



Hitting The Road With Four-Legged Friends Tips For Vacationing With Pets

It's that time of the year, when school is out and vacation time rolls around. If you've got pets, chances are you're thinking of taking them along with you on your journey. To help keep your trip as easy and smooth as possible, here are a few tips from PawsTime to make going on holiday together the best decision ever!



Do...

Visit Your Veterinarian - Before any big trip, a visit to the vet is a smart start. Make sure your pet has updated vaccinations - especially rabies, as wherever you go this is legally required. Also let your vet know where you're headed and the type of transportation you're taking (i.e., car, plane, train). This way, your vet can help you plan for the best way to keep your pet happy and healthy.

Think of Safety - Be prepared before any trip by packing extra food, water and cherished toys. It's also smart to locate the closest veterinarian to where you'll be staying, as well as pack a basic first-aid kit for your adventure.

Identification - It is vital to have a current ID tag with your pet at all times. Also consider microchips to keep track of your pet, especially if you're going out of the country. Also consider bringing a few color photos in case you get separated from your pet.



Don't...

Assume Your Destination is Pet-Friendly - Do your homework before the trip and book lodging that is pet-friendly. This way you and your pet can rest assured after a long travel day that there is a pet-friendly place to stay.

Change the Routine - The key to a successful vacation with your pet is keeping his routine as normal as possible. Stick with his regular feeding and walking schedule. Bring favorite toys and blankets so that there is something familiar he can count on.

Ignore Anxious Behavior - If you know that your pet is anxious, it's wise to ask your veterinarian about sedatives to keep her calm on the trip. You should also consider giving the sedatives on a "trial run" to observe how your pet responds. This way, when it's time to head out, you'll know what to expect and everyone will feel less stressed.