

Pets arriving into Ireland from outside of Europe.

Important Information:

The department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DOA) are responsible for maintaining the regulations that apply to all live animals travelling to Ireland.

Some airlines will offer to transport pets as excess baggage and in cabin on their flights arriving to Dublin from outside of the EU.

Pets arriving into Ireland via excess baggage, the owner **MUST** make prior arrangement that they intend to bring their pet into Ireland before departure. You can book your examination of the pet's paperwork and animal examination with Pets on Board no later than 48 hours before departure.

Pets on Board can arrange for their mobile vet unit to attend at the airport and undertake the examinations of the pet and the documentation. Pets on Board will notify the DOA of the intended arrival plus make the declaration to Irish customs.

Please contact us with your intended travel itinerary, full details of the pet, (age and breed) plus your airline ticket number and origin airport.

Please view the following information relating to bringing your pet into Ireland.

Contact Details:

DOA [livetrade@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:livetrade@agriculture.gov.ie)

Pets on Board [pets@uefl.ie](mailto:pets@uefl.ie)

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## Bringing your pet dog, cat or ferret into Ireland from any other country

Pet cats, dogs or ferrets may enter Ireland from any other a country or territory, not listed in the previous sections, and will not be required to enter quarantine if they have:-

1. been microchipped.

The microchip *must be* inserted before the rabies vaccination, and must be readable by a device compatible with ISO standard 11785. If the microchip cannot be read when you enter or return to Ireland, your pet could be put into quarantine or refused entry. You may carry your own hand-held scanner if the microchip is not readable by a device compatible with ISO standard 11785.

2. a valid rabies vaccination and a successful rabies serological test (blood test).

### *Rabies Vaccination*

- (i) The vaccination must be given *after* the microchip is inserted.
- (ii) The pet must be at least 12 weeks old before the vaccine is given and it must be given by an authorised veterinary practitioner. A rabies vaccination with a 3-year validity period is acceptable for entry into Ireland.

### *Rabies serological test (blood test)*

(i) The blood test must be completed at least 30 days after the valid rabies vaccination. If the test was taken in a non-EU country, you must wait 3 months before with a standstill period of 3 months. Exception: The 3-month stand-still period does not apply if the blood tests are performed by an authorised EU veterinary practitioner within the EU and the satisfactory result is entered into the EU Pet passport.

(ii) Your vet must send the blood sample to an [EU-approved blood testing laboratory](#) located either in an EU Member State or another country.

(iii) The result of the blood test must show that the vaccination was successful (a rabies antibody level of at least 0.5 IU/ml).

Your vet should give you a copy of the test results and also enter the day the blood sample was taken into the Annex IV cert (see no. 3 below). The blood test will continue to be valid as long as your pet's rabies vaccinations are kept up to date.

If the blood test was taken outside of the EU, you must wait three months from the date of a satisfactory result has been recorded before you travel to the EU including Ireland. The three month stand-still period applies to all pets (EU and non EU).

The blood test results are valid for the life time of the pet unless there is a break in the rabies vaccinations i.e. you miss the booster vaccination, even if it's just one day. If the booster vaccination is administered late, the whole process will have to be repeated.

3. are accompanied by a valid pet passport, or an official veterinary certificate ([an Annex IV cert](#)).

Ireland accepts pet passports from all EU countries, and from the following European countries/territories: Andorra; Gibraltar; Greenland and the Faroe Islands; Iceland; Liechtenstein; Monaco; Norway; San Marino; Switzerland; Vatican City State.

If your pet dog, cat or ferret does not have an EU pet passport, it must be accompanied by an official veterinary certificate (in the form of [Annex IV](#) cert) before entering an EU country including Ireland. You don't need an Annex IV cert if your pet has a valid EU pet passport which certifies that the rabies treatment is valid and was administered by an authorised EU veterinary practitioner.

The Annex IV cert is valid for 10 days from the date it is signed and endorsed by an *Official (State) Veterinarian* in the country of departure. If the pet is travelling by sea, the validity is extended by the number of days of travel as sea.

The EU member state through which you enter the EU will endorse the Annex IV cert after carrying out compliance checks. The endorsed certificate will be valid for 4 months, or until the anti-rabies vaccination expires, whichever is the earliest. Your pet can travel between other EU member states with the endorsed certificate.

4. Dogs must have a tapeworm (*Echinococcus multilocularis*) treatment if they are entering Ireland from countries other than Finland, Malta, Norway or the UK.