

Traveling with pets

Bringing your cat or dog with you on your trip is fun, but there are some rules you'll have to follow. If you're looking for information on [traveling with service animals](#), we can also help with that.

 Getting ready	
 At the airport	
 On the plane	

Getting ready

We no longer let you check your pets through the PetSafe program or fly pets in cargo, unless [traveling as active-duty military](#) or with the State Department. If you plan to fly with your pet, they must be a cat or dog and be in the cabin with you (if there's space available).

You can bring up to 2 pets per person. However, you must buy 2 seats on your flight if you're bringing 2 pets. Your second seat needs to be next to your assigned seat so you can care for both pets.

Some destinations don't let you bring a pet with you. So, be sure to double check before your flight.



Where can I fly with my pet?



As long as your destination allows pets, you can take them with you on any flight operated by United or United Express. If you're flying internationally, you'll need to call 1-800-864-8331 to add a pet to your reservation. If you're traveling on multiple airlines, including our partners, you'll also need to check with each one to see what their pet policy is.

United does not allow pets to fly to, from or even through the below list of states and countries.

- Australia
- Barbados
- Brazil
- Cuba
- French Polynesia (Tahiti)
- Guam *
- Guyana
- Hawaii

- Hong Kong
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Jamaica
- Marshall Islands
- Micronesia, Federated States of
- New Zealand
- Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan)
- Palau
- Philippines
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- South Africa
- Sweden
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Arab Emirates (Dubai)
- United Kingdom

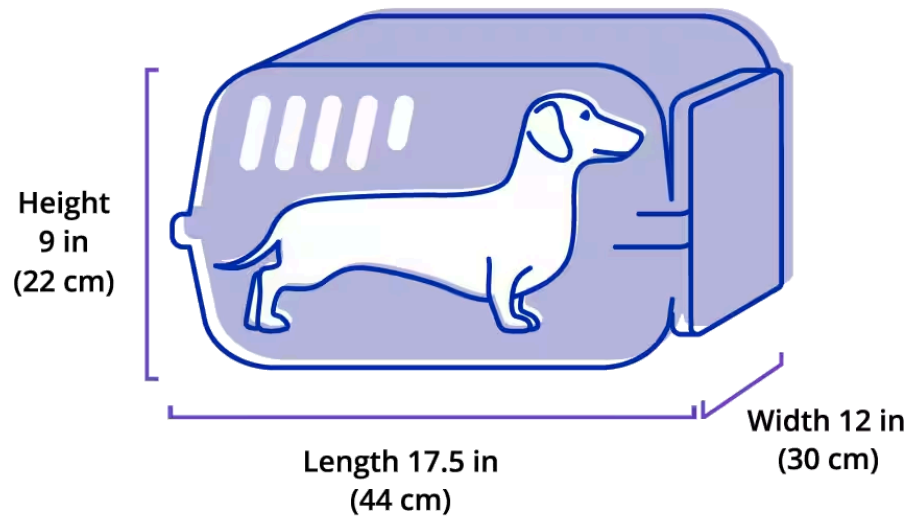
* You can bring a pet on flights from Guam to Tokyo-Narita or to the U.S. mainland. You cannot bring your pet on the flight back to Guam. Pet travel from Guam to the U.S. mainland is considered international.

