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## Tips for Traveling with Your Pet

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*Reader Submitted*

Summer is the perfect time for family vacations and road trips. Before you hit the open road with the entire family, including your furry loved ones this summer, check-out the below travel tips from GoPetFriendly.com offers:

1. **Pet Prep the Vehicle** Be sure to secure your pet while driving. Crates, carriers or car harnesses will protect your pet from injury and prevent them from wondering around in the car. Also, remember to deactivate the airbag of the seat your pet will be occupying.

2. **Prepare your Pet** Be sure pet visit's the vet to for a check-up, confirm all vaccinations are up to date, and to discuss any possible concerns about flea, tick or heartworm risks where you will be traveling. It is also a great idea to discuss possible remedies for car sickness, diarrhea and restlessness just in case!

3. **Pack for your Pet** Pets need a lot of stuff when they are on vacation! Here is a list of things to bring:

- o Food and Treats

- o Drinking Water if your pet's stomach is easily upset, it pays to take drinking water from home with you.

- o Food and Water Bowls - portable bowls pack easily and are great when you are out & about, and anti-spill water bowls are fantastic in the car.

- o Proof of vaccinations and your pet's health records - you'll need these if you choose to utilize a pet sitter, day care, or kennel services while you are traveling. Also take your vet's telephone number, and the telephone number for the National Animal Poison Control Center: (888) 426-4435.

- o Current identification tag and photos of your pet in case your pet gets separated from you, be sure you have a current photo and that the identification tags on their collar have your cell phone number, or other phone number where you can be reached while you are away.

- o A couple of rolls of paper towels for muddy paws and other messes.

- o An old towel in case of rain, or after swimming.

- o Your pet's bed to make them more comfortable when you spend the night in unfamiliar locations.

- o Toys!!

- o All their medications, vitamins, supplements, etc.

- o Plastic bags to pick up after them along the way.

- o Pet insect repellent and sunscreen.

- o Leash you may also want to consider a long leash (15-20 feet) if you plan to hike with your dog or let them run in an unfenced area.

4. Punctuality is Purrfect - Maintaining your pet's feeding and exercise schedule as much as possible during your trip will reduce any anxiety they may feel about being away from home, so allow for stops along the way to let your pet stretch, run, or burn off some energy.

5. Plan Ahead Confirm your accommodation reservations and remind them that you are traveling with your pet. Ask about any restrictions the hotel or campground may have regarding pets, including whether you're allowed to leave your pet unattended in your room. Unattended pets are best kept in a crate, and you should request that staff does not enter the room and disturb your pet while you are out. Utilizing a local pet sitter or pet day care facility is also a fantastic option if there are things you'd like to do and your pet cannot join you.

6. Prevent Problems Be a considerate pet parent by training your pet in good manners, following the rules of your accommodations regarding pets and the local leash laws, and disposing of pet waste appropriately.

For more tips on traveling with pets or to locate pet-friendly accommodations, attractions and touristy things to do with your furry loved ones, visit [GoPetFriendly.com](http://GoPetFriendly.com)

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