

IMPORTATION OF DOGS FROM A CATEGORY 1 COUNTRY

The following instructions apply to the importation of dogs to Iceland from approved category 1 countries. Refer to bottom of page 6 for a list of category 1 countries. It is necessary to familiarize yourself well with the import conditions before preparing for importation. It is recommended to print and read carefully the [D1 certificate](#) and refer to these guidelines for details.

The importer must have obtained an import permit issued by the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST) before the dog is imported. The importer is responsible for fulfilling **all** import conditions. Failure to comply with the import conditions may result in the dog being exported.

- The dog must have remained in a category 1 country since birth or at least for 6 months prior to import.
- Make sure that the dog breed is authorised for import to Iceland (see page 6).
- An authorised veterinarian in the country of export must perform all veterinary procedures.
- Only certificate form **D1** issued by MAST is valid for this purpose.
- The signed certificate with official endorsement must be sent to MAST 5-10 days prior to import for approval.
- If the required documentation is received by MAST later than 5 days prior to the scheduled date of arrival, the importation of the animal may be rejected.
- These guidelines are based on [Regulation no. 200/2020 on the import of dogs and cats](#)

1. Import permit application – permit fee

- The first step in the import process is to apply for an import permit. Applicants with an Icelandic ID no, (kennitala) shall apply for an import permit on the MAST online portal. You can log on to the portal with an electronic ID or ICE key and complete all the requested information on application no. 2.15. Other applicants shall use the application form on the English MAST website. A scanned copy of the signed application shall be sent to petimport@mast.is.
- It is preferable that the application be submitted to MAST at least 30 days prior to import.
- Necessary information for an import permit application: dog breed, country of export, microchip number, importers name, address.
- A permit fee in the amount of ISK 37.400 shall be paid. A payment request is sent to the applicant upon receipt of application by MAST. This fee covers administration as well as the import control on arrival to Keflavik airport and upon discharge of the dog from the quarantine station.
- Once payment has been received by the MAST, an import permit is issued. The import permit is subject to the conditions that the dog fulfills all the import requirements according to Regulation no. 200/2020 on the import of dogs and cats.
- The import permit is valid for one year after the date of issue

2. Quarantine

- Imported dogs are required to stay in quarantine for a minimum of 14 days.
- The importer must make reservations in advance at a quarantine station.
- Deadlines for the completion and submission of the Certificate of Health and Origin (D1) must be taken into account when determining the import date.
- There are two approved quarantine stations for dogs and cats in Iceland:
 - The quarantine station in Reykjanesbær (Hafnir) – www.einangrun.is – Tel. +354 421 6949 / 893 6949
 - Mósel quarantine station (Hella) – www.allirhundar.is – Tel. +354 892 3457
- Pets are admitted by each quarantine station within a set three day period approximately three weeks apart.
- Quarantine admission (check-in) dates can be found on the relevant station's website.
- In the case of a suspected infectious disease in a quarantined animal, MAST may extend the period of quarantine for the animal concerned, or all animals at the station, depending on the nature of the infectious agent.

3. Health requirements – Certificate of Health and Origin (D1)

It is important to consider early the requirements for vaccinations, sampling, etc. as this has to be done within a certain timeframe before importation.

Certificate form [D1 - Certificate of health and origin for import of a dog to Iceland from a category 1 country](#) – must be used. The certificate must be issued by an authorised veterinarian and endorsed by a veterinary officer of the competent authority in the country of export. All parts (except part 12) of the certificate must be filled in, dated and signed where appropriate.

The image shows two pages of the 'Certificate of Health and Origin (D1)' form. The left page is the front side, containing sections for: Part 1: Identification of importer, Part 2: Identification of dog, microchip and country of export, Part 3: Declaration by importer, Part 4: Information on estimated date/time of arrival, flight number and quarantine station, and Part 5: Vaccinations. The right page is the back side, containing sections for: Part 6: Laboratory tests, Part 7: Official endorsement, and Part 8: Official endorsement of the importer. The form is issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Iceland, and is endorsed by the MAST (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Iceland).

