

Tips for Preparing a Pet for Travel

- Make sure the pet has an ISO-compliant 15-digit microchip, implanted before the rabies vaccine is given.
- Get a U.S. three-year rabies vaccine before leaving the United States.
- Provide a sturdy, leak-proof crate, large enough for the animal to stand, lie down, or turn around. Airline sites provide their requirements for crate size considering the size of the pet. Place a comfortable disposable and absorbent pad inside the crate.

- Print your name, cell number, personal email address, and destination (embassy/consulate) address clearly on the shipping crate. Include breed and travel itinerary, photo of the pet, and medications used (if applicable). Pets shipped as cargo will have the airway bill attached.
- Attach a leash and a small plastic bag of pet food. Make sure your pet has access to water via a water dispenser in the crate.
- Feed your pet a light meal about six hours before shipping, BUT no water within two hours.
- Walk (exercise) your pet before placing them in the crate so your pet will sleep during the trip.

For more information contact
FSI's Overseas Briefing Center at:
FSIOBCInfoCenter@state.gov

