



COMMERCIAL AND NON-COMMERCIAL IMPORT OF DOGS, CATS, AND FERRETS



When travelling with a pet dog, cat or ferret, or when you intend to sell the animal or transfer it to another owner, you must adhere to certain rules that differ and depend on the country of origin and/or the country of destination. Travelling with a pet must be timely and well planned, and you are fully

responsible for meeting the legislative requirements for entry and/or movement in the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union. This means that, before your trip, you must inquire and find out which requirements will be in force at the time of your trip. If you are coming from countries outside of the European Union, the so-called third countries, the regulations for the entry or import of pets are stricter and should a pet, upon arrival at a border veterinary post, not meet the legislative requirements, you may be denied entry into the European Union, or the animal may be returned to the country of origin or placed into quarantine until the required health conditions are met. As a last resort, the animal may be put to death. As the owner of an animal or a representative of the owner, you are fully responsible for all the costs incurred in the implementation of the aforementioned measures.

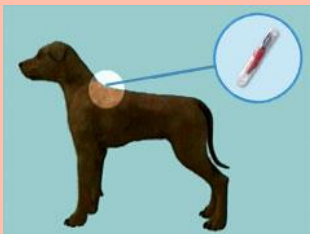
The regulations currently in force in the European Union related to the control of the movement of dogs, cats and ferrets, were adopted **with the objective of protecting the health of people and pets from rabies**. In Finland, Ireland, Malta, and Great Britain, additional preventive measures are in force **with the objective of controlling parasitic invasions of the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm** in dogs and humans.

Non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets is the movement of up to five pets (who do not have to be of the same species; they can be, for example, two dogs and three cats), accompanied by the owner or another person who is responsible for them, provided that such pets are not intended for sale, transfer to another owner, or other commercial purposes. Their movement must originate from the owner's need for movement, and they must be transported in the same mode of transport as the owner. When travelling by airplane, the pet may be transported in the passenger cabin with the owner, or it may be temporally and/or spatially separated from the owner, which means that the owner travels in the passenger cabin and the pet in the cargo hold of the same airplane, or the owner and the pet may travel on separate flights provided that the owner signs a statement appointing another person (e.g. airline captain or shipping agency) to be responsible for the animal. For separate flights, upon request from the competent authority performing the examination, the owner must provide evidence that his/her movement is connected to the movement of the pet by presenting an airplane ticket or boarding pass. If the aforementioned criteria are not met (e.g. when an animal is transported on its own), such movement shall be considered **commercial**.





In order to be able to enter and move in the territory of the Republic of Croatia and other EU Member States with your pet, you must have an EU passport and/or veterinary certificate for your pet. Such documentation is issued, and the data contained therein are recorded and certified by veterinarians authorised by competent authorities of your state of origin. The passport or certificate must contain animal identification data, information on anti-rabies vaccination, on the antibody titre test performed in certain cases and, for some EU Member States, on the treatment of dogs against the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm. Cats originating from Australia must be accompanied by an additional veterinary certificate confirming there is no danger of Hendra disease introduction, and for dogs and cats from Malaysia of Nipah disease introduction.



Your pet must be appropriately **tagged** with a microchip or a clearly legible tattoo. As of 3 July 2011, a microchip is the only identification method with legal validity for dogs, cats and ferrets. Tattoos are acceptable only in cases when the animal was tattooed before 3 July 2011, and the tattoo is clearly legible. In such cases, animals need not be microchipped. The type of microchip is not defined by legislation, but microchips compliant with the ISO standards 11784 or 11785 are in common use in EU Member States. If a microchip does not comply with these standards, the owner of the animal must provide an appropriate scanner, at his/her own expense, in order for the microchip to be scanned during the examination. The so-called AVID microchips are frequently used in the United States of America and, since they are incompatible with the eurochips, they require special scanners. If you are uncertain about the type of microchip used to tag your pet and whether you may need a special scanner, please consult your veterinarian or microchip manufacturer. **Pet microchipping can be performed at any age of the animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the microchip manufacturer, but it must be performed before anti-rabies vaccination. If a pet was vaccinated before it was microchipped, the vaccination will be deemed invalid. In such cases, anti-rabies vaccination must be repeated after microchipping, and the animal may enter the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union 21 days after vaccination.** In order to ensure that the microchip is scannable, the veterinarian must verify microchip scannability before and after implanting the microchip. Please, remind your veterinarian to scan the microchip number every time you bring your pet for an appointment.