Following are explanations for each part of the certificate. Refer to page 6 for an overview of health requirements

- **Part 1: Identification of importer.** The information must match the details on the import permit.
- **Part 2: Identification of dog, microchip and country of export.** The veterinarian must verify the microchip number of the dog and register the date of implantation or reading. The microchip number shall be verified each time the dog is examined, tested or treated for import purposes. The microchip must be ISO compliant. Import permit no. is the number of the import permit issued by MAST. The country of export must be a category 1 country.
- **Part 3: Declaration by importer.** By his/her signature the importer/owner of the dog confirms the following: that the dog has stayed in a category 1 country since birth or for at least 6 months prior to import; that the dog has not mated in the last 60 days before importation (applies to intact dogs); that upon importation, the dog does not need special medical treatment and is neither pregnant nor lactating.
- **Part 4: Information on estimated date/time of arrival, flight number and quarantine station.**
- **Part 5: Vaccinations**
 - **(a) Rabies: vaccination and antibody test.** The dog must have a valid rabies vaccination, ie. have received the appropriate basic immunization and it must have been maintained according to the instructions from the manufacturer. The vaccination must be valid when the antibody titer test is performed ie: antibody titer test can not be performed if the vaccination is out of date. Blood samples for antibody testing shall be taken at the earliest 30 days after vaccination. Antibody testing shall be carried out by a laboratory approved by the European Union for this purpose. Rabies antibody titre should measure at least **0,5 IU/ml**. The antibody test is valid as long as the rabies vaccination is kept up to date according to the manufacturer's instructions.
 - **(b) Leptospirosis, (c) Canine distemper, (d) Infectious canine hepatitis, (e) Canine parvovirus, (f) Canine parainfluenza.** The dog must have a valid vaccination against the above mentioned diseases, ie. have received the appropriate basic vaccination which has been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The last vaccination must be carried out at least 14 days before importation.

- **Part 6: Laboratory tests**

- ***Brucella canis* – blood test.** Within the last 30 days prior to importation, a blood sample shall be drawn from the dog for testing for brucellosis (*Brucella canis*). Approved laboratory tests for *B. canis*: IFAT, RSAT, TAT. The test result must be negative and recorded in the Certificate of Health and Origin (D1). The laboratory report in English containing the laboratory name, microchip number, blood sample date and test result must accompany the certificate.
- ***Leishmania* spp. – blood test. Applies only to intact dogs (males and females).** Within the last 30 days prior to importation, a blood sample shall be drawn from the dog for testing for leishmaniasis (*Leishmania* spp.). Approved laboratory tests for *Leishmania* spp.: PCR, ELISA. The test result must be negative and recorded in the Certificate of Health and Origin (D1). The laboratory report in English containing the laboratory name, microchip number, blood sample date and test result must accompany the certificate. In case of a positive test result, the dog may be imported after it has been neutered/spayed. Neutering/spaying (surgical removal of gonads) must be confirmed by a veterinarian. Chemical neutering is not approved.
- It is recommended that sampling be done in a timely manner as a waiting period for results is expected (1-3 weeks). It is convenient to have this sampling carried out during the same veterinary visit as for the first parasite treatment

- **Part 7: *Angiostrongylus vasorum*.** The requirement for *A. vasorum* is the following: the dog must either be tested for infection or treated preventively for *A. vasorum*. It is up to the importer/preparing veterinarian to decide which option is chosen.

- ***A. vasorum* - blood test or fecal sample:** Within the last 30 days prior to importation, a blood or fecal sample shall be taken and tested for *A. vasorum*. Approved laboratory tests for *A. vasorum*: ELISA, PCR (blood test), Baermann method (fecal sample). The test result must be negative and recorded in the Certificate of Health and Origin (D1). The laboratory report in English containing the laboratory name, microchip number, blood sample date and test result must accompany the certificate.
- **Preventive treatment for *A. vasorum*:** 5-10 days prior to importation the dog must be treated preventively for *A. vasorum* with an approved antiparasitic medicinal product (spot-on) containing imidacloprid and moxidectin eg: Advocate® or Advantage Multi®.

- **Part 8 a): First treatment against internal and external parasites:** 21-28 days prior to importation the dog must be treated internal and external parasites. The veterinary medicinal product(s) used for external parasites must be registered for lice, fleas and ticks. The veterinary medicinal product(s) used for internal parasites must be registered for roundworm and tapeworm. For details see [guidance notes for parasite treatment](#).

- **Part 8 b): Second (last) treatment against internal and external parasites:** 5-10 days prior to importation the dog must be treated internal and external parasites. The veterinary medicinal product(s) used for external parasites must be registered for lice, fleas and ticks. The veterinary medicinal product(s) used for internal parasites must be registered for roundworm and tapeworm. For details see [guidance notes for parasite treatment](#).

