



Reference: Dogs and cats UAE updated 2023

Taking pet dogs and cats to the United Arab Emirates

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

You will need to apply for an import permit, which is valid for 30 days for the UAE. Please have a look at this website:

<https://www.moccae.gov.ae/en/our-services/service-directory.aspx?mainCategory=274#page=1>

as well as

<https://www.moccae.gov.ae/assets/5064985a/pet-import-permit-dogs-and-cats.aspx>

Requirements for pets:

- a. The pet must have a microchip.
- b. The pet has to be shipped in manifested cargo as per IATA regulations, Check the IATA conditions for carrying pets (<http://www.iata.org>).
- c. Pets under 4 months are not allowed.
- d. An original certificate for Rabies Serum Neutralization test (RSNT) from a laboratory approved by the competent authorities in the exporting country done prior to travel attesting a **minimum titer of 0.5IU/ml or above.** The certificate must show that the animals have been subjected to (Antibody titration test) for rabies after a period not less than 21 days following the last date of basic (initial) vaccination or after a booster was administered in a previous vaccination period with a minimum level of (IU/ml 0.5).
- e. The following breeds of dogs are not allowed to be imported into UAE
 - i. American Pitbull Terrier,
 - ii. Japanese Tosa (Tosalnu; Tosa Fighting Dog),
 - iii. Argentinian Fighting Dog (DogoArgentino; Argentinian Mastiff),
 - iv. Brazilian Fighting Dog (Fila Brasileiro; Brazilian Mastiff),
 - v. American Staffordshire terrier.
 - vi. Staffordshire Bull Terrier

- vii. American Bully
- viii. Tibetan mastiff
- ix. Neapolitan Mastiff
- x. French Mastiff (Dogue de Bordeaux)
- xi. Boerboel
- xii. Bullmastiff
- xiii. Italian Mastiff (Cane Corso)
- xiv. Bully Kutta (Alangu Mastiff; Indian Mastiff)
- xv. Perro de Presa Canario (Canary Mastiff; Presa Canario)

f. Vaccinations:

i. For Dogs

1. Rabies: A valid vaccination administered according to the instruction of the vaccine manufacturer. The initial dose should not be given before the animal is at least 3 months of age and at least 21 days before the animal is due to arrive in the UAE.
2. Canine Distemper Virus (CDV).
3. Canine Parvo Virus.
4. Infectious Canine Hepatitis.
5. Leptospirosis (Ictohaemorrhagea – Canicola).
 - a. This can be replaced with a negative Leptospirosis test

ii. For Cats

1. Rabies: A valid vaccination administered according to the instruction of the vaccine manufacturer. The initial dose should not be given before the animal is at least 3 months of age and at least 21 days before the animal is due to arrive in the UAE.
2. Feline Pan Leukopenia.
3. Feline Rhinotracheitis.
4. Feline Calicivirus.

g. Treatments within 14 days before departure:

- i. Anti-external parasite treatment
- ii. Deworming (Anthelmintic) treatment

The import permit will list if any other specific tests, vaccinations or treatments are required as well as the relevant timing of these.

Procedure

- Your pet should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check within 7 days of travel.

- Your veterinarian should complete the veterinary health certificate specifically for the United Arab Emirates (VHC). Blank forms may be obtained from the State Veterinary office (SV) or our website www.elsenburg.com.
- The signed VHC 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.
- Certificates cost can be found on the departments schedule of fees (Cost for application in 2023 is R200 each) payable before or at the 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

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:**

Office reception

Telephone: 021 808 5253

E-mail: SVBoland@westerncape.gov.za/ Renee.Jack@westerncape.gov.za

Dr. Vivien Malan

Vivien.Malan@westerncape.gov.za

Telephone: 021 808 5028

- 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:**

Office reception Telephone: 022 433 8910

Email: DOA.svmalmesbury@westerncape.gov.za /Samantha.Burger@westerncape.gov.za

Dr. Michael Swart Michael.Swart@westerncape.gov.za Telephone: 022 433 8915

- 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 Michael Swart is not always available.

Vredendal State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Vredendal, Clanwilliam and Van Rhynsdorp.

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 027 201 3510

Email: DOA.svredendal@westerncape.gov.za / Deidre.Daniels@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Chanel Lombard Chanel.Lombard@westerncape.gov.za

- 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, Riversdale, Mossel Bay and Knysna.

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 044 803 3770/1 Email: SVGeorge@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Leana Janse van Rensburg Leana.JanseVanRensburg@westerncape.gov.za

- 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.

Beaufort West State vet office

- Responsible for Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Laingsburg and Murraysburg

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 023 414 9220/1

Email: DOA.svbeaufortwest@westerncape.gov.za/Chriszelda.Mtwalo@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Jaco Pienaar Jaco.Pienaar@westerncape.gov.za

- Our offices are located in Blyth Street, Beaufort West.
- GPS coordinates 32.375009 S, 22.589063 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously.

Swellendam State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Swellendam, Heidelberg, Bredasdorp and Caledon.

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 028 425 4850

Email: DOA.svswellendam@westerncape.gov.za/ Bidwell.Gelwana@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Christi Kloppers Christi.Kloppers@westerncape.gov.za Telephone: 021 808 5059

- 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, Robertson, Ceres and Montagu.

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 021 808 5050 Email: DOA.svworcester@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Ansulize Pepler Ansulize.Pepler@westerncape.gov.za Telephone: 021 808 5052

- 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.

Oudtshoorn State vet office

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

- **Contact details:**

Office reception Telephone: 044 203 9443

Email: DOA.svoudtshoorn@westerncape.gov.za/Jenonise.Noni@westerncape.gov.za

Dr Cathy Fox Cathy.Fox@westerncape.gov.za Telephone: 044 203 9445

- 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 Jenonise Noni, as the State Vet is not always available.