

# CHECKLIST – Questions to ask in an interview

This list is by no means comprehensive. It is made up of questions we have asked over the years and is here for you to amend and refine so that it's relevant to your own house sitting experiences.

## Location

- Precise location – how accessible by plane, train or car?
- Is it a remote location?
- How close are the nearest food shops, medical services, fuel, vets etc.?

## Pets

- Reconfirm the pets to be cared for (ask their names to personalize)
- If dogs, what breed and how big
- What is their temperament?
- Have you left them with house sitters before?
- What is their pet's daily routine – food, exercise, activities?
- If cats, are they allowed outside
- Can the dogs be walked from the house, or do you need a car
- How old are the pets and are there any health considerations
- Is there any medication that will need to be administered
- Where do the animals sleep?
- Can the pets be left on their own and for how long?
- Any special requirements regarding the pets (doggie swimming etc.)

## Property

- How big is the house and garden or grounds?
- How far are the closest neighbors?
- Where will you be sleeping?
- Home facilities will depend on your needs: TV, Washing Machine, well equipped kitchen?
- Communication facilities – telephone (if no mobile service), internet access and reliability
- Is transport included: car, bicycles, kayaks?
- How far is it to public transport routes – buses, trains, taxis?
- Who will pay for the utilities – electric, gas, firewood (assume included in short term sits)

## Miscellaneous

- What other responsibilities are there – maintenance, garden, pets, security etc.
- If appropriate what day trip options are available in the area?
- Is this house sit in an off season period – if in a tourist area?
- Have they used house sitters before and how was it.
- What length of handover do they want, one day before
- Will they want to use a house sitting contract