



When you are travelling with your pet you are responsible for it

A journey with your pet must be planned on time and in an appropriate manner. Beside general customs legislations you need to comply with the veterinary legislation. When bringing your pet into the Republic of Croatia you are responsible for meeting the prescribed conditions on the entry into the territory of the Republic of Croatia. This means that before your journey you must inquiry into those conditions. For example, check the conditions applicable to your country of origin, whether your pet has been vaccinated or re-vaccinated on time and whether it has a valid passport or veterinary certificate. If upon arrival at the border veterinary post your pet does not meet the prescribed conditions, you may be denied entry into the Republic of Croatia or the animal may be returned to its country of origin or placed in quarantine. As the owner of the animal you will bear all the costs incurred by the implementation of those measures. If you cannot pay for such costs your pet may be euthanized without any right to compensation.

For the purpose of preventing the introduction and the spreading of rabies in the Republic of Croatia the Ordinance on the animal health requirements applicable to the non-commercial movement of pet animals (Official Gazette no. 74/11), harmonised with the Regulation (EC) no. 998/2003, has entered into force on 9 July 2011. and governs the non-commercial movement of pet animals between the Republic of Croatia and the European Union Member States or non-EU members (so called third countries).

Rabies is an incurable and lethal infectious disease to which all warm-blooded wild and domestic



animals (including humans) are susceptible, and it is transferred through saliva and bites. The Republic of Croatia has been successfully fighting this disease for many years and has been included in the list of countries free from rabies. If you travel with your pet from a country in which the urban type of rabies is present, the conditions for the entry into the Republic of Croatia are stricter. Urban rabies is a type of rabies affecting not only wild animals (sylvatic rabies), but also domestic animals or wild animals living in the vicinity of human settlements and coming into contact with humans (for example, martens, bears, raccoons, etc.). Such type of rabies is present in the countries of Asia, Northern Africa, Eastern Europe and South America.

Conditions stated herein are applicable to pet animals - DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS entering the territory of the Republic of Croatia, which during the journey are accompanied by their owner or other person responsible for the pet on behalf of the owner and are not intended for further sale or surrender to a new owner.

Upon introduction of five pet animals or less (non-commercial movement) the customs officials at the point of entry into the Republic of Croatia shall carry out the documentary and identity checks in accordance with the Ordinance on border crossings for movement of pet animals (Official Gazette no. 61/09 and 83/09); if there are more than five animals (commercial movement), other legislation applies and the veterinary check shall be carried out by the border veterinary inspectors at the approved border inspection posts of the Republic of Croatia.





DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS



Dogs, cats and ferrets entering the territory of the Republic of Croatia must be microchipped and vaccinated against rabies; depending on the country of origin, the owner or the person responsible for the animal must have a certificate or pet passport issued by a veterinarian who has been authorised by the competent authority of the country of origin and who entered and validated the information on the animal in such certificate or passport. The owner or the person responsible for the pet animal must at any time present to the person performing checks the passport or certificate certifying that the animal meets the prescribed conditions for the entry into the territory of the Republic of Croatia, meaning that the passport or certificate must contain validated identification information (number and position of the microchip and date of microchipping) and information on vaccination (manufacturer, name and serial number of vaccine, vaccination date and expiration date of the vaccine).

MICROCHIPPING



The use of the electronic identification system - microchipping enables the reading of information on the owner of the animal. The microchip must comply with the ISO Standard 11784 or 11785. If the microchip is not compliant with those standards, the owner of the animal or the responsible person must provide the means necessary for reading the microchip at the time of any inspection. Since "incompatible" microchips are often produced in the United States of America you must verify that your pet bears a so called "Euro-chip" containing only numeric symbols and not the asterisk symbol ("*").

THE MICROCHIPPING MUST BE DONE BEFORE VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES; OTHERWISE THE VACCINATION SHALL NOT BE DEEMED VALID.

VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES

Each vaccination of your pet against rabies must be registered in the pet passport.

