

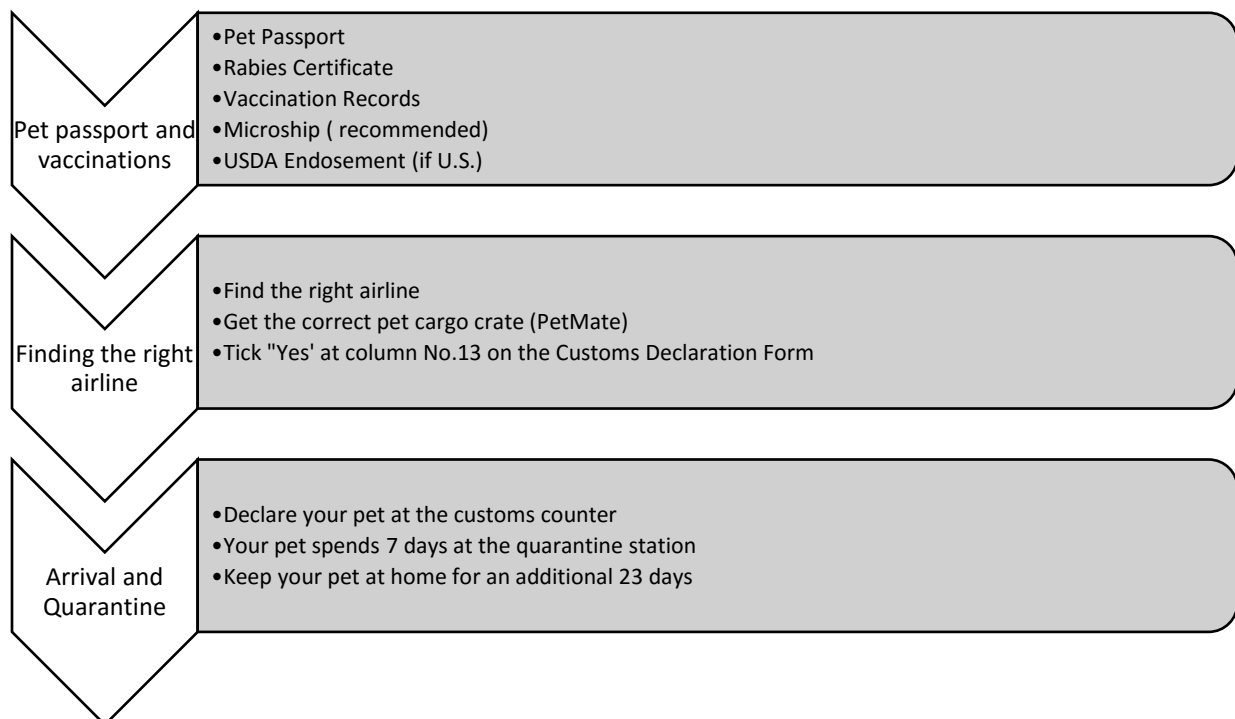
Bringing a pet to China:

What are the steps to follow?

Anyone who has a pet knows that it is very difficult to leave him or her behind for an extended period of time. The following info sheet is intended for all pet-owners (teachers or other professionals) who plan on making the move to the Middle Kingdom. While it is certainly possible to take your pet to China, we want you to ask yourself two questions before you continue reading.

- 1) Is it in the best interest of my pet if I were to take her/him with me to China?
- 2) Will I be staying in China for a year or longer?
- 3) Am I willing to foot the bill and go through the trouble of getting the right vaccinations and paperwork for my canine or feline friend?

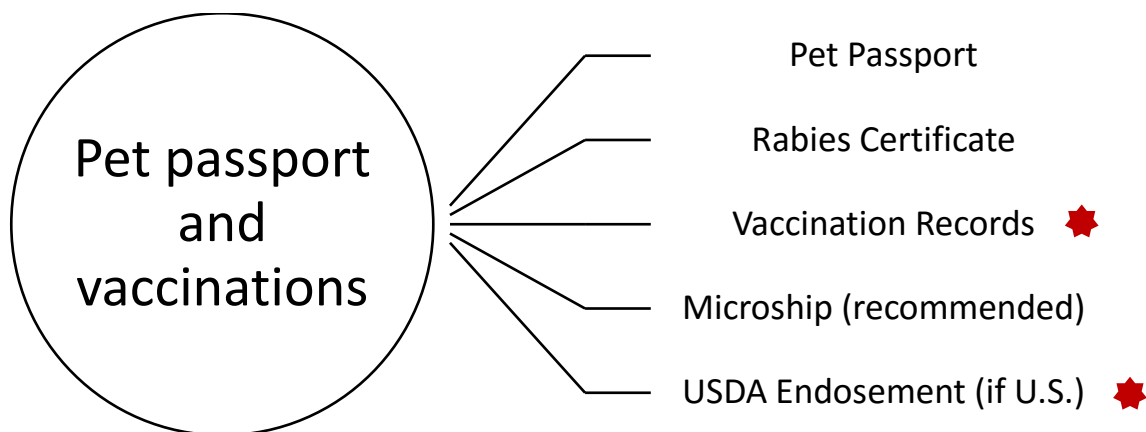
If the answer to any of these questions is no, bringing your pet might not be the best idea. The process is costly and cumbersome, but if you love your pet it is definitely worth it.



