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LOCATION

New South Wales
and Queensland,
Australia

BREEDS

Kelpie, Border Collie,
Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog,
Australian Cattle Dog

TASKS

Mustering,
Holding Position,
Working Independently

SKILLS

Organization,
Endurance,
Obedience

HERDING DOGS

AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY has relied heavily on livestock industries, and the stockmen who manage those animals rely on (stock)man's best friend. Herding dogs have played a massive role in developing the country, and you'll find many of these whip-smart, active breeds, such as the Kelpie and the Border Collie, throughout its farms and cities.

Both breeds are excellent workers that tirelessly serve to round up livestock, nipping at the heels of sheep and cattle to usher them across large plots of land. They have their own styles of work – Kelpies are independent and don't require much guidance, while Border Collies will follow instructions to a tee. Many farms utilize both breeds for their complementary working styles.

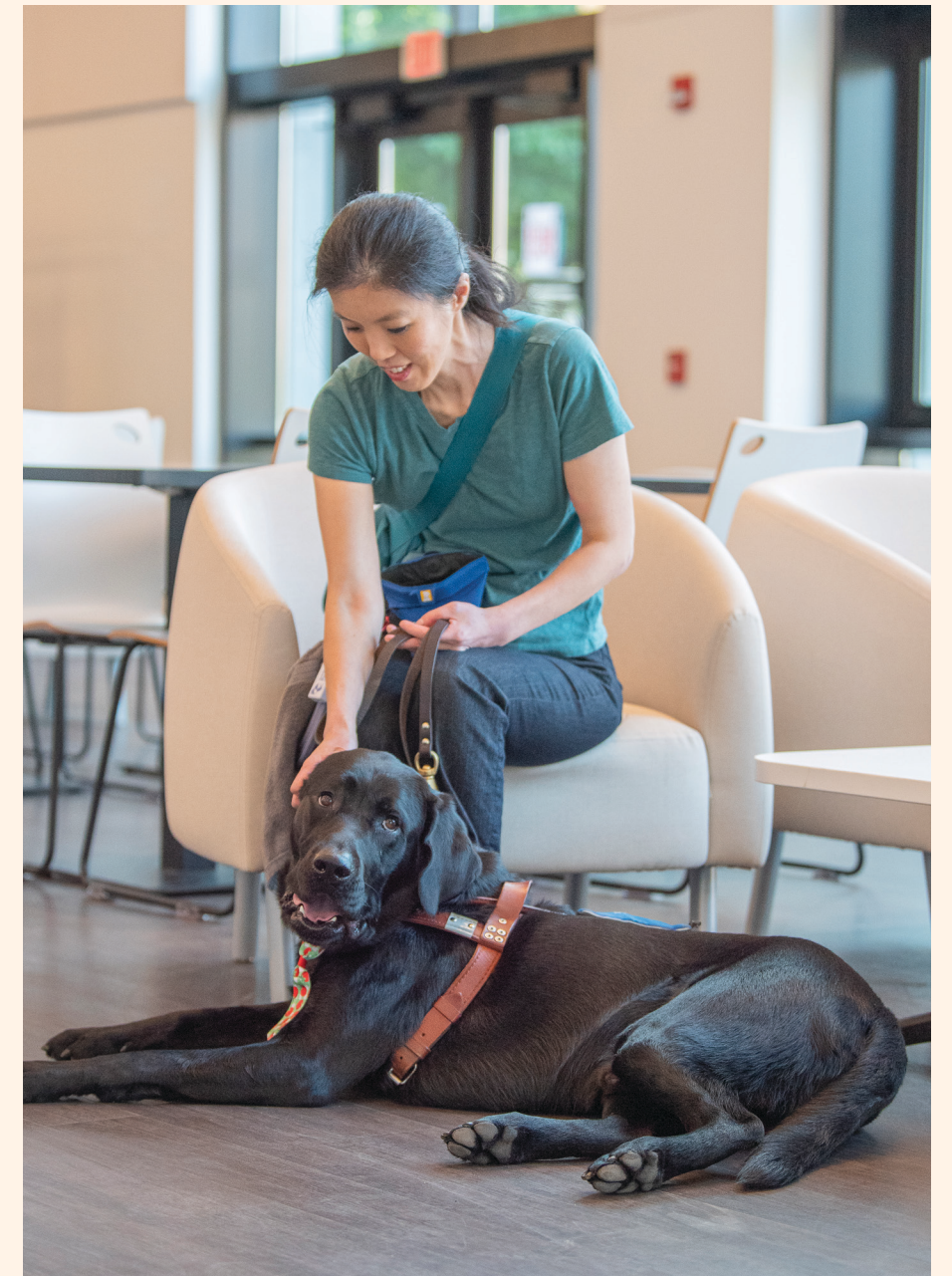
I spent over a month in Australia photographing these dogs in action.

THIS PAGE When a sheep or cow goes rogue, herding dogs are quick to muster them back into the flock. They have an innate ability to work together, and Kelpies are renowned as independent thinkers. It doesn't take much human handling or direction to get them to work — they are born for this.





