



LUFTHANSA Airlines is offering pets and live animals the world's ultimate in luxury travel with a dedicated first-class animal lounge.

Located in Frankfurt, the lounge offers state-of-the-art care, handling, feeding and shelter facilities as well as veterinary expertise for animals ranging from polar bears to tropical fish.

"Our animal lounge provides individual care, professional expertise and an environment designed to ensure ultimate comfort for the 14,000 household pets and 1500 horses and wild animals annually," Lufthansa general manager, Kai Peters, said.

All pets travelling in the passenger cabin are transferred to the animal lounge if a transfer or layover exceeds more than two to three hours.

The lounge offers thirty nine animal boxes for smaller animals, while larger animals are transported in the climate-controlled and pressurised cargo hold.

Health inspections are on hand to ensuring all animals transiting through Frankfurt have no chance of getting lost and are healthy enough to continue their journey.

Mr Peters said Animal Lounge facility came in particularly handy when a passenger carried a pregnant dog onto a plane.

"About thirty minutes before the plane landed, the dog started giving birth to several puppies," he said.

"A veterinarian from the animal lounge was called to the aircraft upon landing and the little

puppies were safely delivered."