- **Part 9 og 10: Health examination and completion of certificate (D1).** 5-10 days prior to importation the dog must undergo a health examination. The veterinarian must confirm that the dog does not show any symptoms of contagious diseases or external parasites. Special attention must be made to tongue worm (*Linguata serrata*), scabies (*Sarcoptes scabiei* spp.), dermatophytosis (*M. Canis*, *M. Gypseum*, *T. Mentagrophytes*, *T. Verrucosum*) and canine transmissible venereal tumors (CTVT).

At the same time the veterinarian must issue the Certificate of Health and Origin for a dog from a category 1 country (D1). All fields of part 1-10 must be filled in, dated and signed where appropriate. All required test results must accompany the certificate.

- **Part 11: Official endorsement:** When the certificate (D1) has been issued by the preparing veterinarian it must be endorsed by an official veterinarian. The official veterinarian (veterinary officer), is a veterinarian who is employed by the competent authority (veterinary administration) in the exporting country. Official veterinarians generally do not work in a clinical setting. Their role is to review the Certificate of Health and Origin and confirm that the information provided and the supporting documents are valid. It is recommended

to make arrangements for official endorsement in a timely manner with the help of the preparing veterinarian. [Guidance notes for official government veterinarians endorsing certificates of health and origin for import of a dog to Iceland.](#)

- **Part 12 is completed by MAST when the dog has been pre-approved for importation.**

4. Submission of D1 certificate to MAST no later than 5 days prior to date of importation

- A signed copy of the signed and endorsed Certificate of Health and Origin (D1) together with the relevant laboratory results, must be sent to MAST for review and approval no later than 5 days prior to date of arrival of the dog.
- All documents must be sent as an attachment via email to petimport@mast.is
- If the documents are received later than 5 days prior to the scheduled date of arrival, MAST may reject the importation.
- All import correspondence is dealt with during MAST business hours (weekdays only).
- If all paperwork is satisfactory, the Certificate of Health and Origin is signed by MAST and a notification of approval sent to the importer.

5. Transportation of dog to Iceland / Transport cage / Accompanying documents

- Transport arrangements to Iceland must be made in a timely manner.
- When determining the the import date, take into account the deadlines in relations to the vaccinations, testing, treatment etc.
- Dogs may only be transported to Iceland by airtravel. Keflavik airport is the only approved entry port for pets.
- If the dog requires to transit through another country prior to arriving in Iceland, the importer must ensure that import conditions applicable to the country in question are complied with.
- The flight number, day of arrival and estimated time of arrival, shall be recorded in the Certificate of Health and Origin.
- The transport cage must fulfill IATA requirements and be large enough for the dog to be able to stand, lie down and turn around. The cage should be made of hard, non-collapsible material which is easy to clean and disinfect. If the cage cannot be cleaned and disinfected, it will be disposed after importation. Soft cages or dog bags are not allowed. Further requirements for pet carriers are provided in Regulation no. 80/2016 on the welfare of pets.
- Permitted time for arrival of animals at Keflavik airport is between 06:00 and 17:00 on the quarantine admission dates. It is possible to apply directly to MAST for permission for arrival outside of these specified hours, but such permission is not guaranteed. This will result in considerable additional costs payable by the importer, in relation to inspection and supervision, since import control will then be carried out outside normal working hours.
- The following documentation must accompany the dog to Iceland (in an envelope attached to the cage)
 - Import permit (can be a copy)
 - Original Certificate of Health and Origin (**D1**).
 - Original (or certified copy) laboratory report for rabies antibody titre test.
 - Original (or certified copy) laboratory report for other required tests (*B.canis*, *Leishmania* spp. *A.vasorum* if applicable)
 - Customs declaration. If the owner has owned the animal for less than 12 months, he/she must pay VAT on the purchase price of the animal upon importation. Immigrants are required to submit a customs report to the Director of customs, including a receipt containing the names and address of the seller and the buyer, the issue date of the receipt and when the sale took place. Payment must be made before the pet is released from quarantine. For information please contact Icelandair Cargo ehf. at tollskyrsla@icelandaircargo.is. If the owner has owned the animal for more than 12 months, he may need to provide supporting documentation.

6. Import inspection and transportation to quarantine station

Upon arrival at Keflavik Airport, dogs are transported directly to the pet reception center where the import inspection takes place. This inspection includes verifying the dogs microchip number, that all required documentation is attached to the transport cage and that it does not show any obvious sign of infectious disease. If any issues arise during the inspection, the importer will be contacted by telephone. After the inspection is completed, the dogs are transported to the relevant quarantine station by their own staff.