Book trip

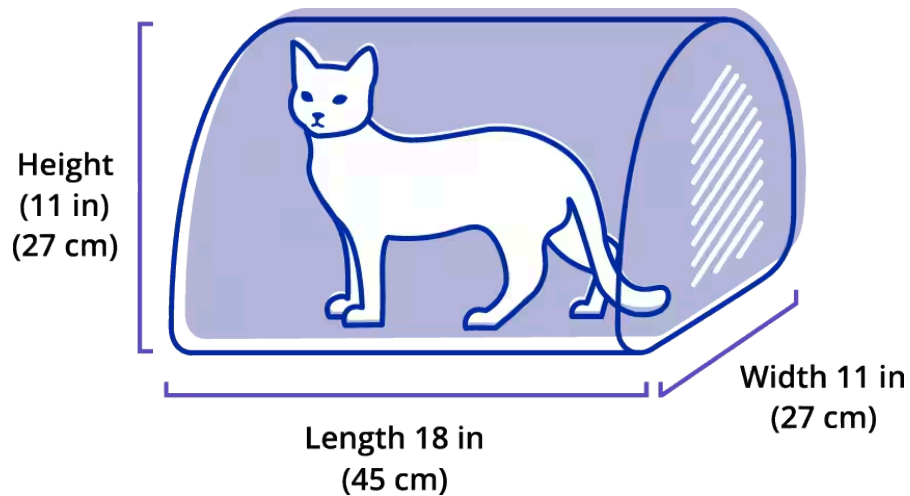
Make sure your pet fits

While there are no weight or breed limitations for pets, they must travel in either a hard-sided or soft-sided carrier. This carrier must fit under the seat in front of you or you cannot fly with your pet. The only animals allowed on planes without a pet carrier are service animals.

Hard-sided carrier



Soft-sided carrier



Prepping to fly



Gather paperwork

Some countries don't allow pets to travel at all. Others have strict rules for rabies vaccines. Make sure you have all your paperwork and proof of vaccination in order before you leave.



Booking pet tickets

All you have to do is select "Travel with a pet" as a traveler during booking on united.com. Or, you can go to [My Trips](#) to add a pet to an existing trip. You cannot add a pet to your trip on the United app.

[Book now](#) >

For tickets purchased before 4/26/24, there is a \$125 fee each way for traveling with your pet. There is also a \$125 fee for each layover of more than four hours for flights within the U.S. and more than 24 hours internationally. You cannot use travel credits to pay this fee.

For tickets purchased on or after 4/26/24, the fee is \$150 each way for traveling with your pet.



Traveler pro tips

We have a few recommendations to help you pack a pet-friendly travel kit:

- Remember to bring all the essentials to care for your pet while you're still at the airport, including a collapsible water bowl, leash, treats and plastic bags.
- To keep them calm on the flight, it always helps to have a favorite toy, blanket or pillow that smells familiar.

At the airport

Here's what you need to know once you get to the airport.



Checking in

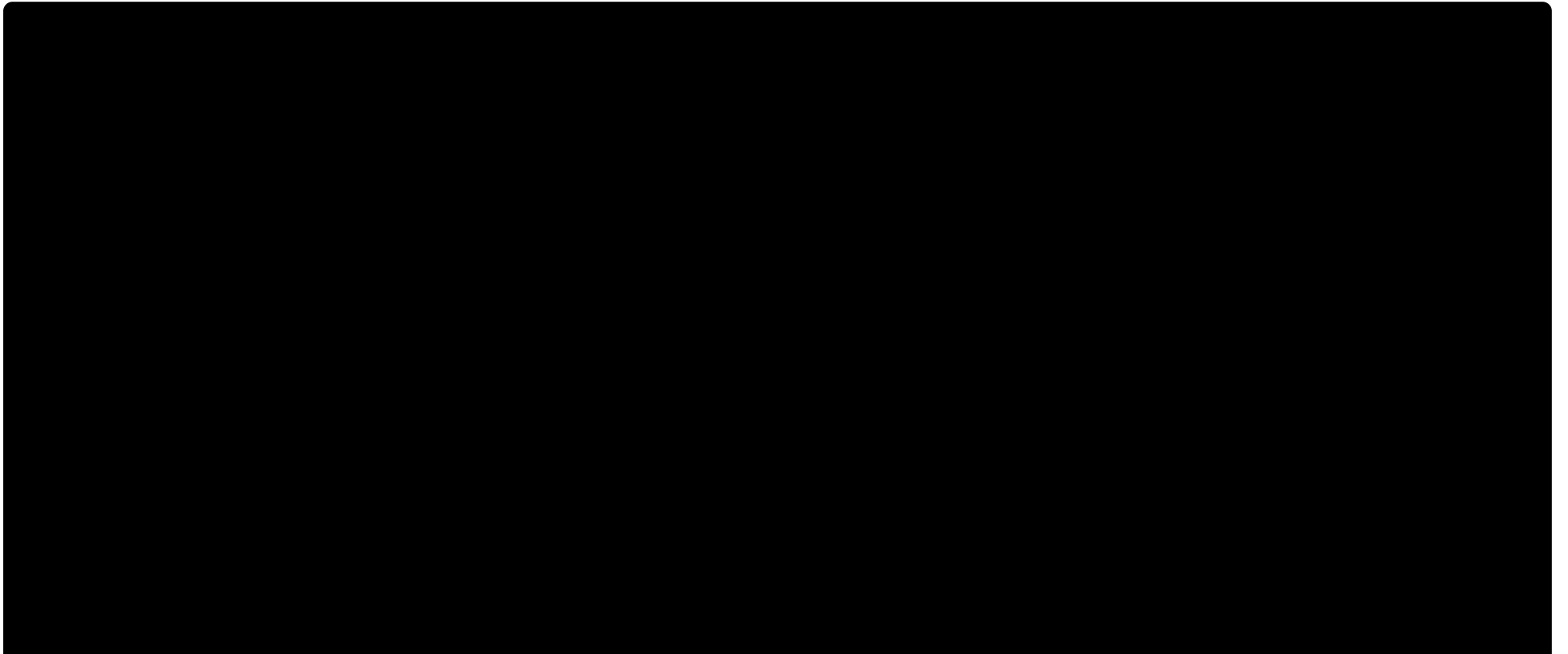
Check in for your flight at the ticket counter. You'll need both your own and your pet's confirmation numbers, which you can find in your email or in [My Trips](#). We'll also give you a special bag tag for your pet's carrier.



