Taking pet dogs and cats overseas

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

- An import permit from the country you are going to (some countries such as EU countries, the USA and Namibia do not issue these, for further information contact your local State Vet)
  a. The import permit will list any specific tests, vaccinations or treatments that your pet needs to undergo. The correct timing of these is imperative.
- A health check within 7 days of travel depending on what is specified on the import permit

Procedure

- Your pet should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check.
- Your veterinarian should complete a standard Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC). Blank forms may be obtained from the State vet (SV) office.
- Your veterinarian must have completed all the tests, treatments and vaccinations indicated on the import permit. Any of these that were not performed by the veterinarian (Unless exception is specifically stated on the import permit) will not be acceptable for certification purposes
- The signed VHC, import permit as well as your pet’s vaccination booklet and supporting documents should be brought to the SV office for certification. You should also have your driver’s licence or ID book available.
- Certificate application cost can be found on the departments tariff register (Cost for application in 2019 is R173 each) each payable on appointment.

- Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details below:
Office names, locations, contact details and availability for certification

Milnerton Veterinary export certification office
- Contact details: vetexport@elsenburg.com, tel: 021 808 5400, 021 8085401, 021 8085407 fax 021 808 5125
- Our new office operational since June 2015 is located at 22 Lobelia Street, Milnerton, alternatively the GPS co-ordinates are:
  - GPS Co-ordinates: 33.866870 S 18.503029 E
- At Milnerton Export Certification Office, clients are assisted by appointment only on Monday to Friday from 08:30am to 12:00pm (excluding public holidays).
- To make an appointment, clients are required to send an e-mail to vetexport@elsenburg.com with their required time slot. Please indicate the number of pets you are exporting in your e-mail when you make an appointment with us. Should your requested time slot not be available our office will call/e-mail you to reschedule.
- Clients are required to make an appointment at least 2 days in advance.

Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg /Boland state vet office
- Responsible for the greater Cape Town area, Paarl, Wellington, Franschhoek, Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Gordon's Bay.
- Contact details: Dr Gary Buhrmann. Email: vivienm@elsenburg.com / garyb@elsenburg.com / svboland@elsenburg.com Telephone: 021 808 5026 / 021 808 5027, Fax: 021 808 5125
- Our offices are located at the Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg. When searching on Google maps, use ‘Provincial Department of Agriculture’
- GPS Co-ordinates Elsenburg Head Office: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E
- Clients are assisted by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 08:30am to 12:00pm

Malmesbury State vet office
- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Hopefield, Vredenburg, Piketberg, Tulbagh and Ceres
• **Contact details**: Dr Davey Sewellyn. Email: [sewellynd@elsenburg.com](mailto:sewellynd@elsenburg.com) / [samanthab@elsenburg.com](mailto:samanthab@elsenburg.com) Telephone: 022 433 8915 / 022 433 8910

• Our offices are located at on the corner of Spoorweg and Municipal Streets, Malmesbury.
• GPS coordinates 33.465701 S, 18.721446 E
• Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Samantha Burger as the State Vet Dr Sewellyn Davey is not always available.

**Vredendal State vet office**

• Responsible for the magisterial districts of Vredendal, Clanwilliam and Van Rhynsdorp.
• **Contact details**: Dr Roelof Hugo. Email: [roelofh@elsenburg.com](mailto:roelofh@elsenburg.com) / [deidred@elsenburg.com](mailto:deidred@elsenburg.com) Telephone: 027-213 3106 ; Fax 027-213 3109

• Our offices are located at on the corner of Matzikama Street and North Road, Vredendal.
• GPS coordinates 31.662625 S, 18.507298 E
• Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Deidre Daniels as the State Vet is not always available.

**George State vet office**

• Responsible for the magisterial districts of George, Riversdal, Mossel Bay and Knysna.
  • **Contact details**: [svgeorge@elsenburg.com](mailto:svgeorge@elsenburg.com)
  • Telephone: 044 803 3774 / 044 803 3771; Fax 044 873 3342 / 044 873 3342

• Our offices are located at 4 Varing Avenue George.
• GPS coordinates 33.57.31 S, 22.27.16 E
• Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting the Santa Lessing as the State Vet is not always available

**Beaufort West State vet office**

• Responsible for Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Laingsburg and Murraysburg
• **Contact details**: Dr Jaco Pienaar. Email: [jacop@elsenburg.com](mailto:jacop@elsenburg.com)
• Telephone: 023 414 2154; Fax 023 414 3980

• Our offices are located in Blyth Street, Beaufort West.
• GPS coordinates 32.375009 S, 22.589063 E
• Clients are assisted on Tuesday and Friday only from 10h00 -12h00

**Swellendam State vet office**

• Responsible for the magisterial districts of Swellendam, Montagu, Worcester, Robertson, Bredasdorp and Caledon.
• **Contact details**: Dr Llewellyn Hon. Email: [bidwellg@elsenburg.com](mailto:bidwellg@elsenburg.com) / [llewellynh@elsenburg.com](mailto:llewellynh@elsenburg.com) Telephone: 028 425 4850 / 028 425 4851 Cell 086 624 7956
- Our offices are located in the main road, 67 Voortrek Street, direct at the back of ABSA bank.
- GPS coordinates 34.02126 S 20.44140 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Bidwell Gelwana as the State Vet is not always available.

**Worcester State vet office**

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Worcester, Ceres and Tulbagh.
- **Contact details:** Dr Christi Kloppers. Email: christik@elsenburg.com / bulwad@elsenburg.com Telephone: 021 808 5059/ 021 808 5062

- Our offices are located at 30 Van Arckel street, Worcester.
- GPS coordinates 33.623641 S, 19.457008 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Bulelwa Dinaana, as the State Vet is not always available.

**Oudtshoorn State vet office**

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Oudtshoorn, Ladismith, Van Wyksdorp, Calitzdorp, De Rust and Uniondale.

- **Contact details:** Dr Cathy Fox. Email: cathyf@elsenburg.com / albies@elsenburg.com
  Telephone: 044 203 9440 / 044 203 9445. Fax: 044 279 1910 / 044 203 1910

- For forms and procedures relating to ostriches, please contact the South African Ostrich Business Chamber (SAOBC)

- Our offices are located at 39 Van Der Riet Street, OUDTSHOORN, 6620
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Albie Storm, as the State Vet is not always available.