



International Travel with Your Pets

As wonderful as it can be to bring your pet along on life's adventures, travel with your pet can also become a very stressful experience. This is particularly true when you are traveling to other countries, as there is usually a large amount of paperwork to fill out and regulations to follow in order to legally transport your pet. At Stack Veterinary Hospital, our APHIS accredited veterinarians are happy to help with the process and try to make it less confusing. Here are some suggestions to make your preparations for travel easier for everyone involved:

1. International travel papers take time to process properly. It is very common for other countries to require documentation of veterinary visits starting at least 30-45 days prior to travel. For some countries this documentation extends to more than 6 months. For this reason we restrict health certificate endorsement to established patients. If you are not currently a client, we request that you make an appointment to establish a legal relationship as far in advance of travel as possible.

2. Every country is different. The vaccinations, certificates, parasite treatments, and other requirements for entry into a foreign country vary SIGNIFICANTLY between destinations. There are even restrictions based on where your pet is traveling from. While we will do everything we can to help you determine what is necessary (and what has already been performed) for your pet's travel plans, it is important for you to contact the consul or animal health department in your country of destination and obtain a list of what is needed, as we do not always have access to this information. The following USDA website is a great place to start:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel>

It is also important to contact the airline you are planning to travel with, to ensure there are no airline specific requirements that must be taken into account.

3. Health certificated require endorsement. Nearly all international health certificates must be signed by an accredited veterinarian at our office and then submitted to the New York State Import Export Services office in Albany for endorsement. Normally performed shortly before travel, this process usually takes less than 72 hours, but cannot be left until the last minute. Endorsement does cost an additional fee which is **not** covered by our office. We will be happy to provide you additional details at the time of your visit.



Information Required to Schedule a Health Certificate Exam

Patient Name: _____

Patient Species: _____

Patient Age: _____

Has the patient been seen at this office: _____

Is the patient current on their vaccinations: _____

Was their Rabies vaccine performed at this office: _____

(An original copy of the vaccine certificate **MUST** be produced or the pet must be revaccinated in many cases.)

Is the patient microchipped: _____

What country is the patient traveling to: _____

When is the patient traveling: _____

How is the patient traveling: _____

Will the owner be traveling with the patient: _____

Based on the above information it is necessary for the doctor to investigate the requirements for travel for that specific location and the exam can be scheduled only **AFTER** the doctor has gathered this information and created a schedule of diagnostics/vaccinations/etc.

Please return this completed form to Stack Veterinary Hospital by e-mail or fax.

stackteam@stackvethospital.com

Fax: 315-478-2432