1000 new pet friendly hotels now available for road-weary travelers

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

More than 1,000 new pet-friendly AAA Approved and Diamond-rated lodgings have been added to AAAâ€™s ninth edition of Traveling With Your Pet: The AAA PetBook. This brings the total to more than 13,000 properties for the United States and Canada, all with detailed listings of fees, permitted pet sizes and conditions of stay.

Nearly every city across the United States and Canada offers pet-friendly accommodations. Many hoteliers are catering to the millions of Americans who consider their pets to be part of the family and include their pets when traveling, according to AAA. Typical treats include special menus, luxurious dog beds, food and water bowls and I.D. tags. Optional extras range from plush robes and walking service to doggie massages and grooming. Even some properties in the highest echelon of luxury and prestige â€" pet-friendly AAA Five Diamond Award hotels â€" offer special spa treatments and other indulgent activities for guests and their pets.

For travelers whose vacation tastes are more on the rugged side, the book lists more than 375 AAA Approved and Rated pet-friendly campgrounds. Other popular pet-travel activities include visiting beaches, exploring state and national parks, hiking, mountain climbing and swimming.

Traveling With Your Pet: The AAA PetBook includes detailed information and tips on traveling with pets by car and air, selecting an airline, and choosing an appropriate travel crate. The book also includes pet safety guidelines, a travel preparation checklist and listings of U.S. and Canada animal clinics and dog parks.

In addition, the book displays winning entries from the AAA PetBook Photo Contest on its covers. Linus, a mixed breed canine from Bloomington, Ind., is shown traveling in the family car, and Willow, a West Nova Scotia Duck Toller Retriever from Ontario, Canada, is pictured in a kayak.

Winning photos, the AAA Pet Photo Contest rules and entry guidelines, and a variety of valuable pet travel tips are available on AAAâ€™s PetBook Web site: AAA.com/PetBook. Contest winners receive $100, five copies of the PetBook featuring their pet, and a yearâ€™s supply of Milk-bone dog snacks.

AAA offers the following pet-travel preparation tips:

Â· Get a clean bill of health from the veterinarian. Obtain and pack up-to-date proof of recent inoculations.

Â· Brush up on good behavior. Unfamiliar travel situations may test the temperament of even the most well behaved pet.

Â· Learn about your destination. Be aware of safety and health risks at your destination, and plan accordingly.

Â· Determine the best mode of transportation. Whether youâ€™re traveling by car, air or other options, consider any restrictions on pet type and size before you go.

Â· Pack as carefully for your pet as you do for yourself. Consult the checklist of necessary items included in the PetBook.

Traveling With Your Pet: The AAA PetBook is available at select AAA Oregon/Idaho service centers.

Special member price, $14.50; non-members, $17.95.

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