



Maidstone Veterinary Clinic

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EXPORTATION OF CATS & DOGS

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Animal export requirements differ depending on the proposed country of destination. Information in the first section is relevant only to the exportation of animals to Australia, the second section is relevant to other countries.

BACKGROUND

When animals are moved internationally there are risks of spreading diseases e.g. Foot & Mouth Disease. The country of destination needs to be careful that new or exotic diseases are not introduced with imported animals. For this reason various safeguards are in place. Some countries prefer quarantining the animal to physically assess if disease is present. Others rely on veterinary examinations and certification for protection. This is the case when animals move to Australia from New Zealand.

CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE - AUSTRALIA

Only vets who are approved by MAF can provide export certificates for your animal. At Maidstone Vet Clinic both Peter and Andrew are approved to carry out this work for exporting to Australia

When planning an animal export the steps are as follows...

1. Come into the clinic to collect the export certificate. Each certificate has 5 duplicate pages. There is a declaration on this certificate you must fill out in the presence of a Justice of the Peace. This must be done BEFORE coming in for the pre-export health check. Please fill in the 'OWNER DECLARATION' part of the certificate.

There must be one certificate completed PER ANIMAL.

- For dogs, the owner must also be able to show continuous residency in NZ by means of council registration records or veterinary records. The owner must also write and sign a statement that the dog has lived only in NZ (and Australia if applicable) since birth. (These records are to be kept at the clinic as a basis for certification and are not to accompany the certificate to Australia. If this cannot be shown then the dog must be blood tested for Ehrlichia Canis (approx 10 but less than 30 days prior to export)
2. Arrange a suitable cage for air transport of your pet. This cage must meet certain requirements. These are outlined in the section headed 'CONTAINER REQUIREMENTS' on the BACK of the middle/green copy of the export certificate.
 3. Arrange a passage/flight for your pet. This is done directly through the airline or a freight agent.
 4. Arrange for a PRE-EXPORT CLINICAL EXAMINATION for your pet. This examination must be carried out WITHIN 72 HOURS of the scheduled time of departure. Any departure delay of more than 72 hours from time of examination will invalidate the export certificate. (Under these circumstances a second examination must be carried out within the required time. If it is not your pet may not be accepted into Australia or may be kept for extended periods in expensive quarantine)
 5. Arrange for arrival of your pet at the airport at a suitable time before departure. This is a matter between yourself and the airline concerned. There are some courier firms that undertake animal

transport, alternately you may wish to drop your pet off personally.

There also are firms that carry out ALL the export requirements for your pet on your behalf. This minimizes a lot of the work and organising you must undertake.

Ask at our reception for contact names and numbers.

6. Advise the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) of the anticipated arrival time of your pet. This must be done at least 72 HOURS prior to the expected arrival time. You must contact the AQIS vet at the intended port of entry for your pet. This only relates to certain ports of entry. A list of ports and contacts will be supplied to you when you collect your export certificate (please ask at reception if it is not).
7. Supply all appropriate copies of the export certificate to the agencies concerned. You will be provided with 3 copies. One must travel with your pet. One stays with you. One is the airline copy.

NOTES:

1. Some dog breeds are considered dangerous, and are not allowed entry into Australia. These banned breeds are Pit Bull Terrier, Japanese Tosa, Fila Brazilieros and Dogo Argentinos.
2. Certain residency criteria must be met before dogs are able to be exported. These are outlined on the export certificate.
3. Certain restrictions are placed on export of animals that are very young or more than 42 days pregnant. These are outlined on the certificate.
4. Export certificates and all the information contained are legal documents.

Strict and sometimes costly penalties exist for false declaration or improper use.

CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE - OTHER COUNTRIES.

Each country of destination will have specific requirements that need to be fulfilled will they allow your pet to enter. These requirements can change and are dependent on the status of contagious diseases in the 'International Arena'.

The process of exportation to these countries can be time consuming and difficult and our advice is to pass it on to MAF Certified Exporters e.g. Alrona Kennels. They are experienced and will spread up the process and ensure your pet arrives at its destination with the least fuss and delay. As you know international travel is very tiring, so the less delays your pet suffers due to inadequate preparation and documentation the better.

Only Peter is MAF certified to do exports to other destinations. The rule of thumb is to plan ahead! Below is a brief outline of issues needed to be addressed:

1. Phone MAF AgriQuality NZ Ltd. 04 498 9625
2. Establish conclusively that an Import Permit is or is not required by the destination country.
3. Ensure that treatments and tests are carried out according to the requirements for the certificate.
4. Arrange transport connections and flights, cages and pick up at the other end on arrival.
5. Inform certifying vet of departure so that the necessary MAF forms can be requested and checks can be made as to the importing country's criteria's.
6. Book an appointment within 72 hours of scheduled time of departure for examination of your pet and completion of the MAF forms.

For more information - esp. for UK PETS Scheme:

www.maf.govt.nz

www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine/index.htm

www.iata.org/cargo/live.htm