THE MINIMUM AGE OF VACCINATION OF PET ANIMALS AGAINST RABIES IS THREE MONTHS. Vaccination of animals under three months old does not produce satisfactory results because the building up of antibodies after the vaccination will be affected by the existing antibodies received from the mother.

The vaccination shall be deemed valid and the pet animal shall be granted entry into the Republic of Croatia after AT LEAST 21 DAYS from the date of vaccination in a Member State or third country. If the pet has been revaccinated before the expiration date of the previous vaccination (the pet has been revaccinated regularly), the 21-day wait is not applicable. The validity of the vaccination (which, depending on the vaccine, may extend up to three years) against rabies in a Member State or third country in which it is administered, is determined by its manufacturer provided that such validity is entered and validated by the veterinarian in the pet passport. Otherwise the validity of the vaccination shall be deemed to be one year. The vaccination and revaccination against rabies must be carried out in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer with an inactivated vaccine (WHO standard) or recombinant vaccine.





LIST OF COUNTRIES AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ENTRY OF PET ANIMALS INTO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Provisions applicable to the movement of pet animals depend on the country of origin of the dog, cat or ferret, i.e. on that country's status with regard to rabies and measures it implements in order to prevent and control this disease.



Countries free from urban rabies

1. The owner of or the person responsible for dogs, cats and ferrets entering the territory of the Republic of Croatia from the below listed European Union Member States and third countries, which have the EQUIVALENT status with regard to rabies as the Republic of Croatia (the countries concerned are free from urban rabies), must ensure that the pet animals concerned meet the following conditions:

COUNTRIES FREE FROM URBAN RABIES	
IE	Ireland
MT	Malta
SE	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
DK	Denmark, including (GL) Greenland and (FO) Faeroe Islands
ES	Spain, including the Balearic Islands, (XA) Canary Islands, Ceuta and Melilla
FR	France, including (GF) French Guiana, (GP) Guadeloupe, (MQ) Martinique and (RE) Réunion
GI	Gibraltar
PT	Portugal, including the Azores and Madeira
	Other European Union Member States:
	AT (Austria), BE (Belgium), BG (Bulgaria), CY (Cyprus), CZ (Czech Republic), DE (Germany), EE (Estonia), FI (Finland), GR (Greece), HU (Hungary), IT (Italy), LT (Lithuania), LU (Luxembourg), LV (Latvia), NL (the Netherlands), PL (Poland), RO (Romania), SI (Slovenia), SK (Slovakia)
AD	Andorra
CH	Switzerland
IS	Iceland
LI	Liechtenstein
MC	Monaco
NO	Norway
SM	San Marino
VA	Vatican



Entry and movement within the territory of the Republic of Croatia is also permitted to dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated provided that they come from the above countries (point 1) and meet the following conditions:

- (a) are accompanied by a valid pet passport
- (b) must be microchipped
- (c) are accompanied by a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying that they 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. The certificate is NOT REQUIRED if accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependant, whilst the mother must meet the prescribed requirements (she must be microchipped, vaccinated against rabies and accompanied by a pet passport in which such information is entered and validated).

In case of return from the above countries and re-entry into the Republic of Croatia (pets accompanied by a Croatian pet passport) dogs, cats and ferrets must meet the following conditions:

- (a) must be microchipped
- (b) must be vaccinated against rabies
- (c) are accompanied by a valid pet passport in which the above information under have been entered and validated by the competent veterinarian.

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Low-risk countries

2. If dogs, cats and ferrets come from countries stated below whose status with regard to rabies is ALMOST EQUIVALENT to the status of the Republic of Croatia, i.e. the situation with regard to rabies in such countries is favourable and the risk of pet animals being infected with urban rabies in those countries is very low, the owner or the responsible person must ensure that such pet animals meet the following conditions:

LOW-RISK COUNTRIES WITH ALMOST EQUIVALENT STATUS WITH REGARD TO URBAN RABIES AS THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

