

## **BRINGING YOUR PETS TO STUTT GART?**

Below are some key points you should know before you plan your trip and if you follow this information then bringing in your pet will be a much smoother transition.

### Direct Flights into Stuttgart

There are two U.S.-flag carriers that fly directly into Stuttgart; United Airlines from Newark, New Jersey and Delta Airlines from Atlanta, Georgia.

Delta Airlines do not allow pets to fly in the cargo hold for flights into Stuttgart. Passengers in Economy section can bring small dogs or cats with them as long as the pet can fit under the seat. Delta has a limit of 2 pets total for the flight; thus is imperative that you make your reservation as soon as possible. No other types of pets are allowed.

United Airlines does allow pets to fly into Stuttgart, for military personnel on PCS orders on weekdays. See their website for further information: <http://www.united.com/web/en-US/content/travel/animals/default.aspx>.

Pets are not allowed to fly out of Stuttgart back to Newark/CONUS.

Should you fly into Stuttgart with a pet; German Customs authorities will determine if a veterinarian is needed to examine your pet.

There will be charge of approximately 55 to 90 Euros from the veterinarian for his examination. Payment must be made in cash. Expect a three to five hour wait for the veterinarian to arrive, as he is not onsite. Even longer waits on weekends.

### Flying into other Airports

If you are flying into another airport (e.g.: Frankfurt, Paris, Amsterdam) with a pet; these airports have veterinarians on duty. Again there will be charge for the pet examination.

During summer months, some pets will not be allowed to be checked in as "luggage" if the climate is in excess of 85 degrees Fahrenheit (temperature restriction is at the discretion of the airline).

## Patriot Express and Space-A Flights into Ramstein AFB

Only PCS status passengers may request pet shipment. Pets cannot be shipped by personnel in a leave or TDY/TAD status. Sponsor(s)/ dependent(s) must accompany the pet to the final destination. Pets are defined as dogs and cats only and are restricted to a maximum of two pets per family. The maximum weight (kennel and pet) cannot exceed 150lbs. Waivers will not be issued for weight or type of pets.

Further info can be found at:

<http://www.ramstein.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=5029>

### Planning Ahead

This information is subject to change. Always check with the airlines and your sponsor prior to arranging your travel to Stuttgart.

See your veterinarian for advice on preparing your pet for shipment. Consider factors such as feeding, watering, sedative, etc. If at all possible, do not ship female pets that are in heat (estrus). This condition causes great distress to other pets and may result in injury.

Kennels must be a hard-shell, hard-sided International Air Transport Association (IATA) or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) approved kennel which are available at most exchange/retail stores. Soft-sided or collapsible kennels will be not be accepted by most airlines. The kennel must be large enough for the animal to stand up, turn around, and lie down with normal posture and body movements. Several layers of newspaper, shredded paper, or absorbent material should be placed in the bottom of the container. Do not use straw, hay, grass, sawdust, sand, or soil. Normally, pets will be individually kenneled; However, two small animals of the same species and of comparable size up to 20 pounds may be shipped in the same kennel.