

# GUIDE TO FLYING WITH YOUR PET

## CONTENTS

Before Flying with Your Dog .....	1
The day of the flight .....	2
Pet travel tips .....	2
American Airlines:.....	3
Rules:.....	3
Restrictions:.....	3
Delta: .....	3
Rules:.....	3
Southwest Airlines:.....	4
Requirements:.....	4
Restrictions:.....	4
JetBlue: .....	4
United Airlines: .....	5
In-Cabin: .....	5
Restrictions:.....	5

Flying with your pet can be stressful on them. Be sure to check your airlines pet policies including breed restrictions. Certain breeds have trouble breathing, especially under stress or in cargo. If your dog and crate weigh less than 20 pounds, you can usually fly with them in the cabin as carry-on baggage.

However, if you are a passenger with a disability and require accommodations for your service animal or emotional support animal, each airline is required to comply with the ACAA, and accommodate your needs without discrimination and without additional fees. Airlines are permitted to have their own separate requirements for service dogs and ESAs, and most have made changes to their check in requirements effective March 1, 2018. See the Delta release for more information.

## BEFORE FLYING WITH YOUR DOG

Make your travel plans early and prepare your puppy (or cat) for the event.

1. Make sure they're comfortable in their kennel, and crate-trained.
2. They must stay in their kennel, under the seat for the entire flight, so be sure they can do it alone.
3. Socialization: To keep them calm in a crowd, desensitize them to loud noises and sounds of airplanes by playing the sounds for them.

### THE DAY OF THE FLIGHT

- Your dog will be unable to go potty while in their crate; keep them hydrated just enough for comfort, and don't leave any food in the crate for them to choke on.
- Exercise before the flight so they can empty their bladders and sleep easier during the flight.
- Take one last potty break before going through security for carry-on, or before check-in for cargo travel. Know where your pet relief areas are at the airport.
- Be temperature aware and make your dog comfortable without you by leaving a blanket or toy with them, or putting a vest or jacket on them if the weather is cool.

Remember that when flying your dog in cargo, the airline has handling procedures and liabilities for shipping your dog, and when they unload, they take the luggage off first, and then the live animals. You don't have to fly your pet, you could travel by train or find a dog sitter to keep them comfortable and safe.

### PET TRAVEL TIPS

- Book a non-stop flight whenever possible and choose proper time of day for ideal climate when your pet flies in cargo.
- Book early, and on the same ticket, as most flights allow a limited number of pets.
- Get a vet checkup and health certificate from the veterinarian within 10 days of departure.
- Choose a suitable carrier for cargo or carry-on according to the airlines' restrictions.
- Write your dog's name on the carrier and include ID tags for your home address and phone as well as the address and phone of someone at your destination. Carry a photo of your pet with you in case he gets lost, or consider a permanent microchip id.
- Get your pet comfortable in their carrier by taking them on trips in the car.
- Feed your dog four hours before flight, so they don't have a full stomach during travel. Exercise your pet and let them potty before heading to the airport.
- Arrive two hours early with your pet's health certificate.
- Do not give your pet a sedative or tranquilizer, as they will cause respiratory and cardiovascular problems in high altitude.

Upon arriving at your destination, go for a long walk so your dog can see and smell the new surroundings and remember their rules and boundaries before checking in to your hotel.

Don't forget to pack your dog's suitcase:

- Health certificate and medical records
- Contact information for your regular veterinarian and an emergency contact at your destination
- Comb, brush, and other grooming products
- Any medications your dog might need
- Spare collar and id tag
- Pet wipes, paper towels and stain remover
- Enough dog food and treats for the entire trip
- Plenty of bottled water (a sudden change can upset your dog's stomach)
- Food and water dishes
- Leash and poop bags
- Your dog's favorite toy and blanket

- A list of [dog friendly restaurants](#) and [attractions](#) at your destination

Most airlines have common rules and restrictions for flying with your pet, but some vary from breed restrictions to baggage restrictions. Review the list below for your consideration, and always review each airlines liabilities and requirements before booking your flight.

### AMERICAN AIRLINES:

Cats and dogs can travel as a carry-on, in the 48 contiguous United States, Canada and Alaska, except for snub-nosed dogs such as Boston terrier, boxer, bulldog, Lhasa Apso, mastiff, Pekingese, pit bull, pug or shih Tzu dogs or Burmese, Persian or Himalayan cats.

You can bring 1 kennel with up to two pets as your carry-on bag with the carry-on pet charge for pets older than 8 weeks. Pets should be comfortable in their kennel for the entire flight, with a maximum size of 19x13x9, or larger if the kennel is soft, collapsible, and waterproof. Make your reservation early, flights are limited to 7 carry-on pets on American or 5 on American Eagle.

### RULES:

- Contact Reservations at least 48 hours prior to travel
- Complete a checklist with an agent
- Provide a health certificate
  - Vet certificate must be issued within 10 days of travel
  - 60 days of return date on round-trip ticket

Checked pets: \$200 per kennel

Carry-on pet: \$125 per kennel

### RESTRICTIONS:

To protect your pet from extreme temperatures, you cannot travel with a checked pet if the forecasted temperature is above 85 degrees at any location on your itinerary, or if the ground temperature is below 45. If the temperature is above 20 degrees, cold temperature restrictions can be waived with a letter from a licensed veterinarian stating your pets acclimated temperature. The letter must be dated within 10 days of the first flight your pet will be on, or within 30 days of any other trips in your itinerary.

### DELTA:

Dogs, cats, and birds can travel as a carry-on, in the US and Canada for \$125 USD.

