

### **Airline Travel to Korea with Pets**

Please note that advance arrangements with an airline are not guarantees that your animal will travel on a specific flight. To be as humane as possible, airlines reserve the right to refuse to transport an animal for reasons like illness, poor kenneling, or extreme temperatures at origin, transfer, or at destination airports. Airlines have the right to also refuse carriage of any animal that demonstrates aggressive and/or violent behavior.

### **Temperature Restrictions**

Extra care is required when the **Brachycephalic (short-nosed) dog breeds** are shipped because they often have hereditary respiratory problems. These animals are susceptible to increased risk of heat stroke and breathing problems when exposed to stress or extreme heat. For the safety of your animal all airlines that transport animals impose a summer embargo – Breed restriction except for animals traveling in the cabin with you. Generally the embargo begins in June and ends in September. Extreme weather guidelines will apply, preventing cargo shipment of any live animal when the temperature is forecast to exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit at any point in the animal's journey. Examples of restricted breeds include American Bulldog, Boston Terrier, Boxer, Brussels Griffon, Bull Terrier, Dutch Pug, English Bulldog, English Toy Spaniel, French Bulldog, Japanese Chin, Japanese Pug, Pekinese, and Shih Tzu. If you own one of these breeds you need to be prepared to possibly change flight times or days. During summer, we recommend you acquire a letter of temperature acclimatization by a military veterinarian and a Military Waiver for PCS with pets (military travel office) during the summer embargo authorizing your pet to travel with you during the flight as excess baggage instead of requiring you to ship them as cargo on a different flight. In addition, airlines may also require the following to reduce stress and heat exposure when shipping or handling the above stated breeds:

1. Use a kennel that is one size larger than normally required
2. Use a kennel with ventilation on four sides. (If the kennel does not have ventilation on four sides, modify the kennel by drilling seven holes in the rear top and seven holes in the rear bottom of the kennel using a three-quarter inch keyhole bit).
3. Acclimate the animal to the kennel by letting the animal spend time in the kennel for several days before its departure.
4. Do not place food in the kennel during the flight. Use frozen water bottles with tiny holes punched in the sides and place in the kennel water bowl for slow release to make a tool that will last for several hours. An alternate method is to freeze water in the kennel watering dish prior to placing in the kennel. Do not use just fill the kennel's watering dish with fresh water because this will spill at the first point when the kennel is moved.

### **Accompanied Pet Travel**

Each airline has slightly different rules regarding pet travel. We encourage you to visit the official airline website or call the airline directly to assist you in answering all your specific questions regarding availability, rates, and other restrictions. However, with official travel on United Airlines you should be aware of a new program called PetSafe. This new program provides a more safe and comfortable experience for pets regardless if they travel as excess baggage or in the cabin with you. The kennel must fit completely under the seat forward of the customer and remain there at all times aboard the aircraft. Pets that fly in the cabin must have the following maximum hard case kennel dimensions of 17.5 in. (length) x 12 in. (width) x 7.5 in. (height) (or 44 cm x 30 cm x 19 cm) for hard-sided kennels and 18 in. (length) x 11 in. (width) x 11 in. (height) (or 46 cm x 28 cm x 28 cm) for soft-sided kennels.

Please visit <http://www.united.com/web/en-US/content/travel/animals/default.aspx> for specific information on PetSafe and rates.

### **Unaccompanied Pet Travel**

United's PetSafe program will allow pets that travel as cargo to experience newer safeguards to help reassure owner that is not traveling with the pet. However, when pets travel to and from Korea as cargo without the owner there can be additional costs that start at around \$400 for pets less than 9 lbs. and go up to \$2,000 for animals weighing up to 250 lbs. Animals traveling via cargo system are accepted at the cargo facility and travel in the pressurized cargo compartments of the aircraft. Fees vary based on weight, size and destination. Please visit the following website for specific information and rates for United <http://www.united.com/web/en-US/content/travel/animals/default.aspx>.

### **Arrival and Departure from the Incheon Airport and Pet Brokers**

Traveling to and from Korea with a pet can add additional frustration because there can be complicating circumstances due to procedures and language barriers at the Incheon Airport with getting animals from the airline and going through customs or getting health certificates and leaving from Korea. There are several pet brokers that can assist you by serving as your representative and to negotiate the process for you if you desire.

### **Vehicular Pet Travel**

Most taxi cab services will not transport pets in South Korea. Shuttle bus services between installations will allow pet transportation based on space available. If the pet can ride in the lap of the owner inside a carrier then there will be no additional charge. However, if the animal is large enough to require its own seat(s) then you will be required to purchase ticket(s) for the space occupied. No pets are authorized to travel underneath the bus as baggage for safety reasons. Small animals can travel on the military shuttle that travels to and from the Incheon Airport and USAG Humphreys Army Lodging. However, we recommend that large and giant breed animals be transported via pet broker or pre-coordinated travel arrangements. The rail system in South Korea can only allow toy or small animals due to space in the rail cars and hallways. Please verify approval of vehicular pet travel before attempting movement to reduce travel frustration.

### **Commercial Pet Travel Brokers**

The following links concerning commercial pet travel brokers is for informational purposes only. The 106th MED DET (VSSD) has no affiliation to these companies and takes no legal responsibility on how you decide the ship your pet.

#### 1. English

AQIS - <http://www.aqis.co.kr/index.php?siteLang=eng>

Korea Animal Transport - [http://www.cwhospital.com/kat/process\(eng\).htm](http://www.cwhospital.com/kat/process(eng).htm)

The First Class Pet - [www.thefirstclasspet.com](http://www.thefirstclasspet.com)

#### 2. Korean

HSGL - [http://www.hsgl.co.kr/content.php?cont=menu4\\_1](http://www.hsgl.co.kr/content.php?cont=menu4_1)

VESCO - <http://www.vesco.kr/home2/htm/main.htm>