pet exports — the veterinary stuff

Are you crazy????!! Are you COMPLETELY NUTS????!!!

Of course not! Managing the relocation of your pet all on your own, without the help of an experienced animal relocations agent, is a PERFECTLY SAFE thing to do! All you need is a little help, right? Well, we’ve got your back. You betchya!

Or WAIT! You DO have a relocations agent? But it’s not DKC? Well then, maybe you ARE crazy! (That was a joke. Don’t worry, we’re here for you anyway. <sheepish grin>)

As you might know, DKC is made up of DKC Veterinary Clinic, DKC Relocations and DKC Boarding & Daycare. This document is for those who are managing their pets relocation on their own or who are using a relocations agent other than DKC and have approached our clinic for help with the pre-travel tests, treatments and veterinary health certificate components of your relocation process, as well as possibly a few other things. In other words, we’re guessing that as you approach our clinic to deal with the veterinary-related aspects of your pending (impending?) relocation, you might gain a little benefit from some information provided by our Relocations team to make sure you have ticked all the necessary boxes. We also want to make as sure as we can that our clinic can help you smoothly through those veterinary-related steps and know ahead of time exactly what our clinic can do for you and the associated costs.

Ready?

Let’s deal first with the services our clinic can provide and their costs. (Trust us, there’s more/better reading further on. Actually… MUCH more!)

Depending on your needs and how much paperwork is to be processed by our vets, there are a few different service options available at our clinic.

EU Country Exports: (Note that all prices listed here include 5% VAT.)

AED 262.50
If you are super organised or have a super-organised agent taking care of your relocation, then you will be waiting into our clinic full of let’s-get-it-done confidence with your EU form in-hand, all filled out and ready to go. For sure! Well, in this scenario you will need our services only for the required tapeworm (internal parasite) treatment, and that fee is AED 262.50 (regardless the size of your dog).

AED 577.50 (+AED 157.50? +AED 210.00?)
On the other unwanted hand (you don’t want two hands? hmmm…), if you are not super-organised (don’t feel bad ~ who is?) or do not have a super-organised agent (don’t tell them you think that!), or if you are just simply feeling uncertain and want a little hand-holding (which hand? and do you have three of ‘em?) to get you through filling in the EU form to completion… or indeed if you have LOT5 of questions and just need the comfort of plenty of time with our vet beyond the usual 10 minutes or so required when you’re super organised (see above), then that fee is AED 577.50, not including an internal parasite treatment; if the internal parasite treatment is required too, then this will be an additional AED 157.50 (regardless the size of your dog); and if you’re travelling to Cyprus (because Cyprus is “special”), an internal and external parasite treatment is recommended and will cost an additional AED 210.00.

+AED 157.50?
Oh, and if you have more than one pet, then we’ll dip into your pocket for another AED 157.50 per pet, in addition to the cost of any treatments required for them (have you had enough yet?).

Non-EU Countries:

AED 262.50 or AED 315.00
If internal parasite treatments are required, our fee is AED 262.50 and we will provide you with a letter that confirms this has been done. For cases that require both internal and external parasite treatments, our fee is AED 315.00 (regardless the size of your pet). If pre-travel tests are required, we’ll need to let you know what the costs will be at the time you contact us.
AED 577.50 (+AED 157.50? +AED 210.00?)

However... back to the ol' "are you super organised?" question: If you will need more guidance and/or assistance on this, then just as with EU Country Exports (above), our fee is AED 577.50. And if you need guidance/assistance AND the actual treatments, then our fee will be AED 577.50 plus an additional AED 157.50 (for internal parasite treatment) or AED 210.00 (for both internal and external parasite treatments), respectively.

+AED 157.50?
Oh, and if you have more than one pet, then we'll sneak another AED 157.50 per pet from your credit card when we take payment, in addition to the cost of any treatments required for them (that's outrageous!).

USA:

AED 315.00
For the mandatory examination and letter certifying that your dog is free of screwworm, the fee is AED 315.00.

Others:

For countries that require various blood tests at specific stages of your relocations process (Australia, New Zealand or South Africa, for example), things get a little more complicated. Let us know that you need help with this and we'll discuss pricing with you.

Oh, and if you have more than one pet, then we'll have to talk about that too (do you even want to talk with us?).

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So, there you have it! That's what our clinic can do for you and those are the costs. And in the following sections/pages you'll find lots of valuable additional pure relocations-related information which we hope will help you further. Now, when you contact our clinic for these services, our receptionists will grrrrrrttlllllllly you on the subject to make sure both you and we know exactly what you need and to set up the kind of appointment which will help make this all happen smoooooothly. Feel better?

But what if the whole process is turning out to be just too much for you? What if what you really need is beyond the expertise and the capabilities of our (or any) clinic? What if the love for your pet is being insidiously, surreptitiously and nefariously challenged by your growing hatred for the whole damn process of organising the relocation and you NEED MORE HELP!!!!? Well then, we have two suggestions:

1) Get a relocations agent, or... 2) Get a better one! :)

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**some very important general (and not-so-general) insights**

Now that we've dispensed with the fabulousness of what our clinic can do for you and the associated costs, it's time for a brain dump. Our brain dump, that is, and your job is now to inhale and assimilate all the many following volumes of relocations knowledge we're throwing at you, should you choose to accept this mission.

