



PAWSTING WITH PETS

Diana Roué doesn't consider herself to be an expert on the subject of travelling with pets, but her various postings with as many as seven pets at a time certainly make her an authority.



For many years, I have been subjecting colleagues, family and friends to my rather long-winded and conversationally one-sided stories about the trials and tribulations of overseas assignments with my family's multitude of cats and dogs. We have been known to travel with as many as six cats and one beleaguered corgi.

Now I've been asked to put these reminiscences to paper, in the hope that it might help others deal with the many choices to be made before embarking (no pun intended) on a posting with pets.

I don't consider myself to be an expert in this area, despite my large brood. So I have also spoken with colleagues who have been accompanied on postings by their

furry family. If your companion is not of the feline or canine variety, however, I'm afraid I will be of little help: I have no experience with feathered, finned or scaled friends.

Planning for pet travels begins with your choice of posting. A great deal of research into your prospective new location is a must to ascertain the following:

- Will the new environment be cat and dog friendly? Will there, for instance, be quarantines or cultural, religious or social strictures?
- Are there restrictions on pets at staff quarters?
- Are acceptable veterinary care, medication, food, supplies and boarding facilities available?
- Which airlines and airports are