

Pet Deposits: What to expect

More and more travelers are bringing companions wherever they go. They bring anything from people to pets. Meanwhile apartments are making it easier for travelers to have their pets with them, but it does come with a price. How expensive is it to bring a pet? This is the question I explored with a couple of travelers who were kind enough to share what they have experienced.

In addition to normal pet supplies, you will be required to pay a pet deposit wherever you go. Some pet deposits are a one time nonrefundable fee, while many of them are refundable. What does refundable mean though? According to Sandy and Craig, two experienced travelers who have pets, refundable means that you get a portion of the deposit back. "Most of the time, if the place is in good shape, about half of the deposit is refunded", says Craig. Sometimes, it takes as long as 30 days to get their refund.

Often the apartments charge them an average of \$300 to \$400 dollars for a pet deposit. Some places are higher, especially in California, ranging anywhere from \$500 to \$1000 dollars. "I don't mind paying the deposits", says Sandy. "It is worth it to have my little friend with me. He loves to travel as much as I do."

In summary, if you take a new assignment every 3 months throughout the year, you could end up paying \$1200 dollars or more in pet deposits. You may get \$600 dollars of it back leaving a remainder total of \$600 or more in pet deposits for the year. Is that worth it, to take your loyal lovable pet with you? Most pet lovers would say "yes." On the other hand, if you are on a really tight budget or don't find yourself really feeling like a pet lover, you may want to leave the pet with a friend or relative. While animals are often less needy than people, they do still require our time, attention, and sometimes money too.