



PROMOTION

Modern veterinary practice in Los Realejos

Tenerife has a new veterinary practice - in mid-April the experienced veterinarian Alper Wellmann opened his new clinic in Los Realejos, which meets the very latest standards.

A pet owner can feel the difference as soon as he or she

Stress reduction also applies to waiting times, which are kept as short as possible. This is why an appointment system is usually used, although naturally, emergencies are handled differently. However, those who have no appointment may have to wait a little.



enters. For example, in line with the 'cat friendly' principle, there are separate waiting areas for dogs and cats. "It is particularly stressful for cats sitting in a pet carrier to have to share the waiting room with dogs. We want to avoid this by separating them. A visit to the vet should mean as little stress as possible for the animal" explains Wellmann.

The practice offers all veterinary services, from vaccinations, through normal support up to surgery and monitoring of an animal in the 24/7 clinic. "I attach importance to optimal comfort for the animals. That is, the animal does not have to lie on old newspapers, but we have comfortable places for them, and the animals' own familiar blankets can be brought in."

Information and transparency

"We also maintain close contact with the people who own the animals right from the



start. Transparency is very important to us. That's why we work, for example, with a cost estimate before an oper-

ation. The owner knows what to expect," adds Wellmann. In principle, a fair price is important to the veterinarian, who is focused on the wellbeing of the animals. That means for him that the hospital accommodation is not overpriced, but at the same time it is not in the lower range, because experience shows that in this case, savings are made on materials. Within the range of animal support he attaches just as much importance to an intensive communication with the owner. "Our largest problem is Dr. Google. Human doctors are also aware of that. Not everything that can be found on the Internet is wrong, but as a person without basic knowledge,

it's difficult to distinguish right from wrong. That's why I talk a lot with my patients' owners," reports Wellmann, who also

attaches great importance to continual advanced training for himself and his practice team. In the future, he will also pass on his specialist knowledge to animal owners via regular lectures, because precaution and pre-knowledge are also important with our four-legged friends. Well-informed animal owners can recognise health changes in good time and take the necessary action.

Wellmann has more than 20 years of professional experience and his previous posts include scientific work in the field of small animals at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover. In addition, he has gained extensive practical experience at several veterinary practices and he has been practicing in Tenerife for over ten years. He can communicate with his clients in German, English and Spanish. If you would like to come along and see the new practice, you are welcome to make an appointment. You can find it on the main La Montañeta road, opposite the parking area for the Monasterio restaurant. The opening hours are Monday to Friday from 9am to 8pm and Saturday from 10am to 1pm. Appointments can be made by calling 922 875 254.

NEW MEMBER OF THE LORO PARQUE FAMILY

Welcome to Naya the jaguar

A female jaguar, Naya, from Martinique in the Caribbean, has come to Loro Parque to stay.

The big cat is part of a breeding programme under the European Programme for Endangered Species (EPP), to which the zoos registered with the European Association, Asociación Europea de Zoolos y Acuarios (EAZA), belong. Naya belongs to the genus *Panthera onca* and has already survived the adaptation phase to her new home and to her new companion Gulliver. Visitors have been able to observe the two in their outdoor facility at Loro Parque for several weeks.

Jaguars are the largest felines in South America and the third largest in the world after the tiger and the lion. In its habitat it's right at the top of the food chain. The jaguar can survive in such varied habitats as the Amazon tropical rainforest or the dry steppes of South America. In nature it feeds on various prey animals, from fish to large mammals and even small caimans. It's also known to have the strongest jaws in the predatory cat family. As a rule, with the exception of the reproductive and rearing phase, the animal lives as a loner.

The *Panthera onca* is a species included on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a 'Near Threatened' species. One of the greatest dangers is the high rate of deforestation in Latin America. The fragmentation of their habitat isolates the cats and makes them more vulnerable to human persecution. The commercial hunting of jaguars for their fur has fallen sharply since the mid-1970s thanks to anti-fur campaigns, strict controls and the progressive closure of foreign markets. Nevertheless, there is a demand for the paws, teeth and other parts of the animal.

Loro Parque is a recognised wildlife protection centre and an authentic ambassador for animals in the wild, particularly those at risk.



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