AC	Ascension Island	FJ	Fiji	PM	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
AE	United Arab Emirates	FK	Falkland Islands	RU	Russia
AG	Antigua and Barbuda	HK	Hong Kong	SG	Singapore
AN	Netherlands Antilles	JM	Jamaica	SH	Saint Helena
AR	Argentina	JP	Japan	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
AU	*Australia	KN	Saint Kitts and Nevis	TW	Taiwan
AW	Aruba	KY	Cayman Islands	US	USA (including AS – American Samoa, GU – Guam, MP – Northern Mariana Islands, PR – Puerto Rico and VI – US Virgin Islands)
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	LC	Saint Lucia	VC	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
BB	Barbados	MS	Montserrat	VG	British Virgin Islands
BH	Bahrain	MU	Mauritius	VU	Vanuatu
BM	Bermuda	MX	Mexico	WF	Wallis and Futuna
BY	Belarus	MY	*Malaysia	YT	Mayotte
CA	Canada	NC	New Caledonia		
CL	Chile	NZ	New Zealand		
		PF	French Polynesia		

*for dogs and cats coming from Australia and Malaysia additional conditions apply (see below)

- (a) must be microchipped
 - (b) must be vaccinated against rabies
 - (c) are accompanied by a valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian (model certificate HR-U-1-7-3 dogs, cats and ferrets is available on the web pages of the Ministry of Agriculture - <http://www.mps.hr/>)
- Entry and movement within the territory of the Republic of Croatia is also permitted to dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated provided that they come from the above countries (point 2) and meet the following conditions:
- (a) are accompanied by a valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian
 - (b) must be microchipped
 - (c) are accompanied by a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying that they 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. The certificate is NOT REQUIRED if accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependant, whilst the mother must meet the prescribed requirements (she must be microchipped, vaccinated against rabies and accompanied by a valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian).



In case of return from the above countries and re-entry into the Republic of Croatia (pets accompanied by a Croatian pet passport) dogs, cats and ferrets must meet the following conditions:

- (a) must be microchipped
- (b) must be vaccinated against rabies
- (c) are accompanied by a valid pet passport in which the above information have been entered and validated by the competent veterinarian.

High-risk countries

3. Where dogs, cats and ferrets come from other third countries which are not listed above (under points 1 and 2) and in which it has been demonstrated or it is presumed that urban rabies is present and the risk of pet animals being infected with urban rabies in those countries is very high, the owner or the responsible person must ensure that such pet animals meet the following conditions:



- (a) must be microchipped
- (b) must be vaccinated against rabies
- (c) are accompanied by an additional certificate of the approved laboratory certifying a neutralising antibody titration test confirming the effectiveness of the vaccine
- (d) are accompanied by a valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian.



Neutralising antibody titration test



The neutralising antibody titration test is used to check the effectiveness of the rabies vaccine. Not less than 30 days after vaccination the veterinarian sends a blood sample to the approved laboratory, where a neutralising antibody titration test is carried out and the antibody titre must be at least equal to 0,5 IU/ml or higher. If the minimum antibody titre is not achieved, the vaccination is to be repeated. The neutralising antibody titration test may not be repeated on pets which have been regularly revaccinated. The entry into the Republic of Croatia shall not be permitted before the expiry of 3 months from the date of the taking of the blood sample for testing, i.e. 4 months from the date of vaccination against rabies. The list of approved laboratories is available on the following web pages: http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/approval_en.htm

Dogs, cats and ferrets coming from high-risk third countries (point 3) may enter the Republic of Croatia provided that they have been vaccinated against rabies and are accompanied by an additional certificate of the approved laboratory certifying a neutralising antibody titration test confirming the effectiveness of the vaccine, which must be issued not less than 4 months from the date of vaccination against rabies. Since the vaccination may not be carried out on animals under three months old, dogs, cats and ferrets may not enter the Republic of Croatia before the age of 7 months.