Pet microchipping can be performed at any age of the animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the microchip manufacturer, but it must be performed before anti-rabies vaccination. If a pet was vaccinated before it was microchipped, the vaccination will be deemed invalid. In such cases, anti-rabies vaccination must be repeated after microchipping, and the animal may enter the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union 21 days after vaccination. In order to ensure that the microchip is scannable, the veterinarian must verify microchip scannability before and after implanting the microchip. Please, remind your veterinarian to scan the microchip number every time you bring your pet for an appointment.

Your pet must be **vaccinated against rabies** after the microchip is implanted, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Only inactivated and recombinant registered vaccines are permitted. The use of live vaccines is not permitted. Most vaccine manufacturers do not recommend the vaccination of dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old. Research has shown that vaccination of animals under three months old often does not produce satisfactory results



because antibodies received from the mother through the placenta or the colostrum have a negative impact on the creation of antibodies and the acquisition of immunity after vaccination.

Entry into the territory of any EU Member State, including the Republic of Croatia, of dogs, cats and ferrets over three months of age is permitted if a minimum of 21 days have elapsed since the day the pet was first vaccinated (that means if an animal was vaccinated on 1 January, the earliest date of permitted entry will be 22 January). If the vaccine manufacturer prescribes the requirement of revaccination, the 21-day period will start from the date the second vaccination (so-called booster dose) was administered. If the animal was regularly revaccinated within the period of validity of the previous vaccination (before the date stated under "vaccine valid until"), the animal may enter the territory before the aforementioned 21-day period has elapsed. In the Republic of Croatia it is required by law to annually vaccinate pets against rabies. The validity period of vaccinations varies by state and, depending on the type of vaccine, may be two and three years, as prescribed by the vaccine manufacturer. However, that will be taken into consideration only if such data has been entered into the documentation accompanying the pets and certified by a veterinarian, otherwise the vaccination validity period shall be considered to be one year.





NON-COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS BETWEEN EU MEMBER STATES, NORWAY, ANDORRA, ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN, MONACO, SAN MARINO, SWITZERLAND, AND VATICAN CITY

Non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets is the movement of up to five pets, accompanied by the owner or another person who is responsible for them, provided that such pets are not intended for sale, for transfer to another owner, or other commercial purposes. During the non-commercial movement of pets between 28 EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, The Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Great Britain), Norway, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, and Vatican City, regardless of the state of destination, the animals must be accompanied by a pet passport complying with the model in the Annex III to the [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#). Each Member State has prepared its own model passport within the framework of the aforementioned decision.



The passport must contain animal identification data and information on anti-rabies vaccination. The animal must be tagged with a microchip or a clearly legible tattoo applied before 3 July 2011. If the microchip does not comply with the ISO standard 11784 or 11785, the owner of the animal must provide an appropriate scanner at his/her own expense. The animal must be tagged before being vaccinated against rabies. Anti-rabies vaccination must be administered a minimum of 21 days before the planned departure for another country, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

In regard to the entry of dogs into Finland, Ireland, Malta, and Great Britain, dogs must be additionally treated against the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm with a praziquantel-based drug or another equally effective drug. You must not administer echinococcus treatment by yourself. It must be done by an authorised veterinarian at the earliest 5 days (120 hours) and at the latest 1 day (24 hours) prior to the planned entry into the aforementioned states. The veterinarian must enter and certify treatment data in Section VII of the passport. Echinococcus treatment is not compulsory for entry in the Republic of Croatia, but it is preferable.

Entry of dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated is permitted in the Republic of Croatia from 27 EU Member States, Norway, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, and Vatican City, provided the animals are tagged with a microchip, the passport contains the microchip number, and the animals originate directly from the facility of the breeder where they were kept since birth and did not come into contact with wild




animals, as stated and certified by a veterinarian in Section XII of the passport. Before travelling to other EU Member States, you must inquire and study the regulations to ascertain whether those states allow entry to pets under three months old.



COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS BETWEEN EU MEMBER STATES, NORWAY, AND SWITZERLAND

Commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets includes the movement of pets intended for sale, for transfer to another owner or other commercial purposes, or when one person travels with six or more pets for non-commercial purposes, or in the event a pet travels alone, unaccompanied by the owner.


The same rules apply for commercial and non-commercial movement of pets between EU Member States, Switzerland, and Norway, which means that the passport must contain animal identification data (microchip or tattoo) and information on anti-rabies vaccination. In addition to the aforementioned conditions, an authorised veterinarian of the EU Member State of departure must perform a clinical examination of the animal within 48 hours prior to departure and certify in Section X. of the passport that the animal is healthy and fit for the planned journey to the destination. The official veterinarian of the state of origin will draw up a veterinary certificate for the pet in the TRACES system (veterinary computer system that enables the exchange of information on implemented veterinary controls), in compliance with the model from Part 1 of Annex E to the Directive 92/65/EEC ([Commission Decision 2013/518/EU](#) ) , and will notify the competent authority of the state of destination via the TRACES system about the arrival of the animal. The printed TRACES certificate and the passport must accompany the pet to its destination. The certificate is valid for 10 days from the issue date.

Conditions for the commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets are also enforced for the non-commercial movement of more than five dogs, cats and ferrets accompanied by the owner in such cases as transport to exhibitions, hunting or professional sled dog races, when the owner travels with six or more animals. In accordance with the aforementioned, the owner of six or more animals must have veterinary certificates and passports certifying the animals were examined. Unlike the aforementioned conditions, in this case the certificate will be valid for 4 months from the issue date or until the date of expiry of the anti-rabies vaccination stated in Section V. of the passport, whichever date is earlier. The official veterinarian of the state of origin does not inform the state of destination via the TRACES system messages about the non-commercial movement of six or more pets.






NON-COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

Non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets is the movement of up to five pets, accompanied by the owner or another person who is responsible for them, provided that such pets are not intended for sale, for transfer to another owner, or other commercial purposes. Their movement must originate from the owner's need for movement, and they must be transported in the same mode of transport as the owner. When travelling by airplane, the pet may be transported in the passenger cabin with the owner, or it may be temporally and/or spatially separated from the owner, which means that the owner travels in the passenger cabin and the pet in the cargo hold of the same airplane, or the owner and the pet may travel on separate flights provided that the owner signs a statement appointing another person (e.g. airline captain or shipping agency) to be responsible for the animal. The content of the statement shall be drawn up in accordance with the model set out in Part 3 of Annex IV to the [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#) . For separate flights, upon request from the competent authority performing the examination, the owner must provide evidence that his/her movement is connected to the movement of the pet by presenting an airplane ticket or boarding pass.



In the non-commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets, the animals must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate for non-commercial movement of pets, in compliance with the model from [Annex IV. Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#)  issued by official veterinarians of the third country of origin. For pets arriving from the USA, the certificate must be filled in and signed by an accredited veterinarian and additionally certified by APHIS. The certificate must contain animal identification data, information on anti-rabies vaccination and, if required, on the rabies antibody titre test and on the treatment against echinococcosis. Please note that the veterinary certificate for entry into the European Union is valid for 10 days from the issue date and enables you to stay and travel throughout the European Union with your pet for the following four months or until the date of expiry of the anti-rabies vaccination, whichever date is earlier.

In most EU Member States, including the Republic of Croatia, the documentation and identification for the non-commercial movement of pets are verified by customs officers with whom you must register the examination of your pet upon entry into EU territory. You will be allowed entry only at approved travellers' points of entry listed at: [approved travellers' points of entry](#).

