



Greenbay Vets
34 Walnut Road, TQ2 6HS
01803 606059
79 Kingsway Avenue, TQ4 7AB
01803 843836
info@greenbayvets.co.uk
www.greenbayvets.co.uk

Pet Travel to the European Union

As of October 2023, before travel to Europe, all pets will need to have a valid rabies vaccination, a working microchip and in some cases (for travel to Finland, Ireland Northern Ireland, Malta, and Norway) treatment for tapeworm. Once these are in place you will then need a completed Animal Health Certificate before you can travel. These are available for pet dogs, cats and ferrets.

An Animal Health Certificate will be valid for entry into the EU for 10 days after it is completed and will allow 4 months of onward travel within the EU and 4 months re-entry into the UK. It will need to be completed by an Official Veterinarian and several of our vets at Greenbay have this additional qualification.

When you return to the UK you must have your pet dog treated for tapeworm no less than 24 hours and no more than 120 hours before arrival back in the UK.

For a full list of up-to-date requirements to travel with your pet dog, cat or ferret please check the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/taking-your-pet-abroad/getting-an-animal-health-certificate>

Keeping your pet safe while travelling

We need to be aware that many parts of Europe are much hotter than the UK. If you are travelling to the southern areas of Europe in summer please be aware of the risks of heart stroke. Just like us humans, older pets and those with underlying health conditions like heart disease will be at more risk from the effects of heat. Our flat faced breeds like Pugs, Persians, Bulldogs and French Bulldogs are also going to struggle and in these cases it may be best to time your trip to the cooler months of the year or leave your four legged friends at home with friends or family.

Please also make sure you have researched the traffic laws for the countries you will be travelling through. Just as in the UK pets will need to be suitably restrained in the car and you could face a fine or worse if you are stopped. <https://www.eurotunnel.com/uk/holiday-ideas/travelling-safely-with-your-dog-in-your-car>

There are many diseases found on the continent that are not found in the UK and we need to be aware of these to keep our pets safe. Many of these disease are transmitted by biting insects such as mosquitos and sandflies and some by ticks so make sure you speak to the practice when planning your trip and we can help you with a parasite control plan before you travel. As already mentioned, all dogs will need to be treated for tapeworm before returning to the UK. The following website <https://www.esccap.org/> has some excellent, country specific information as well as more detail about individual diseases.