

Dog Days of Summer - Travel Industry Caters to Pet Travelers

Written by Karah Van Kammen
Tuesday, 01 March 2016 15:54 -



By Kelly Potts

Traveling with your pets has become standard in recent years. Because of the recent trend, more restaurants, hotels and destinations are making themselves pet-friendly.

Whether traveling on land or in the sky, there are exceptional offers to keep you and your pets happy:

- **Groom service.** The lodging industry has made the biggest strides when it comes to pleasing pet patrons. In fact, [Traveling with Your Pet: The AAA PetBook®](#) lists more than 14,000 pet-friendly hotels, campgrounds and attractions. There are several pet-friendly AAA Diamond-rated properties across Arizona that have special offerings for furry friends, such as Hotel Valley Ho and Fairmont Scottsdale Princess, in Scottsdale and The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain in Marana.
- **Flying with Fido.** Most airlines permit passengers to keep pets with them in the cabin or have them kept in the cargo hold depending on size restrictions.
- **Buckle up your pup.** Traveling by car is one of the best ways to get you and your pup to your destination, but make sure to do it safely. Use a crate or pet restraint system to keep your dog from roaming the car and distracting you from driving.

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- **Safety before sailing.** Jesse, a 10-year-old Jack Russel Terrier from Litchfield Park, the second-place winner for the upcoming 18th edition of *The AAA PetBook*, loves to travel with his human, Heather. Jesse and Heather spend their summers at Lake Pleasant by playing in the water, but she makes sure Jesse has a life vest on at all times.

"As a travel expert, AAA has seen the industry respond to increased demand for pet-friendly places," said Amy Moreno, senior travel manager for AAA Arizona. "In fact, many AAA Four and Five Diamond properties even have special programs specifically for our four-legged family members."

To ensure a "purrfect" trip, AAA travel experts recommend pet parents follow these tips:

- **Proper paperwork.** Research what documentation will be required for pet travel. If traveling internationally, pets may require a pet passport.
- **A healthy pet is a happy pet.** Visit the vet prior to leaving to ensure pets are current on vaccinations with a clean bill of health.
- **Respect other travelers.** Keep in mind that everyone may not be comfortable around pets. Always keep pets on a leash or in their carrier in public places.

Travelers who want to bring the family pet on vacation can find valuable information to make the trip safe and easy in [Traveling with Your Pet: The AAA PetBook®](#)

AAA is a go-to source for travel information. To learn more, visit AAA.com/travel.