



“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

An aerial photograph of the Kalote Animal Trust facility. The facility consists of several buildings with orange-tiled roofs and green walls, situated in a dry, hilly landscape. The surrounding area is a mix of dry grass and scattered trees. In the background, there are more trees and a hillside. The text is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

The Kalote Animal Trust came into existence in **November, 2017**. It is home to **over 160 animals**. Dogs, cats, buffaloes, goats, pigs, ducks, chicken, sheep and even an emu. Each with a rescue story that would make you marvel at how these animals have chosen love over their horrific past.



Although the shelter officially became a trust only in Nov '17, **Sameer Vohra**, the founder of the shelter has been rescuing animals since 2002. Returning from Florida in 2002, Sameer decided to settle in Lonavala with no idea of what destiny had in store. Appalled by the state of the animals in the area, Sameer began rescuing and rehabilitating them at his home. His first rescue was a hit and run case where he managed to save a dog and give him another chance at life. After that, there was no looking back.



As the number of animals grew, Sameer ran the shelter with the money he made from his job and the few donations he could muster from friends and family who believed in his cause. Till a chance meeting with **Sridhar Gorthi** and **Munish Makhija** changed everything. Together they decided to start The Kalote Animal Trust, a place where the animals can roam free on a beautiful piece of land in Kalote, on the outskirts of Mumbai. But the journey has only just begun and The Kalote Animal Trust is looking for sponsors and partners who believe in the cause of animal welfare as passionately as it does.

Meet our Trustees



Sridhar Gorthi

Sridhar Gorthi is a Partner at Trilegal, and is part of the corporate practice group of the firm. His areas of expertise include M&A, joint ventures and private equity.

Sridhar is an alumnus of National Law School, Bangalore India. He is also a member of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa. When not actively practising law, Sridhar is either diving, writing and performing short stories or spending time at Kalote.



Pia Trivedi

Pia is a famous model and ex VJ with Channel V. She is also a popular anchor for TV shows and has participated in reality shows like Life mein ek baar and Khatron ke khiladi. Pia has been an avid animal lover since she was a little girl. An active member of Peta, Pia has always been someone who fights for the rights of animals. She is also an animal communicator and has volunteered for numerous animal welfare NGO's.



Rukhsana Mithani

Rukhsana Vohra Mithani is a Director at her family owned shipping business by day, a part time baker at night and an ardent animal lover and activist.

She is also Aunt to Sameer Vohra who gifted her a stray wounded cat 13 years ago and thereafter her family has grown to 4 cats, all adopted from the streets.

Rukhsana is part of the Cuffe Parade Residents Association Pet Welfare Committee that looks after community pets and also raises awareness amongst the area's residents through various events. Her other hobbies when she isn't baking, is reading and traveling with her husband on his Royal Enfield Bike.



Meet our Residents

Every animal at Kalote has been rescued from a difficult past, and has a story to tell. Here are some of our residents.



Bertha

Bertha was found tied to a pole by the side of the road. She was starving, dehydrated and had a huge maggot wound above her eye. Bertha had been very abused and she was frightened and aggressive due to her fear. Bertha was rescued by an NGO, but she was deemed unmanageable and a prime candidate to be put down. But Sameer would have none of that. He brought Bertha to his shelter and with care and love, Bertha gradually began to trust and come out of her shell. Her wound healed and so did her emotional scars. Today, Bertha is a hurricane of love. If you drop in at our shelter, be prepared for lots of sloppy kisses.



Kalote

The cheeky little guy on the right is Kalote. His name has an interesting story behind it. Kalote was a little puppy who managed to sneak into the construction site of the shelter while it was getting ready last monsoon. Kalote was sick with the Parvo virus and he was found wet and shivering in the rain. He was sent to Mumbai with an animal lover who happened to be visiting that day. He managed to pull through his treatment in Mumbai and came back to the shelter a few weeks later as a chubby, naughty puppy. He was christened Kalote as he managed to get rescued at the new shelter, before it was even set up! Today Kalote is the naughtiest boy on the premises. But his cute demeanour ensures he always gets away with it.



Daisy

Daisy was hit by a truck when she was pregnant. Sameer was called to put her out of her misery. But he refused to put down a pregnant cow and brought Daisy to the shelter instead. With physiotherapy, Daisy got better and managed to deliver a healthy calf.

The accident left an impact though and today Daisy has a curved spine and walks a bit funny. But she is a happy, healthy cow today who loves to come up and say hi to anyone who stops by her pen. She also loves to pose for pictures.



Hero

Hero was found as a little baby in a ditch in a field. He had been attacked by dogs and his wounds were so ghastly that he had been left for dead by the shepherds. But Hero had other plans. After arriving in the shelter, Hero chose to heal and love instead of giving up the fight. The funny thing is since he grew up with dogs, he has no idea that he is actually a sheep. You'll see him running around with the dogs as a part of the pack. Although, he does decide to settle most of his disputes with them with a head butt.

