

OUTING WITH YOUR DOG to B... Carsick Free!

With canine motion sickness the leading reason pet owners are not able to take their dogs on day trips or holidays, we are encouraging more people to talk with us about managing travel with their dog. The number of holiday destinations that accept pets is on the increase and there are opportunities to take dogs to off leash parks, beaches etc. Still, one in four dogs will suffer from vomiting caused by motion sickness.

There is a new canine prescription medication for the prevention of vomiting from a wide range of causes, including motion sickness. Worldwide, this treatment has seen thousands of dogs successfully treated for vomiting. When dogs travel, motion can affect the inner ear which sends signals to the vomiting centre in the brain. Or, they may just feel anxious about the traveling itself and this can initiate a vomiting reflex. The new medication does not cause drowsiness, dogs will be alert during travel and upon arrival, and will thus be able to enjoy the destination, resulting in a more positive experience for the entire family.

Tips for short outings with your dog:

- Dose the new medication at least 1 hour prior to travel
- Avoid feeding your dog less than 1 hour prior to travelling
- Allow your dog to relieve itself before departing
- Take a water bowl and some water for your dog particularly if it is going to be active in a park or on the beach.
- Take a dog leash
- Remember a collar with identification and your contact number
- Don't forget the dog tidy bags
- Never leave your dog alone in the car or on a boat. Even if the windows or entrances are slightly open, the temperature can rise quickly and can cause severe hyperthermia or heat stroke.
- This new medication is not suitable for dogs with heart disease, so we need to either examine your dog or know its history well before it can be prescribed.

Happy travelling,

Scott and Chris