



THE
ANIMAL RELIEF FOUNDATION
ARUBA

www.ARF-aruba.com

Adoption Agreement

Date		
Name of Dog		
Owner		
Address		
Phone	Home	Cell
e-mail		
Veterinarian		

Your puppy is an Aruba Cunucu dog. Information is attached regarding the breed. Your puppy was born in Aruba where the temperature ranges from 85 to 95 degrees year round. The puppy will need to adjust to the new climate where you live. It may be cold in even 70 degree weather for the puppy so when you bring your puppy outside, please put a sweater on the pup and be sure to keep it warm in the house also dependent on the weather at the time of year you get your puppy.

The pup has been evaluated by the veterinarian in Aruba and received its first vaccination. It has also been “dewormed” however, it is important for you to bring your new puppy to the vet as soon as possible for a thorough examination, blood tests and stool tests for anemia and intestinal parasites. The pup may have been exposed to ticks as they are abundant in Aruba – if anemic, they may need a prescription for doxycycline. Stools should be tested for tape worms and round worms as well as coccidia. Please follow your veterinarian’s recommendations and instructions to keep your pup healthy.

In taking this pup, you agree that you will:

1. provide a home environment – this pup needs to be a part of your life and family. Animal Relief Foundation Aruba will not provide a dog for outdoor living.
2. provide appropriate veterinary care for this dog. As the pup grows, it will need vaccinations, heart worm prevention and flea and tic infestation prevention. The pup will need proper nutrition, love, affection and play time.
3. insure that the dog is spayed/neutered to avoid unwanted pregnancies.
4. comply with all applicable local ordinances and state laws having to do with caring for the animal including sterilization, leash laws and licensing.

If you decide that you cannot manage the pup or do not want it, please notify us within one month and we will take the pup back – do not bring your pup to a shelter. By signing this document, you agree that you will not abandon the dog, you will not give the animal to another party or surrender it to a shelter.

The undersigned understands that he/she/they hereby release Animal Relief Foundation Aruba with respect to any and all claims in regard to the adopted animal and that Animal Relief Foundation Aruba has made no warranty or representations regarding the adopted animal.

I agree to abide by these recommendations and requirements –

Signature _____ Date _____

It is a joy for us to see the progress of our pups and dogs as they grow and become part of your family so please send us updates and pictures as you have time – send e-mails to info@arf-aruba.com

May 2010

Aruba Cunucu Dog

This rare breed is named after its homeland, the small Caribbean island of Aruba in the Dutch Antilles. The word 'Cunucu' means 'countryside' in the Aruban language of Papiamentu. In derivation, however, the word comes from the older language of the indigenous Arawak Indians.

Modern research techniques have shown that this little-known breed has an interesting origin. DNA tests have revealed that its ancestors were probably introduced to Aruba by Portuguese slave-traders sometime in the 16th century. The dogs they took with them were probably very similar to the modern Iberian breed called the Medium Portuguese Podengo, known in its homeland as the Podengo Portuguesa Medio.

Once on the island, some of those imported dogs then came into the possession of the indigenous Arawak Indians, who crossed them with local dogs that were living on the island in a semi-wild, feral condition. Comparing the modern Podengo with the modern Cunucu, it is clear that there must have been some spitz genes present in the feral dogs, because the Cunucu has the typical upcurled tail of a spitz dog, a feature that is not present in the Podengo.

Once the Arawak Indians had developed their own breed of hunting dog, they employed it to pursue the island's iguanas, large lizards that offered a valuable source of protein. This would not have been difficult for a Podengo-type of dog, since the ancestral form in Portugal had been developed to chase rabbits and other fast-moving small game over rough terrain.

The Cunucu Dog is a medium-sized animal that appears in a variety of color forms, especially brown-and-white and black-and-tan. It is athletic, courageous, loyal and intelligent. A very fast-moving dog, it is renowned for its amazing leaping ability. This is an adaptation to its lizard-chasing, when it must skillfully maneuver the rocky outcrops in the island's arid interior at high speed.

Here are some examples of Aruba Cunucu Dogs:

