

## How to Safely Travel With Your Pet

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Planning a trip isn't always easy, especially if you're trying to find a way to bring along the family dog instead of leaving them [with a housesitter](#). Some people have no issues sending their pet to a [boarding center](#) or to a day-care, but some absolutely have to have their pet with them (and who can blame them?). If you and your family just cannot go without your beloved Fido, make sure to do your research before setting out on your next adventure.

The first step to bringing along your pet on your next family vacation is to figure out exactly what trip you will be going on. Is it a camping trip where your pet will have plenty of space? Or is it a road trip where you will be cooped up in the car for hours on end? Will you, at some point, be flying? If so, how will you carry your pet onto the flight? Does your hotel or AirBnB allow pets? These are all important questions to ask yourself before planning your trip. Not all trips are suitable for pets and although you may not want to leave your pet behind, sometimes it is the best for them. Compile your list of questions and coordinate with your travel and accommodation plans to make sure that you will be able to safely bring your pet along.

Once you've figured out how you're bringing your pet on your next family vacation, think about your vacation plans? Are you and your family going to be out all day on excursions, or is it going to be a more relaxed vacation at the beach? If you're out all day, is your pet going to be stuck indoors all day, or is there a service that will keep your pet active while you are away? Your pet would hate to be locked up all day in an entirely new environment, not to mention that they are bound to have some sort of accident. If your vacation is more extensive and action-packed, consider leaving your pet back at home. This way, you can ensure their safety and avoid any incidents inside of your accommodations.

If you weigh your options and you still believe that your pet needs to be included on your next vacation, create a list of pet travel essentials. Be sure to include a travel carrier if necessary, or your pet's bed/crate if applicable. Figure out whether or not you need to buy your pet food at your destination or how difficult it would be to bring some along. Pack as much as possible-- overpacking when it comes to your pet is always a good thing. Coordinate activities with your pet in mind and talk the plan over with your family. If you have to leave your pet alone, how long will it be for, and will they be alright by themselves? The key to making this vacation a success is to have everyone work together to have a safe and fun vacation for the entire family.

When embarking on your vacation, be sure to bring along some of your pet's comfort items. Bring along small toys like frisbees, chew toys, and tennis balls. If your pet loves to snuggle with blankets, bring one along for the trip to help soothe them. The key to having a successful and enjoyable vacation is to make your pet as comfortable as possible.

When preparing to bring your pet on vacation, make sure to have a plan in case of an emergency. Is there a reputable veterinarian nearby? Will you be traveling too far to be near one? If a local vet is unavailable, consider using an online [vet chat](#). This way, you will be able to conveniently talk to a professional and avoid expensive bills if possible.

Remember, the best way to have a successful vacation while bringing along your pet is to make sure that you have all of the bases covered. Make sure that you have a well-thought-out plan on what to do and have emergency plans in place in case something happens. Make sure that you will be able to provide comfort and enjoyment to your pet while still keeping yourself and your family happy. By following the steps mentioned above, you are bound to have a great time while still bringing your pet along.