

FOUR GREAT PET-FRIENDLY HOTELS IN THE U.S.

It's one of the most common questions travel agents are asked: "Can I bring my pet on my vacation?"

For many people, pets are part of the family, and being apart comes with the same woes as being apart from any loved one. And because pets are so dependent on their owners, there can be the added guilt of abandonment, even if it is just a quick but much-needed getaway. Whether you want to vacation free of the feelings associated with separation, or want to take your pet along to share the special occasion, here is a look at five options for pet-friendly lodgings:

FireSky Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, AZ

Swimming, alfresco dining, exercise, and spa treatments are popular pastimes at this elegant boutique resort and spa. In addition to being located in the heart of Scottsdale, near the city's shopping, golf course, galleries, museums and restaurants, it also has a well-deserved reputation as being one of the best pet-friendly hotels in Arizona. There is no additional charge for pets and list of pet-amenities is impressive, particularly if you're a dog-owner: welcome gifts, including Bosco's Brew (a pet-friendly beer), gourmet doggie treats, a top-quality chew toy and a logo leash; an exercise area; use of a desert doggie bed, water bowl and clean up bags during your stay; and dog walking and sitting services. All pets are welcome, and even if you're not bringing your pet along or don't have a pet, the hotel will provide you with a complimentary goldfish upon request.

W Boston, Boston, MA

If you're a traveling pet owner searching for pet-friendly accommodations, Starwood Hotels & Resorts should be at the top of your list of hotel chains. All Sheraton, Westin and W Hotels in the U.S. and Canada have a pet-friendly policy. W Boston leads the pack, with the brand's signature *P.A.W – Pets Are Welcome* program. Amenities include: a custom W pet bed, food and water bowls with a floor mat, pet toys, litter and litter boxes for cats, turn down treats, "Pet in Room" signs, dog-walking services and clean-up bags. Additional amenities like leashes, food, treats, and special pet first aid kits are also available upon request through W's Whatever/Whenever concierge program. The hotel accommodates owners just as well, with posh rooms, a chic lounge, casual-gourmet restaurant and a fantastic location within Boston's theater district.

The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa at Beaver Creek Mountain, Beaver Creek, CO

Looking to take your canine companion on a memorable mountain getaway? This upscale ski resort is ideally located in the heart of Vail Valley, adjacent to world-class skiing, shopping and dining, and many other mountain-getaway activities. The property features a 23,000-square-foot spa offering mountain-inspired treatments that utilize natural ingredients, as well as a lap

pool and two Jacuzzis, a gym with spin and yoga studios and state-of-the-art equipment, and a kids' club. Also part of Starwood Hotels & Resort, this resort welcomes dogs, who can bunk down on a Westin Heavenly Dog Bed® during their stay. Food and water bowls, as well as a pet amenity kit are also provided.

Universal Studios® Orlando, Orlando, FL

One of the most popular attractions in Orlando, Universal Studios® Orlando boasts two theme parks -- Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure, home of the brand new *Wizarding World of Harry Potter* -- as well as three onsite hotels -- Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, Hard Rock Hotel® and Loews Royal Pacific Resort -- all pet-friendly. For their own safety, pets are not allowed inside the theme parks or Universal City Walk, but pets are allowed on the hotel properties, and there are designated areas for pets to play. In-room pet amenities include beds for dogs and cats, pet walking and even a pet room service menu.

For the comfort of all pets and guests, the hotels mentioned above, as well as other pet-friendly hotels, have designed specific policies that all guests are asked to abide by during their stay. Policies vary from hotel to hotel, and guests should consult their travel agent during the time of booking, or check with the hotel directly. Pets should have all recommended vaccinations up-to-date, and should obtain current records from a licensed veterinarian should they be asked to provide documentation.

Ready to book a vacation for you and your pet? Contact a Liberty Travel Vacation Expert today by calling 1.877.LIBERTY or visiting libertytravel.com.

For press enquiries, contact PR@libertytravel.com.

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