



*South Africa's most comprehensive pet services organisation!*

<https://keringa.co.za/pet-transport/>



**USA REGULATIONS AND PROTOCOLS FOR  
CATS AND DOGS**

Excluding Guam and Hawaii

**QUARANTINE INFORMATION**

IS QUARANTINE REQUIRED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE?	NO	<b>ENQUIRE NOW</b>
IS QUARANTINE REQUIRED AT DESTINATION?	NO	
IS AN IMPORT PERMIT REQUIRED AT DESTINATION?	YES, for <b>dogs</b> only – we can advise you	

**PROTOCOL INFORMATION**

<b>Step 1</b>	Microchipping (Speak to your vet)	All pets must have an ISO approved microchip implanted subcutaneously. Tattoos are not accepted. Please inform our consultant if your pet has more than 1 microchip.
<b>Step 2</b>	Vaccinations (Speak to your vet)	Rabies vaccination is compulsory and must be older than 30 days but not older than 11 months. Acceptable vaccines include Zoetis Defensor 3, Nobivac Rabies and Merial Rabisin. <b>RABIES VACCINE MUST BE ADMINISTERED AFTER MICROCHIP IMPLANT – the same day is acceptable.</b> <b>Dogs</b> should be vaccinated against Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvovirus, Adenovirus and Coronavirus and parainfluenza. <b>Cats</b> should be vaccinated against Feline Panleukemia (Distemper), Viral Rhinotracheitis Calicivirus, Pneumonitis, and Leukaemia and should be older than 30 days but not older than 12 months. Pets arriving at or departing from Keringa Kennels require Nobivac Kennel Cough, Bronchicine or Pneumodog ( <b>dogs</b> ) and Nobivac BB intranasal ( <b>cats</b> ).

**COUNT 31 DAYS FROM DATE OF RABIES VACCINATION (COMPULSORY WAITING PERIOD)**

<b>Step 3</b>	RNATT (Only for dogs) (Speak to your vet)	On day 32 after the Rabies vaccination, you must have your pet's blood drawn for the Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT). Your family vet will submit bloodwork to an approved laboratory for analysis. Results must show a titre value of more than 0.5 IU/ml to qualify for travel. Blood can be sent to Onderstepoort.
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**COUNT 45 DAYS FROM RNATT BLOOD DRAW (COMPULSORY WAITING PERIOD)**

**PLEASE TURN OVER**

<p>Step 4</p>	<p>Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) (Speak to your vet)</p>	<p><b>CATS</b> Cats travelling to the United States require a fit to fly / good health letter issued by your family veterinarian the day before departure. Our consulting veterinarian can issue the letter by prior arrangement. State Vet endorsement is not required. In the Interest of your cat's wellbeing, we administer tick and flea treatment on arrival at Keringa Kennels.</p> <p><b>DOGS</b> Dogs travelling to the USA require an official <b>Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC)</b> completed by your family vet the day before departure - our consulting vet can complete the <b>VHC</b> on your behalf by prior arrangement. State Vet endorsement is required. The <b>VHC</b> is valid for 5 days from issue and must be valid on arrival at destination. <b>Dogs</b> must be examined and declared free of Screw Worm (must be stated on the VHC) In addition, <b>dogs</b> require endo- and ectoparasite treatment before departure – considered valid for 5 days.</p>
<p>Step 5</p>	<p>Submission to Petwings (Speak to your vet)</p>	<p><u>The following documents must be submitted to Petwings:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Original, unaltered vaccination booklet for each pet</li> <li>2. Original microchip certificate for each pet</li> <li>3. Original <b>Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC)</b> for <b>dogs</b></li> <li>4. Original good health / fit to fly letter for <b>cats</b></li> <li>5. Copy of CDC Import Permit for <b>dogs</b></li> </ol> <p><b>(Microchip ID must be noted on all the above documents)</b></p>
<p>Step 6</p>	<p>Clearance at destination</p>	<p>It is advised that your pets arrive at their destination during the week and preferably during normal office hours. This will ensure timely clearance through Customs and the presiding State Veterinarian while avoiding additional charges. Where applicable and unless stated otherwise, the consignee is responsible for Import Customs and Clearance at destination – we can advise you.</p>
<p><b>Other important notes to consider</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Puppies and kittens may not travel to the USA on their dam's rabies vaccination and must be at least 4 months old at time of departure. Their first rabies vaccination may be administered at 12 weeks of age (3 months), followed by a booster vaccination 30 days later.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For your pet's comfort during travel, we encourage you to include a favourite blanket, soft toy or old T-shirt with your scent which we will place in their travel container.</li> <li>• Chemical and other strong sedatives are NOT ALLOWED.</li> <li>• Mild herbal remedies such as Rescue, CalmEze, catnip spray or other valerian root extracts are permitted.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please inform your Petwings consultant of any brachycephalic (snub nose) pets traveling as certain airline, routing and seasonal restrictions may apply.</li> <li>• Dogs to the USA require an Import Permit from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – the national public health agency of the United States) - please go to <a href="#">How to Apply for a CDC Dog Import Permit</a></li> </ul>		
<p><b>If all of this sounds daunting, Petwings can do just about everything for you!</b>  <b>We've been transporting pets world-wide for years – here's what some of our many happy clients have to say about us: <a href="https://keringa.co.za/references/">https://keringa.co.za/references/</a></b></p> <p><b>NB: Due to the fact that airline and country protocols change often, we cannot be held responsible for errors, omissions, or alterations/changes. That said, Petwings pet travel agents keep up-to-date and are the best source of current rules and regulations – and they are friendly and helpful too!</b></p>		