

Pet Travel Checklist

By Bianca Hendriks

- Before you travel
 - Ensure your pet is in good physical health before you travel.
 - Consult with your veterinarian.
 - Check proper pet vaccinations.
 - Update pet health certificate.
 - Bring a copy of your dog's health record.
 - Make sure identification collar tags, or micro chip ID specify current information.
 - If traveling abroad, contact the consulate of your destination and ask their requirements for your pet to enter the country.
 - If traveling abroad, ensure you have a Passport for Companion Animal
 - Consider using a pet carrier company
- Traveling by Car
 - Take your pet on shorter trips before traveling.
 - Feed your pet lightly before beginning your trip.
 - It is safer for you and safer for your pet if he or she is confined to pet travel cage or crate.
 - Secure carriers with a seat belt or bungee cords.
 - Always travel with a leash.
 - Do not allow pets to hang out windows.
 - Plan frequent rest stops during a car ride.
 - Keep to food schedules.
 - Bring fresh water and food.
 - Bring along whatever your pet is accustomed to, and what smells like "home".
 - Never leave your pet in a parked car.
- Traveling by Air
 - Check with your air carrier's website for specific details.
 - Make sure to make a reservation for your pet.
 - Always try to book non-stop flights.
 - If the animal is traveling in the cargo hold, be sure to label the crate with a photo of your pet on top of the crate.

- Never tranquilize.
- Hotel Stay
 - Locate a pet friendly hotel.
 - Call in advance to check any restrictions.
 - Keep your pet on a leash.
 - Check for hotel pet sitters or daycare centers.
 - Leave the hotel staff an emergency contact number to reach you.
 - Be courteous to hotel guests about your dog's room behavior.
 - Report and pay promptly for any pet caused damage.