

Petiquette

GUIDE TO STAYING IN A HOTEL WITH YOUR DOG





Introduction

Any self-respecting and socially sophisticated dog-about-town will feel just as at home in a cosy country manner as they will in the elegance of a city establishment.

Distinguished and well groomed; his suitcase carries only the finest attire of collar and lead. Conducting himself with dignity; he never forces his barking opinions upon a fellow guest.

To ensure that your hotel-going hound doesn't put a paw wrong whilst in the lap of luxury, or commit any unwitting faux pas by using the wrong bone at dinner: check out our guide to hotel stays and petiquette.



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Before you book

Not all hotels are pet-friendly. You must ask for a pet policy prior to booking; if your chosen hotel is not made aware of your intentions, they will be under no obligation to accommodate your dog after a booking has been made. Bookings may be non-refundable.

If a hotel is pet-friendly, turning up with your dog and hoping for the best isn't advisable. Many country house hotels allocate certain rooms to guests with dogs, usually ground floor rooms with direct access to an outdoor area. Informing the hotel, at the booking stage, that you will be accompanied by your pet during your stay, is highly recommended.

CHECK THE PET POLICY FOR:

- Dog size
- Number of dogs per room
- Age of dog

WHAT IN-ROOM FACILITIES DOES THE HOTEL OFFER?

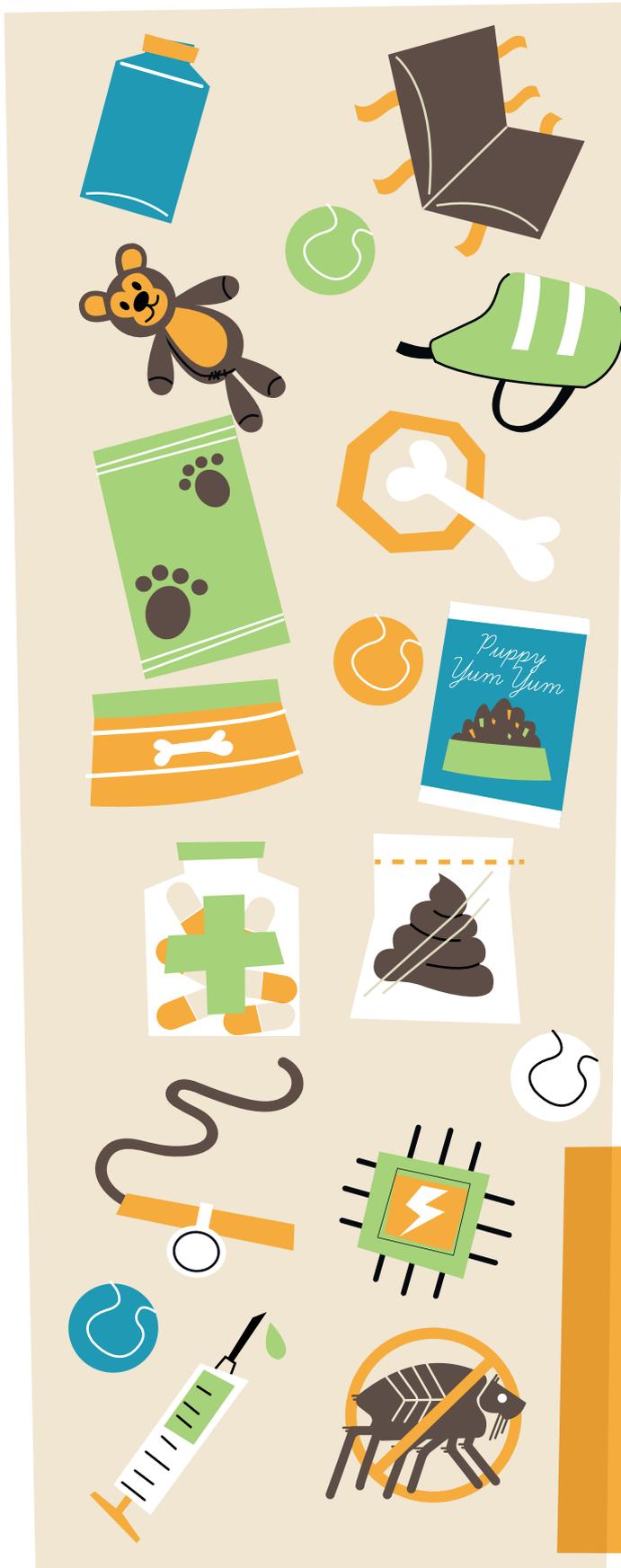
- Dog bed
- Dog bowls
- Blankets
- Toys
- Special pet menu
- Fridges to store your own wet food

DOES THE HOTEL OFFER SPECIAL SERVICES?

