

Travelreport Romania May 2023 - A trip in May

Once again, my friend Gabi joined me and the Robin Hood mobile was fully loaded to start the nearly 1000 km journey to Reghin.

Without any incidents and clear weather we reached our destination in daylight.

The very next morning we unloaded our "treasures" at the shelter, my thanks once again to our dear donors :-)

This time there was even a mobile sink, which we can use very well for our castration campaigns, a dehumidifier, which will find its use in the puppy station and much more.

Gabi had been away for quite some time and was warmly welcomed by the staff at the shelter and by our vet Attila.

There is progress at the shelter again...new enclosures, especially for injured, newly neutered or otherwise treated dogs or those waiting to leave the country, have been completed. They are rather small, so we could fit more of them. The dogs only spend a few days in these enclosures. Unfortunately, everything already costs a lot, even in Romania, and I get a little breathless when I see the bills from the building materials - compared to how it was a few years ago.

But that's no use, the dogs need it and thanks to our supporters we can finance it.

Currently, more old, very desolate enclosures have been removed and are being replaced by new ones.

Also many dog kennels and feeding troughs have been replaced by new ones, which our employee Imre builds himself.

What is equally important and urgent are partitions between the enclosures, because sometimes the dogs bite through the bars, whether out of boredom, frustration or other reasons.

It always breaks my heart when I look at all the long term tenants who probably never have a chance at finding a new home....

That's why I rented a piece of land, which is already fenced, where the dogs can run around freely, under supervision of course. Every day a couple of different dogs so that all can enjoy roaming.

Unfortunately, the young man I hired for this no longer has time and so everything is up in the air again.

It is also very difficult in Romania to find someone who wants to do this kind of job...so I will ask our workers if they would like to earn some extra money...because without payment it is not possible at all.

For the puppies we were able to bring toys again and they have great fun with them when we hang them on ropes.

Especially the little ones should get a new home as soon as possible, because otherwise they remain fearful and shy and are unapproachable.

Also this would have been part of the job, because I would have paid, just play with the puppies, socialize them, as well as other, adult dogs, unfortunately this is completely missing and no one has time for it, I think very often about how to solve this.

I always get requests that animal lovers would like to go to Romania to clean, feed, but for these activities we have our workers, but we would need people to walk the dogs, engage with them, play with the puppies...this would be really, really important!

Who is interested here, please feel free to contact me!

We also visited "our" chain dogs in a village, brought food and treats again and the good Dana, a neighbor, takes care of them every day.

Buffy and Rexi are on a chain...we have been able to bring dog houses and this time we wanted to rid Buffy of his completely matted fur, but he only let Dana do this. Actually, he would have to be put under a light anesthesia so they could shear all the rotted fur, but Buffy is stone cold. Attila, our vet has serious concerns about whether he would survive this....

In the shelter there are also our very old dogs that run free on the grounds, Pussy, Füles, Iris, Coki, Figaro...they have all been there for a very long time, but every year it gets harder for them...a warm home would be a dream for them.

Time flies once again...we plan the renovations, document, I try to spend time with the dogs, pay bills...soon goodbyes are approaching.

But I'll be back soon...mid-July and this time for longer. I'm looking forward to spending more time with the dogs, planning new neutering campaigns and generally making some progress at the shelter again.

All this is only possible thanks to our donors!

Kind regards,
Marion Löcker