

# COVID-19 Guidance on Accompanied Pet Travel via Private Chartered Aircraft from the EU

**DO NOT travel if you have symptoms of COVID-19.**

**Always check the most up to date COVID-19 guidelines [here](#).**

Please note that any persons travelling to Guernsey will be **required by law to self-isolate** for 14 days on arrival, unless they are eligible for and opt into the 7 day self-isolation option. This is a legal requirement, and failure to comply is a criminal offence. Where you have opted into the 7 day self-isolation option, you may only leave your accommodation when you have received a negative test result. You must then comply with the conditions and restrictions ("passive follow-up") until the 14th day after your arrival in the Bailiwick. For further information visit the COVID-19 [website](#).

## Should I transport pets at this time?

Please be aware of the risks of virus spread due to pet (and human) travel. If the movement of pets is not necessary, please postpone it.

If you are transporting pets to the island, the following guidelines should be adhered to.

Pets must comply with the requirements of the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS), details of which can be found at: [Pet Travel Scheme](#).

## How can I transport my pet to Guernsey?

Pets can be transported through the use of private licensed chartered flights and via commercial transport methods ([Aurigny](#) and [Condor Ferries](#)). For information on your booking, please contact your service provider directly.

The following information is for the transport of pet dogs, cats and ferrets (which we shall refer to collectively as 'pets'), accompanied by their owners, on private licensed chartered aircrafts from **Mainland EU Member States and Switzerland ONLY** - information regarding the importation of other animals, commercial (unaccompanied) imports from the EU or imports from other countries or territories must be sought from the States Veterinary Officers ([svo@gov.gg](mailto:svo@gov.gg)).



Information on pet travel via commercial transport methods and unaccompanied pet travel on private chartered aircrafts from the UK and Crown Dependencies can be found in [separate documents](#) available on the [Pets and livestock guidance webpage](#).

It is recommended that engagement with the Office of the Director of Civil Aviation is made before any proposed flight is agreed to ensure compliance with the Air Navigation (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law 2012. Contact details can be found [here](#).

#### Welfare in transport

- Travel time must be kept to a minimum to protect the welfare of animals being transported – if there is poor weather, it is advised that travel is postponed.
- Transporters should ensure that the pet is provided with comfortable and appropriate accommodation such as crates/pet carriers, including bedding, during transport – see [Travellers Pet Corner](#).

#### What do I need to do before my pet travels?

- Copies of the relevant pages of the EU Pet Passport must be provided to the charter airline **at least 24 hours in advance** of intended travel. These will be forwarded on to the Fixed Based Operator (i.e. ASG or Aiglle) and the GSPCA (Guernsey Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals). The pet passport number must be included on every page.
- The microchip of pets should be checked before the flight to avoid possible PETS failures on arrival in Guernsey. For dogs, it is a PETS requirement that the microchip must be checked by a vet before tapeworm treatment is administered, irrespective of the vet's familiarity with said pet.
- A valid EU Pet Passport should accompany each pet, which must include a record of completed tapeworm treatment for dogs and proof of up to date rabies vaccination.

#### What happens upon arrival in Guernsey?

- Once landed, you will be greeted by a staff member from a Fixed Based Operator (ASG or Aiglle) and member of the GSPCA.
- All individuals will be required to **sanitise their hands**. It is advised that GSPCA/FBO staff wear a pair of disposable gloves.
- **Face masks** should be worn by travelling individuals and can be worn by GSPCA/FBO operators if appropriate.
- You will be asked to remain on board the aircraft whilst the PETS check is completed.
- The GSPCA will ask for the pet passport to be presented to check its validity.
- The GSPCA will then provide you with a disinfected microchip reader and ask you to scan your pet so that they can ensure that the chip number corresponds to documentation sent before departure. The microchip reader will be disinfected after each use.



- In the event that an owner is unable to successfully scan a microchip, then the GSPCA will take the animal outside the aircraft and attempt to scan the microchip.
- If the EU Pet Passport is correct, and the microchip correlates with the EU Pet Passport, then provided there are no further concerns, you and your pet will then be permitted to enter the island.
- You **must** adhere to the instructions for getting from the airport to the address where you will self-isolate. This information can be found [here](#). Do not stop off anywhere between the airport and your self-isolation address!
- EU-based aircraft crew members should not leave the aircraft (apart from remaining within the footprint of the aircraft on stand to permit necessary pre-flight safety checks), they must refuel and leave as soon as possible.

All waste such as gloves, wipes, masks etc. must be placed in a plastic bag, tied up, then inserted into a second plastic bag, tied up, and quarantined for 72 hours before being left out for collection.

## What do I do once my pet is at home?

- Wash your hands as soon as you gather everything needed to bath your pet.
- **Bath your pet immediately**/thoroughly wipe it with pet safe damp disposable cloth.
  - Cats are particularly sensitive to disinfectants and also fastidiously clean their coats and are therefore at risk of poisoning. If in doubt, shampoo cats using a human baby shampoo and then thoroughly rinse it out.
  - Separate your pet from any other animals in the household until it has been bathed.
  - Contact with your pet must be kept to a minimum until it has been thoroughly bathed/wiped down at home.
- All items associated with your pet must be **cleaned, disinfected and fully dried**, including crate, towels, the owner's clothing, vehicle etc. Wash your hands thoroughly, immediately after cleaning these items.
- Bathing pets and cleaning, disinfecting and drying all things associated with them, is likely to be enough to ensure that the virus is not present on your pet's fur.
  - As always, it is standard veterinary advice to wash your hands after stroking, touching, feeding, or cleaning up after an animal.
  - Should owners show any clinical signs of the virus, they must contact a medical professional/call 01481 756938 or 01481 756969.
- **Contact with your pet must be kept to a minimum if you are showing any clinical signs of COVID-19 or have had a positive result.**
- Follow the [Pets and livestock guidance](#) for further information.

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## Specific advice to cat and ferret owners:

Evidence suggests that cats and ferrets can contract COVID-19 from humans, as well as other cats/ferrets.

Cats and ferrets should be **kept indoors for at least 2 weeks upon arrival in Guernsey.**

If your pet has respiratory or gastrointestinal symptoms, contact your vet for advice.