



LATTES & LEASHES

HERE'S WHAT REALLY HAPPENS IN BANGKOK'S PET-CENTRIC HANGOUTS

Like most Asian crazes, the concept of pet cafés began in Japan and it all started with cat cafés, where patrons paid to share a space with free-range felines. Initially, the idea was that spending time with the moggies would help relax stressed-out office workers, but then the trend took on a life of its own, spawning cafés that housed dogs, rabbits, birds, goats, and even hedgehogs and snakes. Now Bangkok has also gotten in on the act, with a range of cafés where you can get easy downtime with some of the cutest furry friends.

Caturday Cat Cafe

You might think there are only that many cute cat photos one can stomach, but when it comes to a social media presence, Caturday is leaps and bounds ahead of the crowd, with more than 45,000 Facebook fans and 87,000 on Instagram (@caturdaycatcafe). It’s not hard to see why when you visit: the friendly cats are very curious about the guests, who sit on floor cushions at low-level tables while the 20 or so felines stroll around, and up and down the climbing ‘catwalk’ pathways hanging from the ceiling. You aren’t allowed to pick the cats up but you’re welcome to engage them with the many toys strewn around the café.

While there are meals to choose from, most guests seem to go for the cakes on offer – try the rainbow crepe (THB138/\$\$5.60), a kaleidoscope of colour draped in strawberry sauce.

Top: Try cakes and play with cats at Caturday Cafe
Below: It’s pooch playtime at The Barkyard



Felines stroll around, and up the climbing ‘catwalk’ pathways

The Barkyard BKK

For Bangkok’s dog owners, there’s no better place to take your pet than this pocket park just off chic Sukhumvit 26, a shady tree-lined avenue home to cool cafés and craft beer bars. The Barkyard has a grassy lawn aptly named Central Bark, where four-legged friends run around, enjoy a dip in a dog-only saltwater swimming pool, check into the pet hotel and indulge in some grooming >>

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Find it

Caturday Cat Cafe

115 Phayathai Rd, Ratchathewi, Bangkok; +66 2 656 5247; facebook.com/caturdaycatcafe

The Barkyard

65 Sukhumvit Soi 26, Klongtoey, Bangkok; +66 84 874 2777; thebarkyardbkk.com

Rabbito Cafe

29-29/1 Sukhumvit Soi 101/1, Phra Khanong; +66 84 919 1551; facebook.com/caferabbito



Hand feed these furry friends

services. An onsite shop sells high-end canine accessories and clothing, while Kiosk Cafe serves up tasty treats for owners. If you are a tourist, pick up a souvenir for your fur kid back home.

Rabbito Cafe

Unless you're familiar with the Killer Rabbit of Caerbannog from cult movie *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, bunnies will forever be cute little carrot-munching creatures. At Rabbito Cafe on the eastern edge of Bangkok, it's possible to get up close and personal with them. The herd of rabbits, which include bunnies rescued from abusive homes, freely roam the space and, you're even allowed to carry and cuddle them. On occasion, the owner has some of her trained bunnies demonstrate

Ramp up the cuteness at bunny business, Rabbito Cafe

Did you know?

Buying a coffee at Rabbito Cafe helps fund efforts to rescue abandoned rabbits.



jumping tricks. Rabbito also serves a range of food, including a cutesy chocolate brownie (THB69/S\$2.80) that comes with a dollop of whipped cream adorned with chocolate 'ears'. If you have a floppy-eared companion back home, pick up some of the homemade rabbit food as a treat. 🐰



And now for a... unicorn Café

You know that Bangkok is the centre of the animal-café universe when it has a café dedicated to unicorns. While the animals here are (sadly) not real, upon entering you're transported to an alternate rainbow-hue universe that must be the very definition of *kawaii*. Huge wall murals of majestic unicorns watch over an impossibly cutesy, bubblegum-palette interior, where giddy patrons take endless selfies with toy unicorns large and small. If that's not enough, you can even put on a unicorn onesie and live out your childhood dreams. Everything on the menu has a unicorn theme, including burgers with French fry 'horns', rainbow-coloured spaghetti carbonara, and a yummy pink and blue frappe.

Unicorn Cafe, 44/1 Sathorn Soi 8, Bang Rak; +66 86 397 9262; facebook.com/unicornbrand