

# COVID-19 Guidance on Equine Imports

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

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

Please note that any persons travelling into Guernsey will be **required by law** to follow the self-isolation, or enhanced passive surveillance, requirements that are in place at the time of your arrival. This is a legal requirement, and failure to comply is a criminal offence. For further information visit the COVID-19 [website](#).

## Should I transport animals at this time?

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

If you are transporting a horse/pony to the island, the following guidelines should be adhered to.

We advise that you also read the [non-COVID related equine travel information](#).

## How can I transport my horse to Guernsey?

Horses/ponies can be transported on Condor Ferries – please contact [Condor](#) directly regarding this.

The following information is for the importation of equine animals (horses and ponies) on commercial transport methods (Condor Ferries) from the **United Kingdom (UK), France\* and Crown Dependencies (CD's) ONLY.**

\*Please note, that although Condor are not currently running from St Malo to Guernsey, this document provides information in preparation for the recommencement of this route.

Information regarding pet travel (for dogs, cats and ferrets) can be found in [separate documents](#) on the [pets and livestock](#) page.

For information regarding the importation of other animals or imports from other countries or territories must be sought from the States Veterinary Officers ([svo@gov.gg](mailto:svo@gov.gg)).



## 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 horses/ponies are transported in an acceptable vehicle/trailer – see guidance [here](#).

## What do I need to do before my horse/pony arrives?

- **If you are travelling to the island with your horse/pony and it will be situated at a different location to your property e.g. livery yard, stable; you must organise for someone else to care for the horse/pony while you self-isolate.**
- Necessary documentation must be completed and accompany animals during transportation.
- Purchase some disposable gloves and hand sanitiser for use during the handover.
- Purchase some disinfectant wipes/detergent to clean the surfaces that your horse/pony has come into contact with before bathing.
- Purchase some animal-friendly shampoo to bath your horse/pony on arrival.
- Make a Care Plan in the event that you cannot care for your horse/pony for a period of time. You should have:
  - A plan for who might be able to care for your horse/pony in the event of emergency;
  - Written details as to the care, feeding and medical history of your horse/pony;
  - Your vet's contact details.

## Equine handover procedure:

The following information is for individuals who are not travelling with their horse/pony and therefore collect the horse/pony upon arrival in Guernsey.

1. Ensure that all parties involved in the equine transportation are aware of the date and time of arrival and the handover procedure.
2. Owners should be ready to collect their horse/pony as soon as they land.
3. The handover location must be agreed with Guernsey Harbours, **please call the duty harbourmaster on 713166 ahead of the operation to arrange a suitable location.**
4. All parties involved in the handover should be wearing disposable gloves to minimise risk of infection and hands should be thoroughly disinfected with hand sanitiser/washed with soap and water after removal of gloves.
5. **Contact with your horse/pony must be kept to a minimum until it has been thoroughly bathed at its final destination.**
6. Ideally, the individual delivering the animal should not leave their vehicle. If this is not possible, the individual should remain socially distanced at all times and avoid touching the horse unnecessarily.



7. The owner should lead the horse/pony out of the transporters vehicle using their own halter and lead rope and transfer it to their own vehicle/trailer.
8. **No equipment** belonging to the transporter should be given to the owner unless it can be appropriately cleaned and disinfected.
9. The transporter can then return to the boat for travel back to their place of origin.
10. High risk surfaces, such as door handles, should be cleaned and disinfected.

**Once you have collected your horse/pony from the harbour, transport it directly to its final destination. Here you must:**

- Wash your hands as soon as you gather everything needed to bath your horse/pony.
- **Bath your horse/pony immediately.**
  - Separate your horse/pony from any other animals until it has been bathed.
  - Contact with your horse/pony must be kept to a minimum until it has been thoroughly bathed.
- All items associated with your horse/pony must be **cleaned, disinfected and fully dried**, including towels, the new owners clothing, vehicle etc. Wash your hands thoroughly, immediately after cleaning these items.
- Bathing animals and cleaning, disinfecting and drying all things associated with them is likely to be enough to ensure that the virus is not present.
  - 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 horse/pony 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.

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 to do if you are travelling with your horse/pony

- Upon arrival in Guernsey, you must transport your horse immediately to its final destination and not stop off anywhere along the way.
- If your horse stays in a shared livery/stable, you must contact the livery/stable in advance and ensure that nobody is present when you intend to drop off the horse/pony.
- After transporting your horse/pony to its final destination, immediately travel home for isolation and clean the vehicle/trailer.
- The individual that will be caring for your horse/pony should bath your horse/pony before interacting with it.



- All items associated with your horse/pony must also be **cleaned, disinfected and fully dried**, including towels and the individual's clothing. Wash hands thoroughly, immediately after cleaning these items and after all contact with the horse/pony.
- Bathing animals and cleaning, disinfecting and drying all things associated with them is likely to be enough to ensure that the virus is not present.
  - 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 horse/pony must be kept to a minimum if you are showing any clinical signs of COVID-19 or have had a positive result.**
- If you are in enhanced passive follow-up, you may tend to your horse/pony provided you do not enter any indoor venues. It is advised that you socially distance and wear a face mask. Further information on travelling during phase 5c can be found [here](#).

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.