

IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT OF PETS INTO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

GENERAL INFORMATION ON BRINGING YOUR DOG, CAT OR FERRET TO CROATIA

This is an overview of the rules for persons who want to bring their dog, cat or ferret to Republic of Croatia. The same rules apply to both Croatian animals that are brought back to Republic of Croatia after a trip abroad, and to foreign animals that are brought into Republic of Croatia for a temporary or permanent stay. This information focuses however on the import of foreign dogs, cats and ferrets.

When you travel with a pet, you are fully responsible for the animal

When you bring your animal across the border, you bear the full responsibility for all import conditions being complied with. This means that you have to find out on your own what the requirements are. Make sure that for example the revaccinations are given on time and the pet passport is continuously updated or that you have a valid veterinary certificate. If your animal does not fulfill all requirements upon arrival at the border, it may be rejected or put into quarantine. As the owner of the animal, you have to bear all the costs for such measures. If you cannot pay, your animal may be euthanized.

According to the Ordinance on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movements of pet animals (72/07, 102/07, 04/08, 30/08, 39/08, 52/08 and 68/08) harmonized with Regulation (EC) 998/2003, *pets* are animal species such as: dogs, cats, ferrets (*Mustela putorius*), invertebrates (with the exception of bees and crustaceans), ornamental tropical fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds (all species with exception of poultry), mammals: rodents and domestic rabbits

EU countries:

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark, including Greenland and Faroe islands
Estonia
Finland
France, including France Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique i Réunion
Gibraltar
Greece
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Hungary
Malta

Netherland
Germany
Poland
Portugal, including area of Azores and Madeira islands
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Sweden
Spain, including Balearic islands, Canary islands, Ceuta i Melilla
United Kingdom

Low-risk countries outside of EU:

Andorra
Antigua i Barbuda
Aruba
Argentina
Australia
Bahrain
Barbados
Bermuda
Belarus
Bosnia and Herzegovina
British Virgin Islands
Chile
Falkland Islands
Fiji
French Polynesia
Hong Kong
Island
Jamaica
Japan
Cayman islands
Canada
Liechtenstein
Mayotte
Malaysia
Mauritius
Mexico
Monaco
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Norway
New Caledonia
New Zealand
Russian Federation
SAD (including GU – Guam)
San Marino
Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Singapore
Saint Helena
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Vincent and Grenadini

Switzerland
Taiwan
Trinidad and Tobago
United Arab Emirates
Easter islands
Vatican
Vanuatu
Wallis i Futuna

In order for the requirements for import set down in this section to apply, the animal must be transported from the countries listed above directly to Republic of Croatia or so that the animal stays only in one or several of these countries between the country of origin and Republic of Croatia. In transports by air or sea transiting another non-EU country is also allowed provided that the animal stays on the premises of an international airport or closed in a vessel.

Maximum number of animals

- Non-commercial import of pets at the Croatian area implies five or less individual animals which are subject to a documentary check and identity check by customs officials on the travel point of entry into the Croatian. Those pets are not considered as a trade animals and must be accompanied by owner or comparable natural person for the animal during movement.
- Movement (import/export) of dogs, cats and ferrets is commercial if: the animal is intended to be sold or conveyed to a new owner, or the number of animals imported from non-EU countries is six or more, or the animal is not accompanied by the owner or a comparable natural person responsible for the animal during movement, or the animal is intended for economic activity.

APPROVED POINTS OF ENTRY

A pet animal must be imported to Croatia via an approved point of entry, where the Customs inspects the animal's identification and import documents, list of approved points is listed bellow. A pet animal imported directly from the EU countries can enter via any of the points of entry.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- The animal (dogs, cats and ferrets) must be identified by a microchip. If the microchip does not comply with ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785, the importer must provide the means necessary for reading the microchip. The information on the identification of the animal must also be entered to the vaccination certificates.

- A pet passport from the EU Member States or a veterinary certificate from other countries listed above, issued by an official veterinarian must accompany the animal.
- The animal must have been vaccinated against rabies.

