



MACRITCHIE VET ERINARY PRACTICE

Beechwood Veterinary Centre
139 Glasgow Road, Baillieston
Glasgow G69 6TA
Tel. 0141 771 5565
Open: Mon-Fri 8.30am to 7pm,
Sat 8.30am-1.30pm

Low Waters Veterinary Centre
84 Portland Place
Hamilton
Tel. 01698 283400
Open: Mon-Fri 8.30am to 7pm
Sat 9am-11am

Consultations by appointment
24-hour emergency service

FACTSHEET: PET PASSPORTS

The Pet Travel Scheme ('PETS'), the rules are very complicated and vary according to the countries involved, so it always best to contact the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to obtain appropriate and up to date information.

The Scheme

PETS applies only to pet cats and dogs, including guide dogs and hearing dogs. It allows them to re-enter the UK from certain countries as long as they meet certain rules.

To qualify, each pet must have...

- **A microchip** - we strongly recommend that it conforms to the IOS (International Standards Organisation) Standard 11784 or Annex A to IOS Standard 11785.
- **Proof of vaccination against rabies** - boosters will need to be given to maintain immunity at intervals specified by your veterinary surgeon. a blood test to prove immunity against rabies after the vaccination - UK vaccine manufacturers recommend that the best time to do this is 30 days after the vaccine injection. If a pet fails the blood test then it will require re-vaccinating and a repeat blood sample. No further blood tests are required after the first test which gives a successful result provided the pet is subsequently revaccinated within the intervals specified by the vaccine manufacturer. If there is a break in the specified vaccination program then the animal will require a further blood test after revaccination.
- **An official PETS certificate** supplied by your veterinary surgeon. The certificate is now a passport-like book.
- **An official certificate** to prove that they have been treated for tapeworms and ticks. The treatment must be carried out not less than 24 hours and not more than 48 hours before the pet is checked in to travel to the UK, and must be administered every time a pet enters the UK. For animals leaving the UK on day trips, this treatment must be administered in the UK before departure. The above steps must be carried out in the sequence stated.

A pet may not enter the UK until 6 months have passed from the date when the blood sample was taken which led to a successful test result. If the PETS certificate is signed after that 6 month period has passed, the pet may enter the UK immediately.

Qualifying countries:

Pets resident in the UK can, having travelled to one or more of the countries or territories below, return to the UK under PETS. Pets that come from one of these countries or territories, and have not been outside any of them in the six months prior to travel, can also enter the UK under PETS as long as they fulfil all the necessary conditions.

Andorra, *Antigua & Barbuda, *Ascension Island, *Australia, Austria, *Barbados, Belgium, *Bermuda, *Cayman Islands, Cyprus(1), Denmark, *Falkland Islands, *Fiji, Finland, France(2), *French Polynesia, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, *Guadeloupe, *Hawaii, Iceland, Italy, *Jamaica, *Japan, *La Reunion, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, *Martinique, *Mauritius, *Mayotte, Monaco, *Montserrat, Netherlands, *New Caledonia, *New Zealand, Norway(3), Portugal(4), *St Helena, *St Kitts and Nevis, *St Vincent, San Marino, *Singapore, Spain(5), Sweden, Switzerland, *Vanuatu, Vatican, *Wallis and Futuna.

Notes:

1. Clients proposing to bring a pet into the UK travelling from Northern Cyprus should be advised to contact the PETS Helpline for advice.
2. France excludes French Guyana and St Pierre & Miquelon
3. Norway excludes Svalbard
4. Portugal excludes the Azores and Madeira
5. Spain includes the Canary Islands but excludes Ceuta and Melilla
- * Long haul destination.

Pets travelling within the British Isles

Pets resident anywhere in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland, or which have first entered the UK under PETS, can travel freely between these countries without the need for any documentation.

Further Information

It is important to note that many other countries have their own regulations which can also change from time to time, so it is important to check with DEFRA to confirm current requirements.

The PETS website has more information on the Scheme.

Visit their website on www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine

or telephone the PETS helpline on 0870 241 1710 (open 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday). You can also e-mail pets.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk or send a fax to 0207 904 6834.

New regulations

As from July 2004 a new type of passport is being introduced to standardise pet travel within the EEC. A microchip and rabies vaccination will be required for British pets travelling to Europe, but for those animals wishing to come to Britain a blood test following vaccination will still be required.