

IMPORTATION OF DOGS FROM A CATEGORY 1 COUNTRY

The following guidance notes apply to the importation of dogs to Iceland from approved category 1 countries. Refer to part 8, page 5 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 immediately upon arrival.

- The dog must have remained in a category 1 country since birth or at least for 6 months prior to import. Puppies can meet the import requirements at the earliest around 4,5 months of age.
- 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 required veterinary procedures.
- Only certificate form [D1](#) issued by MAST is valid for this purpose.
- The signed certificate with 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 40.648 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 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) – Tel. +354 421 6949 / 893 6949
 - [Mósel quarantine station](#) (Hella) – 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. Refer to page 6 for an overview of health requirements.

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 authorized veterinarian in the country of export. All parts (except part 11) of the certificate must be filled in, dated and signed where appropriate.

The image shows two pages of the 'D1' Certificate of Health and Origin form. The left page contains parts 1 through 10, and the right page contains parts 11 through 12. The form is titled 'CERTIFICATE OF HEALTH AND ORIGIN FOR IMPORT OF A DOG TO ICELAND FROM A RABIES FREE COUNTRY (category 1 countries)'. It includes sections for importer identification, dog identification, importer declaration, arrival information, vaccination records, rabies testing, and various signatures and stamps.

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, i.e. 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 i.e.: antibody titer test cannot be performed if the vaccination is out of date. Blood samples for antibody testing shall be taken at the earliest 30 days after vaccination. The day of the vaccination is regarded as day 0 (zero). 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, i.e. 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 1-11 must be filled in, dated and signed where appropriate. All required test results must accompany the certificate.

- **Part 11 is completed by MAST when the dog has been pre-approved for importation.**

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

- A scanned copy of the signed [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 import date, take into account the deadlines in relations to the vaccinations, testing, treatment etc.
- Dogs may only be transported to Iceland by air travel. 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, date 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 of after importation. Soft carriers 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. If arriving outside of these specified hours is necessary, the importer must contact the quarantine station directly. Pets will not be allowed to stay overnight at the airport.
- 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. Importers are required to submit a customs report to 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 importer 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 dog's microchip number, that all required documentation has been submitted and that the dog 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 collected by the relevant quarantine station.

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 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
 - Cane Corso
 - Presa Canario
 - Boerboel
 - Other dog breeds or cross breeds, considered to be a risk in accordance with MAST.

Dogs with a comparable origin, physique and / or temperament as banned breeds according to the assessment of MAST. MAST shall justify its decision and take into account the available information on the dog breed in question, its origin and breeding standards, physique and temperament.

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

8. Approved category I countries

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway (excl. Svalbard), Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom.

8. Further information on importation of dogs

- All necessary information on the 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 Laugavegur 166, 105 Reykjavík (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 $\geq 0,5$ ae/ml Laboratory must be approved by the EU.	
Leptospirosis (5b)	The last vaccination prior to importation must be given no less than 14 days before date of importation.	The dog must be fully vaccinated, i.e. 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>	
<i>A. vasorum</i> 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
<i>A. vasorum</i> treatment (7b)		Treatment 5-10 days prior to importation.	Product must be indicated for <i>A. vasorum</i> and contain imidacloprid and moxidectin.
First parasite treatment (8a)	Treatment 21-28 days prior to importation.	Treatment against external and internal parasites.	
Second (last) parasite treatment (8b)	Treatment 5-10 days prior to importation.	Treatment against external and internal parasites.	
Health exam and completion of certificate (9-10)	5-10 days prior to importation.	Make sure that the certificate is fully completed and that test results accompany the certificate.	
Send the D1 certificate to MAST: petimport@mast.is	No later than 5 days before importation.	Send a scanned copy of the fully completed and signed certificate and test results.	