Non-commercial entry of dogs, cats and ferrets into the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union is permitted from any third country, provided no special bans or restrictions are in force. Depending on the potential risks for your pet to contract rabies on the territory of a third country, such countries are divided into two groups:

1. Countries free of rabies or low-risk countries and
2. High-risk countries.



1. Države slobodne od bjesnoće ili niskorizične države

Countries free of rabies or low-risk countries are listed in [Annex IV. Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#)

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



For entry into the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union from low-risk third countries your pet must be tagged with a microchip or a clearly legible tattoo. As of 3 July 2011, a microchip is the only identification method with legal validity for dogs, cats and ferrets. A tattoo is acceptable only when it is clearly legible and when the animal was tattooed before 3 July 2011, which must be noted in the accompanying certificate. Microchip type and brand are not defined by legislation on EU level, but microchips compliant with the ISO standard

11784 or 11785 are in common use. If a microchip does not comply with these standards, the owner of the animal must provide an appropriate scanner, at his/her own expense, in order for the microchip to be scanned during the examination. Pet microchipping can be performed at any age of the animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the microchip manufacturer, but it must be performed before anti-rabies vaccination.

Pets originating from low-risk third countries must be vaccinated against rabies and a minimum of 21 days must have elapsed since the day the pet was first vaccinated, which means if an animal was vaccinated on 1 January, the earliest date of permitted entry will be 22 January. If a pet had already been vaccinated against rabies in previous years, and revaccination was performed in regular intervals without exceeding the validity date of the previous vaccination, the 21-day waiting period is not applicable.



Data on previous vaccinations must be entered in the veterinary certificate. If a pet was vaccinated before being microchipped, such vaccination shall be deemed invalid and the animal will have to be revaccinated against rabies after microchipping, and the 21-day waiting period shall be applicable. **The rabies antibody titre test is not required for direct entry into the European Union from low-risk**

countries (e.g. flight Russia - Croatia) or for indirect entry which entails transit through other low-risk countries. Transit through other, high-risk third countries is permitted for transport by ship or aircraft, provided that the animal remains within the closed perimeter of an international airport or on board a ship. Country status in regard to rabies can easily alter, therefore you must check the current status of your country of origin before departure. The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated into the Republic of Croatia from low-risk countries is **prohibited. The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets from such countries is allowed at a minimum age of 15 weeks (first anti-rabies vaccination at 12 weeks of age + 21-day "waiting period")**. Similar restrictions are in force in most other EU Member States. If customs officials are suspicious of the



age of the animal, they have the right to request help from border veterinary inspectors / authorised veterinarians to perform additional examinations with the objective of assessing the age of the animal. Should any irregularities be uncovered, the animal will be returned to the country of origin or put to death and appropriate measures will be taken against you.



***SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR DOGS AND CATS ORIGINATING FROM MALAYSIA AND AUSTRALIA**

The owners of dogs and cats originating from MALAYSIA must have an additional veterinary certificate certifying the following:



- a) In the last 60 days prior to export, the animals did not come into contact with pigs;
- b) The animals were not kept in facilities in which there had been an occurrence of Nipah encephalitis in the last 60 days;
- c) Within 10 days prior to export, blood samples were taken from the animals and the samples underwent IgG-ELISA testing with negative results in a laboratory approved for testing for Nipah virus antibodies.

The owners of cats originating from AUSTRALIA must have an additional veterinary certificate certifying that the animals were not kept in facilities in which there had been a confirmed case of Hendra disease in the last 60 days.



2. High-risk countries

High-risk countries are all third countries that have not been listed in [Annex IV. Part I. Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#), such as: Albania, Algeria, Brazil, Montenegro, India, Republic of South Africa, China, Morocco, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, etc. For entry into the territory of the Republic of Croatia and the European Union from high-risk countries your pet must be tagged with a microchip or a clearly legible tattoo. Pet microchipping can be performed at any age of the animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the microchip manufacturer, but it must be performed before anti-rabies vaccination. If a pet was vaccinated before being microchipped, such vaccination shall be deemed invalid and the animal will have to be revaccinated against rabies after microchipping. Since the entry of pets from these countries presents a high risk, a rabies antibody titre test must also be performed in addition to compulsory anti-rabies vaccination.

