

Learn More About the Labrador Retriever

By: Higher Ground Labradors

The Labrador Retriever came about in the late 1700's, originating in Newfoundland. The capital of this area is St. John's, thus, the first naming of the ancestor of the Labrador, the St. John's Water Dog. The canine companions of that area prior to this was the Greater Newfoundland, a larger dog, and a smaller type of water dog. The St. John's Water Dog, also referred to as the Lesser Newfoundland, was then born by combining the Greater Newfoundland with the smaller water dog. This new breed had a great temperament, and was geared toward enduring the harsh environment of Newfoundland, along with assisting the fishermen of the Labrador Sea.

The St. John's Water Dog was great at retrieving fish and other game that was hunted, along with pulling in the nets and lines of the fishermen, among other things. This great dog was as natural in the water as on land, and did not mind, even seemed to love, the colder conditions of Newfoundland. This wonderful breed made life and work easier for those that had them, and also made a great companion to them.

The Labrador Retriever started to be recognized by other countries in the early 1800's, when British men were so impressed with the St. John's Water Dog, that they imported the dog to England. It was then that they started breeding their own and in the late 1800's came to be known as the Labrador Retriever. In 1903, the Labrador Retriever was recognized as a distinct breed by the English Kennel Club, and then first registered in 1917, by the American Kennel Club. Since the Labrador's conception, it has forever been an all time favorite in and off of the hunting field.

The Labrador Retriever is considered one of the best dogs at everything it does. From conformation to scent work, service dog to best pal and of course, doing what it was bred for, retrieving. Anyone that has had the privilege of having a Labrador in their lives knows there is no other dog on earth that can match its gracious temperament. It is always ready and willing to please.

This is why the Labrador Retriever is the most sought after dog for just about everything, and these are the reasons we have chosen the Labrador Retriever for our breeding program. We love the breed from head to paw and work hard to protect and preserve the Labrador Retriever in its purest form.

Online Sources: AKC - <https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/labrador-retriever/>; The Labrador Retriever Club - <https://www.thelabradorclub.com/breed-history>

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