



AIRLINE OPTIONS

OFFICAL ARBA REFERENCE GUIDE OF AIRLINE CARRIERS OFFERING TRANSPORT FOR RABBITS AND CAVIES

GET READY
to Jet Set with your
Rabbits or Cavies!

Use this guide as a quick reference for making plans to ship rabbits/cavies via air. Many of the included airlines will ship animals either as checked baggage or air cargo. Some of the airlines will only ship via air cargo. Make sure you contact the individual airlines for more specific restrictions, details, and specific pricing, as these are subject to change.

These are suggested recommendations. The American Rabbit Breeders Association does not have jurisdiction over the way airlines institute airline travel. We can offer suggestions to make your task of flying rabbits and/or cavies less stressful. The ARBA Airline Committee is working currently with IATA (International Air Transport Association) toward regulation changes in rabbits and cavies kennel requirements for flight. If this is successful we will be working hard with at least the top three airlines used by the majority of breeders for exhibition and shipping of animals in 2016. This will hopefully make airline shipping more consistent, less stressful for the breeder and a more preferred form of travel. While the committee is trying to make these arrangements, we hope breeders will be patient, courteous, cooperative, and calm but confident while work with their local airports.

TRAVEL TIPS

It is important to review the rules of the airline you will be traveling with. Don't take the word of a friend; instead talk to the airline representatives themselves. If you can talk to your local airport that is even better. If you do talk to your local airport, get a name of the representative you spoke with so if you are at the airport on a different day, you know who you have talked to.

Once you are in the airport with the animals, act like you know what you are doing BUT please act polite. Have all your paperwork in order. If you can get your live animal stickers ahead of time, that is helpful. Put the Health Certificate in a waterproof sleeve.

Remember you must make your reservations for your animals ahead of time – either as excess baggage (the animals are going on the same flight – usually a small number of animals) or as cargo (a larger number of animals they may even be going on a different airline than you are traveling on). Cargo charges by the pound, so it may be more cost effective and you maybe able to send more animals. Check how far in advance you can book and remember to book!

When paying for your animals to ship as excessive baggage, try to pay for the animals round trip if you can. This will reserve your space on the return flight and set the shipping price. It can save you time and hassle on the returning flight.

Monitor weather reports and see if you need documentation on your health certificates that the animals can fly in those temps. Also you may need to rebook if flights are being cancelled.

Make sure animals have food AND water . Some airlines will require a bag of food to be attached. Check your airlines regulations on food and water .

Use a light absorbent material like puppy pads or people pads in carrier bottoms. DO NOT USE wood shavings, hay or straw. These are easier for the TSA inspection and keep the airplanes and airports clean. It will also reduce the weight of your carrier if you are paying by the pound.

TRAVEL TIPS

Use a carrier lock/clip to secure your carriers together for stability. These lock/clips must allow carriers to be easily be taken apart for inspection . Also check if your airline requires a bumper guard around your carriers. If you are planning on putting your carriers in a dog crate/kennel make sure the airline carrier will allow it. Ask if they will allow the crate/ kennel to be cable tied closed. Lately they have been saying they want bolts with nuts. Also some will not allow a plastic door on a dog crate/ kennel even though the animals are in carriers inside the crate/ kennel, so please ask. This is up to the local airports right now.

Have handles on your carriers so airport employees do not have to come in contact with your rabbits or cavies

Check with the airport to determine your check in time for your animals. If you want a smooth check-in, and less stress **BE EARLY!!!!** Don't arrive late to the airport.

AIRLINES

ALASKA -

Website: www.alaskaair.com

Phone: 1-800-252-7522 - Cargo: 1-800-225-2752

DELTA -

Website: www.delta.com

Phone: 1-800-221-1212 - Cargo: 1-800-352-2746

UNITED -

Website: www.united.com

Phone: 1-800-575-3335

Pet safe program – Ask For Rodent Rate 1004

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