

Summer Traveling Tips

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If you plan on taking your dog along on vacation, that weekend get-away, or other summer traveling, here are a few things to remember:

- Bring food and water from home. The last thing you want is digestive problems when you are on the road. You may bring your dog's regular dishes, or there are convenient travel dishes available.
- Call ahead. Many places (including campgrounds) do not allow pets. Make sure it is OK to bring your pet before you leave. There are several books on the market which contain a state-by-state listing of hotels, motels, and inns that welcome pets.
- Make sure your dog's nametag is up-to-date and readable.
- Pack a lead and tie out. Attach the lead before you open the door for your dog's safety.
- Do not forget your dog's favorite toys.
- Pack a first aid kit for your dog. It is always a good idea to have one handy, just in case.
- Cover the seats. A shedding dog will change the appearance of your car seats forever. Hair is tough to get out. Car seat covers are an excellent investment if you want to retain the value of your vehicle and keep it looking clean.
- Provide plenty of exercise before you leave.
- Stop often on long trips to allow dogs to relieve themselves.
- Clean up after your dog to keep the great outdoors great, and out of consideration for others.
- Travel on an empty stomach. Car sickness is more likely if your dog has a full stomach. If the trip is long, feed a smaller amount than normal at least two hours before you leave.
- Restrain your pet during travel in either a harness, pet seat, barrier, [wire cage or plastic crate](#). It is the safest way to travel for both you and your dog.
- NEVER LEAVE YOUR DOG IN A HOT CAR even if you park in the shade. Pets are unable to control body temperature as efficiently as humans and just a few minutes in a hot car could cause irreversible damage or death.

