

CHECKLIST

FOR STRESS-FREE TRAVEL WITH YOUR HORSE



TOP TIPS FOR SAFER TRAVELS WITH YOUR HORSE

Regardless of whether you're heading off to a show, lesson or for a beach ride there are risks involved with travelling horses and having a comprehensive horsebox insurance policy can help alleviate some of this concern.

We've compiled our top tips on how to make your travels as trouble-free as possible:

LEADING UP TO TRAVELLING

- Check your vehicle thoroughly:** , check the oil, water, washer fluids, tyres, the floor under the mats and ensure you carry at least one spare wheel.
- Make sure you **understand how much weight you can carry**, whether that's in relation to your horsebox or how much your car can tow.
- Check the route** beforehand so that you can be certain that all of the roads are suitable for your vehicle.
- Pack everything you might need**, from first aid kits to breakdown equipment.
- Does your horsebox insurance include **breakdown recovery**? There's nothing worse than being broken down on the side of a road with horses loaded and no recovery plan.
- If you struggle with reversing your trailer, **consider a refresher course** or install a reversing camera.
- A camera system can offer peace of mind**, as you can see what your horse is getting up to in the back.
- Ensure that you have the **correct driving qualifications** to drive your horsebox or tow your trailer.

BEFORE LEAVING

- Loading a nervous horse? **Reward them with a treat** once they're in the box.
- Use **travel boots or bandages** to protect your horse's legs from injury.
- Pack your own water and buckets**, this is necessary if you breakdown and also helps to prevent infectious diseases.
- Leave plenty of time** to get everything ready and the horse loaded. It's easy to get frustrated when you're running late but this isn't good for you or the horse.
- Don't travel with your horse if the weather is extremely hot**. The temperature in trailers and boxes can rise very quickly and be very dangerous to your horse's health.
- Take a friend to help you** rather than going out on your own. Shows can be stressful at the best of times, and it's always handy to have someone to help.

DURING THE JOURNEY

- Bedding on the floor** can help your horse grip and will absorb any 'business' they need to do on their travels. It will also help to preserve the floor of your trailer or horsebox.
- Hang a haynet** so that your horse has something to eat on the way. Make sure that when you tie your horse up they can reach the net.
- Allow as much ventilation as possible** in your box or trailer by opening all of the sliding windows.
- Drive slowly** so that your horse has time to brace if you need to brake.
- Carry your horse's passport** with you when travelling as this is a legal requirement.
- Take a break** if your journey is more than 2 hours and allow your horse to stretch its neck down into a more natural position.

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