Tips for Easy Travel with Your Dog
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How to Make Travelling with Your Dog Easy

Taking a trip with your furry friend can be a lot of fun, but it also requires some preparation and forethought,so you and your dog can have a great time safely. Knowing what to pack, what to plan and how to look after your canine companion on the journey can help you both get the best out of the trip.

Travelling short distances

Short-distance tripsby car may seem straightforward, but they still require some planning to keep your dog comfortable and safe.

Safety considerations

Safety is the most important thing when travelling within Australia with a dog. Here are a few tips to keep your doggo out of harm's way on the road:

- **Secure restraint**: Use a pet seat belt, car harness, or a secure crate to keep your dog safely restrained while the vehicle is on the move. This stops them from getting in the way of the driverand keeps them safe in case of any sudden stops or accidents.
- **Temperature control**: Always ensure proper ventilation and climate control inside the vehicle.Never leave your dog alone in a parked car, as temperatures can rise or fall quickly without you realising, and become dangerous.

- **Puppy-proof the vehicle**: Make sure there are no loose objects or items your dog can chew on.

Supervising your dog while you travel

When you are travelling with a dog on shorter trips, you will need to keep an eye on them. Make sure your dog has regular breaks and give them some water to help keep them hydrated, and they will be more comfortable.

- **Frequent breaks**: Make regular stops every hour or so to let your dog stretch, have a toilet break, and get some fresh air.

- **Water and food**: Carry a travel bowl and water to keep your dog hydrated. If the trip is long enough to require a meal, pack some food as well, but avoid feeding your dog right before travel so they don't getqueasy.

Planning a dog-friendly route

Planning ahead can make a world of difference when you are travelling with dogs. Figuring out your route first, including stops and rest areas can make a big difference to the experience for you and your pooch.

- **Identify pet-friendly stops**: Look for parks, rest areas, or pet-friendly businesses along your route where your dog can take a break.
- **Avoid high-traffic areas**: Try to plan your route to avoid heavy traffic when travelling with a dog, as this can make the journey longer and more stressful for both

you and your dog.

Dog Road Trip Essentials

Create a fun journey together with these must haves for hitting the road.

What you need

- [x] Travel-safe dog car harness/seat
- [ ] Water bowl
- [ ] Dog waste bags
- [ ] Leash
- [ ] Their favourite toys
- [ ] Any medications

Tips for the trip

Before leaving

Take them for a bathroom break first

Breaks

Take a break every two hours

Amusement

Give them a toy in the car to stay busy

Exercise

Let your dog burn some energy while also stretching your legs

Have a safe trip!

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If you have any concerns, take your dog to the vet for a check-up.

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Travelling long distances

Long-distance travel, whether by car or plane, requires a few extra considerations to ensure your dog's well-being throughout the journey. Travelling Australia with a dog can be done but you need to be prepared.

Vet checks

- **Health check-up**: Make sure your dog is in good health and up to date on all vaccinations. Check if your travel destination has any vaccination requirements for dogs in order for them to be allowed entry, and discuss any potential travel concerns with your vet.
- **Travel medications**: If your dog experiences anxiety or motion sickness, your vet may provide medications to help manage these issues during the trip.

Forms and paperwork your dog needs to travel

Depending on your destination, you may need a few documents for your dog:

- **Health certificates**: Many airlines and some states require a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian within a certain timeframe before travel.
- **Vaccination records**: Keep a copy of your dog's vaccination records on hand, especially for rabies and other crucial vaccines.
- **Microchip information**: Ensure your dog's microchip information is up to date, including your contact details.

Packing for travelling with dogs

Packing the right essentials can make all the difference in ensuring a smooth trip.

- **Essentials**: Pack a bag with all the things your pup needs, including food, water, bowls, leash, collar, waste bags, grooming supplies, and any medications.
- **Comfort Items**: Bring your dog's bed, favourite toys, and a blanket to provide comfort and stop them from getting stressed during travel.
- **Identification**: Ensure your dog is wearing a collar with an up-to-date ID tag and consider carrying a recent photo in case of emergencies.

Travelling with your dog can be a fantastic experience with the right preparation. By prioritising safety, planning your route, ensuring good health, and packing the essentials, you can make any journey enjoyable for both you and your furry companion. Happy travels! For more information on how to care for your dog, check out our blog.

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