



Reference: Dogs and cats Australia updated 2023

Taking pet dogs and cats to Australia

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.

In South Africa all veterinarians registered with the South African Veterinary Council are authorised to perform the procedures needed for the export of dogs and cats to Australia.

All testing must be done in an approved country in a laboratory recognised by the government of the country of export. It is acceptable to draw blood in South Africa and test it at a laboratory in a different approved country. Evidence that the laboratory is an OIE laboratory will need to be provided by the client should they choose to use a lab other than the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute (OVI).

Requirements

You will need to apply for an import permit. Please have a look at this website for detailed step by step guides:

This document is to aid the authorised veterinarian in keeping all the information in one place and in an easy to understand format. The veterinarian will still need to complete the Australian documentation but this will help with the collation of the information needed.

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/cats-dogs>

Identification of the animals

A government approved veterinarian must scan the microchip at each veterinary visit. The scanned microchip number must be correctly recorded on all documentation.

If an identity verification, including scanning of the microchip, is carried out by a state veterinarian of South Africa as part of the import permit application process, the animal may

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be eligible for a 10 day post entry quarantine (PEQ) period; if not, the animal will require at least a 30 day PEQ period.

If at any point in the process the microchip cannot be read or is recorded incorrectly in the animals documentation the animal will not be exported to Australia

Once the Rabies test and vaccination is completed the state vet will need to sign the RNAT test declaration before you are able to apply for the import permit.

Procedure

- Your veterinarian should complete the veterinary health certificate specifically for Australia (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 in 2023 is R209 each) payable before or at the appointment.
- Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details below:

Identification declaration for dogs and cats travelling to Australia

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Australia) announced that the new import conditions for dogs and cats travelling to Australia is implemented from 1 March 2023.

According to their notification, Identification Declaration may be completed as part of the import permit application for dogs and cats being imported to Australia from approved group 3 countries. South Africa is listed in their approved group 3 countries.

Please note that this procedure may change depending on the outcome of bilateral negotiation between South Africa and Australia.

If your situation differs in any way from the 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.

Please check this website for the most up to date information:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/import/industry-advice/2023/06-2023>

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/cats-dogs>

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Requirements

- A valid microchip certificate. All dogs and cats must be implanted with an International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) compatible microchip prior to commencing pre-export preparation.
- Pet's vaccination booklet with animal details such as name, date of birth, sex, etc.
- The identity verification must occur before a blood sample is collected for RNAT testing, and at least 180 days before export to Australia.

Procedure for identity verification by a state veterinarian.

- Your pet should be taken to your local state veterinarian for an identity verification and scanning of the microchip.
- Your pet's vaccination booklet and microchip certificate should be brought to the SV office for verification.
- The client needs to sign the indemnity form before scanning of the microchip is carried out. (Indemnity form can be found on page 11 of this document). Our facilities are not suited to do this procedure and the microchip scanning may be done outside or in the open unenclosed garden. The client is responsible to handle/restrain the pet.
- State veterinarian should complete the identification declaration form specifically for Australia after scanning the microchip. Blank forms may be obtained from the State Veterinary office (SV) or our website www.elsenburg.com
- State veterinarian must forward the completed identification declaration form to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry at catdogidcheck@agriculture.gov.au. The email must include the following information in the subject line: Importer surname, importer first name, animal name, microchip number, country of export (e.g. Smith, Jenny, Bella 123456789, and South Africa). The client must be copied in on the e-mail.
- The original signed identification declaration form can be given to the owner of the animal.
- You should have your driver's licence or ID book available.
- Certificate costs can be found on the departments schedule of fees (Cost in 2023 is R209 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

Milnerton Veterinary export certification office

- Contact details: vetexport@westerncape.gov.za, 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).

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- To make an appointment, clients are required to send an e-mail to vetexport@westerncape.gov.za 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. You will get a confirmation email should your booking be successful.

Clients are required to make an appointment 5 **working** days in advance.

Office names, locations, contact details and availability for certification

Cape Town Veterinary export certification office (VECO)

- Contact details: vetexport@westerncape.gov.za, tel: 021 808 5400, 021 8085401, 021 8085407 fax 021 808 5125
- Our new office operational since March 2024 is located at 34 Roeland St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town, 8000.
 - -33.9291839,18.4183276
- At VECO , 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@westerncape.gov.za 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:**
Office reception
Telephone: 021 808 5253
E-mail: SVBoland@westerncape.gov.za
- 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, and Piketberg
- **Contact details:**
Office reception
Telephone: 022 433 8910
Email: DOA.svmalmesbury@westerncape.gov.za

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- 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.

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

- 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.

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

- 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.

