

# So you are thinking about boarding your dog?

Boarding or doggie daycare can be an exciting experience for your dog, especially if your dog is able to socialize and play with other dogs. However, for some dogs that are not used to be away from home, getting used to a new place can be a bit stressful. When stress is present, there are a few things that you need to know stress might cause to your dog:

## **Loss of Appetite**

Under stress your dog might eat less than normal or even not eat at all. Eventually dogs regain their appetite and start eating normally after a day or two.

## **Stress Colitis**

Stress commonly causes colitis. The inflammation of the colon might cause vomiting, diarrhea, constipation. Be aware that even after they leave the boarding facility they still might be stressed at home for a few days. Visit your vet if any of the symptoms persist for more than one day.

## **Loss of Weight**

Stress, excitement, anxiety, might cause a dog to lose some weight while being boarded. Dogs tend to lose weight when boarded just for the fact that they are more active at a boarding facility than they normally are at home.

## **Temporary Change in Behavior**

Some dogs resent being away from the owner. This might cause the dog some change in behavior even when they get home after being away.

## **What you need to know about boarding diseases**

Kennel cough (bordetella) is known as the social disease and is the most common known illness for boarding or daycare dogs, as it is an airborne disease and easy to transmit. It is caused by Multiple strains of bacteria and even vaccination might not prevent infection, but will protect against the most severe symptoms. The reason why some dogs get it and others don't may rely in the immune system of each dog. Stress affects the immune system so they can be more vulnerable when stressed. In the case your dog gets bordetella the symptoms of the disease are easily treated when they have been vaccinated.

In general, dogs have a lot of fun when being boarded if they get a chance to play and socialize with other dogs. At Julian's Doggie Daycare & Boarding we provide a clean environment with friendly staff so your dog gets plenty of playtime outside the kennel; this will reduce the chances of your dog getting stressed out or getting sick.