



The British Veterinary Centre

Pet Travel - Advance Preparation & Things to Know Before you Go

This document contains general information and points you should consider when arranging International travel for your pet.

Please note:

Medical procedures for some countries such as Australia, New Zealand, Japan and some others must begin much longer in advance of departure date (up to 7 months). Please see “country specific” data for advice on when to start planning your pet’s veterinary procedures such as microchip, rabies vaccines & rabies immunity tests.

Flight bookings will not be confirmed by airlines until close to flight date (within 10 days) and Export certification is often valid for only 10 days. Flights cannot be booked before this time.

Specific data and transport procedures for individual countries can be detailed and confusing for the occasional traveller. We strongly recommend that you choose an IPATA agent such as British Veterinary Centre to organise your pet’s travel.

Members of this organisation are familiar with International animal transport requirements and local procedures and liaise with each other to coordinate efforts from departure to arrival.



The British Veterinary Centre

Travel Cages

- Use only IATA approved cages. (All BVC cages are IATA approved).
- Measure generously when calculating cage size - undersized cages will be declined by airlines.
- See measurement page on this document for details of how to measure your pet (it works for cats and dogs).
- No pet accessories would be allowed in cages by the airlines, only one blanket or a familiar T-shirt can accompany your pet whilst traveling.

Continue to Page 5 to see how to measure your dog, with thanks to British Airways.

Pregnancy

- Animals in the last third of pregnancy may be barred from traveling.

Breeds

- Some fighting breeds are barred from entry to various countries. This varies between different destinations but check if you intend to transport:
 - Pit Bull (which includes the American Pit Bull Terrier also known as the American Pit Bull and Pit Bull Terrier)
 - American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier,
 - American Bulldog
 - Japanese Tosa
 - Dogo Argentino
 - Fila Brasileiro
 - Perro De Presa Canario
- Short nosed (brachycephalic) breed such as Boxers, Pekingese and Persian cats are increasingly refused transport by airlines.

Vaccine Requirements

- Rabies is a standard vaccine requirement for most counties. (Minimum 30 days before traveling)
- Other vaccines are frequently demanded.
- Rabies vaccine is required in dogs and cats both to enter and to leave the UAE.



The British Veterinary Centre

Travel Documents

- Documentation procedures can be simple for some countries where only a current rabies vaccine & Microchip status is requested.
- Countries such as Australia, New Zealand and United Kingdom require more involved application procedures.
- Some countries need the documents attested by the Embassy or UAE ministry.
- UAE :
 - Ministry import permit is mandatory for pets entering the UAE.
 - Ministry export health certificate is mandatory for all pets leaving the UAE.

We are happy to arrange documentation for our transport cases. Please follow the application guidelines on this site and provide all listed documents if you would like BVC to arrange your pet's travel.

Local Transport Services from BVC in UAE

- To / From Airport
- Between Emirates

Veterinary Health Checks

- Performed at the BVC routinely – Book an appointment through our transport team.
- Can be built into your transport plan.
- Mandatory requirement for most journeys.
- Timing can be important - Too long before departure flight and the export documentation will expire. Too close to departure time and there won't be time to get the paperwork complete.
 - Some countries accept certification dated up to one month before travel while others insist that your certificate must be no more than 2 days old.
 - Friday and Saturday are weekend days in the UAE and ministry work will not take place on these days for issue of Health Certificates.



The British Veterinary Centre

Age Limits

- Many countries and airlines insist that traveling cats and dogs should be no less than 4 months old.

Feeding / Water

- Do not feed your pet for 6 hours pre-flight. Healthy pets can go many hours without food and 36 hours is well within the capacity of normal pet dogs and cats.
- Water should be offered up to the departure time but need not be placed in the cage as well. Instead, you should:
 - Arrange a water bowl attached to the inside of the cage with a small piece of pipe secured such that water can be given without opening the door.
 - Attach feeding and watering instructions to the cage for ground staff to follow in the event of long flights or delays.
 - Freeze water before putting it in.
- Ask us for advice if your pet is older, unfit or has any complaint that might require special feeding or watering instructions.

Continue to Page 5 to see how to measure your dog, with thanks to British Airways.

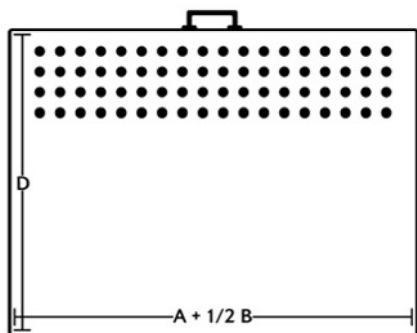
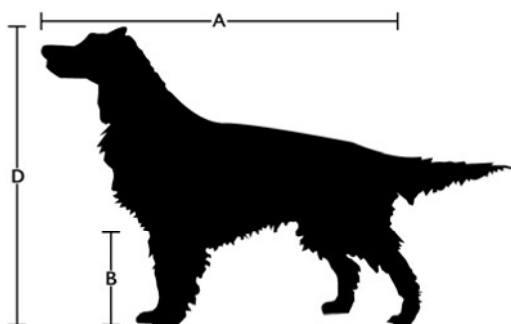
HOW TO MEASURE YOUR DOG

BRITISH AIRWAYS
WORLD CARGO

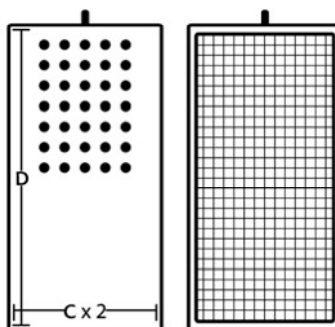
VERSION 29 MAY 2009

THIS IS A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS

KENNELS NOT MEETING THIS CRITERIA ON DIMENSIONS OR MEETING THE IATA KENNEL QUALITY STANDARDS WILL BE REFUSED UPLIFT. THESE CRITERIA ALSO APPLY TO KENNELS FOR CATS.



SIDE VIEW



END VIEW

FRONT VIEW

INDEX

- A. From the tip of the nose to the root of the tail
- B. From the elbow measurement to the ground
- C. The width of the dog at the widest point
- D. From the floor to the tip of the ears or the top of the head, whichever is higher (ears must not touch the top of the kennel in animal's natural standing position)

ESTIMATE OF BOX DIMENSIONS

- $A + \frac{1}{2} B$ = Length
- $C \times 2$ = Width
- D = Height

Box dimensions are internal measurements.

GUIDELINES

- Must be fit and in good health
- Must have up to date veterinary health certificate
- Must not be more than six weeks pregnant, or less than eight weeks old
- Start the arrangements for travel several weeks before you travel
- For UK import regulations, inoculations, quarantine requirements and the Pets Travel Scheme refer to www.defra.gov.uk
- Check with your local British Airways World Cargo office or www.baworldcargo.com in case of change of regulations
- For animal welfare information refer to www.rspca.org.uk