Pet relief areas

Many airports have places you can take your pet to use the bathroom while you're there. Use the airport maps feature on the [United app](#) to see where they're located.

Please note, therapy and emotional support cats and dogs must fly as pets, not service animals. They must follow all rules outlined in this policy both at the airport and on the plane.





Traveling with pets FAQs

What are the U.S. rabies vaccination and travel restrictions? ^

We require rabies and health certificates for dogs and cats traveling internationally on United. The rabies vaccinations must be completed at least 28 days before arrival in the U.S. for both dogs and cats. Any additional rules for traveling to the U.S. depend on whether or not you're traveling from a country the CDC considers to be high risk for rabies. We closely follow [CDC guidelines](#) on these specific country requirements and recommend checking them to make sure you meet them at least two months before your trip.

If you're traveling within the U.S. with your pet, we encourage you to get a certificate of health from your vet. Some destinations may request this certificate on arrival. It should include:

- Your name, phone and address
- Info about your pet, including breed, sex, age, color and markings
- List of recent vaccines, including names, dates issued and expiration

Where can I sit with my pet on the plane? v

Where you can sit with your pet depends on the type of plane you're on. Keep in mind that while you can only bring one pet with you, each plane limits the total number of pets allowed on the same flight.

Pet max per cabin	Type of plane
Up to 2 pets allowed in premium cabins	Airbus 319
	Airbus 320
	Boeing 737 ¹
	Boeing 757-300ER
	Bombardier CRJ
	EMB 175
	EMB 145
Up to 4 pets allowed in Economy	Airbus 319
	Airbus 320
	Boeing 737 ¹
	Boeing 757-200 ²
	Boeing 757-300ER
	Bombardier CRJ
	EMB 175
Up to 6 pets allowed in Economy	Boeing 767
	Boeing 777
	Boeing 787

¹If you're traveling on a Boeing 737 MAX 9, your pet carrier can be no more than 10 inches tall.
²If you're traveling with a pet in Economy on this type of plane, you must be in a window seat for a carrier to fit under the seat in front of you.
Please note, you cannot sit with a pet in an emergency exit row, a United Premium Plus seat, or in the front row of each cabin. Also, these guidelines are only for United flights. [Contact us](#) for information on United Express flights.

Do you have military or State Department pet exemptions?

We do have [pet exemptions](#) for members of the U.S. military on permanent change of station and their spouses, as well as State Department foreign service officers and their spouses.

How old do my pets have to be to fly?

On domestic flights, puppies and kittens must be at least 2 months old. On international flights, they must be at least 4 months old to comply with vaccination requirements.

