



VET2U VETàVOUS

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PET PASSPORT PROCEDURE

Any questions on this topic please contact your vet or Diana James on vet2u@wanadoo.fr

The Pet Travel Scheme (PETS) allows the entry of pets from certain countries into the UK, without passing through quarantine, using an EU Pet Passport.

To obtain an EU Passport your pet must be (in this order):

1. **Microchipped** with an ISO standard microchip, **prior** to rabies vaccination.
2. **Vaccinated against rabies** with an approved vaccine, the **microchip having been read** by a vet just prior to giving the vaccine.
3. **Blood tested, with the microchip having been read** by a vet, to check that the pet has responded favourably to the vaccine and that there are sufficient antibodies against rabies. This is called the 'rabies titre'.

The passport can now be issued **BUT** the date of entry into the UK cannot be sooner than 6 months after the blood test was taken. The passport can be issued **before** a blood test is taken, but it is not valid for entry into the UK. You can have the blood test done in France at a later date.

For example:

1. January 1st 2011 the dog is microchipped and vaccinated against rabies.
2. February 1st 2011 the dog has its microchip read and is blood tested for rabies 'titre'.
3. When the results are received, if they are above 0.5 iu/ml, the dog can enter the UK after August 1st 2011.

If the blood test result is below the 0.5 iu/ml

1. February 15th 2011 the microchip is read and revaccinated against rabies.
2. March 15th 2011 the dog has its microchip read and is blood tested for rabies 'titre'.
3. If the rabies 'titre' is within the acceptance zone, the dog can enter the UK after September 15th 2011.

Therefore it is wise to allow at least 8 months prior to entry into or return to the UK.



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Validity of passport *** IMPORTANT*******

The Pet Passport has an expiry date which is linked to the rabies vaccination. **If the date of rabies vaccination is missed – even by 1 day – then the Pet Passport is invalidated** and the process must start again from rabies vaccination.

RETURNING TO THE UK

Once your pet has an EU Pet Passport, he/she can come back into the UK provided that:

- At least 6 months has passed since the date of the successful rabies blood test.
- 24-48 hours prior to check-in for the return journey to the UK, a suitably qualified vet treats your pet against ticks and tapeworm, signing the Pet Passport appropriately.
- Your pet has not been outside any of the PETS qualifying countries in the 6 months before it enters the UK.
- Your pet is travelling on an authorised route with an approved transport company.

It is wise to keep the certificate of rabies titre, and microchip certificate (or copies) with the Pet Passport.

Up to date information and answers to many questions can be found on:

www.defra.gov.uk

Before boarding the ferry or Eurotunnel train, you are responsible for:

- Checking the identity of your pet by scanning with a microchip reader.
- Checking the Pet Passport presented relates to your pet, is valid, and shows that your pet has successfully been vaccinated for rabies.
- Checking that treatment for ticks and tapeworm has been carried out.

If you do not have the correct documentation, your pet will not be allowed back into the UK without going through quarantine, or re-treating with tick and tapeworm treatment.

All the above applies equally to our feline friends as well.



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