The rabies antibody titre test verifies the effectiveness of anti-rabies vaccination. A minimum of 30 days after anti-rabies vaccination and a minimum of 3 months prior to the entry into the European Union, an authorised veterinarian must take a blood sample from the pet and send the sample to a laboratory approved by the EU where it will undergo an antibody neutralisation test to determine the antibody titre which must be at least 0.5 IU/ml. If the pet does not reach the required antibody titre, the anti-rabies vaccination must be repeated. The list of approved laboratories is available at: [approved laboratories](#). If the animal was revaccinated at regular intervals, the test does not need to be repeated. The certificate issued by a laboratory approved by the EU with the results of the antibody titre test must be annexed to the veterinary certificate and is considered an integral part of such a certificate.



The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated into the Republic of Croatia from high-risk countries is **prohibited**. **The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets from such countries is allowed at a minimum age of 7 months (first anti-rabies vaccination at 12 weeks of age + 30 days for blood sampling and antibody titre testing + 3 months)**. Similar restrictions are in force in most other EU Member States. If customs officials are suspicious of the age of the animal, they have the right to request help from border veterinary inspectors/ authorised veterinarians to perform additional examinations with the objective of assessing the age of the animal and performing the antibody titre test. Should any irregularities be uncovered, the animal will be returned to the country of origin or put to death and appropriate measures will be taken against you.

In regard to the entry of dogs into Finland, Ireland, Malta, and Great Britain, dogs must be additionally treated against the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm with a praziquantel-based drug or another equally effective drug. You must not administer echinococcus treatment by yourself. It must be done by an authorised veterinarian at the earliest 5 days (120 hours) and at the latest 1 day (24 hours) prior to the planned entry into the aforementioned states. The veterinarian must enter the treatment data into the veterinary certificate. Echinococcus treatment is not compulsory for entry in the Republic of Croatia, but it is preferable.

If you are a citizen of the Republic of Croatia or of another EU Member State and are planning to travel to high-risk third countries accompanied by your pet, whether on holiday or business, please make a timely visit to your authorised veterinarian before your travels so that he/she can take blood samples from your pet and send them to a laboratory approved by the EU to determine the antibody titre. The authorised veterinarian must enter the satisfactory test results into Section VI of the passport. If you fail to do so, you will definitely encounter problems upon your return to the European Union, and will have to undergo the entire procedure of blood sampling and testing in countries outside the European Union, all of which shall mean that your pet will not be able to return with you into EU territory for at least three months. The three-month waiting period before re-entry will not apply to those pets returning to the European Union whose passport contains data certified by an authorised veterinarian confirming that the antibody titre results were satisfactory before the pet left EU territory. Testing should be planned in advance, at least one year before the trip, because young animals who have been vaccinated for the first time have been known to fail to reach the required antibody titre at their first test. The antibody titre test generally needs to be performed once in a pet's lifetime. As long as the animal continues to be regularly revaccinated over the years before the date of expiry of the previous vaccination, blood will not need to be re-sampled before every trip to high-risk countries and samples will not have to be sent to an approved laboratory because vaccination results shall be deemed satisfactory. Should the test results be deemed unsatisfactory, the pet will have to be revaccinated against rabies and the antibody titre testing will have to be repeated.



COMMERCIAL MOVEMENT OF DOGS, CATS AND FERRETS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

Commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets includes the movement of pets intended for sale, for transfer to another owner or other commercial purposes, or when one person travels with six or more pets, or in the event a pet travels alone, unaccompanied by the owner.

In the commercial movement of dogs, cats and ferrets, the animals must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate for the import of dogs, cats and ferrets, and for the non-commercial movement of more than five pets, in compliance with the model from [Annex I of Decision 2011/874/EU](#) issued by official veterinarians of the third country of origin. For pets arriving from the USA, the certificate must be filled in and signed by an accredited veterinarian and additionally certified by APHIS. The certificate must contain animal identification data, information on anti-rabies vaccination and, if required, on the rabies antibody titre test and on the treatment against echinococcosis. Please note that the veterinary certificate for entry into the European Union is valid for 10 days from the issue date and, for non-commercial movement of six or more pets, it enables you to stay and travel throughout the European Union with your pets for the following four months or until the date of expiry of the anti-rabies vaccination, whichever date is earlier.

