

# BERMUDA

## ANIMALS IMPORTATION INTO BERMUDA

www.bermudatourism.com - 1.800.bermuda  | BERMUDA  
*feel the love®*

The information pertaining to the importation of animals contained herein is correct as of the time of preparing this document (May 2010). Any updates to these requirements will be posted on the website of the Department of Environmental Protection at [www.animals.gov.bm](http://www.animals.gov.bm).

All animals (including birds and fish) arriving in Bermuda are required to be accompanied by health documents as well as an Import Permit issued in advance by the Bermuda Department of Environmental Protection. Animals arriving without proper documentation will be refused entry and will be immediately returned to the point of origin at the owner's expense, as there are no quarantine facilities in Bermuda.

### PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING AN IMPORT PERMIT

The importer should contact the Bermuda Department of Environmental Protection far in advance to learn of the import requirements for his/her animal(s). However, the actual application for an Import Permit should be made no more than 10 days prior to arrival into the Island. The animal's health certificate should be no more than 10 days old when the animal arrives.

Application forms (not Import Permits) are available from the website of the Department of Environmental Protection at [www.animals.gov.bm](http://www.animals.gov.bm).

The application for an Import Permit must be submitted no more than 10 days prior to the animal's arrival in Bermuda. The application must specify particulars of the animal, origin of the shipment and show fulfillment of all the import requirements for your particular animal. The application and supporting documentation should be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection via fax or courier. Once satisfied with the information provided, an Import Permit will be faxed back to you in your home country. The usual response time from the Department is one or two working days. The Department of Environmental Protection is closed on weekends and public holidays.

The faxed transmission of the Import Permit that you receive, together with the originals of the supporting health documents **MUST** accompany the animal(s) and be available for inspection upon arrival. **Animals arriving without proper documentation are immediately returned to country of origin, or are destroyed.**

Enquiries and import applications should be forwarded to:

Director  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Street address: Botanical Gardens  
169 South Road, Paget DV 04, Bermuda  
Mailing address: P.O. Box HM 834  
Hamilton HM CX, Bermuda  
Tel: 441-236-4201  
Fax: 441-232-0046  
E-mail: [animals@gov.bm](mailto:animals@gov.bm)  
Internet: [www.animals.gov.bm](http://www.animals.gov.bm)

## TRANSPORTATION OF ANIMALS TO BERMUDA

All animals should be examined shortly before departure to ensure that they are fit for travel, considering the length of trip and the environmental conditions likely to be encountered.

**By Air:** Each airline manages its own policies with regard to the types and dimensions of pet travel kennels information of which can be found on their respective websites. Basically, dogs and cats must be carried in sturdy, leak-proof, escape-proof and well-ventilated kennels, which should be purchased ahead of time at your local pet supply store. The container should be labelled with the owner's name and contact telephone number(s), flight number(s) and destination. Labels displaying the words "Live Animal" and "This Way Up" should be prominently displayed on the container.

Pet dogs and cats are usually carried in the baggage compartment of the aircraft, however very small animals may be carried in the passenger cabin if the airline permits. In either case, a transportation fee will likely be charged, and the owner should contact the airline well in advance of travel to make arrangements.

**By Ship:** Cruise ships are not equipped with dog kennels.

**By Private Plane/Yacht:** Upon arrival in Bermuda, each animal must be suitably restrained in a travel box or cage, or by leash and be under the supervision of a person capable of maintaining control of the animal.

## ACCOMMODATION OF ANIMALS IN HOTELS

Dogs (including Seeing Eye dogs) and other pets are not permitted at many hotels and guest houses in Bermuda. Only the following properties will accept well-trained dogs anytime throughout the year, unless otherwise noted. Permission is usually requested in advance.

Coral Beach Club (under 20 lbs, over 20 lbs on request)

Elbow Beach, Bermuda (under 20 lbs, over 20 lbs on request)\*

Erith Guest House\*\*\*\*

Fairmont Hamilton Princess\*\*\*\*

Grape Bay Cottages (under 20 lbs only)\*

Grotto Bay Beach Resort (under 20 lbs and only during major dog shows)\*

Horizons (under 20 lbs)\*\*\*\*

Rosemont (circumstantial)

Royal Palms Hotel (cottages only)\*

Surf Side Beach Club

Tucker's Point Hotel & Spa (up to 25 lbs)\*

\* Fumigation and/or sanitation fee charged on departure

\*\* Will accept dogs over twenty pounds

\*\*\* Will accept Seeing Eye dogs only

\*\*\*\* Fee charged

## VETERINARIANS IN BERMUDA

High-quality veterinary care is available in Bermuda. Veterinarians are listed in the Yellow Pages of the Bermuda Telephone Directory, which is also available on the internet at [www.bermudayp.com](http://www.bermudayp.com).

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS INTO BERMUDA

There are restrictions on the importation of certain breeds of dog. Visit the website of the Department of Environmental Protection, [www.animals.gov.bm](http://www.animals.gov.bm), for complete details.

