

HOW TO ADOPT A DOG OUT OF JAMAICA (Updated February 25, 2021)

Here is the link to the government site that deals with exportation of cats and dogs.
<https://www.moa.gov.jm/content/protocol-export-dogs-and-cats>

RADA, veterinary services: 876-979-1479

An application form needs to be completed with RADA to set the appointment up with the Government vet. When going to RADA, make sure to cover your shoulders and no short shorts. Government rule.

Not all airlines take dogs out of Jamaica (for example, Westjet does not.) Check with airlines. Here are the ones we know of that fly dogs out of Jamaica: Air Canada, Air Transat, American Airlines and Delta Airlines, United in cabin only.

Cost is approx. \$500 US to \$1,000 US depending on how the dog flies, as cargo by itself or accompanied by a passenger or in cabin.

Flight is weather dependent on both ends, not too hot and not too cold. Temperature rules can be found on the airline's website. American Airlines, for example, only flies dogs out when Ground temperature at origin and destination is between 45 F (7 Celsius) and 85 F (29 Celsius). Air Canada does not fly dogs out from December 12 to January 15 and in the Summer months. Dog must be up to date on vaccination and healthy. If it is a puppy, it must have a minimum of 2 sets of vaccines but 3 is preferable (\$2,500 JMD per set of vaccines) 3 weeks apart and can fly out one week after the last vaccine. The puppy must be at least 12 weeks old but for most airlines, 16 weeks old now. If it is an older dog, 1 set of vaccines only.

You will need a health certificate from a local vet, eg. JSPCA or Vet for Pets in Montego Bay, no less than 10 days before the flight, approx. \$8,000 JMD.

Nexguard (medication for flea/tick), approx. \$2,500 JMD.

Deworming, approx. \$300 JMD.

Health check from government vet in Montego Bay within 7 days of flight, \$2,000 JMD.

Transport to Montego Bay 3 times, driver stays with you and it takes a few hours and he/she allows dogs in the car, \$30,000 JMD. (\$10,000 JMD per trip.)

If flying in cargo, airline approved crate big enough for the dog to stand in and turn around without its head touching the top as well as bowls to attach to crate for food and water (cheaper to bring a crate from US or Canada. The cost for the crate has not been included in the estimated \$500 to \$1,000 and is on average \$350 US here.)

If flying in cabin, the weight of the dog and the pet carrier cannot be more than 20 lbs. The dog must be able to sit comfortably and lie down in the pet carrier and must fit under the seat. Cost of flight for the animal is approx. \$150 US, depends on the airline.

If the dog is flying in cargo with a person, arrangements need to be made with the airline prior to the flight and the dog will be checked as luggage. (Not applicable with Air Canada.) The flight for the dog is approximately \$200 US but different for each airline. Confirm with airline.

A Quarantine Officer will meet you and the dog at the airport before the flight, he/she will verify the paperwork (vaccination record and letter of authorization from the government vet) and will do a final inspection of the dog. Paperwork, water and food should be attached to the crate in a ziplock bag. Crate is sealed with zip ties.

If dog is flying alone, as cargo, or with Air Canada (only cargo, no in cabin with Air Canada)

Customs Broker fee of \$3,100 JMD; flight should be booked in the afternoon so that Customs can see dog in the morning; Asicoda form needs to be completed (government form through licensed broker), \$8,000 JMD; book flight with the cargo department of the airline, in Jamaica, they will tell you the cost of the flight for the dog, average so far that we have seen is \$650 US. It goes by weight and size of the crate and dog.

Depending on the final destination, the dog may have to stay overnight in a pet hotel and there is a fee of approximately \$200 US for that. This is not included in the estimated \$500 to \$1,000 US. The airline will confirm with you. At the destination airport, there will be a duty fee for the

dog (for cargo dogs only) and it is based on value of dog which the broker always puts at \$20 US. You need to bring picture Id at the airport to pick up your dog.
Rabies vaccine will need to be given after the dog has arrived to its new home abroad.