The commercial import of dogs, cats and ferrets into the Republic of Croatia and other EU Member States is possible only through approved border inspection posts. In the Republic of Croatia those border inspection posts are: Bajakovo, Stara Gradiška, Nova Sela, Karasovići and Zagreb Airport. The importer or his/her representative must inform the border inspection post about the arrival of the animal so that the veterinary examination can be performed. The importer must notify the post 24 hours in advance by filling in the first part of the Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED) in the TRACES system. An appropriate fee must be paid for the examination. Please respect the working hours of border inspection posts. [border inspection posts](#)

Commercial import of dogs, cats and ferrets into the Republic of Croatia and the European Union is permitted only from the third countries listed in Annex I. to the Decision 2004/211/EZ, Part 1. Annex II. to the Regulation (EU) No. 206/2010 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013.

For commercial imports into the European Union, dogs, cats and ferrets must be tagged with a microchip or a clearly legible tattoo applied before 3 July 2011, which must be noted in the accompanying certificate. If a microchip does not comply with the ISO standard 11784 or 11785, the owner of the animal must provide an appropriate scanner, at his/her own expense, in order for the microchip to be scanned during the examination. Pet microchipping can be performed at any age of the animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the microchip manufacturer, but it must be performed before anti-rabies vaccination. If a pet was vaccinated before being microchipped, such vaccination shall be deemed invalid and the animal will have to be revaccinated against rabies after microchipping. Pets intended for commercial movement must be vaccinated against rabies, and a minimum of 21 days must have elapsed since the day the pet was first vaccinated. If the pet was regularly revaccinated, the 21-day waiting period does not apply. Data on previous vaccinations must be entered in the veterinary certificate.



As with non-commercial movements, third countries are divided into two groups depending on the potential risks of infection with the rabies virus:

1. Countries free of rabies or low-risk countries and
2. High-risk countries.



The rabies antibody titre test is not required for direct entry into the European Union from low-risk countries (e.g. flight Russia - Croatia) or for indirect entry which entails transit through other low-risk countries. Transit through other, high-risk third countries is permitted for transport by ship or aircraft, provided that the animal remains within the closed perimeter of an international airport or on board a ship. ([Declaration from Annex I Part 2 of the Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 577/2013](#)). Country status in regard to rabies can easily alter, therefore you must check the current status of your country of origin before departure. The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets under three months old and unvaccinated into the Republic of Croatia from low-risk countries is prohibited. The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets from such countries is allowed at a minimum age of 15 weeks.

For commercial imports of pets from high-risk countries, a rabies antibody titre test must also be performed in addition to compulsory anti-rabies vaccination. A minimum of 30 days after anti-rabies vaccination and a minimum of 3 months prior to the entry into the European Union, an authorised veterinarian must take a blood sample from the pet and send the sample to a laboratory approved by the EU where it will undergo an antibody neutralisation test to determine the antibody titre which must be at least 0.5 IU/ml. If the pet does not reach the required antibody titre, the anti-rabies vaccination must be repeated. The list of approved laboratories is available at: [approved laboratories](#). The test does not need to be repeated if the animal was revaccinated at regular intervals. The certificate issued by a laboratory approved by the EU with the results of the antibody titre test must be annexed to the veterinary certificate and is considered an integral part of such a

certificate. The entry of dogs, cats and ferrets from such countries is allowed at a minimum age of 7 months (first anti-rabies vaccination at 12 weeks of age + 30 days for blood sampling and antibody titre testing + 3 months). Similar restrictions are in force in most other EU Member States.

In regard to the entry of dogs into Finland, Ireland, Malta, and Great Britain, dogs must be additionally treated against the *Echinococcus multilocularis* tapeworm with a praziquantel-based drug or another equally effective drug. You must not administer echinococcus treatment by yourself. It must be done by an authorised veterinarian at the earliest 5 days (120 hours) and at the latest 1 day (24 hours) prior to the planned entry into the aforementioned states. The veterinarian must enter the treatment data into the veterinary certificate. Echinococcus treatment is not compulsory for entry in the Republic of Croatia, but it is preferable.

