

Bringing pets into the UK after 1 January 2012



On the 1 January 2012, the rules for bringing your pet dog, cat or ferret into the UK changed.

The previous rules for pets coming into the UK no longer apply, see www.defra.gov.uk/pets

Don't delay - find out the rules in plenty of time before you travel.

If you wish to return to the UK with your pet after a trip abroad, or intend to bring your pet into the UK for the first time, you need to be aware of the changes to the UK pet entry rules which took effect on 1 January 2012.

You are responsible for ensuring your pet meets all the rules for entering the UK.

Make sure you have had the procedure carried out in the correct order and your pet's documentation is correctly completed. If you do not, your pet may not be able to enter the country or may have to be licensed into quarantine on arrival. This will mean delay and will cost you money.

Rules depend on which country you are travelling into the UK from:

- EU member states – see Part A
- Approved non-EU countries – listed overleaf but please check www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/travel/pets/countries/noneu-countries/ for latest details – see Part A
- Non-approved countries (not in EU or not listed overleaf) – see Part B

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Approved non-EU countries and territories

| | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|
| Andorra | Curacao* | Norway |
| Antigua & Barbuda | Falkland Islands | Russian Federation* |
| Argentina | Fiji | Saint Maarten* |
| Aruba | French Polynesia | San Marino |
| Ascension Island | Guam | Singapore |
| Australia | Hawaii | St Helena |
| Bahrain | Hong Kong | St Kitts & Nevis |
| Barbados | Iceland | St Lucia |
| Belarus | Jamaica* | St Pierre & Miquelon |
| Bermuda | Japan | St Vincent |
| BES Islands (Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba) | Liechtenstein | & The Grenadines |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina | Malaysia* | Switzerland |
| British Virgin Islands | Mauritius | Taiwan |
| Canada | Mayotte | Trinidad and Tobago |
| Cayman Islands | Mexico | United Arab Emirates* |
| Chile | Monaco | USA (mainland) |
| Croatia | Montserrat | Vanuatu |
| | New Caledonia | Vatican |
| | New Zealand | Wallis & Futuna |

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*asterisk indicates specific information relating to these countries, so please go to www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/pets/travel/pets/countries/noneu-countries/ for latest list.



Is your pet prepared?

PART A Entry to the UK from other EU Member States and approved non-EU countries:

For your pet to enter the UK from these countries, you must answer 'yes' to the following questions:

- Is it microchipped¹?
- Is it currently vaccinated against rabies?
- Was it vaccinated after it was microchipped and was the rabies vaccination administered as per the vaccine manufacturer's data sheet?
- Have you got an EU Pet Passport or Official Veterinary Health Certificate² from your vet certifying the microchip and vaccination?
- Have at least 21 days passed since it was vaccinated?
- Are you travelling into the UK with your pet on an approved route with an approved transport company⁵?
- Has a vet treated your dog for tapeworm 1-5 days before its arrival in the UK and recorded the treatment (with exact times) in the passport or Official Health Certificate?

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PART B Entry to the UK from non-approved countries:

For your pet to enter the UK from these countries you must answer 'yes' to the following questions:

- Is it microchipped¹?
- Is it currently vaccinated against rabies?
- Was it vaccinated after being microchipped and was the rabies vaccination administered as per the vaccine manufacturer's data sheet?
- Was a blood sample for a blood test taken **at least 30 days** after it was vaccinated?³ Has it passed the blood test?⁴ (your vet will tell you)
- Have you got an EU Pet Passport or Official Veterinary Health Certificate² from your vet certifying the microchip, vaccination and blood test result?
- Have three months passed since the date the blood sample was taken?
- Are you travelling into the UK with your pet on an approved route?⁵
- Has a vet treated your dog for tapeworm 1-5 days before its arrival in the UK and recorded the treatment (with exact times) in the passport or Official Health Certificate?

1 A tattoo is acceptable as identification in certain circumstances. See website for more information.

2 Official Veterinary Health Certificates are issued by non-EU countries only.

3 The blood sample must be sent to an EU approved laboratory for testing.

4 If your pet was successfully blood tested and issued with an EU pet passport before it left the UK or other EU country to go to a non-approved country, the three-month waiting period before re-entering the UK will not apply (but all other rules still apply, including the requirement for the blood sample to be taken at least 30 days after vaccination).

5 Assistance dog owners can use any approved air, sea or rail route. See our website for further information.

Further information

Travelling abroad with your pet

UK pet owners wishing to take their pets abroad should contact the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) for details of the export certification requirements for the destination country. Email: CatandDogExports.Carlisle@animalhealth.gsi.gov.uk

To find out more detail

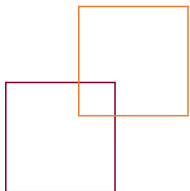
This document only contains a summary of the rules, so please go to the website for the latest and comprehensive details on the rules for pet travel into the UK.

Website: www.defra.gov.uk/pets

Email: pettravel@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk

Helpline: +44 (0)870 241 1710

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