

# Handlers’ Experiential Research

*The TravelPaws website* [*https://www.travelpaws.info*](https://www.travelpaws.info/) *aims to be a comprehensive information source for people travelling with an Assistance Dog anywhere in the world.*

*Our goal is to enable handlers to travel with their Assistance Dog stress-free.*

*We invite you to join the* [*TravelPaws Facebook*](https://www.facebook.com/groups/travelpaws) *group to share travel ideas and experiences with each other.*

**We want to hear from you.**

Below is a list of questions that we would like you to consider when travelling with your Assistance Dog overseas. The questions cover the bureaucracies of travel, Access experiences and recommendations & tips.

There is a wide array of things we would like to know about, but please feel free to answer only those you wish. Anything you can impart will be a huge value to other handlers in the future.

We invite you to be a key part of this research process and look forward to your input.

## Questions about your International travel experience

Please provide your responses underneath the relevant question and send to *nina@travelpaws.info*

### Bureaucracies

* In planning your trip -what are your tips for others about the quarantine process and airline/cruise ship selection?
* Were you required to obtain a local Assistance Dog Certificate or equivalent?
* What contact details did you use for overseas quarantine?
* How long was your trip? When and where did you have to visit a vet as part of quarantine?
* Do you recommend your quarantine approved vet (local or overseas)? Why? What are their details?
* What was your overall experience of travelling with an Assistance Dog and going through quarantine?
* What were the total costs associated with having your Assistance Dog with you on this trip?

### Travelling experience

#### Airport/Seaport

* What were the requirements for restraining your dog on the plane?
* Which airports/seaports did you choose and why?
* Any tips for toileting on the journey?
* Was the airport/seaport easy to navigate and was assistance readily available?
* Where specifically can dogs toilet at the airport /seaport on arrival?

#### Travelling around

* Were there different experiences in different states / territories / cities / rural and on different transport?
* Was it easy to access dog food in the country? What brand and where did you buy it (can you provide an email address if you have one?)
* Were there plenty of dog toileting places and what was the protocol?
* Were there any dog hazards?
* Were there any off-leash parks and beaches and if so, how accessible were they?

### Access experience

* What was your experience of Access laws in this country regarding the use of public transport, hotels, restaurants and shops?
* Were you asked to show your local Assistance Dog certificate or equivalent certificate anywhere?
* Did the Access rules differ anywhere? (in different states / territories / cities / rural and on different transport?)
* Where you refused Access anywhere?

### Overall experience and impression

* Would you recommend travelling to this country with an Assistance Dog?
* Is there anything about this country that visitors should be mindful of i.e. people with dog allergies, hygiene issues, small spaces or cultural sensitivities, weather?
* Overall was your experience positive for both you and your Assistance Dog?
* Was there a highlight of your trip?
* What are your tips for travelling stress-free with an Assistance dog in general?

Lastly, do you have any photos or videos you wish to share on the website which will help other handlers? Are there any countries you wish us to prioritise in our research?

Please feel free to add other information you think is relevant.

*Thank you for contributing to help other handlers travel stress-free with their Assistance Dog.*