



Animals for life

Why animals mean so much to all of us



World Society for the Protection of Animals



What do animals bring to our lives?

It is impossible to put a value on the comfort and joy that animals bring to our lives. From the dawn of civilisation, humankind has depended on domestic animals for comfort and companionship, while we have relied on working animals to help us survive.

We have always seen wild animals as symbols of the greatest human virtues: the lion is an emblem of pure strength; the bear of power; the dog of loyalty and dedication.

Yet the only reward many animals receive for everything they bring to our lives is suffering at the hands of humans. WSPA exists to stop that suffering. You can help our work by including a gift to WSPA when you make or update your Will.



Strength and majesty

Bears have long been regarded as a symbol of power. But like all too many wild animals, power alone has not been enough to protect bears from appalling cruelty. Even today, in certain parts of the world, bears are forced into bloodthirsty contests with dogs, or beaten into grotesque parodies of 'dancing' in order to entertain baying audiences. In China, bears are held captive in tiny cages, 'milked' daily for their bile through an open wound in order to provide ingredients for traditional medicine. All over the world, bears are routinely forced to perform in cruel circuses.

WSPA will campaign to stop these horrific abuses until they are no more. A gift in your Will can help us keep up this vital work in years to come.



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Intelligence and inspiration

Of all animals, dolphins are often regarded as the most intelligent. Living together in family groups or pods, capable of communicating with each other over vast swathes of the ocean, these playful creatures are a constant source of inspiration to us all.

Sadly, all too often the dolphin's capacity to inspire us has led to them becoming victims of cruelty. Cut off from their family group and denied the freedom they need if they are to thrive, many suffer untold physical and psychological damage – all in order to provide entertainment for tourists. We believe this is wrong. If you agree, will you please consider remembering WSPA with a gift in your Will?



Dedication and loyalty

Humankind has treasured domestic pets for almost as long as we have had homes in which to keep them. Sometimes, in this country at least, it can seem like almost every family has a dog or a cat. As a result of their long relationship with humans, dogs have become a byword for devotion, while cats have been regarded as proud and independent members of our households since the days of the Pharaohs.

However, in many countries, domestic animals – especially strays – are still victims of cruelty. Sometimes this cruelty is intentional. Sometimes it is simply a result of the lack of veterinary training. A gift in your Will can help WSPA continue to work towards the day when there is compassion for domestic animals all around the world.



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How you can help animals after your lifetime

As a WSPA supporter, you have already made a vital contribution to WSPA's work to defend animals against cruelty. But who can help the animals that are born after your lifetime? You can. When you remember WSPA with a gift in your Will.

You don't need to be rich for the gift you leave to WSPA in your Will to play a vital role in our efforts to help animals all over the world. Nor do you need to leave everything you own. You simply need to ask your solicitor to include a gift to WSPA in your Will, once you have provided for your loved ones. This booklet will help you to do that. Any gift you make will be used to prevent animals from suffering in the years to come. Thank you.



How a Will can protect your loved ones

A properly drawn up Will, written by a qualified legal advisor, is the only way to ensure that you decide what happens to your possessions after your lifetime. A Will can protect your loved ones too. If you die without leaving one, then they could be subjected to additional worry at a time of great grief. It could even be left to the courts to decide who benefits. If you have no living relatives, then your possessions will go to the Crown.

You may already have a Will, in which case you need to check it regularly to make sure it is up to date and reflects your current circumstances.

Your solicitor will be able to advise you on how best you can do this. If you would like a list of solicitors in your area, please call our Legacy Department on 020 7587 5000.



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How a gift to WSPA can reduce your tax bill

When they come to make or update their Will, many people find that including a gift to charity can help reduce the amount of inheritance tax their loved ones have to pay. This is because gifts to charity are exempt from inheritance tax. In some cases, a gift to WSPA could even ensure that no inheritance tax is payable at all.

You may assume that you have to be rich in order for your estate to be liable for inheritance tax. This is not the case. For instance, even if all you own is a family home, it is possible that your loved ones will have to pay inheritance tax. Your solicitor will be able to give you accurate advice based on your circumstances. Or if you prefer, please call our Legacy Department on 020 7587 5000.



Information to take with you when you visit your solicitor

Once you have decided to remember WSPA with a gift in your Will, you need to visit your solicitor. When you do, you will need to tell them who you want to benefit from your Will, and to choose who you wish to act as your executors (the people who make sure your wishes are followed). WSPA can take on the role of executor in certain circumstances. Please call our Legacy Officer on 020 7587 5000 if you would like to discuss this option. Most importantly, you will need to decide which of the following kinds of gift you wish to make to WSPA in your Will:

- Residuary gift** If you wish to make a gift to WSPA from what is left once all your loved ones have been provided for. (This is the best way to make sure your gift to WSPA is 'inflation proof', and it means you do not need to put a precise value on your gift).
- Pecuniary gift** If you wish to make a gift of a sum of money to WSPA in your Will.
- Specific gift** If you wish to give a specific item of value - your house, for example - to WSPA in your Will.

For suggested wording for any of these, please contact WSPA's Legacy Officer on 020 7587 5000.



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Why WSPA needs a gift in your Will

Although we work in more than 100 countries, WSPA depends entirely on voluntary support to carry out its lifesaving work. If you remember WSPA with a gift in your Will, in years to come you will enable us to continue to:

- Take rapid action to rescue animals in distress
- Campaign to improve conditions and change legislation to the benefit of animals everywhere
- Provide practical veterinary training and educate people about the importance of treating animals with compassion

Animals give so much to all our lives. Will you give something back to them? Could you please consider including a gift to WSPA in your Will?

Please tell us your intentions

If you are planning to include a gift to WSPA in your Will, or would like more advice about how best to go about it, please complete and return this form to: Legacy department, WSPA, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP. Any information you are kind enough to give us will be dealt with in complete confidence. Thank you.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Forename _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

I have already remembered WSPA with a gift in my Will.

I intend to remember WSPA with a gift in my Will.

With a residuary gift pecuniary gift

specific item of value.

I would like to find out more about including a gift to WSPA in my Will. Please telephone me on: _____

I do not want to discuss this at the moment.

If you have any queries, or would like to discuss how to remember WSPA with a gift in your Will, please call the Legacy Department on 020 7587 5000. All calls will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Your support is vital to the work we do and we thank you for it. We also respect your privacy and would assure you that WSPA fully comply with the Data Protection Act 1998. WSPA will not under any circumstances share your legacy information with any other organisations and all correspondence will be dealt with in strictest confidence.

www.wspa.org.uk/legacies

World Society for the Protection of Animals,

89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP

RCN 1081849

The logo for WSPA, featuring the letters 'WSPA' in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly overlapping and have a slight shadow effect.

World Society for the Protection of Animals

Registered Charity No. 1081849

What do animals mean to you?

To help our work in the future, WSPA intends to compile a record of what has inspired people to remember WSPA with a gift in their Will. If you wish to help us in this way, please use this space to tell us what inspired you to make your decision. (When you have told your story, please return it with the form overleaf. We would like to share your story with other WSPA supporters, so please let us know if you would prefer to remain anonymous.)
