



TOP 10 REASONS NOT TO TRAVEL WITH YOUR PETS

What better way to spend your vacation than on the road with your pets? Think again. If your pet spends most of its time in the comfort and familiarity of home, changes in its environment can be very stressful. If your pet is young, old, ill or not an integral part of your vacation, you should definitely consider letting your pet stay home. Most animal care professionals agree that pets do best staying on their own turf. Please consider these ten items before you decide to take your pet on a trip.

10. ACCOMMODATIONS: While some hotels do allow pets many require that they never be left in the hotel room unattended. This can make going out for dinner or a theme park for the kids nearly impossible. Many hotels will charge additional fees when traveling with your pet

9. AIR TRAVEL: Check well in advance for your airlines limitations. Keep in mind that cargo holds are not heated, cooled or sound proof and can cause injury, death and at the very least, provide a very stressful situation for your furry companion.

8. CAR TRIPS: Heat stroke is quite common for animals kept in cars during the summer months. In addition,

dangers including air bags and debris flying in the eyes and ears of pets whose heads are hanging out the window can turn a family road trip into hours and dollars unexpectedly spent at the emergency veterinary clinic.

7. IDENTIFICATION: Pets lost away from their familiar turf are at a greater risk of never being found. Unfamiliar sights and sounds are very disorienting to animals and increase the risk of them being killed, hurt or picked up by strangers.

6. BEHAVIOR: Changes in environment can be very disconcerting to our four-legged friends. The best command you can give your pet is STAY – at home.

5. FOOD & WATER. Changes in diet and drinking local water can cause stomach upset and diarrhea. Unless you are prepared to travel with food and water for your animals, keep your pet home.

4. DANGERS, DISEASES AND ILLNESS. Allergies, ticks, mosquitoes, poison ivy, skunks, snake bites and parasites are just a few of the many hazards in store for the unprepared pet traveler.

3. LEASHES & LAWS. All states have laws regarding pets and not following their guidelines could be ticketable offenses. Keep your pets on a leash and obey the law or keep them at home.

2. EMERGENCIES & VETERINARIANS. Knowledge of pet first aid is a must. Your pet could require hospitalization for a period longer than your planned stay. Trying to find

an emergency animal facility while dealing with your hurt and injured pet is a way to ruin your vacation.

1. YOU HAVE PetMinders, Inc. caring for your pet!

By hiring PetMinders, Inc. you will have immeasurable peace of mind while you are on vacation. We will provide consistent, personal, quality care and attention while you are away. Why, we'll even read them the postcard you sent them about your trip! PetMinders, Inc. promises to give your pets all the TLC possible until your return.

PetMinders, Inc. is bonded, insured and veterinarian referred. We will tailor the visits to your home to provide for your animals in the exact way you define. Your pet will be both mentally and physically stimulated. Your pet's routine will be the same and for those animals on medication we can administer it as well. House sitting services such as bringing in your mail and watering your plants can also be provided.

Call us today to set up a complimentary consultation for your animals. 908-755-PETS (7387).

Have fun with your animals. They are counting on you to provide them with a safe, loving, nurturing environment.



Mary Lou Hanlon is a longtime resident of Warren and is the owner of PetMinders, Inc, The Kennel Alternative. PetMinders has been providing professional pet sitting and dog training lessons in the privacy of clients homes for over 16 years. Mary Lou is one of the nations top agility competitors. She has competed both nationally and internationally and has received numerous awards in both dog obedience as well as agility. She can be reached at 908-755-PETS(7387) or via email at petmindersinc@yahoo.com.