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

- Our offices are located in Blyth Street, Beaufort West.
- GPS coordinates 32.375009 S, 22.589063 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only.

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/

- 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.

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Worcester State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Worcester, Robertson, Ceres and Montagu.

- **Contact details:**

Office reception

Telephone: 021 808 5056/2

Email: DOA.svworcester@westerncape.gov.za

- Our offices are located at 30 Van Arckel street, Worcester.
- GPS coordinates 33.623641 S, 19.457008 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only.

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 9443/5

Email: DOA.svoudtshoorn@westerncape.gov.za

- Our offices are located at 39 Van Der Riet Street, Oudtshoorn, 6620
- Clients are assisted by appointments only.

Test conducted / Treatment record	Information	Time period	Sample collection date / date performed	Test result	Veterinarian details	Signature
Rabies (Dogs and Cats)	RNATT (Rabies Neutralizing Antibiotic Titre Test) FAVN or RFFIT (Positive at $\geq 0.5IU/ml$)	Can be exported between 180 days and 365 days since the date of sample				
	Rabies vaccination (Inactivated rabies vaccine)	1) Was given when animal was at least 84 days (12 weeks) of age 2) Is valid in accordance with manufacturer's instructions	Date administered: _____ Serial number: _____ Manufacturer: _____			
<i>Leishmania infantum</i> (Dogs only)	IFAT or ELISA (Must be negative)	Within 45 days before export				
<i>Leptospira interrogans</i> sv. <i>Canicola</i> (Strike through as required) (Dogs only)	MAT (Negative at 1:100) (Not required if doing the vaccination)	Within 45 days of export				
	<i>Leptospira</i> sv. <i>Canicola</i> Vaccination (if not tested)	At least 14 days before export				
<i>Brucella canis</i> (if not desexed) (Dogs only)	RSAT or TAT or IFAT (must be negative)	Within 45 days of export				

Test conducted / Treatment record	Information	Time period	Sample collection date / date performed	Test result	Veterinarian details	Signature
<i>Babesia canis rossi</i> (Strike through as required) (Dogs only)	Treated with a single dose of Imidocarb dipropionate (Forray 65) at a rate of 7.5mg/kg body weight subcutaneous injection (OR)	Within 28 days before export	Date of treatment: _____			
	Two doses at a rate of 6.0mg/kg body weight given at least 14 days apart		Weight of dog: _____			
			Amount administered: _____			
External parasites (Dogs and Cats)	Product that kills ticks and fleas on contact (i.e. not one that relies on the parasites to bite)	Dogs: At Least 30 days before export. Cats: At least 21 days before export. Dogs and Cats: Treatment must be repeated in accordance with	Date of treatment: _____			
			Product used: _____			
			Date of treatment: _____			
			Product used: _____			
			Date of treatment: _____			
			Product used: _____			

Test conducted / Treatment record	Information	Time period	Sample collection date / date performed	Test result	Veterinarian details	Signature
		manufacturer's directions	Date of treatment: _____ Product used: _____			
Internal parasites (Dogs and Cats)	Treated twice (effective against nematodes and cestodes) at least 14 days apart	Within 45 days before export	Date of treatment: _____ Product used: _____			
		Second treatment within 5 days before export	Date of treatment: _____ Product used: _____			
Clinical examination (Dogs and Cats)	Free from ticks, fleas and clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases	Within 5 days before export	Comments: _____ _____ _____			
General vaccinations (Dogs and Cats)	Dogs require a valid vaccination record: Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Parainfluenza, <i>Bordetella bronchispetica</i> (Recommended for the welfare of the dog) Cats require a valid vaccination record: Feline panleucopenia,	Needs to be valid for the entire post entry quarantine period	Date administered: _____ Serial number: _____ Manufacturer: _____			

Test conducted / Treatment record	Information	Time period	Sample collection date / date performed	Test result	Veterinarian details	Signature
	rhinotracheitis and calicivirus					



Indemnity Form (Identity Verification of Pets)

Owner/agent Name and Surname:

Home Address:

Cell No:

Pet Details:

Name	Date of birth	Breed	Colour	Sex	Neutered/spayed

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. The client is responsible to handle/restrain the pet and the client accepts liability if the animal is injured, or escapes.
2. Our facilities are not suited to do this procedure and officials from the Department of Agriculture will not carry out identity verification on any aggressive animals.
3. Department of Agriculture and its authorized staff will not be liable for any loss/ injury to you or your pet or your personal belongings/vehicles etc following from or related to this procedure.

ACCEPTANCE OF T&C'S BY OWNER

I am the legal owner/representative of this/these pet/s and I accept the above-mentioned terms and conditions.

Signature_____

Name and surname: _____

Date: _____

Witness: _____