

Bringing pets into the UK after 1 January 2012



From 1 January 2012, the rules for bringing your pet dog, cat or ferret into the UK will change.

Until then, the existing rules continue to apply for pets coming into the UK, 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 that take 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 procedures 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.

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 & The Grenadines
BES Islands (Bonair, Saint Eustatius and Saba)*	Liechtenstein	Switzerland
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Malaysia*	Taiwan
British Virgin Islands	Mauritius	Trinidad and Tobago
Canada	Mayotte	United Arab Emirates*
Cayman Islands	Mexico	USA (mainland)
Chile	Monaco	Vanuatu
Croatia	Montserrat	Vatican
	New Caledonia	Wallis & Futuna
	New Zealand	

*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 microchipped?
- Is your pet currently vaccinated against rabies?
- Was it vaccinated after it was microchipped?
- Have you got an EU Pet Passport or Official Veterinary Health Certificate* from your vet certifying the microchip and vaccination?
- Have 21 days passed since it was vaccinated?
- Are you travelling into the UK with your pet on an approved route?***
- Have you treated your dog for tapeworm 1-5 days before its arrival in the UK?

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 steps:

- Is it microchipped?
- Is your pet currently vaccinated against rabies?
- Was it vaccinated after being microchipped?
- Was a blood sample for a blood test taken at least 30 days after it was vaccinated?
- Has it passed the blood test? (your vet will tell you)
- Have you got an EU Pet Passport** or Official Veterinary Health Certificate* 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?***
- Have you treated your dog for tapeworm 1-5 days before its arrival in the UK?

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

** 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).

*** For certain assistance dogs, they must travel into an approved airport. See our website for further information.

Further information

Travel arrangements with the Republic of Ireland

All pets travelling from the Republic of Ireland to the UK should be microchipped, vaccinated against rabies and accompanied by a pet passport. As both the Republic of Ireland and the UK have had no indigenous rabies for many decades, compliance checks on pets travelling between the two countries will not be applied. Pet owners travelling with their pets should therefore not experience any change on the ground from the 1st January.

Travelling abroad with your pet

The rules for pets travelling from the UK to other countries will not change. 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

Pets in quarantine

Pet owners with pets entering quarantine from 3 July 2011 to 31 December 2011 *may* be able to have their pet released from quarantine from 1 January 2012 and before the current six month quarantine period has elapsed, if they have prepared their pets to meet EU rules. See Defra website for further information.

To find out more detail

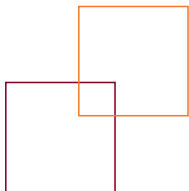
This document only contains a summary of the rules, so please go to the website for the latest and comprehensive details on the rules for pet travel into the UK.

Website: www.defra.gov.uk/pets

Email: pettravel@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk

Helpline: +44 (0)870 241 1710

Please note: This document only contains a summary of the rules. Although we have done our utmost to ensure that the details are correct as of 12 December 2011, the rules do occasionally change, so please go to our website for the latest and comprehensive details on the rules for pet travel into the UK.



Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 020 7238 6000

Website: www.defra.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2011

PB13582 11/11