- Dog-sitter
- Dog-walker
- Dog grooming



Before you go



Although many luxury hotels provide bedding, bowls and toys to make your pooch feel at home, you shouldn't take this for granted. Pack with all eventualities in mind, as budget hotels are not likely to offer accessories to accommodate your dog.

THINGS TO TAKE:

PET TRAVEL WATER BOTTLE

CAR SEAT COVER – can also be used in hotel rooms to avoid excessive cleaning bills

PET COMFORTER SMELLING OF HOME – to quickly settle your dog

REFLECTIVE JACKET FOR CITY WALKS – for visibility on busy roads

TOWELS – to clean muddy paws after walks around the grounds

CAR HARNESS – for the journey

FAVOURITE TOYS AND CHEWS

TRAVEL BOWL AND MAT – to keep carpets clean

FOOD FOR SPECIAL DIETS – don't rely on a hotel for complicated diets

MEDICATION, if required

POOP BAGS ah, the joys of poop scooping

LEAD OR HARNESS

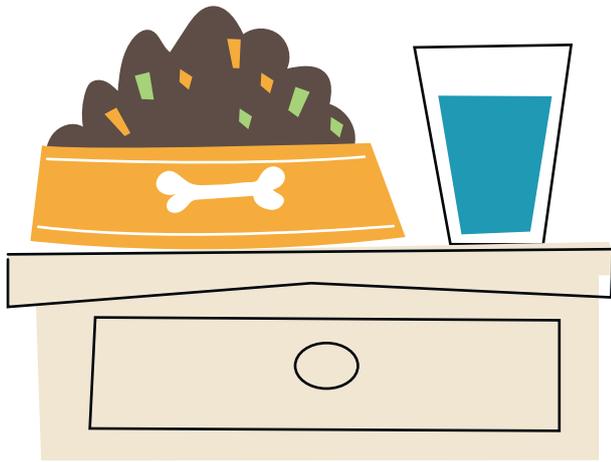
DON'T FORGET:

MICROCHIPPING AND ID TAG – a dog in an unfamiliar environment is more likely to run off and get lost.

VACCINATIONS ARE UP-TO-DATE – there may be other dogs at the hotel.

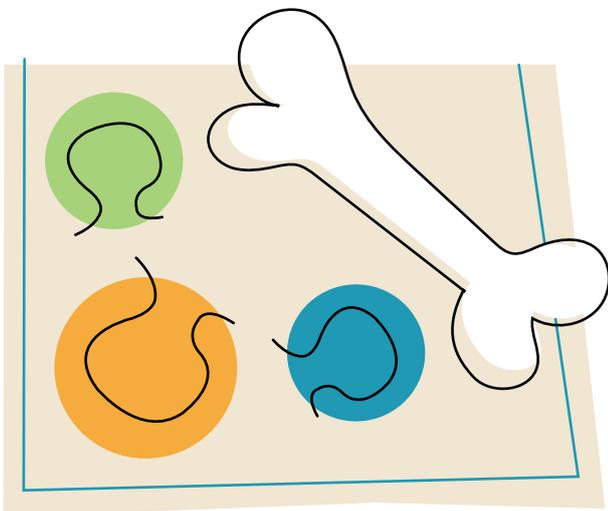
DE-FLEA AND WORM – before you leave home.

Upon arrival at your hotel room, you'll be ready to relax and unwind – here are some great tips for helping your pup to do the same.



TAKE A WALK

Walk your dog on arrival, as this will quell any restlessness they may feel – many hotels offer a dog-walking service which frees you up for a spot of relaxation or pampering yourself!



In the room

B, B & B

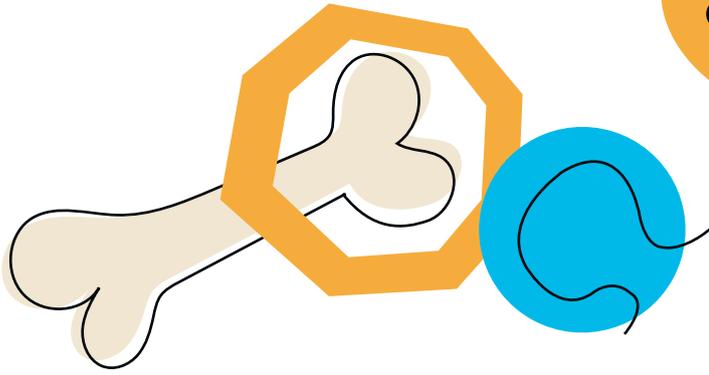
Most luxury hotels provide a dog bed, bowls, blankets and food. The best will also offer toys, welcome packs, treats and special bespoke chef menus. A budget hotel is unlikely to match this, so be prepared.



