



Traveling with Pets

If you want your pet to travel and vacation with you, planning and attention to details can make all the difference for a safe and pleasant trip for all - including your pet.

Planning

Does your pet travel well? Will he be welcome where you are going? Whether this at a family member's home, motel, hotel or campground – find out in advance. Pets are generally prohibited from traveling on buses. Airlines have specific rules and regulations to follow. These can change due to weather conditions and other flight factors. Ask for a complete list of requirements to make sure you can comply.

Preparation and essentials

- ✓ Groom before the trip – bath, clipping, trimming, nails
- ✓ ID tag, tattoo or microchip for identification
- ✓ Current pictures, front, back and side views
- ✓ Current rabies tag and certificate
- ✓ Current vaccination record
- ✓ Water and food bowls, favorite toy, leash, collar, crate or carrier, comb or brush
- ✓ Scooper and plastic or ziploc bags to clean up after your pet
- ✓ Bottled water if you think your pet may be sensitive to the water change
- ✓ Pack their food or know it is available where they are going to be. Raw food can usually just be picked up at any local grocery store but dry/canned may not be available in all regions
- ✓ Simple first aid kit:
 - Gauze pads
 - Triple antibiotic ointment
 - Kaolin tablets
 - Pepto Bismol tablets
 - Sterile stretch gauze bandage or ace bandage
 - Benadryl (for bee stings or allergic reactions)
 - Hydrogen peroxide (for injuries and for emetic if necessary)



Camping and hiking

- ✓ Is the dog physically fit to camp and hike?
- ✓ Check first. Does the campground or park permit pets?
- ✓ Respect others around you at campgrounds. Continued and excessive barking will not be appreciated
- ✓ Remove leftover food after meals to avoid attracting insects or wildlife
- ✓ Be aware of increased exposure to ticks/fleas; have flea/tick collars or repellants
- ✓ Leash your dog. Your dog may be trained, but a wild animal could excite or frighten it. Your dog could also wander into the path of a dog-aggressive dog.
- ✓ Alcohol and tweezers to remove ticks
- ✓ Extra towel (just for the dog) in case it rains, or the dog walks through a stream etc.
- ✓ Pen and shade cloth

Additional Tips

Confine the pet while in the car using crate, seat belt or harness. If harnessed in the back seat, put the dog in the MIDDLE to protect from a side crash; and DON'T use a 'Sherpa' bag (soft sided carrier) use a hard (Vari Kennel style).

Know the laws in the states you travel through. In some states it is the law that dogs must be buckled in, harnessed or crated.

Have an itinerary of your trip and contact numbers. Keep one copy in your purse and tape one to the pet crate. State on the itinerary that in case of emergency the pet must be taken to a vet and you will be responsible for all expenses.

Place one or more safety stickers on the door, lower windshield, or rear window of your RV/SUV/VAN that says "FIREMAN, SAVE OUR PET(s)"