



Staycation Oz

Travelling Australia with a Dog Useful Information

Pre-Trip Planning

- Firstly, decide whether taking your dog travelling is a good idea. Does it work with your plans for your trip? Will your dog be happy travelling? If you're not sure, try a short camping/caravanning trip to test it out.
- Go to your vet well in advance of your trip to let your vet know your plans, and get an overall health check for your dog, plus any vaccinations and advice on travelling around different parts of Australia.
- If you do have any behavioural challenges with your dog (i.e. Excessive barking, aggressive behaviour), consider hiring a dog trainer to work with you pre-trip to address these issues.
- Ensure you have bought all the necessary equipment for your trip (it's a LOT easier than trying to buy something online while travelling!) Items we bought for the trip were as follows:
 - Dog Hammock for the car (we bought from Amazon)
 - Good quality chest harness for car and seatbelt attachment
 - Comprehensive worming/flea/tick treatment (we use Nexgard Spectra)
 - Smuzzle to protect from 1080 bait (a soft muzzle)
- We also took several things we already had at home:
 - A portable water bowl
 - Several dog leads
 - Familiar toys
 - Dog bed from home (familiar smell)
 - Dog shampoo and food bowls
- Take your dog into consideration when arranging your travel set up (car/camper/caravan/tent). Ensure there is enough space for your dog and that your dog will be comfortable in this space.

On The Road

- Keep your car a comfortable temperature for your dog when driving, and always make sure you have water (and bowl) to hand with regular drink stops.
- Continue to plan ahead as you travel. Check all locations and activities to see if any aren't dog-friendly and make arrangements accordingly. This could include:
 - Deciding to forego an activity/National Park if it isn't a priority
 - Calling ahead and arranging a dog sitter (you can find details of local dog sitters from local vets, caravan parks, Mad Paws website)
 - Staying as near as possible to the activity you want to do if you were to decide to leave the dog in the caravan – but ONLY if it is a short activity and the caravan has air con and it isn't a hot day. We do this very occasionally, but are not recommending this as an option to anyone else, as there are many factors to consider. You know your dog and should make any decisions based on all factors.
 - Make sure your dog gets plenty of exercise to reduce any anxiety (and for the obvious health reasons too).