All animals arriving in Bermuda must be accompanied by an Import Permit issued in advance by the Department of Environmental Protection, together with an original health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in the country from which the animal is coming to Bermuda. The health certificate and veterinary statements must be issued within 10 days before your arrival in Bermuda, must be dated, must show the name, address and phone number of the veterinary facility, and must be signed by a licensed veterinarian. The importer must provide evidence that your animal complies with all of our import requirements before an Import Permit will be issued. The following documentation is required:

1. The animal has been implanted with a microchip read by a standard microchip reader, i.e. ISO, FECAVA, European/International or AVID-USA chip.
2. A veterinary health certificate issued within 10 days before your arrival in Bermuda, stating that the animal is not infected with any communicable disease and is free of external parasites. The veterinary health certificate must contain the following information:
  - Name, date of birth, breed, description and microchip identification of pet;
  - Name and address of current owner;
  - Name and address of owner in Bermuda.
3. A veterinary statement that the animal has been treated on the day of examination with an acaricidal preparation which must be named in the statement, and which is known to have residual activity against ticks, e.g. FrontLine Top Spot®, Ovitrol®, Sectrol®, K9 Advantix®, Proticall®, Kiltix®, Defend Ex-Spot®, Promeris® for Dogs.  
**NOTE: Advantage®, Sentinel®, Revolution®, Selamectin, Capstar®, Bio-Spot®, Promeris® for Cats, Vectra 3D®, Comfortis®, shampoos and collars do not qualify.**
4. A veterinary statement that, as best as can be ascertained by your knowledge and through questioning, the animal has not been exposed to rabies nor been present in an officially quarantined rabies area within the last 6 months.
5. *Not applicable to dogs or cats arriving directly from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand or Jamaica:* Rabies vaccination history, showing at least two rabies vaccinations have been given by a licensed veterinarian, and are in accord with all of these requirements:
  - Upon attaining / after the age of three months, the animal has received a rabies vaccination; AND
  - The animal received a second rabies vaccine 6-12 months following the first rabies vaccination; AND
  - There have been no significant lapses in vaccination protection; AND
  - The most recent vaccination was given at least 30 days, and not more than 12 months prior to arrival in Bermuda.

**NOTE:** *Not applicable to dogs or cats arriving directly from the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand or Jamaica* Dogs and cats under age 10 months, and dogs and cats of any age that have received only a single rabies vaccination, do not qualify for entry into Bermuda.

Veterinarians **may only** attest to vaccinations given by him/herself, given under his/her direct supervision, and prior vaccinations that are accompanied with original certificates. Veterinarians **cannot** attest to vaccines given by non-veterinarians, including owners or breeders.

6. *Not applicable to dogs or cats arriving directly from the Continental USA or Canada.*

The animal has not been kept within 30 miles of Foot and Mouth disease during the last 30 days.

7. When requested by this Department, you will be required to give information regarding the purpose of impored animal, and the location of facility where the animal(s) will be housed. You need not provide this information at this time.

#### **The Procedure & Notes**

- Within 10 days of your arrival into Bermuda, visit your veterinarian to obtain a health certificate, microchip and the veterinary statements. If the animal is coming from the United Kingdom, visit the Local Veterinary Inspector within 5 days of your departure for an Export Permit (EHC-2921).
- FAX the veterinary documents to this office at (441) 232-0046. We will reply with an Import Permit by return FAX, usually in 1-2 business days. Ensure that your FAX number is shown. The FAX Import Permit and the ORIGINAL veterinary certificates MUST accompany the animal on arrival.
- Import Permits are only valid for 10 days from the date of the veterinary certificate.
- The office for Import Permits is closed on weekends and public holidays.

#### **DOG SHOWS AND TRIALS**

The importation requirements for dogs competing in shows and trials in Bermuda are the same as outlined above. To obtain an Import Permit for a dog competing in a show or trial contact the club that is organizing the event. The club will obtain and distribute an Import Permit for each participant. The Import Permit and veterinary certificates must accompany the dog upon arrival in Bermuda. The exhibitor need not contact the Department of Environmental Protection directly, unless he/she has a specific query.

In addition to import requirements, the club organizing the show or trial may have its own requirements for participation in the event, eg, dogs must have a current parvovirus vaccination.

In preparation for re-entry into your home country, exhibitors will be notified of the time(s) that the show veterinarian will be available on the show grounds for the purpose of issuing health certificates. There is no charge for this service.

#### **Overseas Exhibitors – Transport And Accommodation**

Arrangements may be made through a travel professional, or the airline, hotel or guest house directly. All reservations should be made early, and you should include the number and size (or weight) of each dog in your information.

#### **Requirements For Re-Entry Into The United States**

1. Health certificate, issued no more than 10 days prior to entry into the U.S.

#### **Requirements For Re-Entry Into Canada**

1. Health certificate, issued no more than 10 days prior to entry into Canada.
2. A certificate attesting that Bermuda remains free of rabies.
3. The Canadian Government charges a fee for clearing the animal upon arrival in Canada. Currently the fee is CDN\$35.00.

### Requirements For Re-Entry Into The United Kingdom

Bermuda is a participating country in the Pet Travel Scheme, and the Scheme is fully operational here. The Scheme permits qualified dogs and cats to return to the United Kingdom without quarantine, but owners must familiarize themselves with the requirements of the Scheme even before travel begins.

Travel under the Scheme requires either direct routing between Bermuda and the United Kingdom, or routing via another Pet Travel Scheme participating country. Under this Scheme, currently British Airways is the only carrier approved for travel between Bermuda and the UK.

**NOTE:** This Information Sheet was produced by the Bermuda Department of Tourism's Creative Services office with the assistance of the Department of Environmental Protection.  
Information contained in this Information Sheet may not be reproduced in any form without the permission of the Bermuda Department of Tourism, Creative Services Office, Global House, 43 Church Street, Hamilton 12, Bermuda.  
Reproducing or copying this Information Sheet in any form and the selling of this Information Sheet is prohibited.