In case of return from the high-risk third countries and re-entry into the Republic of Croatia (pets accompanied by a Croatian pet passport) dogs, cats and ferrets must meet the following conditions:

- (a) must be microchipped
- (b) must be vaccinated against rabies
- (c) are accompanied by an additional certificate of the approved laboratory certifying a neutralising antibody titration test confirming the effectiveness of the vaccine. (The three-month period between vaccination and entry into the Republic of Croatia shall not apply to the re-entry of pet animals into the Republic of Croatia provided that the veterinarian entered and validated in the pet passport the satisfactory result of the neutralising antibody titration test before the pet animal had left the territory of the Republic of Croatia.)
- (d) are accompanied by a valid pet passport in which the above information have been entered and validated by the competent veterinarian.

*Special conditions applicable to dogs and cats coming from Malaysia and Australia

For dogs and cats coming from MALAYSIA the owner or the responsible person must present a certificate of the veterinarian certifying that:

- a) The animals have had no contact with pigs during at least the past 60 days prior to export,
- b) The animals have not been resident on holdings where during the past 60 days cases of Nipah disease have been confirmed,
- c) The animals have been subjected with negative result to an IgG capture ELISA test carried out in a laboratory approved for testing for antibody against the Nipah disease viruses on a sample of blood taken within 10 days of export.



For cats coming from AUSTRALIA the owner or the responsible person must present a certificate of the veterinarian certifying that the animals have not been resident on holdings where during the past 60 days cases of Hendra disease have been confirmed.





CONDITIONS

	VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES	MICROCHIP	PASSPORT	CERTIFICATE
<p>COUNTRIES FREE FROM URBAN RABIES (EU Member States, Andorra, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Vatican)</p>	valid vaccination against rabies	microchip	valid pet passport	
<p>COUNTRIES FREE FROM URBAN RABIES (unvaccinated pet animals under 3 months old)</p>		microchip	valid pet passport + certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying that they 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. The certificate is NOT REQUIRED if accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependant, whilst the mother must meet the prescribed requirements.	
<p>COUNTRIES FREE FROM URBAN RABIES (re-entry of pet animals accompanied by a Croatian pet passport into the Republic of Croatia from those countries)</p>	valid vaccination against rabies	microchip	valid pet passport	
<p>LOW-RISK COUNTRIES Ascension Island, United Arab Emirates, Antigua and Barbuda, Netherlands Antilles, Argentina, Australia, Aruba, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Barbados, Bahrain, Bermuda, Belarus, Canada, Chile, Fiji, Falkland Islands, Hong Kong, Jamaica, Japan, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Cayman Islands, Saint Lucia, Montserrat, Mauritius, Mexico, Malaysia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, French Polynesia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Russia, Singapore, Saint Helena, Trinidad and Tobago, Taiwan, USA, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, British Virgin Islands, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna, Mayotte)</p>	valid vaccination against rabies	microchip		valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian



	VACCINATION AGAINST RABIES	MICROCHIP	PASSPORT	CERTIFICATE
LOW-RISK COUNTRIES (unvaccinated pet animals under 3 months old)		microchip		valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian + certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying that they 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. The certificate is NOT REQUIRED if accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependant, whilst the mother must meet the prescribed requirements.
LOW-RISK COUNTRIES (re-entry of pet animals accompanied by a Croatian pet passport into the Republic of Croatia from those countries)	valid vaccination against rabies	microchip	valid pet passport	
HIGH-RISK COUNTRIES (other countries not listed elsewhere)	valid vaccination against rabies + additional certificate of the approved laboratory certifying a neutralising antibody titration test confirming the effectiveness of the vaccine.	microchip		valid certificate issued by the official veterinarian
HIGH-RISK COUNTRIES (unvaccinated pet animals under 3 months old)	ENTRY NOT PERMITTED BEFORE THE AGE OF 7 MONTHS			
HIGH-RISK COUNTRIES (re-entry of pet animals accompanied by a Croatian pet passport into the Republic of Croatia from those countries)	valid vaccination against rabies + additional certificate of the approved laboratory certifying a neutralising antibody titration test confirming the effectiveness of the vaccine.	microchip	valid pet passport	

