

Checklist for Pet Travel



1. Research your destination country's pet import requirements

- Is an import permit required?
- Is a microchip required?
- What vaccinations are required and when should they be administered?
- Is there a Blood Titer Test (RNATT) test required?
- Is an internal and external parasite requirement?
- Is there a need to make quarantine arrangements?
- Must my pet arrive as manifest cargo?
- Check out pet import requirements on over 240 countries.

2. Get your pet's crate or carrier and start working on acclimation

- Pet carrier must have waterproof bottom, adequate ventilation and be secure. Your pet must be able to stand up and turn around in its carrier.
- Pet crate for larger cats and dogs (or those traveling in a cargo hold) must have a waterproof bottom, spring lock, adequate ventilation and meet other IATA requirements. Read pet crate requirements.
- Put lots of familiar things in the crate or carrier including something with your scent.
- Encourage your pet to rest and nap in its carrier bottom
- Leave the door open so your pet can go in and out of the crate or carrier
- Take them for drives or walks to someplace fun in their crate or carrier

- Spend time praising your pet for loving their crate or carrier.

3. Schedule a visit to see your veterinarian

- Check for health
- Have your pet microchipped with a 15 digit ISO 11784/11785 microchip before vaccination if necessary
- Verify rabies vaccination expiration
- Discuss any titer test or other testing that must be done

3. Check airline or roadway routes

- Check for road construction or traffic issues if traveling on the ground. Set your route in a routing device such as Garmin or in your smart phone if you have one.
- If you are flying, stay clear of airports that are more challenging to transit (London, Taiwan, Australia, China)
- Keep layovers to 2 hours if possible.
- Do not change airlines - changing planes is ok; changing airline companies is not.

4. Research Pet Friendly Hotels and Services

- Find a great pet friendly hotel and contact them prior to booking online to verify their pet policies. Most times, booking online will give you the best prices.
- Find an animal hospital nearby in case of emergencies and bring along the information.
- Find pet friendly parks and restaurants nearby so you and your pet can enjoy your stay.

5. Get your pet's supplies

- leash and collar
- name tag (with your cell phone number on it)
- picture of you and your pet (in case you should be separated)
- bottled water and a portable water dish
- supply of sealed pet food, dish, and spoon
- dog or cat treats (all good pets deserve a treat now and then)
- brush
- shampoo
- toys (save a special chew bone for the trip in the car)
- medication (including eye and ear drops, ear powder, tweezers for removing burrs, and any pills or vitamins your pet may be taking)

- pet harness for riding in the car (pets need to be "buckled up for safety")
- An old sheet or two for covering up hotel furniture that your pet may jump up on
- plastic bags for picking up after your pet

6. Schedule a trip to the groomer

- A clean pet will be a comfortable pet. Help them put their best paw forward on their trip.

7. Need More Information?

- We have current and accurate information on traveling with your pet by air, see [how to travel with your pet](#)

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