

# Jet Setting with your Cat



## Key Points

- This is a new experience for your cat.
- Be prepared.
- Cats may require sedation.
- You will be asked to walk through security holding your cat

## Reasons for Travel

Every year many people travel around the world with their cat. Whether that is for travel, visiting loved ones for the holidays or relocation there are many different considerations to make when traveling with your cat.

## Traveling abroad

It is relatively easy to travel within North America with your cat. Typically an up to date health and rabies vaccination certificate is all that is required. However, If you are planning to leave North America there will be much more extensive paperwork to file with the government of Canada through the

CFIA and a microchip will have to be implanted. If you are planning to travel to a different country with your cat, please contact your veterinarian IMMEDIATELY.

## Rabies Free Countries

There are a few select countries that are considered to be rabies free. This means that they have no prevalence of the rabies virus and they would like to keep it that way. These countries require an even higher level of documentation as well as a lot of planning ahead of time. They will typically require a rabies vaccine booster followed by a blood test to ensure that the titers for rabies are high enough in the bloodstream. They may also require routine deworming at regular intervals. Again, please contact your veterinarian if you are planning to travel, and they can provide more information on the requirements.

## The Airport

An airport can be a very scary place for a cat. Unfamiliar sights, sounds and smells would be enough for anyone's anxiety to be set off. The most important thing is to be fully prepared. Knowing how your cat travels will help you make pre-flight decisions for them. Harness training is a must, you will be asked to walk through security with your cat while the kennel is scanned. Holding onto a nervous cat is not an easy task. Pre-travel sedation may also be used. Gabapentin is a good choice, it can be prescribed by your veterinarian. Cats feel much safer when they are able to hide, bring an extra towel sprayed with pheromones or use your jacket to cover the kennel to make it a dark quiet space to hide in. Extra kennel pads and treats may also make the journey more enjoyable for cat and owner alike.

**Bon Voyage!**

Visit:

**[www.FearFreeHappyHomes.com](http://www.FearFreeHappyHomes.com) OR [www.PacificCatClinic.com](http://www.PacificCatClinic.com)**  
for more tips and tricks on how to keep your home Fear Free.