

What is an EU Pet Passport?

- An EU Pet Passport is a document issued by an official veterinarian in a European Union (EU) Member State (country within the EU) or other designated country that contains official health information related to a specific pet.
 - An EU Pet Passport cannot be obtained in the U.S.
- The purpose of the EU Pet Passport is to simplify travel between EU Member States, but the EU has also allowed it to be used for pets returning to the EU from other countries as long as it is a non-commercial movement (i.e., no more than 5 animals, the animals are not changing ownership or intended for resale, and the animals are moving within 5 days before or after the owner or designated person*).
- If this is a commercial movement (i.e., more than 5 pets, the pet is being transferred to a new owner or sold, and/or the pet is moving more than 5 days before or after the owner or designated person*), the pet cannot return to the EU with the EU Pet Passport. Instead, you will need to obtain an EU Health Certificate issued (completed and signed) by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian and endorsed (counter-signed and embossed/stamped) by APHIS before the pet leaves the U.S. To view these requirements and obtain the correct health certificate, please [click here](#) to be taken back to the country selection page. You will need to follow the steps for Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets that do not have an EU Pet Passport.



If the pet's EU Pet Passport is still valid:

Does the pet require a clinical examination in the U.S. before returning to the EU?

Pets returning to the EU with a valid EU Pet Passport **DO NOT** need a clinical examination.

Does the pet require any treatments in the U.S. before returning to the EU?

- Cats and ferrets do not require any treatments in the U.S. before returning to the EU.
- Dogs traveling to the UK (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales), Ireland, Malta, Finland, and Norway need to be treated for tapeworm (*Echinococcus multilocularis*) 24 – 120 hours (1 – 5 days) prior to entry into those Member States/countries. This can be recorded in the dog's EU Pet Passport by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian.
 - [Click here](#) to be taken back to the country selection page to view the tapeworm treatment requirements for the UK, Ireland, Malta, Finland, and Norway.

* Designated person: a family member, friend, or other person authorized by the owner to travel with the pet.

NOTE: Always check with the airlines to determine what additional requirements they may have for your pet to travel.

*Above information is from the USDA APHIS website (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel/by-country/eu/pet_travel-european_union_pet_passports)

Please note, according to the state Veterinarian of Rheinland Pfalz:

- 1) **US Veterinarians stationed in Europe are NOT authorized to input documentation into the Pet Passport book.** In doing so, the passport book could be invalidated.

*If you want your pet passport book up to date with vaccinations, you need to go to an off-base EU Veterinarian so the passport book is not invalidated.

- 2) **A pet is not authorized to cross EU borders without having a pet passport.** Often the borders are not controlled, but in case you encounter a border protection officer, the pet passport will ensure ease of transit across the border. It is possible the animal can be placed in quarantine at the owner's expense if appropriate documentation does not accompany the pet when traveling across EU borders.

*It is possible to travel across EU borders with an international health certificate we issue at the VTF.

- 3) **If you believe that you will be traveling with your pet throughout the EU, or traveling with your pet back and forth to the USA, it is recommended that you get a blue passport book at an off-base EU Veterinary clinic by getting the Rabies vaccination performed there.** The blue passport book with microchip information and a valid Rabies vaccination is what is required for travel in between EU countries.

*If you get your other vaccinations done on-base, these will not be updated in the passport book, but we can give you an updated vaccination record to keep with your passport book to show proof of additional vaccinations.

Resources:

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel/by-country/eu/pet_travel-european_union_pet_passports

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ReiseUndSicherheit/reise-und-sicherheitshinweise/letzteaktualisierungen>

<https://www.gov.uk/take-pet-abroad/pet-passport>

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/eu-legislation/non-commercial-non-eu_en