



## INFORMATION NOTE

### **Changes to the rules for pet (cats, dogs, ferrets) travel between Ireland and the UK after Brexit, if the UK leaves the EU without a deal**

The United Kingdom (UK) will leave the European Union (EU) on 29 March 2019.

This will result in a change in the rules for pet travel between Ireland and the UK after 29 March. This notice only concerns pet dogs, cats and ferrets travelling between Ireland and Great Britain (GB), in three different scenarios.

Important first step - you should contact your vet as soon as possible before your travel date to start making the necessary arrangements in good time.

*The UK Government has indicated that pet travel rules for entry into the UK may not change for some time after Brexit, but you must check with the UK authorities for the latest information <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-to-europe-after-brexit>.*

The three scenarios:

#### **Scenario 1: travelling to GB on holidays with your pet and returning to Ireland**

Your pet dog/cat/ferret must:

1. be micro chipped **before** its first rabies vaccination (or tattooed, if the tattoo was applied before 03 July 2011);
2. be vaccinated against rabies;
3. for travel to GB – have an EU pet passport or an EU health cert

for return to Ireland – have an EU pet passport (not a UK-issued EU pet passport) or an EU health cert issued by a UK government vet. You will not be able to return to Ireland on *an EU pet passport issued in the UK*, but you should hold on to a UK-issued pet passport if you have one, as it may have important information about vaccinations, treatments, etc;

4. have a rabies titration test (blood test). You must wait at least 30 days after the rabies vaccine was administered before the blood test can be carried out. **You should arrange the test in Ireland before you travel.** This is because if the test is administered in GB after 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, the pet must wait three months from the date the successful rabies titration test was carried out before it can travel to Ireland;
5. Dogs will need to be given treatment against *Echinococcus multilocularis* (tapeworm), by a vet, before re-entering Ireland.
6. Anyone bringing a pet dog, cat or ferret into Ireland from GB will have to give the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine advance notice by email before arrival.

## **Scenario 2: Travelling from GB to Ireland with your pet**

Your pet dog/cat/ferret must:

1. be microchipped before its first rabies vaccination (or tattooed, if the tattoo was applied before 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2011);
2. be vaccinated against rabies;
3. have an EU pet passport (not a UK-issued EU pet passport),

OR

if you don't have an EU pet passport, an EU health cert issued by a UK government vet. You will not be able to travel to the EU on an *EU pet passport issued in the UK*, but you should hold on to a UK-issued pet passport if you have one, as it may have important information about vaccinations, treatments, etc;

4. have a rabies titration test (blood test). You must wait at least 30 days after the rabies vaccine was administered before the blood test can be carried out.

Important: if the rabies titration test (blood test) is administered in GB after 29th March, 2019, the pet must wait three months from the date the successful rabies titration test was carried out before it can travel to Ireland.

5. Dogs will need to be given treatment against *Echinococcus multilocularis* (tapeworm), by a vet;
6. Anyone bringing a pet dog, cat or ferret into Ireland from GB will have to give the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine advance notice by email before arrival.

## **Scenario 3: Moving to GB with your pet and not returning to Ireland**

The UK Government have indicated that pet travel rules for entry into the UK may not change for some time after Brexit, but you must check with the UK authorities for the latest information <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-to-europe-after-brexit>.

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This notice does not apply to pet animals transported between Ireland and GB for commercial reasons – a change in ownership including rehoming, or a sale.

**For further information, please see [www.agriculture.gov.ie/brexit](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/brexit)**