

NEWS RELEASE



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Eurotunnel celebrates as 2 millionth pet travels on board Le Shuttle

More than one client out of ten travel with his pet

Eurotunnel Le Shuttle, which carries passenger vehicles (cars, coaches, caravans, camper vans and motorcycles) between Folkestone in Kent and Coquelles in France, is celebrating the success of its Pet Travel service, with the 2 millionth pet to travel on the service crossing today, 18 May. This is just four years after the 1 millionth pet travelled in 2013. The Pet Travel service, set up under the UK “Pet Travel Scheme”ⁱ has gone from strength to strength since its opening in October 2001.

Today, Le Shuttle is the number one choice for animal lovers for the service it provides: animals can be checked whilst still in their vehicle and safe exercise areas are available on the terminals in Folkestone and Coquelles. 71% of animals entering the UK in 2014 crossed the Channel on board Le Shuttleⁱⁱ. In 2016, more than 1 customer out of ten using Eurotunnel Le Shuttle travels with their pet and more than 301,000 pets crossed the Channel using Eurotunnel Le Shuttle.

The animals are treated as customers in their own right, they are part of the family: so the cat, dogⁱⁱⁱ or ferret travels with its owner throughout the crossing. *“Eurotunnel Le Shuttle is a great example of a business adopting a wonderfully dog-friendly attitude. Dogs are very much a part of the family and by treating them as such, Eurotunnel Le Shuttle has become the first port of call for dog owners heading over to France with their four-legged friends, which is why it is the Kennel Club’s number one choice for crossing the Channel”* said **Caroline Kisko, Kennel Club Secretary**.

Jo Willacy, Eurotunnel Commercial Director, stated: *“Reaching 2 million pets just 4 years after celebrating the first million is a source of real pride for our team. I believe that it is the combination of our attention to the animal’s welfare, ensuring a stress free journey and the fact that the Tunnel is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year that makes Le Shuttle the leading international pet transporter.”*

ⁱ The “Pet Travel Scheme” concerns dogs, cats and ferrets, which must be prepared according to the rules set out by Defra for travel to the UK: passport, anti-rabies vaccination and worm treatment (for dogs).

ⁱⁱ Source Defra (Department for environment food and rural affairs)

ⁱⁱⁱ The transport of guide dogs and assistance dogs is free on board Le Shuttle when the animal is accompanying its owner.