7. Non-permitted importation

Importation of the following is not permitted:

- Pregnant and lactating bitches.
- Animals that have been injured or undergone major surgery just prior to importation and require special supervision or treatment of any kind, except with a special permission by MAST.
- Hybrids from wolves and dogs for at least 10 generations.
- The following dog breeds, as well as their cross breeds for at least 5 generations.
 - Pit Bull Terrier/Staffordshire Bull Terrier.
 - Fila Brasileiro.
 - Tosa Inu.
 - Dogo Argentino.
 - Other dog breeds or cross breeds, considered to be a risk in accordance with MAST.

Dog breeds that are closely related to the above mentioned breeds have been rejected by MAST. If in doubt about the type of dog you are planning to import, please contact MAST for further information.

8. Approved category I countries – Appendix I, Reg. 200/2020 on the importation of dogs and cats

Austria	Estonia	Latvia	Slovenia
Australia	Finland	Liechtenstein	Spain
Belgium	France	Luxembourg	Sweden
Bulgaria	Germany	Malta	Switzerland
Croatia	Greece	Netherlands	The Faroe Islands
Cyprus	Ireland	Norway <i>(excl. Svalbard)</i>	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Italy	Portugal	
Denmark	Japan	Slovakia	

8. Further information on importation of dogs

- All necessary information on importation of dogs can be found on [the MAST website](#).
- For details on veterinary preparations for the dog, consult with the preparing veterinarian and refer to [the D1 certificate](#) and these instructions.
- Contact the quarantine stations for reservations and information on cost of quarantine.
- Documents for importation shall be sent to petimport@mast.is

The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST), the Office of Import & Export at Dalshraun 1Bb, 220 Hafnarfjörður (tel. +354 530 4800) handles the importation of dogs into Iceland.

AN OVERVIEW OF VACCINATIONS , TESTS AND TREATMENTS FOR IMPORT OF A DOG FROM A CATEGORY 1 COUNTRY

Vaccination/test/treatment (certificate reference)		Timeframe in relation to importation	Comments
Rabies vaccination (5a)		Vaccination at least 45-60 days prior to importation.	The vaccination must be valid.
Rabies antibody test (5a)		Blood sampling/testing at the earliest 30 days after the date of the current valid vaccination.	Result must be ≥ 0,5 ae/ml Laboratory must be approved by the EU.
Leptospirosis (5b)	NB! EITHER TEST OR TREATMENT	The last vaccination prior to importation must be given no less than 14 days before date of importation.	The dog must be fully vaccinated, ie. have received the appropriate basic vaccination which has been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.
Canine distemper (5c)			
Inf. canine hepatitis (5d)			
Canine parvovirus (5e)			
Canine parainfluenza (5d)			
Brucella canis (6a)		Blood sampling/testing within 30 days prior to importation.	The result must be negative. Test in a timely manner as a 1-3 week waiting period for the test result should be expected.
Leishmania spp. (6b)		Blood sampling/testing within 30 days prior to importation.	Only applies to intact dogs of both sexes. The test result must be negative. Test in a timely manner as a 1-3 week waiting period for the test result should be expected. <i>In case of a positive test result, the dog may be imported after it has been neutered/spayed.</i>
A. vasorum test (7a)	NB! EITHER TEST OR TREATMENT	Sampling (blood/feces) within 30 days prior to importation.	The result must be negative. Test in a timely manner as a 1-3 week waiting period for the test result should be expected
A. vasorum treatment (7b)		Treatment 5-10 days prior to importation.	Product must be indicated for A. vasorum and contain imidacloprid and moxidectin.
First parasite treatment (8a)		Treatment 21-28 days prior to importation.	Treatment against external (lice, fleas, ticks) and internal (round-, tapeworms) parasites.
Second (last) parasite treatment (8b)		Treatment 5-10 days prior to importation.	Treatment against external (lice, fleas, ticks) and internal (round-, tapeworms) parasites.
Health exam and completion of certificate (9-10)		5-10 days prior to importation.	Make sure that certificate is fully completed and that test results accompany the certificate.
Official endorsement (11)		5-10 days prior to importation.	Make arrangements in a timely manner with the help of the preparing veterinarian.
Send the D1 certificate to MAST: petimport@mast.is		No later then 5 days before importation.	Send a scanned copy of the fully completed, signed and endorsed certificate and test results.