



## Pet Travel after Brexit

There have been significant changes to pet travel following the United Kingdom's exit from the EU. Pet Passports issued in the UK are no longer valid for pet travel. Pets travelling to Northern Ireland now require rabies vaccination and documentation to be issued.

The Pet Passport has been replaced with a new document called an Animal Health Certificate (AHC). This is a multi-page document that is valid for a single return trip to the EU and the pet cannot remain outside of the UK for more than four months at a time.

The AHC is a very complex and time-consuming document to complete. Also, any errors could result in both time consuming and expensive delays to client's travel plans. Therefore, as a practice we have taken the decision not to issue AHCs. We appreciate our clients will still wish to travel with their pets and have detailed below how we can still help with pet travel.

### Travel to EU countries e.g. France, Spain, Ireland and Northern Ireland

You can no longer use a pet passport issued in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) for travel to an EU country or Northern Ireland. You can still use a pet passport issued in an EU country or Northern Ireland.

#### When travelling to an EU country or Northern Ireland, your pet needs:

- A microchip.
- A valid rabies vaccination (at least 21 days before you travel - see below).
- An animal health certificate unless you have a pet passport issued in an EU country or Northern Ireland.
- Tapeworm treatment for dogs if you're travelling directly to Finland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway or Malta.

You can no longer use a pet passport issued in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) for travel to an EU country or Northern Ireland. You can still use a pet passport issued in an EU country or Northern Ireland.

#### These requirements also apply to assistance dogs.

Check the rules of the country you're travelling to for any additional restrictions or requirements before you travel.

Further details including if you wish to travel with more than 5 pets can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/taking-your-pet-abroad/travelling-to-an-eu-country-or-northern-ireland>

## How can we help?

Valley Vets can check and vaccinate your pet against rabies & administer the tapeworm treatment if required.



You must get your dog, cat or ferret vaccinated against rabies before it can travel. Your vet needs proof that your pet's at least 12 weeks old before vaccinating them.

If you're taking your pet to the EU or Northern Ireland, you must wait 21 days after the primary vaccination before you travel.

Your pet must be fit and well at the time of vaccination so we would recommend that this is done well in advance of the minimum 21 days to avoid any unexpected delays.

The day of vaccination is classed as day 0 this means if your pet is vaccinated for example on 1st April it can only travel from 22nd April. Suitable worming products can be administered at the practice by a vet.

#### THE ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE WILL BE ISSUED BY A SEPARATE VETERINARY COMPANY

We would suggest Heathrow Vet Services based in Windsor, they specialise in Veterinary Exportation Certification.

They will need to examine your pet at their Windsor office and can then issue the necessary documentation. (We will send them the proof of rabies vaccination/worming required if we have done this for you).

They can discuss the costs directly with you as it will depend upon how many pets you are taking. It can be done on the day of travel so

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## How can we help? cont...

if heading to the port you can book an appointment to call in with them to have the AHC issued on route or it can be done in advance if you are planning to travel outside of a convenient appointment time.

Heathrow Vet Services can be contacted at

[www.airportvets.com](http://www.airportvets.com)

T: 0203 691 4622

M: 07733 322525

[enquiries@airportvets.com](mailto:enquiries@airportvets.com)

When returning to the UK your pet will still need to receive suitable worming treatment 24-120 hours (1-5days) before you are due to arrive back in the UK and this again must be administered by a veterinary surgeon and the product used along with the time it was given will need to be documented by them.



## Travel outside of the EU

This can be a very complex process and as it will usually involve your pet being transported by air we would strongly recommend the use of a specialist pet shipping company who can help arrange all the details including the documentation, flights, airline approved shipping carriers etc.

There are a number of providers for this service but examples include.

[www.Airpets.com](http://www.Airpets.com)

01753 685571

[www.Petairuk.com](http://www.Petairuk.com)

01725 551124

Further information is available at

<https://www.gov.uk/taking-your-pet-abroad/travelling-to-a-noneu-country>

If you have any questions about pet travel please feel free to contact us [info@thevalleyvets.co.uk](mailto:info@thevalleyvets.co.uk)

 [www.thevalleyvet.co.uk](http://www.thevalleyvet.co.uk) 

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