



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Physical Planning, Natural Resources and Co-operatives
Veterinary and Livestock Services Division

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS INTO SAINT LUCIA

The importation of dogs and cats is permitted from all countries, under stipulated conditions. With respect to Rabies, countries have been classified as either rabies-free countries or countries considered infected with rabies (as defined by the OIE).

Category 1: Countries and territories that are Rabies free

**Category 2: All other countries and territories
Pets resident in category 1 countries for less than 3 months and travelling by sea
(yachts, cruise ships and cargo vessels)**

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL COUNTRIES

1. The Dog/Cat must be accompanied by an Import Permit issued by the Veterinary Authority of St. Lucia before importation. Evidence that the dog/cat complies with all of import requirements must be submitted before an Import Permit can be issued.
2. The dog/cat must be electronically identifiable, having had an acceptable type of microchip implanted. Microchips must conform to ISO standard 11784, and reader to ISO standard 11785. If the microchip does not conform to the standard, pet owners will need to provide their own microchip reader to enable the microchip to be read successfully.
3. The Dog/Cat must be vaccinated against Rabies using an inactivated and adjuvanted vaccine approved by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country, no less than one month prior to export
4. The Dog/Cat must be accompanied by a valid Veterinary Health Certificate issued by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country that shall also state that:
 - a) The dog/cat is in good health and free from symptoms of any prescribed or any other infectious or contagious diseases, and is free from external parasites.
 - b) The Dog/Cat must be treated for endo-parasites including Tapeworm with an approved broad spectrum anthelmintic and for ecto-parasites including ticks, no more than 14 days prior to export.
 - c) Dog has been inoculated for common disease conditions, no less than 14 days prior to exportation. (Canine Distemper, Leptospirosis, Hepatitis/Adenovirus, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus).
 - d) Dogs have been tested negative for Heartworm, Lyme disease, Leishmaniasis, Nipah virus and/or Hendra virus where applicable (countries endemic for these diseases). Tests must be done no more than 14 days prior to export.
 - e) Cat has been inoculated not less than two weeks prior to exportation for Feline Leukaemia, Feline Rhinotracheitis, Feline Calicivirus, Feline Panleukopenia and Feline Pneumonitis.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CATEGORY 2 COUNTRIES

5. The Dog/Cat must be vaccinated against Rabies at or over 12 weeks old, using an inactivated and adjuvanted vaccine approved by the veterinary authority of the exporting country. Rabies vaccination must be done after the microchip has been implanted.
6. A blood test to determine the Rabies antibody titre (Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralisation test FAVN) must be carried out by an approved laboratory, 30 days after the date of the Rabies vaccination. In order to qualify for entry, blood test must show a rabies antibody titre equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml.
For a list of approved labs, visit https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/approved-labs_en.
7. Your pet will not be allowed entrance until 3 months have passed from the date that your vet took the blood sample which led to the successful results. The original copy of the laboratory results must accompany the Health Certificate.

Please note that:

1. **Dog/cat must be transported directly into St. Lucia and should not be in contact with any other animal on the flight except those for which similar permit has been issued.**
2. **Arrangements for Import Permit must be made in advance to travel date.**
3. **Animals failing to meet Import Requirements or entering without a permit will be refused entry or be humanely euthanized.**
4. **The Veterinary and Livestock Services Division must be notified of your port of entry, date, time and flight number at least three days in advance of your arrival date.**

CATEGORY 1

Cat/Dog must have been resident in one or more of these countries for at least 3 months prior to entry: Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Turks and Caicos Islands, Australia, Fiji, French Polynesia (Tahiti), Hawaii, Hong Kong, Iceland, Japan, Malaysia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Singapore, Saint Helena, Sweden, Taiwan, United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man), Uruguay, Vatican City State

CATEGORY 2: All other countries.

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CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER

N.B This is not an Import Permit