

Delta™ Airlines Pet Policy : The Comprehensive Guide 2025

Delta's carry-on pet policy is fairly strict, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) requiring pets to be in a soft-sided carrier that fits comfortably under the seat in front of you, allowing the pet to stand, turn, and lie down. While a soft-sided carrier with dimensions of 18" x 11" x 11" is recommended, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) the carrier's maximum size is determined by your specific aircraft, so you must contact Delta to confirm the dimensions. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) Pets must remain in the secured carrier at all times when in the airport boarding area and on board the aircraft.

Delta charges \$150 for a pet to travel in the cabin on domestic flights (U.S./Canada/Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands) and \$200 for international flights, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) with these fees applying each way per pet for tickets issued on or after April 8, 2025. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) Fees vary for specific international routes, such as those to or from Brazil.

No, you cannot buy a seat for your dog on Delta Air Lines; all pets traveling in the cabin must remain in an approved carrier that fits under the seat in front of you for the entire flight. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) Delta's policy requires pets to stay in their carriers due to safety concerns with securing them on a seat and to avoid obstructions or disruptions to other passengers.

Yes, Delta requires a health certificate for most pet travel, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) but the specific requirements vary: You need a health certificate issued within 10 days of travel for pets traveling as cargo or checked baggage. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) For pets traveling in the cabin on domestic flights, Delta does not typically require a health certificate, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) but the destination state or country may still require one, so it's crucial to check destination-specific regulations.

If you're planning to travel with your pet on Delta Airlines, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) it's important to understand their guidelines well in advance. Delta offers three main options for pet travel: in the cabin, as checked baggage (in rare cases), or through Delta Cargo. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) However, rules vary based on destination, aircraft type, and your pet's size and breed.

For pets traveling in the cabin, Delta allows small dogs, cats, and household birds on many domestic and select international flights. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) The pet must be at least 8 weeks old for domestic travel. For international flights into the United States, dogs must usually be 6 months old and cats 16 weeks old. ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) To travel to or from the European Union, pets must be at least 15 weeks old. The animal must remain inside a ventilated, ☎+1-(833)-750-0395 (US) leak-proof carrier that fits under the seat in front of you.

Only one pet per carrier is permitted, although exceptions exist for two small pets of the same species and similar size under specific conditions.

Pets must stay inside their carrier throughout the entire flight, including during boarding and deplaning. Carriers must allow the pet to turn around and lie down comfortably without touching the sides. Some aircraft and seating classes may not accommodate pets, especially those with limited under-seat storage or in exit rows.

Delta charges a pet-in-cabin fee. For domestic flights, the fee was previously \$95, but tickets issued on or after April 8, 2025, are charged \$150. For international travel, the pet fee is generally \$200, depending on currency and route. Certain destinations such as Australia, Brazil, and the Dominican Republic may prohibit in-cabin pet travel, requiring you to use Delta Cargo instead.

For pets that are too large for cabin travel, or for destinations where cabin travel isn't allowed, Delta Cargo is the alternative. Pets shipped via cargo must be dropped off at designated Delta Cargo facilities several hours before the flight. There are also strict guidelines for kennel sizes, ventilation, labeling, feeding, and temperature requirements. In some cases, pet shipments may be denied due to extreme heat or cold at the origin or destination.

Checked baggage travel for pets is no longer widely available. Delta only permits this option for active U.S. military personnel and U.S. State Department foreign service officers under specific conditions. For the general public, cargo is the only option if in-cabin travel isn't possible.

Delta also restricts travel for certain snub-nosed breeds, like bulldogs and Persian cats, especially in cargo or checked baggage, due to their respiratory sensitivities.

When it comes to service animals, Delta only allows trained service dogs to fly free of charge. Emotional support animals are no longer accepted as service animals. If you're traveling with a service dog, forms may be required to confirm training and health, especially for longer flights.

Because policies may change and depend on the route and type of aircraft, it's strongly recommended that travelers contact Delta customer service or speak with a representative at +1-833-750-0395 to confirm the most current rules for their specific journey.

FAQs

Can I bring my pet in the cabin on Delta flights?

Yes, Delta allows small dogs, cats, and household birds in the cabin for many domestic and international routes. The pet must stay in a carrier under the seat in front of you and remain inside it for the entire flight. Fees apply, and space is limited, so early booking is recommended.

Are there any age or size restrictions for pets flying with Delta?

Yes, pets must meet minimum age requirements depending on the route. For example, pets must be at least 8 weeks old for domestic flights and 15 to 16 weeks for international travel. The pet must also be small enough to fit comfortably in an airline-approved carrier.

Can I check my pet as baggage on Delta?

Not typically. Delta no longer offers checked baggage pet transport for most travelers. Only active U.S. military or government officials under special circumstances can use this option. For everyone else, pets that can't fly in the cabin must be transported via Delta Cargo.

What is Delta Cargo and how does it work for pets?

Delta Cargo is a service for transporting larger pets or animals that are not allowed in the cabin. Pets are dropped off at special cargo facilities and travel in pressurized, climate-controlled areas of the aircraft. This service has specific rules regarding crate size, temperature limits, and travel timing.

Are service animals or emotional support animals allowed on Delta?

Delta only accepts trained service dogs as official service animals. Emotional support animals, regardless of their training or role, are no longer permitted to fly in the cabin for free. Travelers with service animals may be required to submit forms before departure for verification.