



Reference: Namibia dogs and cats

Taking pet dogs and cats to Namibia

If your situation differs in any way from the proposed process or if you have information from the veterinary authority of the importing country that differs from the process described below, please contact your local state veterinarian to discuss the matter.

Exporters are advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in South Africa, in advance of each consignment.

Requirements

- A valid rabies vaccination (see table below or discuss with your private veterinarian)

For a vaccination to be valid a veterinarian registered with the South African veterinary council has to take responsibility for the vaccination. Proof in the form of a vaccination certificate that complies with the rules published under the Veterinary and Para Veterinary Act 19 of 1982 and its amendments will be required.

Primary Vaccination		Revaccination	
Time of vaccination	Validity of immunity	Time of revaccination	Validity of immunity
3 months or younger	Vaccination of the mother against rabies at least 30 days but not longer than 12 months prior to giving birth	Not applicable	Only up to 3 months of age
3 months and older	<u>Dog & cat</u> : One year beginning 30 days after date of vaccination.	Before validity of immunity expires	<u>Dog</u> : 3 years after date of revaccination. <u>Cat</u> : one year after date of revaccination.

- A health check done by a veterinarian registered with the South African Veterinary council within 7 days of crossing the Namibian border.
- A microchip is not mandatory but is highly recommended.
- Proof of any of the requirements contained on the export certificate may be requested. For example a proof of address of origin and destination, an affidavit from the owner of the dam stating that the dam gave birth to the puppies in question, certified copies of the dam's vaccination books etc.

Procedure

- Your pet should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check.
- Your veterinarian should complete a Namibian Inter-Territorial Movement permit which functions as a combined import /export certificate and health certificate. Blank forms may be obtained from the Veterinary export control office or the website.

- The signed Namibian Inter-Territorial Movement permit as well as your pet's vaccination booklet and microchipping certificate (if applicable) should be brought to the SV office for certification. You should also have your driver's licence or ID book available.
- There is no charge from the state for certificates issued for Namibia if the animals are moving for non-commercial purposes.

Taking pet dogs and cats to Namibia that originated in Namibia if they have been in South Africa for less than 30 days

If the pets have been in South Africa for more than 30 days the procedure above applies

Background

Historically speaking owners that were returning to Namibia with pets that have been in South Africa for less than 30 days could take the pet to the State vet with the vaccination book and the Namibian export certificate for certification.

This is no longer possible as the South African veterinary council have prescribed minimum facility requirements for veterinarians to do clinical work. None of the State veterinary offices in the Western Cape (Apart from Beaufort west) are able to meet those minimal requirements.

Therefore the procedure has been amended to the following:

Procedure

1. If the Namibian certificate has dated less than 7 days before the animal is presented at the office then the animal does not need a full clinical examination.
 - a. All documentation is to be taken to the state vet office along with the animal for certification. The health check will consist of a cursory examination of the animal including the following:
 - i. Mucus membranes to be checked
 - ii. Visual check for external parasites
 - iii. Habitus and gait are to be observed
 - iv. History of health to be taken
2. If the Namibian certificate has dated more than 7 days before the animal is presented at the office then the animal needs a full clinical examination in terms of the Namibian requirement
 - a. Your pet should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check.
 - b. Your veterinarian should complete a Namibian Inter-Territorial Movement permit which functions as a combined import /export certificate and health certificate. Blank forms may be obtained from the Veterinary export control office or the website.
3. The signed Namibian Inter-Territorial Movement permit as well as your pet's vaccination booklet and microchipping certificate (if applicable) should be brought to the SV office for certification. You should also have your driver's licence or ID book available.
4. There is no charge from the state for certificates issued for Namibia if the animals are moving for non-commercial purposes.