Preparing Pets for Overseas PCS Move: Tips

Below is a list of tips to help you through your PCS move with your pets.

Tip 1: Temperatures of 85 degrees Fahrenheit can prevent your pet from flying due to airline policy. If you are PCSing between May and September, prepare to have to an alternate plan in case your pet is unable to fly at that time.

- Choose early morning or late evening flight to avoid the worst heat of the day.
- Leave a Power of Attorney with a trusted friend is willing to watch your pet and make arrangements to fly them to you at a later date.

Tip 2: For several weeks before the flight get your pet used to spending several hours in their travel crate at a time.

Tip 3: Talk to your airline about specific crate requirements.

- For AMC flights, pet and container should not exceed 150 pounds.
- Pet(s) must be able to lie down, stand up, and turn around in their container.
- Generally, for your pet’s safety, softsided and collapsible kennels are not allowed except for in-cabin use for authorized small pets.

Tip 4: Freeze water in either a water dish or a water bottle the night before. It is also suggested that you not feed your pet within six hours of departure.

Tip 5: Some airlines no longer accepts snub-nosed or pug-nosed dogs and cats as checked baggage. Cargo is available for certain breeds, please see their website.

Tip 6: Due to adverse side effects, talk to your veterinarian about whether the use of tranquilizers or sedatives is recommended for your pet during travel.

Tip 7: Contact your airliner to determine weight restrictions.

POC information:

Kadena Veterinary Clinic: 966-7593
Animal Quarantine Naha Airport: 857-4468.