



Taking your pet abroad

The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) allows cats and dogs to enter the UK from certain countries without having to be placed in quarantine.

Animals resident in the UK can now travel to most European countries and to some other more distant destinations. For a complete up-to-date list of participating countries visit the DEFRA website (www.defra.gov.uk) or call their hotline on 0870 2411710.

Checklist of things to do before you travel:

1. Your pet must be **microchipped** (by the vet).
2. Your pet must be **vaccinated against rabies** (but not before it is 3 months old). This may be a course of one or two vaccinations.
3. A blood test is recommended (but not obligatory) 30 days after the rabies vaccination to confirm the vaccination has worked.
4. Make an appointment with one of the vets so they can issue a **PETS passport**.

Some countries may need additional certification or other requirements before admitting your pet; it is vital to check with a DEFRA Animal Health Office or the Embassy of the country you are visiting before you travel.

If you require an Export Health Certificate, you must visit your vet to obtain it (time frame depends on airline/ferry company).

Your pet must also be treated tapeworms 24-120 hours prior to re-entering the UK. This is performed by a veterinary surgeon and written in the passport.

Remember, it is **best to start planning early** Do your research well before you make any plans, but most of all enjoy your holiday!