

DOG-FRIENDLY TRAVEL OPTIONS

SOME DOG-CENTRIC CONSIDERATIONS

Rent a Dog-Friendly Cottage or Cabin

This is a great option if you have a dog that is not particularly well-socialized with other dogs, is a senior and not very active, has health issues that limit mobility, or if you just want to relax and do your own thing. A rental property allows you to travel with your pet any time of year. Many of these rental properties are located in scenic areas with hiking trails, quaint towns, lakes, and rivers nearby.

- **Airbnb.com** or **Vrbo.com** are great resources for finding dog friendly rental homes, both sites allow you to search for Pet Friendly options.

Bed & Breakfasts or Rustic Resorts

This option is a step-up from doing your own thing, and allows for some well-controlled canine and human socialization. Many of these bed and breakfasts/rustic resorts offer dog-friendly activities such as snowshoeing with your dog. They are typically operated by dog lovers and offer amenities specifically to make your pooch feel comfortable and at home. Like the option above, this option allows you flexibility in terms of when you travel.

- The **Pawhouseinn.com** is a great example.

Dog-Sport Training Camps

If your interest lies in developing your dog's skills in a particular sport such as agility or freestyle dance, then this would be an option to consider. The focus of these camps is truly to develop your dog's level of performance in a particular sport and the emphasis is often on competition. The instructors at these camps are typically experts in their sport with a history of competitive accomplishments.

- A great dog agility camp is offered by **OnCourseAgility.com** – featuring the One Mind dog coaches.

All-Around Dog Camps

Dog camps are an incredible dog friendly vacation option for people wanting to have a truly all-around “dog-centric” experience. Dog camps offer the opportunity for a large number of human and dog campers to socialize, learn, train, relax, share meals, enjoy the outdoors, and re-live that overnight summer camp experience. Accommodations at dog camps vary from very rustic (ex. Tent camping) to more luxurious (ex. Lodge/hotel rooms) depending on the camp. Dog camps require that a dog be reasonable well-socialized around other dogs and people. Most dog camps offer an array of activities suited for all levels of dog handle experience. Many camps book early, and are only offered at specific times of year, so it is important to begin planning in advance. Also, most dog camps require that a registration form with information about you and your pet be completed, as well as a veterinary/health record on your dog(s).

- Our favorite, of course, is: **CampDogwood.com**

Educational Conferences/Workshops

This is a great travel option if you want to bring your dog along for an educational experience in some aspect of dog training and behavior. Educational conferences and workshops are offered year-round and cover a variety of topics like clicker training, temperament testing, learning about dog rescue and shelter work, and dog health/nutrition. This is a great option for professional dog trainers or even dog handlers looking to enhance their own knowledge base. It is important to inquire if your dog is welcome at these events, although these events are always focused on dogs, some do not allow dogs to attend the actual seminar.

- The Association of Pet Dog Trainers offers a panel of nationally recognized leaders in the field of dog training at their annual conference, **APDT.com**



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TRAVEL WITH YOUR DOG, BUT BEFORE YOU GO, PLAN AHEAD!

Be honest about your pet's ability to travel. If your pet is very young or old, or is ill, pregnant, or recovering from surgery, it may be better for all concerned to look into a pet sitter or kennel rather than take a chance on injuring your pet by taking it with you. *If you are in doubt,* ask your veterinarian. If your pet has not traveled before, try a short overnight or weekend trip first. And make certain that all vaccinations are up to date and obtain current health / rabies certificates to take with you

Be sure your pet has the essentials to make the trip a happy and safe one.

- **Make sure to pack enough pet food for the trip.** Include food & water dishes, bedding, leash, collars/tags, grooming supplies, favorite toys, a first-aid kit, and any necessary medications. **In addition,** an “extra” container of water for your pet should always be taken... *just in case!*
- **Your pet should wear ID tags on the whole trip.** Tags should have your permanent address & telephone number, but **in addition,** it is also important to include a tag with the address & telephone number (cell) used during your travels.
- **Take a current photograph of your pet.** If your pet is lost during a trip, it will make it easier to help you find your pet.
- **No heads out the window.** Many pets believe sticking their head out the window is the best part of a trip, but it's not safe. And NEVER travel with a pet in the back of a pickup or open-air vehicle.
- **Frequent pit stops.** And always provide and encourage frequent bathroom & stretch breaks. Most travel service areas have designated areas for walking your pet. When outside, make sure your pet is always on lead and wearing a collar included your temporary travel info ID tag. **In addition,** during stops be sure to provide your pet with some fresh water.
- **Don't leave them alone, EVER!** Never leave your pet unattended in a parked vehicle, period. NEVER. On warm days, the temperature in your vehicle can rise to deadly levels before you know it. An open window is not enough. Plan ahead so you don't have to leave them behind.

Always Do a Little Research!

Whether you're ready to go today, or are ready to take a look at what your options are... the internet has become the easiest way to find a pet-friendly route that's right for you. There are countless websites dedicated to providing advice and tips for making your trip with your pet a safe and enjoyable voyage for everyone, and others that will show you options for all regions and methods of travel. Always verify info you find on the web if you intend to utilize it..

www.PetsWelcome.com

www.PetTravel.com

www.TripsWithPets.com

www.TakeYourPet.com

**We suggest a web search with your travel specifics with the inclusion of the search term “pet-friendly”.*

Things To Consider Bringing Along

- A sturdy leash, collar & current tags. (And spares of each).
- A blanket or sheet for the back seat of your car or wherever the pet's carrier will be secured to make cleanup easier.
- Two sheets to cover your bedding at your destination.
- Your pet's own bedding and food and water bowl set.
- Food. If you do not feed a brand you are certain will be available at your destination and along the way, bring enough for the whole trip. If you feed canned, bring a can opener and spoon.
- Two gallons of extra drinking water from home. When you are down to the last half gallon, begin mixing in equal parts with the water supply at your destination.
- Portable bowl / bottle for water when away from lodging.
- Treats and cookies AND Toys or chew items.
- All required medications, supplements, and preventatives.
- Brush or comb (for them!)
- Lint and hair remover.
- Baby wipes or moist towelettes to wipe off paws.
- Waste removal bags.
- Towels, carpet cleaner, cleaning spray & bags for accidents.
- First aid kit (see page with suggestions to create your own)!
- Flashlight for nighttime walks.



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