LEFT Guiding Eyes for the Blind has provided life-changing connections for over 70 years. In that time, they have graduated over 10,000 guide dog teams. They believe in the powerful, meaningful change that dogs bring to the lives of people facing the daily challenges presented by blindness and vision loss.



ABOVE I met Yoojin, along with her guide dog, Dennison, at the university where she is a graduate student. Dennison is not only her first guide dog, but her first dog in general, and he has completely transformed her life. When I met Yoojin, she'd been working with Dennison for less than a year, but the pair had already accomplished so much.



LOCATION
Ilulissat, Siorapaluk,
and Qaanaaq, Greenland

BREED
Greenland Dog

TASKS
Pulling Sleds,
Guarding, Providing
Companionship

SKILLS
Strength,
Endurance,
Navigation

SLED DOGS

SLED DOGS IN GREENLAND are an inspiration. They do not have the easiest lives. Greenland Dogs are not pampered and they battle harsh conditions year-round, living in extraordinarily remote locations. Yet their work ethic is unmatched, and their companionship has been crucial to Inughuit culture for thousands of years in Northern Greenland, where the dogs pull sleds for hunters and those traveling between villages. I traveled as far north as possible in the country to visit Inughuit communities where these dogs are integral for survival.

Greenland Dogs are so important to Inughuit culture, and so specialized, that it is illegal to import any other dog breed north of the Arctic Circle. This law was implemented to preserve the purity of the breed. Greenland Dogs have thick double coats, padded fur-covered paws, and unique metabolisms that allow them to not just survive, but thrive, in such a frigid environment. Thanks to the massive role they play within Greenland Inughuit communities, they are deeply appreciated.



ABOVE Peter took me out with his dogs just for fun. It gave me the opportunity to photograph them as they ran toward me.



The beauty of Bruce and Robin’s work is that they don’t do anything completely out of the ordinary for a dog. They follow basic commands, coexist with the horses, and, most importantly, provide comfort merely through their presence.

LEFT Bruce is a Rhodesian Ridgeback and Robin is a German Shepherd mix. Both breeds fall under Ireland’s restricted breed list, which means owners need to follow special precautions when handling these dogs in public. Many countries have similar laws, but Bruce and Robin are a great example of how responsible owners can get the most out of these breeds.

It doesn't seem like the dogs would be able to see much through their thick bangs, but they have a unique ability to detect predators from a distance, including birds of prey flying overhead.

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RIGHT This was the photo I dreamed of. When given the opportunity out in the open, the dogs really enjoyed running. The massive Komondors barreled toward me, their cords swinging with every step. It was like the album cover of Beck's *Odelay* come to life.



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LOCATION	BREED	TASKS	SKILLS
Cologne, Germany	Akita/Husky Mix	Greeting Guests, Mingling in the Lobby, Providing Customer Service	Sociability, Manning the Desk, Calmness

HOTEL DOGS

DURING MY TRAVELS I’ve stayed in all sorts of lodgings – some nice and others not so nice, but that’s life on a shoestring budget. Some were memorable for all the right reasons, including my hotel in Cologne, which began with a greeting from the hotel dog, Perla.

Dogs have become a major attraction for hotels globally, and, in some cases, people travel from all over the world to meet hotel dogs that have gained internet fame. I didn't know about Perla before I checked into her hotel, but she was a welcome surprise on my arrival.

Customer service is such an important part of the hotel industry, and there is no better greeting after a long day of travel than one from a dog working at reception. Any breed can excel at this job: They just need the right temperament to handle all the personalities that walk through the door.



ABOVE & RIGHT Sam sits in the doorway greeting anyone who enters the clothing store Local Service. Many people who are shopping, waiting in line at the french fry shop across the

street, or just strolling by, stop to snap a photo or offer a pat on the head. Sam has such a gentle, calm demeanor, and is an iconic member of the 9 Straatjes district of Amsterdam.





LEFT Dogs will run up and down the mountains, often using peaks to survey the area. Handlers also use high vantage points to watch their dogs scan the area. They want to keep an eye on the dogs, because if they disappear, it means they have found a person.

BELOW I had the opportunity to stay in a hole and wait to be found. After about 20 minutes of silence, I heard a rumbling outside the hole. Paws started digging and then a beautiful, golden head peeked through the snow, ready to save the day.





ABOVE Inês Chambel works for ÂNIMAS, helping them to provide therapy dog visits to hospitals in Portugal. During my trip, we visited two hospitals in the Lisbon area: Garcia de

Orta and Amadora-Sintra. Inês does therapy work with her two personal dogs, a mixed breed named Jamaica and a Labrador named Nairóbi.

BELOW LEFT The first step before visiting patients is to completely disinfect the dogs with wipes. Jamaica knew the drill and calmly accepted the cloth treatment before going to work.

BELOW RIGHT Before she was a therapy dog, Jamaica was a classic underdog. She was a stray who was rescued by the perfect owner, Inês, who recognized her potential as a working dog. Now, Jamaica brings so much joy during her hospital visits, putting smiles on the faces of both patients and staff.