SMELLS LIKE HOME

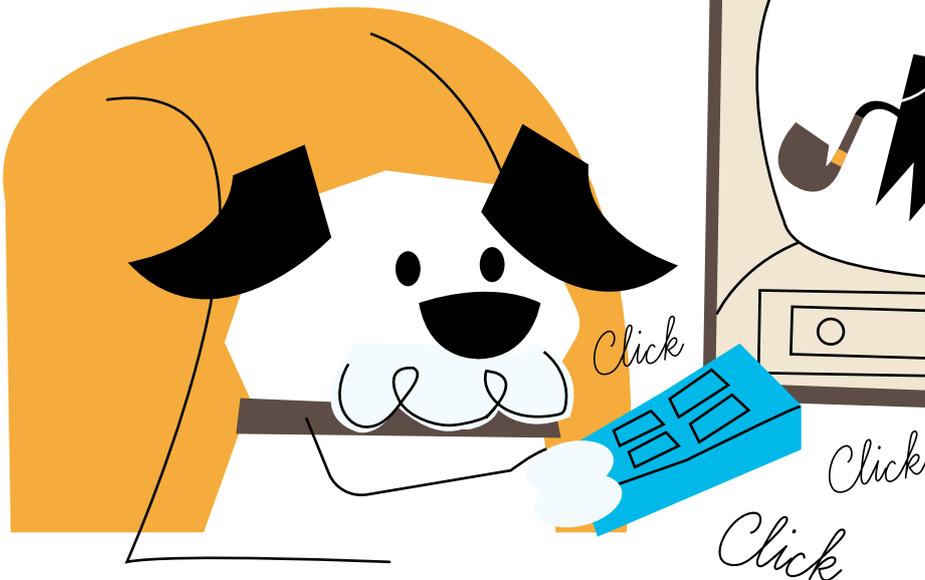
Bring familiar items that smell of home to help settle and comfort your dog; for example, a blanket, favourite toys, or a cushion.

In the room



CHEWY TOY

Give your doggy a chew or toy to discourage them from chomping on any chair legs!



TELEVISION NOISE

Leaving the television on will help to cover up any background noise that may unsettle your protective pup and cause him to bark.

DON'T LEAVE THEM ALONE

Many hotels have a policy that dogs cannot be left unattended in rooms, as a lonely dog may bark for attention or scratch at the door, which invariably causes nuisance and possibly damage.

DO NOT DISTURB

Always place the 'do not disturb' sign on the door to prevent hotel staff entering and surprising your dog. Housekeeping will only clean rooms if the owner is present.



Restrictions

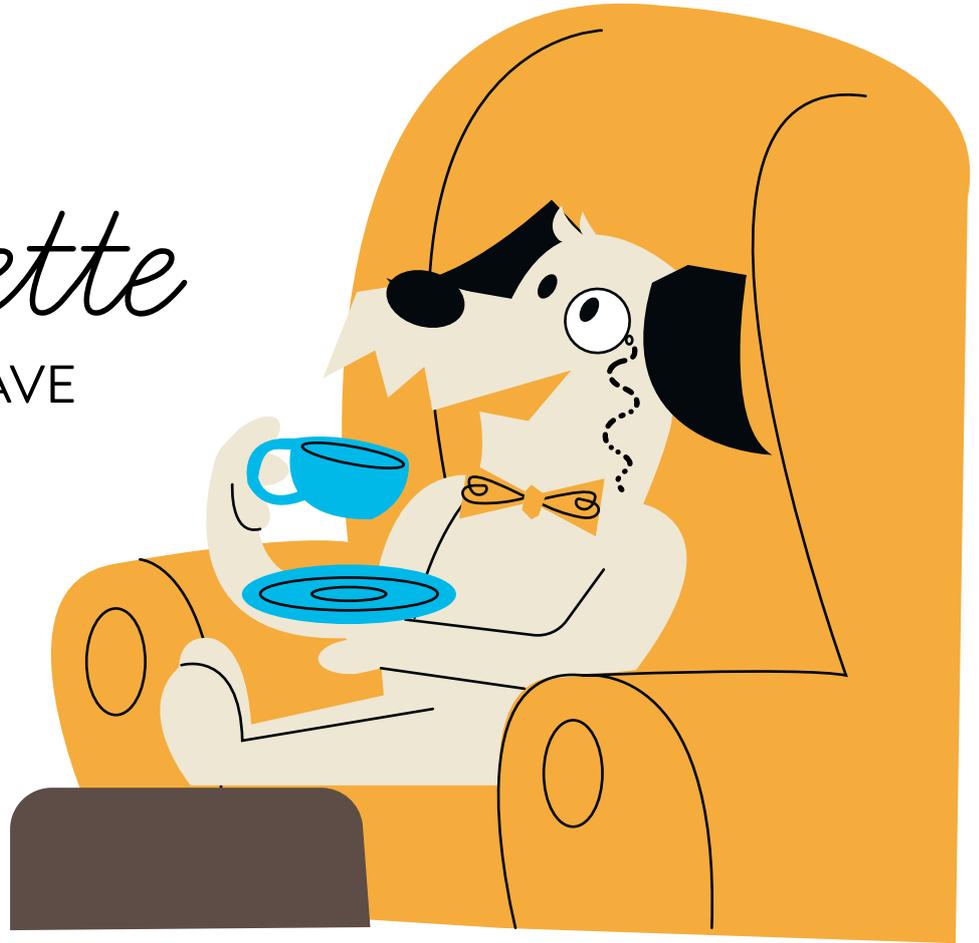
- Most hotels have restrictions for the size of dog permitted during a stay. The usual size restriction is 75/80lbs – equal to the size of a Labrador, Setter or German Shepherd.
- Dogs are required to be on a lead at all times in all public areas and around the hotel premises, even outside in hotel grounds.
- Hotels take a firm stance against dogs accompanying guests at restaurants or food service areas. (This does not apply to guide dogs).
- Many hotels won't accept puppies and dogs under one-year-old, so checking prior to booking is advisable.
- There is often a limit on the number of dogs per room, usually based on the size of the dog and the room. Some hotels accept five small dogs in a large room, others one large dog in a small room – you can double check this with the hotel before you book.



