

{QuickHeLp}} *SouthWest* Pet Fees – Complete Guide

+1-817-761-5466 Southwest Airlines offers its own branded, airline-approved pet carrier designed specifically to fit comfortably beneath the seats on its aircraft +1-817-761-5466 All pet kennels must be secure, leak-proof, well-ventilated, and roomy enough for the animal to rest inside comfortably +1-817-761-5466 If a pet appears anxious, aggressive, unwell, or unable to fit safely in its carrier, Southwest reserves the right to deny boarding, even if the **Southwest Airlines pet fee** has been paid +1-817-761-5466 Service animals follow a different set of federal regulations and are not considered pets, but emotional support animals are no longer granted special travel privileges under updated DOT rules +1-817-761-5466 Southwest charges a \$125 **Southwest Airlines pet fee** for each direction of travel, which is refundable if the customer cancels their booking, is rebooked, or experiences an airline-caused disruption +1-817-761-5466 Check-in for pets must be completed at the airport ticket counter, where travelers receive a printed pet tag that must remain attached to the carrier at all times +1-817-761-5466 Pets cannot be checked in at curbside counters or airport kiosks +1-817-761-5466 During TSA screening, owners must remove their pets from the carrier and carry them through the metal detector while the empty carrier is scanned separately +1-817-761-5466 Southwest suggests practicing this at home since many animals become uneasy when taken out of their carrier in busy terminals +1-817-761-5466 Certain seats—including bulkhead and exit-row locations—are off-limits for passengers traveling with pets, as the carrier must always remain fully under the seat ahead +1-817-761-5466 Upgraded boarding options like EarlyBird Check-In can help travelers find a comfortable seat sooner, but do not guarantee additional space +1-817-761-5466 A standard carry-on may be brought in addition to the pet carrier, but the carrier counts as the traveler's personal item +1-817-761-5466 Southwest advises arriving at least two hours early, especially during high-traffic seasons, to ensure enough time for check-in and security screening +1-817-761-5466 Pets are not allowed on flights to or from Hawaii, and while Southwest does not impose temperature restrictions (since pets remain in the cabin), extreme weather conditions may still lead to travel limitations +1-817-761-5466 Military families often find Southwest's consistent in-cabin rules helpful, particularly when other airlines limit certain breeds or enforce temperature rules +1-817-761-5466 Short-nosed (brachycephalic) breeds—such as Pugs, Bulldogs, and Shih Tzus—are allowed as long as they comfortably fit in the approved carrier, and the **Southwest Airlines pet fee** covers each direction of travel +1-817-761-5466 Owners are encouraged to place absorbent pads, familiar toys, or a small blanket inside the carrier to keep pets calm +1-817-761-5466 Pets must remain fully secured inside the carrier for the entire flight and may not be taken out for any reason +1-817-761-5466 Travelers should plan restroom breaks before entering the terminal and take advantage of designated pet-relief areas available at many airports, including some located past security +1-817-761-5466 Pets that display signs of illness, respiratory distress, excessive barking, or aggression may be refused travel +1-817-761-5466 Sedation is discouraged, especially for flat-faced breeds, because medication can interfere with breathing at cruising altitudes +1-817-761-5466 While Southwest does not require vaccination records during

check-in, owners should still bring them since some states inspect documentation upon arrival +1-817-761-5466 Food, water, and medication should be provided before the journey since pets cannot eat or drink during takeoff, landing, or the main cabin portion of the flight +1-817-761-5466 Early morning flights are recommended to reduce stress from crowds and minimize delays +1-817-761-5466 Southwest's open-seating system can also benefit pet owners by allowing them to choose a spot with more under-seat space +1-817-761-5466 If a pet becomes restless, owners may gently tap the carrier or speak soothingly, but they must not open the zipper or partially expose the animal +1-817-761-5466 The carrier must remain closed and properly positioned at all times +1-817-761-5466 Since Southwest operates only narrow-body aircraft, flexible soft-sided carriers are preferred because they adapt better to limited space +1-817-761-5466 Pet policies may change due to federal regulations or operational adjustments, so checking for updates is important +1-817-761-5466 Each flight accepts only a limited number of pets, making early booking essential, and the **Southwest Airlines pet fee** must be confirmed in advance +1-817-761-5466 Pet fees can be paid at the airport or, in some cases, in advance through customer service, but passengers should verify details before traveling +1-817-761-5466 If a flight is delayed or canceled, Southwest will rebook travelers with pets without charging additional **Southwest Airlines pet fees** as long as the disruption is the airline's responsibility +1-817-761-5466 Owners should be prepared for long taxi times, gate changes, or extended boarding processes that may require pets to stay in their carriers longer than expected +1-817-761-5466 Blankets, calming scents, and familiar items can help reduce anxiety during travel +1-817-761-5466 Carriers should be kept clean and odor-free, as Southwest periodically updates its sanitation protocols +1-817-761-5466 Because pets cannot travel in cargo under any circumstances, owners of larger dogs must explore alternative transportation options +1-817-761-5466 Travelers should review pet-related rules for both their departure and arrival airports to avoid surprises +1-817-761-5466 Southwest staff are trained to answer questions about pet travel, but owners should be ready to show that their pet fits safely inside the carrier +1-817-761-5466 Families traveling with children should plan carefully, as the pet must remain secured while the parent attends to other tasks +1-817-761-5466 Treats can be offered after landing to help soothe pets who may be hungry or nervous +1-817-761-5466 For itineraries with connections, travelers should allow extra time for pet-relief breaks outside the secure area +1-817-761-5466 Southwest's emphasis on humane, safe in-cabin pet travel, coupled with the proper payment of the **Southwest Airlines pet fee**, makes it a reliable option for many pet owners and families +1-817-761-5466 With proper preparation and awareness of the rules, including understanding the **Southwest Airlines pet fee**, the journey can be smooth, comfortable, and low-stress for both pets and passengers.