



Great Pyrenees



What is the history of my relationship to man?

The **Pyrenean Mountain Dog**, known as the **Great Pyrenees** in the United States, is a large breed of dog, used as a livestock guardian dog.



Where am I from?

The Great Pyrenees is a very old breed, and has been used for millennia by the shepherds which includes Basque people, who inhabit parts of the region in and around the Pyrenees Mountains of southern France and northern Spain.[]

Other family members:

- Canines
- Wolves
- Dingo

Who are my relatives?

I am related to several other large white European livestock guardian dogs (LGD), including the Maremma Sheepdog (Italy), Kuvasz (Hungary), Akbash Dog (Turkey) and Polish Tatra (Poland).



Breeding

average of 5 puppies per litter
can breed any time of year

How am I born?

I am born with a coat of fur but my eyes are closed and will open in a couple of weeks . I need my mothers milk to drink and will start eating on my own at about 5 weeks.

How long does it take me to grow up and how long do I live

Males grow to between 110-120 pounds and 27-32 inches, while females reach between 80-90 pounds and 25-29 inches. I will live to between 10-12 years of age.

Breeding Season

A	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
N	E	A	P	A	U	U	E	E	C	O	E
	B	R	R	Y	N	L	G	P	T	V	C

What kind of family life do I

I like to stay out in the fields with my fellow guardians watching the flock and keeping all predators at bay.



What do I eat and when do I eat?

I eat lots of dog food. In the wild I would hunt small animals and eat wild vegetation.

History

Originally, Great Pyrenees are said to have been descendants of large dogs which roamed the mountains of Asia thousands of years ago. According to what is written in French books, this large dogs accompanied the nomadic tribesman and their flocks from Asia on their migration westward. In the Pyrenean Mountains they met ideal environmental circumstances for their development.

Predator

Comments:

As guard dogs our Great Pyrenees, like the working dogs in sheep country, are a “hands off” animal. Our dog’s name is Angel.