

Hungarian Vizsla



Medium-sized and elegantly built, he is an outstanding all-purpose gundog combining an excellent nose with stable pointing, good retrieving, and a positive enjoyment of working in water. He has great stamina and is happy to work in all weathers. He has an aristocratic air, with a lively but equable temperament. His short, coarse, easy to care for coat is richly coloured in russet gold.

An intelligent dog, with a good memory which makes him easy to train, he is responsive to intelligent handling. He is a very popular pet in his native Hungary where he adapts to living quarters of all sizes.

It is from the central plains of Hungary that the breed comes, though one school of thought believes it reached there with invaders from farther east. The breed suffered as a result of war in Europe and much of today's modern stock has been developed from dogs taken out of Hungary by emigrants.

What about Health Issues?

You may be aware that some breeds of dog (and crossbreeds too) can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the puppy you choose is as healthy as possible, and you would like to know that it has not inherited any undesirable disease-causing genes from its parents. There is some help in that DNA tests for diseases in purebred dogs are available for some conditions in some breeds, but there are not very many such tests just yet! There are also, however, a number of clinical veterinary screening schemes that dog breeders can use to increase the probability of producing healthy puppies.

Details of the various screening schemes, both veterinary and DNA, that are available to breeders in the UK can be found on the Kennel Club's website at:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth

Puppy buyers should be aware that, at present, the application of various health screening results to breeding programmes is not always straightforward, and breeders may make choices for various reasons. A responsible breeder though, will always be willing to discuss relevant health issues with you. Breed clubs are often useful sources of breed-specific information.

And what health screening is relevant for the Hungarian Vizsla?

Kennel Club Accredited Breeders must use, or are strongly recommended to use, the following screening schemes and/or advice for sires and dams:

- BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme
- Dams not to whelp under two years of age
- Dams not to whelp more than one litter in a 12 month period

This list is not necessarily comprehensive and you should still ask breeders and refer to breed clubs about health issues in the breed.