

Traveling With Your Pet



Traveling with chickens, doves, ducks, geese, grouse, guinea fowl, partridges, peafowl, pheasants, pigeons, quail, swans, turkeys or birds of prey

If you are planning to visit, move to an island nation or state such as Hawaii, American Samoa, Tahiti, New Zealand, Japan, Australia, or the UK, you MUST visit [‘Traveling to rabies-controlled areas’ FIRST!](#)

If your pet is a commonly kept pet bird species such as a parrot, parakeet, finch or canary traveling with your pet inside or outside the United States is much like described elsewhere for dogs and cats, except for the vaccinations. Please visit this link for further information *‘Traveling with dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits, rodents, hedgehogs (including tenrecs), reptiles, amphibians and pet birds such as parrots, parakeets, finches and canaries.’*

If your pet is a chicken, dove, duck, goose, grouse, guinea fowl, partridge, pea fowl, pheasant, pigeon, quail, swan, turkey or bird of prey traveling with your pet inside or outside the United States will be significantly more complex. This is because your pet can

carry and transmit diseases that are heavily controlled to protect the poultry industry in the United States, and internationally.

Therefore, your pets travel will be regulated as though you are transporting poultry if you are traveling domestically, or if you are traveling internationally your pet's travel will be regulated as though you are exporting and importing poultry.

If you are traveling domestically, within the United States, you will first need to visit the USDA website for information about interstate movements of poultry.

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/nvap/NVAP-Reference-Guide/Animal-Movement/interstate-regulations>.

You should also contact the State Veterinarian's Office for the State you are traveling to for any further information you may need <https://www.usaha.org/saha>. The state you are traveling to will be the one that sets the requirements for allowing your bird into the state.

The government of the foreign country you are traveling to will be responsible for setting the requirements for allowing your pet into the country, if you are traveling internationally. Therefore, you will need to visit the USDA International Regulations (IRegs) for Animal Exports Home Page

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/animal-exports>. You will want to do this MONTHS in advance of your travel date. Here you will find further information including a database maintained by the USDA to help you understand the steps, including tests and vaccines you will have to take to prepare your pet to travel with you internationally. These requirements are established by each individual country according to their laws, so they vary

significantly from country to country, and can change without warning. The USDA does an excellent job keeping up with these changes, but you will want to check the website repeatedly, as well as contacting the USDA Veterinary Service Office in your area <https://aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/endorsement-office> as you complete your pet's preparations.

These rules apply to assistance animals, therapy animals, service animals and emotional support animals just like they do to pets. DO NOT ASSUME you will be granted an exception simply because you need to keep your animal with you at all times. You WILL be disappointed. Also, be aware the laws of the United States that provide special allowances for therapy, service, assistance and emotional support animals do not apply outside the United States.

Be aware you are not 'just taking your pet on a trip with you'. In the eyes of the animal disease control offices in the country you are visiting you are importing an animal into a foreign country. There are SERIOUS international regulations regarding this that have been put in place to protect the animal related industries in the countries involved. Obviously, your pet is not livestock, but your pet can carry diseases that affect livestock, and transmit these to livestock in the country you are visiting. Your pet can also carry diseases that can be transmitted to people. The government simply wants to ensure they are regulating the risk of letting people bring in foreign animals into the country.

Finally, as you complete preparations of your pets traveling papers, you will need to obtain a Certificate of Veterinary

Inspection (CVI), or Health Certificate, from a USDA Accredited Veterinarian. Not every veterinarian provides this service because gaining USDA Accreditation is a complicated, frustrating, and time-consuming process, plus USDA Accredited Veterinarians must deal with the bureaucratic hassles associated with issuing and assuming responsibility for the CVI's, or Health Certificates. The veterinarians of A Caring Vet and Pet Medical Services are all USDA Accredited.

However, do not expect us to have the CVI/Health Certificate waiting for you and to know all the details about completing it. We are experts in treating and preventing animal disease, not in animal importation and exportation. Each individual country's veterinary inspection process is different., We can assist you with animal importation and exportation, but it is not our primary focus of what we do. Things will go much smoother if you take time to be well prepared ahead of your visit to complete the CVI/Health Certificate. You need to know that if you are not fully prepared at your visit, you will be asked to reschedule as this is such a time consuming process. It is not fair to make other clients wait for their appointments simply because you did not come prepared.

If all your pet's paperwork is not in order when you travel, and it is found that some detail of your pet's preparations was not perfectly completed you may face the horrendously unpleasant situation of your pet being quarantined, against your will at your expense in a foreign country. Therefore, you want to start your preparations well in advance, so you will not have to rush and run the risk of some detail being overlooked.

For international travel you will also need to have the CVI/Health Certificate endorsed by a 2nd veterinarian directly employed by the USDA. Fortunately, this can be done online, but do not count on this until you verify it with the endorsement office

<https://www.aphi.usda.gov/animalhealth/endorsement-offices>.

There are fees associated with obtaining this USDA Endorsement in addition to the fees associated with obtaining a CVI from a USDA Accredited Veterinarian. These fees are set by the USDA, not by us. You can find these fees here

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel-info-and-guidance-document/pet-travel-endorsement>.

The bureaucratic hassles of traveling with your pet can be nightmarish, especially when traveling internationally. Your USDA Accredited Veterinarian, and the USDA Endorsing Veterinarian are there to serve you, to ensure that a complex and difficult process goes smoothly so you and your pet can enjoy your trip instead of enduring a nightmare of bureaucratic hassles in a foreign country. Please be prepared to work with them as they do their best to make a very complex process as simple as possible for you.