



Dacre House Veterinary Clinic

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EU Pet Travel

Travelling to the EU or NI

EU PETS passports issued in the UK are no longer valid. If your pet has a valid EU PETS passport issued in an EU country and the rabies vaccination page is in-date you can travel to the EU or NI and return to the UK using that.

Otherwise, before your dog, cat or ferret can travel to the EU or NI for the first time, you'll need to take the following steps:

1. 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. Wait 21 days after the primary vaccination.
4. Visit your vet to get an Animal Health Certificate (AHC) for your pet, no more than 10 days before travel to the EU.

The AHC needs to be signed by an Official Vet. Currently, at Dacre House, the following vets are able to sign AHCs: Bradley Curtis, Hannah Wallace, Jane Fairham, Matthew Field and Rebecca Clark. To be able to issue your AHC, we will need proof of your pet's microchipping date and vaccination history. If the microchipping or vaccinations have not been carried out at Dacre House you will need to bring this proof with you to your appointment.

Your pet's AHC will be valid for:

- 10 days after the date of issue for entry into the EU or NI;
- onward travel within the EU or NI for 4 months after the date of issue;
- re-entry to GB for 4 months after the date of issue.

Your pet will need a new AHC for each trip to the EU or NI. To get a new AHC, you must take your pet to an Official Vet no more than 10 days before you travel. As long as you keep your pet's rabies vaccinations up to date, you will not need to get repeat vaccinations for repeat trips to the EU or NI.

If you are travelling to Finland, Republic of Ireland, NI, Norway or Malta with a dog, your dog will also need to receive a tapeworm treatment 1-5 days before arriving in these countries. This treatment will need to be given by a vet, as proof of its administration needs to be recorded on the AHC.

Returning to the UK

Your pet must have one of the following documents when returning to GB from the EU:

- a valid EU PETS passport (issued in the EU, or in GB before 1 January 2021), or a pet passport from a Part 1 Listed Third Country – the rabies vaccination must be in-date;
- the AHC issued in GB used to travel to the EU – which you can use up to 4 months after it was issued;
- a valid GB pet health certificate (for travel into GB only).

Your pet will not need this documentation if it's entering GB from NI, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

In addition, dogs travelling from EU countries other than Finland, Republic of Ireland, NI, Norway or Malta need proof they have been treated for tapeworm no less than 24 hours and no more than 120 hours (5 days) before entering GB. The treatment must:

- be approved for use in the country where the treatment is applied;
- contain praziquantel or an equivalent proven to be effective against tapeworm (*Echinococcus multilocularis*).

This information was correct as of 11th March 2025. Always check the UK APHA website before travel and the relevant agency of your destination country. It is your responsibility as pet owner to ensure you have met the import and export requirements of your origin and destination countries.