



USA REGULATIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR CATS AND DOGS

Excluding Guam and Hawaii

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

QUARANTINE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE?

NO

QUARANTINE AT DESTINATION?

NO

IMPORT PERMIT AT DESTINATION?

NO

PROTOCOL INFORMATION

Step 1

Microchipping

All pets must have an ISO approved microchip implanted subcutaneously. Tattoos are not accepted. Please inform your consultant if your pet has more than 1 microchip.

Step 2

Vaccinations

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.
RABIES VACCINE MUST BE ADMINISTERED AFTER MICROCHIP IMPLANT – the same day is acceptable.
Dogs should be vaccinated against Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvovirus, Adenovirus and Coronavirus and parainfluenza.
Cats should be vaccinated against Feline Panleukemia (Distemper), Viral Rhinotracheitis Calicivirus and Pneumonitis and should be older than 30 days but not older than 12 months.
Dogs arriving at or departing from Keringa Kennels require Nobivac Kennel Cough, Bronchicine or Pneumodog (dogs).

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

Step 3

RNATT (Only for dogs)

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 must be sent to either Onderstepoort or IDEXX.

COUNT 28 DAYS FROM RNATT BLOOD DRAW (COMPULSORY WAITING PERIOD)

Step 4	VHC	<u>CATS</u> 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. <u>DOGS</u> Dogs travelling to the USA require an official Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) completed by your family vet the day before departure - our consulting vet can complete the VHC on your behalf by prior arrangement. State Vet endorsement is required. The VHC is valid for 5 days from issue and must be valid on arrival at destination. Dogs must be examined and declared free of Screw Worm (must be stated on the VHC) In addition, dogs require endo- and ectoparasite treatment before departure – considered valid for 5 days.
Step 5	Submission to Petwings	The following documents must be submitted to Petwings: 1. Original, unaltered vaccination booklet for each pet 2. Original microchip certificate for each pet 3. Original Veterinary Health Certificate for dogs 4. Original good health / fit to fly letter for cats (Microchip ID must be noted on all the above documents)
Step 6	Clearance at destination	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.
Other important notes to consider		
• Puppies and kittens may not travel to the USA on their dam's rabies vaccination and must be at least 6 months old at time of departure. • Their first rabies vaccination may be administered at 12 weeks of age (3 month), followed by a booster vaccination 30 days later. • A CDC Reservation at a registered animal care facility made either by the pet owner or the clearing agent prior to arrival and after flight booking has been confirmed • Entry ports for dogs : Atlanta, Georgia (ATL), Los Angeles, California (LAX), Miami, Florida (MIA), New York, New York (JFK), Washington, DC (IAD), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (PHL) • The dog owner must make a booking at a CDC-registered Animal Care Facility for inspection upon arrival at any of the above entry ports. If the dog does not have a valid rabies serology titer when they enter the US, the booking must include a 28-day quarantine. The booking confirmation from the CDC-registered animal care facility MUST accompany the dog and be shown to the airline before boarding and to Customs and Border Protection upon arrival at a US airport. • The dog owner must complete the CDC Dog Import Form • All dogs from South Africa entering the USA will be revaccinated with a US rabies vaccine upon inspection at the CDC-registered Animal Care Facility upon arrival. This will be for the dog owner's account.		
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 box. Chemical and other strong sedatives are NOT ALLOWED. Mild herbal remedies such as Rescue, CalmEze, catnip spray or other valerian root extracts are permitted.		

Please inform your Petwings consultant of any brachycephalic (snub nose) pets traveling as certain airline, routing and seasonal restrictions may apply.

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 [How to Apply for a CDC Dog Import Permit](#)

If all of this sounds daunting, Petwings can do just about everything for you!

We've been transporting pets world-wide for years – here's what some of our many happy clients have to say about us:

<https://keringa.co.za/references/>

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!