### RULES:

- Your pet must be small enough to fit comfortably in a kennel without touching or protruding from the sides of the kennel and with the ability to move around.
- The kennel must fit under the seat directly in front of you.
- Your pet must remain inside the kennel (with door secured) while in a Delta boarding area (during boarding and deplaning), a Delta airport lounge and while onboard the aircraft.
- Your pet must *be at least 10 weeks old* for Domestic travel.
- Your pet counts as one piece of carry-on baggage. Pet in Cabin fees still apply.

- One pet per kennel

Pets are also transported safely via Delta Cargo following these guidelines:

- A separate booking from their flight itinerary is required. Additional fees and charges may apply.
- A pet shipped domestically via [Delta Cargo](#) cannot be booked until 14 days prior to departure.
- Pets are not guaranteed to be shipped on a customer's same flight or flight schedule.
- Shipping a pet requires dropping it off at a [Delta Cargo](#) location at least three hours before departure time at a location separate from passenger check-in.
- Picking up a pet would also occur at a [Delta Cargo](#) location.

### SOUTHWEST AIRLINES:

Southwest Airlines allows small **vaccinated** domestic cats and dogs that are at least 8 weeks old to travel with you on domestic flights in-cabin under the seat in front of you for \$95 each way. All pets must be carried in an appropriate carrier, offered by Southwest for \$58, or other leak-proof, well-ventilated carrier not exceeding 18.5x8.5x13.5". Make your reservation early, flights are limited to 6 carry-on pets.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Southwest Airlines allows only one pet carrier per ticketed Passenger.
- The carrier may contain two (2) cats or dogs and must be of the same species per carrier.
- The cat or dog must be completely inside the pet carrier and be able to stand up and move around the carrier with ease.
- Pets must remain in the pet carrier while in the gate area, during boarding/deplaning, and they must remain in the carrier for the entire duration of the flight.

### RESTRICTIONS:

- An Unaccompanied Minor may not travel with a pet.
- Customers traveling with a pet may not occupy an exit row or a seat with no forward under-seat stowage.
- You cannot check your Pet as baggage.
- The animals must be **harmless, not disruptive, odorless, and require no attention** during flight.
- Cats and dogs must remain in the carrier (including head and tail) stowed under the seat in front of the Customer (owner) for the entire duration of the flight.
- Southwest Airlines will not be responsible if a Customer misses a flight due to the need to take the cat or dog to an outside relief area. Flight departures will not be delayed or held for connecting Customers to take a pet to an animal relief area.
- If the pet becomes ill during the flight, oxygen or other first aid procedures will not be administered.
- Southwest Airlines assumes no liability for the health or wellbeing of carryon pets.

### JETBLUE:

JetBlue offers the JetPaws pet program for free, which includes your pet carrier bag-tag to indicate your pet's flight readiness, a list of social graces for pet travel (Petiquette), and earn TrueBlue points for each flight segment.

- There is a pet fee of \$100 each way.
- It is best to book early. A limited number of pets are allowed on each flight.

- Only one pet per customer.
- Your pet carrier cannot exceed 17"L x 12.5"W x 8.5"H and the combined weight of your pet and the carrier must not exceed 20 pounds.
- Your pet and carrier count as one carry-on bag onboard.
- Check the vaccination and documentation required for each destination on your trip.
- Don't forget your pet's treats, supplies, identification tags and license.
- Check in your pet at the "Full Service" counter.
- At the security check-point, remove your pet and carry (or walk) it while the pet carrier is x-rayed.
- All pets must remain inside the pet carrier while at the airport and onboard the aircraft.
- If your pet needs to relieve itself, you must exit the airport and return through security.
- **A pre-flight workout for your pet will help them adapt more quickly to their new surroundings and sleep better.**

### UNITED AIRLINES:

Domesticated cats, small dogs, rabbits, and birds may travel accompanied in the aircraft cabin on most flights within the U.S. Or Ship pets that are not eligible to travel in-cabin with PetSafe®

### IN-CABIN:

You may carry an in-cabin pet in addition to a carry-on bag and is subject to a \$125 service charge each way. There is an additional \$125 service charge for each stopover of more than four hours.

A pet traveling in cabin must be in an approved hard-sided or soft-sided kennel. The kennel must fit completely under the seat in front of the customer and remain there at all times. The maximum dimensions for hard-sided kennels are 17.5 inches long x 12 inches wide x 7.5 inches high (44 cm x 30 cm x 19 cm). The recommended maximum dimensions for soft-sided kennels are 18 inches long x 11 inches wide x 11 inches high (46 cm x 28 cm x 28 cm). There may only be one pet per kennel, and the animal must be able to stand up and turn around comfortably, but two birds may travel in the same kennel.

### RESTRICTIONS:

- Booking In-cabin travel for pets is on a space-available basis.
- A customer traveling with an in-cabin pet cannot be seated in the bulkhead or an emergency exit row.
- United Airlines allows two pets per flight in our premium cabins on select aircraft or four pets per flight in United Economy® on all flights.
  - A customer traveling with an in-cabin pet in United Economy on Boeing 757-200 aircraft must sit in a window seat due to limited storage space under aisle and middle seats.
- Unaccompanied minors may not travel with pets.
- Pets must remain in kennels with the door secured while in the boarding area and on board the aircraft.
- The customer is responsible for complying with all applicable state and country entry requirements.
- Pets must be older than eight weeks.
- Pets must travel on the same flight(s) as the customers who are responsible for them.
- In the event of an emergency, oxygen service will not be available for pets.