Dogs, cats and ferrets which are under three months old and unvaccinated, may be imported only from the EU Member States if they are accompanied by a passport and have stayed in the place in which they were born since birth without contact with wild animals likely to have been exposed to the infection or are accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependent.

Dogs, cats and ferrets introduced from countries not listed above must satisfy following requirements:

- must be identified by a microchip
- must be accompanied with veterinary certificate authorized by the competent authorities, or pet passport in a case of re-entry in Croatia certifying that:
- the animal have been vaccinated against rabies

A blood test shall be taken to see if the protection against rabies is sufficient. The animal must be blood sampled for rabies antibodies by an authorised veterinarian at least 30 days after vaccination and three months before being moved and sent to an EC approved laboratory in order to control the level of antibodies. There is a list of approved laboratories at the website:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/approval_en.htm. If the blood test shows an insufficient protection against rabies, the animal must be vaccinated again and a new blood test must be taken. The antibody titration need not be renewed on a pet animal which has been revaccinated at the intervals in accordance with the recommendations of the vaccine manufacturing laboratory. This three-month period shall not apply to the re-entry of a pet animal whose passport certifies that the titration was carried out, with a positive result, before the animal left the territory of the Republic of Croatia. Please note that samples taken earlier than 120 days after the vaccination are not allowed for import to Republic of Croatia. If the animal has been vaccinated twice, you count 120 days from the second vaccination.

The test result must indicate a rabies antibody level of at least 0.5 IU/ml. If you want to avoid antibody testing after every vaccination, you must make sure that the animal is revaccinated before the day when the vaccination expires, as noted in the passport. If the animal is not revaccinated within the stated period, it may lose its' protective antibody level. The delayed revaccination is considered as a new basic vaccination, and the antibody level must be controlled again by sampling the animal in the interval mentioned above.

Pet passport

The veterinarian notes the identity number, vaccinations, test results and treatments in the passport. Contact your veterinarian for information about how to get a pet passport.

Veterinary certificate

Animals imported from listed countries, except from EU Member States, into Croatia must have a veterinary certificate. You can find this model at the official

web page of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries And Rural Development (www.mps.hr). If you plan on bringing a cat or dog that lives in the Republic of Croatia to a listed country and back again, you must obtain a pet passport before leaving the Croatia. You are then to use the passport instead of the veterinary certificate on the return journey.

Clinical examination

The animal must be examined by a veterinarian before departure. The veterinarian notes the examination in the passport.

Movement of other pets

If you import invertebrates (with the exception of bees and crustaceans), ornamental tropical fishes, amphibians, reptiles or mammals, they must be accompanied with veterinary certificate issued by an official veterinarian. The certificate accompanying the animals must confirm that, 24 hours before dispatch of the animals, a clinical examination was carried out by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority showing the animals to be in good health and able to withstand carriage to their destination.

For all details and veterinary certificate forms please contact the Ministry of Agriculture, fisheries and rural development, Administration of veterinary inspection (www.mps.hr).

- If you are planning to import birds to Republic of Croatia (all species with exception of poultry) the animals must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate

For all details and veterinary certificate forms please contact the Ministry of Agriculture, fisheries and rural development, Administration of veterinary inspection (www.mps.hr)

1. Road border crossings:

- a) Bajakovo
- b) Batina
- c) Erdut
- d) Ličko Petrovo Selo
- e) Gunja
- f) Ilok
- g) Kamensko
- h) Karasovići
- i) Klek
- j) Knin
- k) Metković
- l) Slavonski Brod
- m) Slavonski Šamac
- n) Stara Gradiška
- o) Vinjani Donji
- p) Vukovar
- r) Zaton Doli
- s) Županja

2. Railway border crossings:

Tovarnik

3. Sea border crossings:

- a) Dubrovnik
- b) Ploče
- c) Rijeka
- d) Split
- e) Zadar

4. River border crossings:

- a) Drava-Osijek
- b) Vukovar

5. Airport border crossings:

- a) Dubrovnik
- b) Split
- c) Zadar
- d) Zagreb
- e) Osijek.