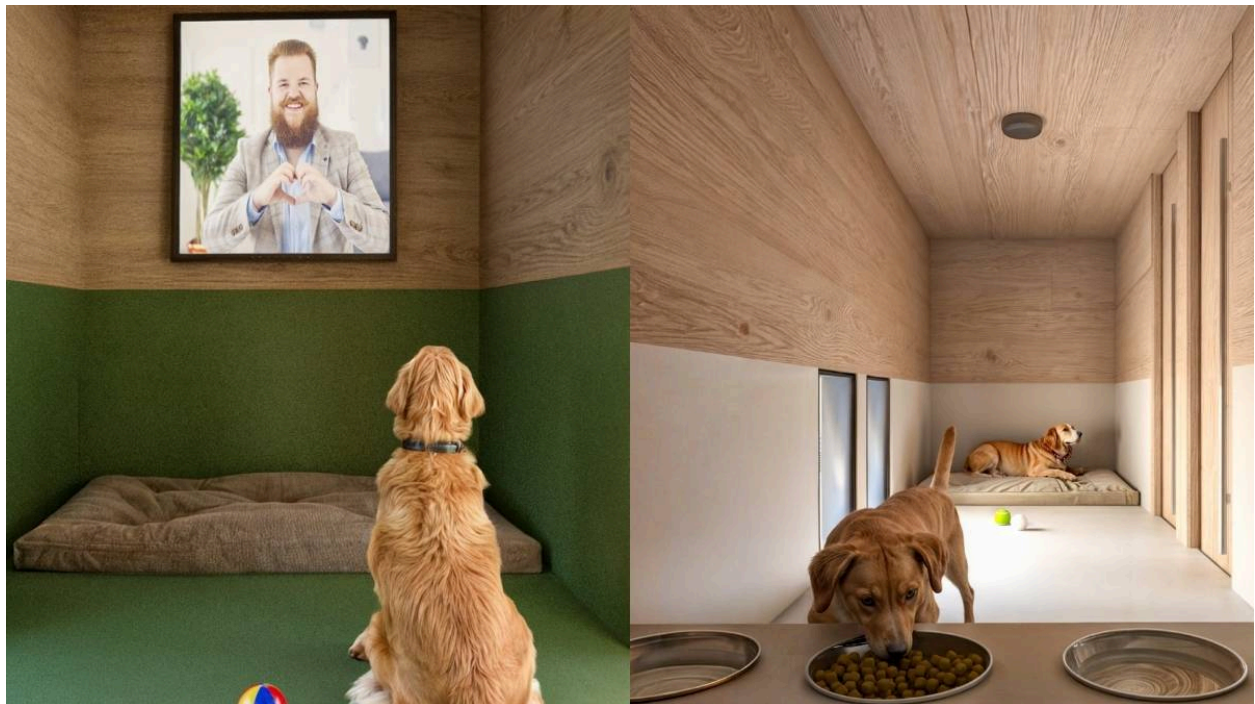


Rome Airport's Dog Hotel

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. **dilemma** (noun) /dɪ'lem.ə/ – A difficult choice between two or more options.
Example: Travelers often face a dilemma about what to do with their pets.
2. **retrieve** (verb) /rɪ'tri:v/ – To go and bring something or someone back.
Example: Staff can retrieve dogs from the terminal.
3. **temperature-controlled** (adjective) /'tem.pə.rə.tʃə kən'trəʊld/ – Adjusted to stay at a steady or comfortable temperature.
Example: The hotel has temperature-controlled floors for dogs.
4. **ambient** (adjective) /'æm.bi.ənt/ – Relating to the surrounding atmosphere; gentle and relaxing.
Example: The rooms play soft, ambient music at night.
5. **aromatherapy** (noun) /ə'rou.mə'θer.ə.pi/ – The use of pleasant smells from oils to improve health or relaxation.
Example: The hotel offers aromatherapy to calm dogs.
6. **accessible** (adjective) /ək'ses.ə.bəl/ – Easy to reach or use.
Example: The hotel is easily accessible from the airport.
7. **entrust** (verb) /ɪn'trʌst/ – To give someone the responsibility for something valuable.
Example: Owners entrust their pets to the hotel staff.



Before traveling, many dog owners face a dilemma: leave their pet with a sitter or at a kennel, both of which take extra planning. Rome's Fiumicino Airport now helps by opening Dog Relais, an on-site hotel for dogs. Staff even retrieve dogs directly from the terminal, so owners can head straight to their flights.

Basic rooms cost about \$47 and include temperature-controlled floors and private

gardens. Shy dogs can stay in kennels where they interact only with staff. At night, soft ambient music is played to help them relax.

Optional services include grooming, bathing, and teeth-cleaning. Luxury add-ons range from calming aromatherapy to herbal cream massages for aching muscles.

For about \$70, owners can book premium rooms with a screen for 24-hour video calls. An app even lets them give treats through an automatic dispenser.

The hotel also serves as daycare for local dog owners. One client, Dario Chiassarini, said he started bringing his Rottweiler, Athena, for training because the hotel is clean, organized, and accessible. He added he would entrust Athena to the staff whenever he travels.

The hotel has been popular since opening. All 40 rooms were filled in August, Italy's main vacation month when millions pass through Fiumicino.

DISCUSSION

1. If you were traveling, would you use a dog hotel like Dog Relais? Why or why not?
2. What do you think dogs feel when staying in a place like this compared to a traditional kennel?
3. How might luxury services like aromatherapy affect the way people view pet care?
4. Do you think technology like video calls for pets is useful or unnecessary?
5. What does Chiassarini's story show about the importance of trust in pet care?
6. If this service were offered in your country, how popular do you think it would be?
7. In what ways do you think services like this reflect changes in how people see pets today?