

For Traveling to the European Union:

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Member States of the European Union (EU) are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark – including Greenland, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal – including the Azores, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain – including the Canary Islands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Although not part of the EU, the following countries also fall under these same guidelines: Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and the Vatican

1. IDENTIFICATION

The animal must be identified by an ISO standard microchip. The ISO standard chips is 15 digits in length and complies with ISO standards 11785 and 11784. A standard Avid microchip is not ISO approved. Avid Eurochips and regular Homeagain chips are 10 digits and 11784 compliant, but fail to meet the 11785 standard. Please check with your veterinarian to see if your pet's chip is approved, if you need to re-chip, or if you should consider renting a scanner to take with you when you travel.

2. VALID RABIES CERTIFICATION

The animal must have a valid rabies vaccine. The microchip must be given prior to vaccination and the microchip number clearly annotated on the rabies vaccination certificate. The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated or recombinant vaccine produced in accordance with OIE standards. Licensed three-year rabies vaccines are recognized if they are annotated properly on all documents. If it is the pet's first rabies vaccination, the EU requires a 21 day wait from the date of the vaccination prior to entering an EU country. The rabies vaccination certificate should have the veterinarian's original signature in a color other than black and must have an official practice stamp of the accredited veterinarian. Have three copies handy for travel.

For animals less than three months of age and thus unvaccinated for rabies, entry is under the jurisdiction of each member country. Please contact the appropriate consulate general for more information.

3. DOCUMENTATION

An EU health certificate is required for non-commercial movements of pets entering the EU. This must be completed in a Microsoft Word Document or PDF form. The health certificate must be **printed** on a single double-sided sheet of paper in the language of the EU country of entry and completed in block letters **either** in the language of the EU country of entry **or** in English. If the form is printed on two pages, each page must be marked with the certificate number, the animal's microchip number, and the owner's last name. To complete the form, sections I, II, III, and IV must be filled in and a veterinarian must sign the certificate. These are to be completed by the veterinary office. We must have records for your animal to complete this form.

The certificate must be accompanied by supporting documentation, or a certified copy of it, including vaccination details, rabies certificates, and the result of the FAVN serological test if required. This documentation must bear the identification details of the animal concerned: name, species, breed, sex, date of birth, coat pattern, color, and microchip number.

The certificate is valid for movement to and within the EU for a period of four months from the date of issue or until the date of expiration of the rabies vaccination, whichever comes first. . The certificate must be taken to the APHIS-USDA office nearest you and certified with their raised seal to be considered valid. *If the form is completed by a military veterinarian, than USDA certification is not needed unless you are going to the UK, Ireland, Sweden, or Malta*

If you are taking more than 5 animals, the movement would be considered commercial, not non-commercial, and the requirements and controls therein would have to be followed. Please see the websites listed at the bottom of this page for more information.

4. GENERAL HEALTH CERTIFICATION AND LETTER OF ACCLIMATION

An international certificate of health and a letter of acclimation for flight are to be completed ten days or less before flying out of country. These documents are required by the airline for travel and do not need to be certified by the USDA office if completed by a military veterinarian. A veterinary visit and a fecal test are required to complete these forms.

5. TO GO TO FINLAND. . .

In addition to the requirement stated above, to enter Finland, the pet must be treated for tapeworms (thus echinococcosis) using praziquantel 24 to 48 hours prior to departure at the veterinary service and the veterinarian must sign that the treatment was completed in section VII of the EU certificate.

6. TO GO TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, MALTA, IRELAND, OR SWEDEN. . .

In addition to the standard requirements listed above, a FAVN serological test (rabies titer test) must be completed a *minimum* of six months prior to arrival. This test must be completed after rabies vaccination and a wait of no less than 21 days post vaccination is recommended. 24 to 48 hours before flying, the pet must be treated for tapeworms (echinococcosis) using praziquantel and, except for when going to Sweden, ticks using fipronil at the veterinary service. The veterinarian must sign that the treatments were completed in sections V, VI, and VII of the EU certificate.

OTHER COUNTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Some countries have more specific requirements, such as Iceland and Norway. For exact details, please visit the appropriate national websites:

Irish website : <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>

Swedish website : <http://www.sjv.se/net/SJV/Home>

British website : <http://www.defra.gov.uk>

Maltese website : <http://www.mrae.gov.mt>

Finland website : <http://www.evira.fi/portal/en/>

Icelandic website:

http://www.lbs.is/Uploads/document/eydubl_ensk/leidbein_hd_kt_enska.pdf

For information about the rest of the European Union:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/nocomm_third_en.htm