

Want a kitten?

If you want to enquire about purchasing a kitten, you should contact the breed club to see whether there are any litters planned in the UK (www.chartreuxcatclubuk.org.uk). The club also has close contact with reputable breeders in France, so will be able to assist if you would like to purchase a kitten from abroad. Goran adds: "Despite the Chartreux being little known in the UK, we

received many enquiries in 2016. But, because they're not cheap and people have to travel to pick them up, the number of kittens coming to the UK wasn't high. Also, kittens from reputable breeders abroad are highly sought after, so the waiting time is at least four months, which puts some people off. However, since being able to offer UK bred kittens, this has led to more serious enquiries and reservations."

Health and welfare

These cats are generally low maintenance and healthy, and there are no genetic problems associated with the breed. Responsible breeders will be conscious about the possible risks of inbreeding, and take extreme care in choosing

which cats to mate.

The Chartreux has a dense, slightly woolly coat, which requires gentle combing (not brushing) regularly; these cats tend to shed throughout the year because they are generally kept as indoor cats.

Is this the cat for you?

These cats are a real delight to own and adapt well to most lifestyles. Goran advises that they are kept as indoor cats, however they do like the chance to be outdoors on sunny days. He has secure cat-fencing in his garden so his four cats are able to stretch their legs — and they even enjoy

going for walks on a lead.

He adds: "They are very content living indoors and, in France, they are used to living in apartments. They are quiet cats, and very good with children and other animals. The males tend to be more affectionate. However, being spayed makes the females friendlier."

They get on well with other cats and animals.



LIVING WITH A

Chartreux

"He has settled into our lives so easily"

When it was time for Hayley Brown, from Littlehampton, West Sussex, to get another cat, she did her research — and the Chartreux seemed to be exactly what she had always dreamed of.

She explains: "After we lost our previous cat, we moved house. I really wanted another cat but I was worried about one getting out as we lived on a fairly busy road. When we sold our house, it was just before my 40th birthday and I was so excited that I could ask for a cat!

"I had wanted a grey cat ever since I was little, so we started doing some research and we really liked the sound of the Chartreux. When reading about them, it said that they were good with other animals and children. We have dogs, rabbits, chickens, and two boys, so we wanted a pretty laid-back cat to fit in!

"At the time, we weren't aware of any British breeders but had looked into some French ones, and were prepared to go to meet some kittens there. However, my husband woke early one morning and couldn't sleep. He was looking on the internet and came

across an advert for recently born UK kittens — I couldn't believe our luck!

"We called first thing in the morning and arranged to meet the family. We fell in love with the kittens; Jay, the daddy cat owned by Goran, was such a friendly, cuddly cat — we were sold! The kittens were extremely friendly and laid-back too.

"We had to wait four long weeks to get him home, but we are now the proud owners of Mister Bear. He is five months old and has brought lots of laughs into our house. He is such a fun-loving, cuddly cat. He follows you around the house and always likes to be near you.

"Much to our boys' delight, he is always ready to play with his toys or our terrier! They get on so well and wrestle every night around eight o'clock, when Mister Bear spends about ten minutes on his back!

"He has settled into our lives so easily and really is the most beautiful, lovable, and easy-going cat I have ever come across. The only advice I would have for anyone who is thinking of getting a Chartreux is to do it — you will never look back!"



ARE YOU A CHARTREUX FAN?

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