



PET CREMATORIUM

Established 1992

WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION AS TO THE TYPE OF SERVICE YOU WANT FOR YOUR PET

Below are the facts that your vet doesn't usually tell you when they offer to make cremation arrangements on your behalf.

	CREMATION SERVICE AT DIGNITY	CREMATION SERVICE OFFERED BY VETS
Size	Small family run service	Often large impersonal companies operating nationwide
Services Offered	ONLY genuine individual cremations (each pet cremated ON THEIR OWN in an enclosed chamber)	"individual" cremations (your pet could be cremated at the same time as other pets, sometimes on numbered trays), mass cremations, incineration of clinical waste
Business Practices	Open & Honest	Can be hidden behind misleading literature
Collection	Personal collection in pet hearse on demand	Often in freezer van once/twice a week along with other forms of waste
Handling	Sympathetic & gentle handling in Dignity Pet Bed	Normally no special handling. Pets are usually frozen and in a plastic bag.
Same Day Service	Pets can be brought to Dignity, cremated, with return of ashes the same day by arrangement	Not normally offered by veterinary practices
Return of Ashes	Normally within 48 hours (collected from Dignity or personally returned to home / vet)	Normally 1 – 2 weeks later (on next collection trip to vet or posted to home)
Code of Practice	Founder members of APPCC (Association of Private Pet Cemeteries & Crematoria) requiring adherence to strict code of practice	Possibly trade affiliated but normally no separate code of practice
Contact	Direct contact with you for peace of mind unless requested otherwise	Normally no direct contact. All done through veterinary practice
Pricing structure	One set price list	Sometimes a lower "cost" price is offered to vets who then charge an increased price to the pet owner.
Facilities	Purpose built set within peaceful remembrance gardens	Sometimes limited/no reception facilities. Can be located on a farm / industrial estate
Caskets	Wide range of options tailored to your needs	Often a basic selection of containers

The standard of pet crematoriums vary considerably and, although not all vets offer the type of cremation services described above, you should make your own enquiries with the crematorium to make sure your pet receives a genuine individual cremation service. Please read the information on "What is an individual cremation?" to help ensure this.



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WHAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL CREMATION?

OUR DEFINITION

At Dignity an individual cremation means a personal and specialist service where each pet is cremated **ON THEIR OWN** within an enclosed chamber and all their ashes are carefully collected before the next cremation commences. Our strict procedures equal if not exceed those followed by human crematoria. This means we can guarantee that the ashes you receive will be all and only those of your pet.

WHAT INDIVIDUAL CREMATION CAN MEAN ELSEWHERE

Unfortunately, the term "individual" is often misused by pet crematoriums. This can mean that your pet will actually be handled and cremated very differently. Several pets can be cremated in the chamber on numbered trays at the same time or your pet may be cremated communally. This means the ashes you receive may be all, part or none of your pet.

These crematoriums often have appealing names which belie the true nature of what they do behind the scenes and alarmingly an increasing number of vets are contracted to these types of companies.

THEREFORE WHEN CHOOSING A SERVICE FOR YOUR PET:

1. **Do not rely on the reassurance of your vet** – they may be using the company for financial reasons rather than for the quality of service provided or may not be fully aware of what actually takes place behind the scenes.
2. **Look beyond the public face** - glossy brochures and slick presentation are all very well but unless you have written assurance of their procedures or have inspected them yourself look elsewhere. At present only members of the Association of Private Pet Cemeteries & Crematoria www.appcc.org.uk have to adhere to any code of practice regarding handling and cremation standards.
3. **Take no notice of licensing** – it is a legal requirement that pet crematoriums are licensed by the government but the licensing has no relevance to the services provided by them.



Please contact us direct if you would like to choose Dignity otherwise your pet may be sent elsewhere

A small family run crematorium offering a totally individual cremation service

www.dignitypetcrem.co.uk 01252 844572