



GUIDE TO TRAVELLING WITH YOUR PET TO THE EU

POST BREXIT
From 1st Jan 2021



**This is intended as a general guide only and owners should always refer to
the website**

**<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-to-europe-from-1-january-2021> or
use the Pet travel helpline**

Phone : 0370 241 1710 (8.30 – 5pm, mon – fri)

Email : pettravel@apha.gov.uk

Protecting your pet

These rules are designed to prevent spread of disease between countries, but it is important to protect your pet against other diseases you may encounter when travelling. The further south you are in Europe, the greater the risk.

Diseases you may encounter abroad:

1. Tick borne diseases such as Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis and Hepatozoonosis
2. Leishmaniasis – spread by sandflies
3. Heartworm – spread by mosquitos

There a number of measures you can take to protect your pet.

1. Make sure your pet has been given a product that kills ticks as quickly as possible after attachment. This prevents the spread of most disease. Avoid known tick affected habitats such as wooded areas and places where there are livestock. Ehrlichia can be spread very quickly so a tick repellent is recommended too.
2. In areas where sand flies are prevalent, keep animals indoors from one hour before dusk until one hour after sunrise. Use insecticides to control flies inside. Use a sandfly repellent product on your pet.
3. Avoid mosquito infested areas.

More details can be found in a handy leaflet available to download at:

<http://www.bva-awf.org.uk/pet-care-advice/pet-travel>

TRAVEL TO EUROPE

We are now a part 2 listed country and no longer in the pet passport scheme. From now on you will need an Animal Health Certificate (AHC) for each journey to Europe including N Ireland. The AHC is valid for 4 months ongoing travel within Europe.

AHCs can be given to up to 5 dogs, cats and ferrets only.

1. You must have your dog, cat or ferret microchipped.
2. Vaccinate your dog, cat or ferret against rabies - your pet must be at least 12 weeks old before it can be vaccinated.
3. You must wait 21 days before travel after the primary rabies vaccination. If the vacs are kept up to date you only need to wait the first time.
4. An AHC must be signed by an official veterinary surgeon (OVS) no more than 10 days before travel and in order for us to fill this in, the owner must supply official proof of
 - the pet's microchipping date
 - the pet's vaccination history
 - evidence of travel arrangements e.g. ferry tickets

The easiest thing is to bring your old pet passport as proof of previous vaccinations and it can be used to record new rabies vaccinations in too.

If we have done the microchip or vaccination at Northdale then we will have records.

(A blood sample is NOT required)

5. The person travelling with the pet will need to attend to fill in the AHC as they need to sign a declaration form.

RE-ENTRY TO THE UK

One of the following documents must be presented when returning to Great Britain:

- an EU pet passport (issued in the EU or in the UK before 1 January 2021)
- the AHC issued in Great Britain used to travel to the EU (which you can use up to 4 months after it was issued)
 - a UK pet health certificate (for travel into the UK only)
- Tapeworm treatment will be needed on reentry (>24 and <120 hours before entry) as before. This must be recorded in the passport or AHC. Exceptions are Republic of Ireland, Finland and Malta

Other Considerations before Travel

- dogs travelling from the UK to EU-listed tapeworm-free countries (Finland, Republic of Ireland and Malta) must be treated for tapeworm 24 to 120 hours (one to five days) before arriving in one of those countries
- on arrival in the EU, travellers with pets will need to enter through a designated travellers' point of entry where you may need to show proof of your pet's health checks and documentation

BOOKING APPOINTMENTS

The AHC's will involve a lot more paperwork for us. Only some vets (OVS) can complete the forms and we need to allow 30 minutes. Therefore, please try to plan ahead and book early. If you cannot make your appointment we require 24 hours' notice of cancellation. If you miss your appointment there could be a considerable delay before we can see you again.