Meet some of our Staff



Asha

Asha keeps the humans at the Kalote Animal Trust well fed and happy. She arrives early in the morning with a smile and is whipping up breakfast by the time the rest of the team arrives. Asha is always saving up scraps from the kitchen for Tazo, the emu who waits outside the window.

Her delicious home cooked meals are another reason to visit the Kalote Animal Trust.



Asif

Asif is Sameer's Man Friday. He lives on the premises and when he is not bathing Nyla, the German Shepard with a skin infection, Asif can be found somewhere on the premises either bandaging a wound, starting a fire for cooking or cleaning out the pens. A true animal lover, working at Kalote is not a mere job for Asif, but a place that he calls home.



Baalu

Baalu has a great relationship with the animals. They come bounding up when he arrives on his bike every morning. After getting mobbed at the gates, Baalu gets started on the wood fires to cook the daily food of the dogs. He then cleans out the goat and pig pens. Baalu always makes sure there is enough water for the animals and helps in the day to day running of the shelter. It's fun to see the dogs line up to say goodbye to him when he leaves every evening.



The monthly costs of running the shelter

The Kalote Animal Trust is a labour of love. We try to keep costs at a bare minimum without compromising on the quality of life of the animals. But it is an uphill task as we do not have regular sponsors and currently we run on the goodwill donations of people. However, these donations are sporadic and we are looking for sponsors and partners who can donate regularly to our cause.

The break up of monthly expenses currently is:

Salaries ₹ 68,000/-	+	Monthly provisions ₹ 32,000/-	+	Veg/fruit for the animals ₹ 5,000/-	+	Chicken ₹ 16,000/-
Electricity ₹ 2,600/-	+	Pet food ₹ 20,000/-	+	Cattle feed ₹ 30,000/-	+	Hay ₹ 20,000/-
Horse feed ₹ 6,000/-	+	Wood ₹ 3,000/-	+	Fuel ₹ 5,000/-	+	Veterinary expenses ₹ 10,000/-

Total Amount: ₹ 2,17,600/-

This does not cover miscellaneous expenses or include the vet/ambulance costs that can arise from an accident case being brought into the shelter. The shelter often undertakes rescues and we do not budget for that as this is unforeseen.

Projected costs of getting the shelter monsoon ready

Our first monsoon at Kalote is not too far away. The monsoons here are brutal and we need to get the shelter monsoon ready. We are looking for donors who can help with the costs of doing so. You can sponsor part or full or just about any amount that you are comfortable with.

Concretisation of
the mud floor
around the premises

₹ 8,00,000/-

Concrete sit out area
for the dogs

₹ 2,00,000/-

Proposed
Gobar gas plant

₹ 4,00,000/-

Cost in total

₹ 14,00,000/-



Frequently asked questions

How is the shelter currently funded?

The shelter runs on donations from individuals who believe in our cause. But the donations are one off and sporadic. We would like to have regular donors, as that takes the pressure off in handling the daily costs of running the shelter.

Can I sponsor a specific animal?

Yes, you can choose to sponsor a specific animal. We regularly feature our beloved residents with the story of their rescue and the monthly cost of sponsoring them on our FB page: Kalote Animal Trust. You can choose to sponsor an animal for a month or for the entire year. You can sponsor a dog for Rs 3000/- a month. The cost of sponsoring a cat is Rs 2000/- and for cows, donkeys and horses, the cost is Rs 4000/- a month.

Can I sponsor an animal as a gift for a friend?

Yes, you can. You can choose to sponsor an animal as a birthday, anniversary or any other occasion gift for a friend. You just have to send us the details of the person while sponsoring and we will mail them a gift certificate along with picture and profile of the animal sponsored in their name.

Will I get a receipt for my donation?

Yes, a receipt is mailed to you the next day of your amount being received.



Will I get a tax rebate for my donation?

Not yet. The Kalote Animal Trust was registered in November 2017 and we are in the process of getting our 80 G certificate.

Where can I transfer the money?

You can transfer money directly to our account at Kalote Animal Trust, a/c number **107105001216**. IFSC code **ICIC0001071**.

Can I directly pay at the pet store or at your vendors?

Yes, you can. Just send us a message at Kalote Animal Trust, our page on Facebook and we will send you the bank details of our vendors depending on what you would like to sponsor.

Can I visit the shelter?

Yes, you can. Please contact us on our Facebook page to decide a mutually convenient time.

If you have any other questions, please contact us at our Facebook page and we would be happy to answer your questions.

The Kalote Animal Trust is looking for partners who can help us further our cause. If you would like to initiate a conversation, please get in touch. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your time.

