out what benefits they can obtain apart from their own enrichment that involves enjoying with animals, which have a very special sensitivity.

There is no minimum number of sessions.

Currently we already have bookings for the whole summer, but there is space almost every day. The park is open from I0,30 a.m. to 8 p.m., therapies are recommended early in the morning or late in the evening so we can enjoy more peace.