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Finally, follow our simple rules of etiquette to ensure everyone is happy on your doggycation.



WELL BEHAVED

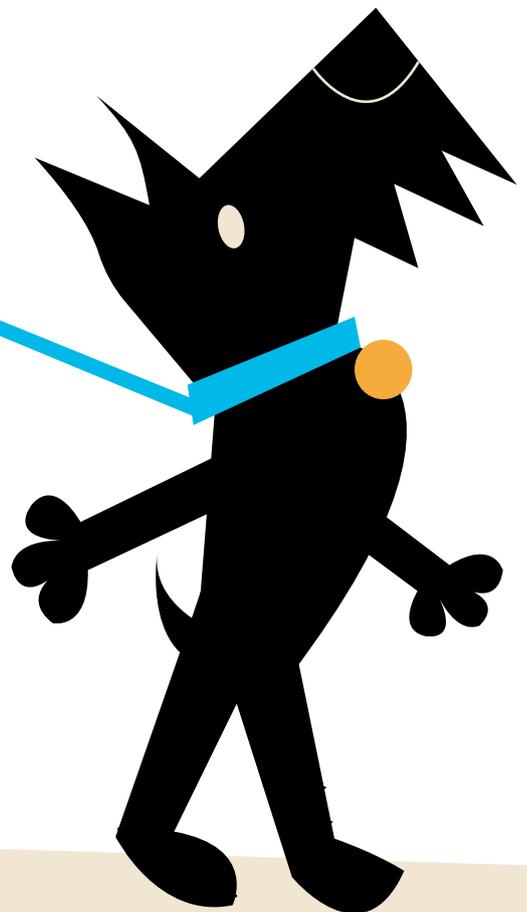
As a socially sophisticated chap, your dog-about-town is always on his best behaviour. If he cannot show a well-bred level of decorum, he will be asked to leave.

LEADERS

A well-bred dog always carries himself with dignity in public areas and wears his lead with pride to show off his attached owner.

CONSIDERATE

The eloquent hound never makes unwanted advances on another guest by approaching, jumping up or licking. He shows consideration and is mindful that some people, especially children, are fearful of dogs.



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OVERLY OPINIONATED

Incessantly noisy canines will be escorted off the premises. Barking your opinions at others is considered ill-mannered and rather tiresome.



IF YOU POOP, THEN SCOOP

One wouldn't poop on one's own bedroom floor now would one? If a little 'slip' should occur, then one's designated human should be immediately on hand to clean up the mess.

FLEAS AND WORMS

Nothing could cause more social embarrassment than leaving 'little friends' behind in the room after one's stay. Therefore, any hotel-going-hound will be flea and worm free before arrival.





The information in this guide was reviewed by the [RSPCA](#).

Please note that the information contained is for domestic dogs only. Assistance and guide dogs have special rules, which [you can read here](#):

All information is correct at the time of publishing. Please check with the hotel before booking to ensure policies have not changed. We cannot be responsible for any changes of information after publication.

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