Step 1: Getting your pet passport and vaccinations

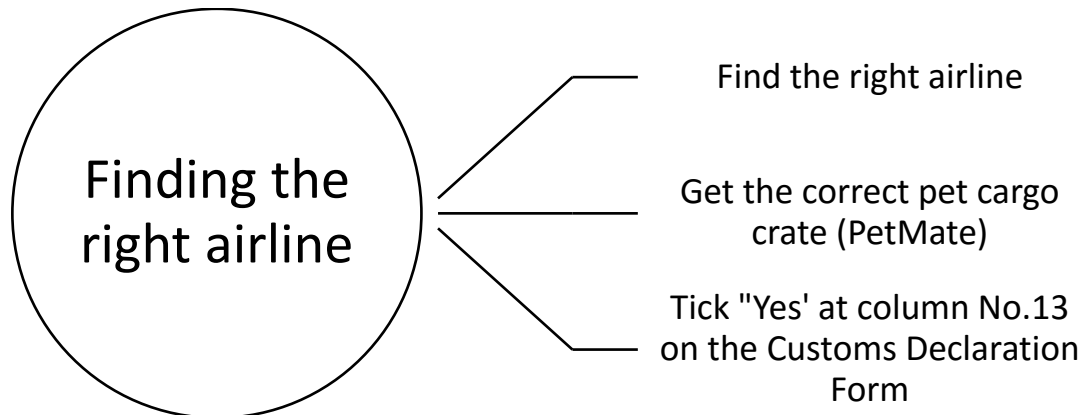
Like their owners, pets also need a special pet passport to travel to a different country. Like ours, the pet passport is an official document that records information related to the specific animal. All countries require pet owners to bring this documents if they intend to travel internationally with their pet. In addition to the passport, cats and dogs must have an original Rabies Certificate proving they received the vaccination more than 30 days from the day of departure, but within the last year. Finally, the pet owner needs to bring proof of current vaccination records*.

U.S. nationals will also need to get a Vet Health Certificate (Form 7001) filled out by their local veterinarian that's issued within 10 days of the flight in order to export their pet. Although an ISO-compatible microchip isn't required to enter China, it might be required for your destination country if you are exporting from China once you've finished your contract.



★ Current Vaccination Records		★ USDA Endorsement
Dogs	Cats	
<p>Chlamydia Psittaci</p> <p>Canine Distemper, Parvovirus, Hepatitis and Leptospirosis</p> <p><i>Feline Cat Flu-Feline Calicivirus</i> <i>Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis</i> <i>Cat Enteritis-Feline Panleukopaenia</i> <i>Feline Parvo Virus</i></p>	<p>Microchip Implantation Record</p> <p>Rabies Certificate</p> <p>Vaccination Records</p> <p>Vet Health Certificate</p>	

Step 2: Finding the right airline and pet cargo crate



Once you have all your documents in order, you should look into your airline's requirements when it comes to pets. Small dogs and cats can usually travel as carry-on luggage, while large dogs must be checked in as cargo. Lufthansa, Continental, JetBlue, Delta and KLM are some of the [pet friendliest airlines](#).

Not all airlines allow animals to be checked in as cargo, and some don't allow passengers to check their pets as carry-on luggage. To view the requirements for individual airlines, visit their [airline pet policies page](#). As far as pet cargo crates are concerned, [PetMate](#)'s crates are specially designed for travelling animals and therefore meet all the standards for pets travelling as air cargo or checked baggage.

Before your plane lands, the flight attendant will distribute a Customs Declaration Form for Incoming Passengers. Be sure to tick "Yes" at column No. 13 declaring to Customs at the "Red" passage at the airport that you have your pet animals traveling with you as accompanied baggage.

More information on [Airline Pet Cargo Requirements](#).

Step 3: Quarantine and registration

Once you've arrived in China, you should collect your pet at the airport and proceed to the customs counter to declare your pet. After Customs clearance, your pet animal(s) will be detained at the



government kennel for further Quarantine clearance and inspection for a period of 30 days. Out of these 30 days, the pet will be kept in a quarantine station for 7 days and the remainder of the time (if the pet passes inspection tests such as rabies) can be spent at home with the owner.

Bear in mind that you cannot visit your pet during the 7 days the pet is in the quarantine station, and owners are required to pay around 2,000 RMB in fees for the quarantine time to cover food and other expenses.

Please Note:

If your plane arrives in China after 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays or public holidays as the Quarantine officers may not be available and your pet animals will be detained at the airport of arrival unattended.

Sources and useful links:

Agencies that will help you ship your four-legged friend

- [Export a Pet](#)
- [World Care Pet](#)
- [Continental International Moving](#)
- [PetRelocation](#)
- [Asian Express International Movers](#)
- [Veterinarian in China](#)

About Teaching Nomad:

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