



Animal Care at San Diego International Airport (SDIA)

Jet, the Airport Explorers' pup, sure gets around the Airport. In real life, animals are not usually allowed in the terminals or on the airfield.

Assistance animals and police K-9 dogs are welcome in the terminals. Assistance animals usually wear colored vests or harnesses and help people with disabilities, like guiding someone who is visually impaired, or pulling a wheelchair. Some animals can even open the refrigerator or turn off a television. The Harbor Police K-9 dogs work to keep passengers safe. Always ask the owner for permission before you attempt to pet any animal.

Safety and comfort for traveling animals is very important. San Diego is one of only a few airports across the country that has rest areas where animals are allowed to take a bathroom break before their travels. Animals are permitted to fly with their owners on airplanes as long as they can fit in the carriers under the seats. Large animals travel in their carriers and fly in a special section of the airplane. You should always tell your airline if an animal will be traveling with you. Your vet may even be able to help make your animal more comfortable before traveling.

Vocabulary words: **DRAG** – Forces, such as air resistance, that oppose the forward motion of an aircraft.