First and foremost in our view, are some very important insights we want you to have about relocating your pet which are unrelated to the specifics regarding veterinary and destination-country requirements, but more about the broad areas of consideration related to your pet's (and your) shipment experience and safety, all presented in the documents just below.

We cannot stress too much the value of these documents and we urge you ~ we really do ~ to read them through thoughtfully. It is a lot of reading, we know, but worth it. Trust us.

Pet Flight Options
[http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Pet_Flight_Options.pdf](http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Pet_Flight_Options.pdf)

The Science of Travel Boxes and Measuring Your Pet

Is Your Dog or Cat Fit-to-Fly?
[http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Is_Your_Dog_or_Cat_Fit-to-Fly.pdf](http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Is_Your_Dog_or_Cat_Fit-to-Fly.pdf)

Short-Hosed Dogs and Air Travel
[http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Short-Hosed_Dogs_and_Air_Travel.pdf](http://www.dkc.ae/docs/Short-Hosed_Dogs_and_Air_Travel.pdf)
veterinary requirements... for some of the world!

Phew! (We're saying "phew!" because we assume you've taken our advice and read every word of the preceding documents. You've done just that, right? Good! Very proud of you!)

So then, let's move on. :-)

What follows are the technical requirements you need to know and execute with regard to the veterinary-related facets of your pet's relocation. To repeat: keep in mind that this document focuses only on the veterinary-related aspects of your pet's relocation; there are lots of other facets to your pet's relocation which this document does not attempt to cover because you are either choosing to manage your relocation on your own or have an agent helping you.

Also note that we do not cover all possible destinations; our experience is that pet owners approaching our veterinary clinic for help with their pet's relocation are almost always working towards the select destinations presented here. If you are indeed relocating to some other location not presented here and need help, do let us know.

And good luck!

about European Union (EU) countries

EU countries:

These countries are regarded as part of the EU for the purposes of pet relocations:

  Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, UK.

Non-EU countries but those which follow EU regulations/documentation:

  Switzerland and Norway
  And additionally: Andorra, Faeroe Islands, Gibraltar, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City State

Importantly, note that some of the EU countries do have their own specific rules, interpretation of EU law, or how strictly they follow those rules and the law. For example, Denmark do not recognise a rabies vaccination entered into an EU Pet Passport by a non-EU veterinarian (the letter of the law states that a vaccination entered into an EU Pet Passport by a non-EU veterinarian is not recognised). Therefore, if your pet is formerly from an EU country and has an EU Pet Passport with vaccinations entered into this document by a UK veterinarian, and if you're relocating to Denmark, you will need an official vaccination certificate issued for your pet's current vaccinations.

At the time of writing this document, Denmark is the only country we are aware of that needs a unique approach but this does not mean that at the time of your relocation, Denmark will still be the only one ~ so, if you're going to a country we haven't specifically mentioned in this document, then check, check, check! :-)

The time required to gain the attestation of the applicable Annex IV or Annex I EU Health Certificate and then the issuance of the UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MOCCAE) UAE Health Certificate differs, depending on the document being used:

  Annex IV (non-commercial): Within 10 days of travel. The exception to this is if you are going to one of the countries that requires dogs to have a tapeworm treatment. In this case, MOCCAE will only attest the Annex IV after the treatment has been administered.
  Annex I: Within 48 hours of travel.

EU veterinary entry requirements for pet dogs, cats and ferrets:

- Your pet must be microchipped and the date of microchipping must precede at least the most recent rabies vaccination. Officially documented proof of this is required.
- The rabies vaccination must have been administered at least 21 days prior to travel if it is a primary or lapsed vaccination. If a booster vaccination is given within the validity period of the existing rabies vaccination, there is no wait time. Note that the EU
and UAE do not recognize a vaccination administered below the age of 12 weeks (subject to the guidelines of the vaccine manufacturer).

- For the following EU countries, for DOGS ONLY: UK, Cyprus*, Ireland, Finland, Malta and Norway: Tapeworm treatment is required, administered by a registered veterinarian, not less than 24 hours and not more than 120 hours (approximately 5 days) before the scheduled arrival time of your dog in the destination country. This detail of this treatment must be entered into the EU Health Certificate by the same administering veterinarian and into the EU Pet Passport for dogs who have one.
  * Note that although not mandated by EU law, for Cyprus it is highly recommended to have both internal and external parasite treatments done for both dogs and cats.

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**health certificates required for travelling into the EU:**

There are two health certificates required.

1. First, an EU-specific health certificate which, following completion, must be attested by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MOCCAE). There are two EU health certificates but only one of them will apply to you and your situation. (If you've received this document from us by email, you will also find attached to that email a copy of the EU certificate):
   - The Annex IV (non-commercial): Applicable if you are relocating 3 or fewer pets (dogs, cats or ferrets) AND if you, or a person designated by you officially in writing, travel within 5 days of the shipment of your pet(s).
   - The Annex I (commercial): Applicable to either one or more of the following:
     - You, as the owner (or a person formally designated as responsible) are not travelling within 5 days of the shipment of your pet(s).
     - You are rehoming your pet(s).
     - You have more than 5 pets.
   - Note that the EU-specific health certificates (Annex IV and Annex I) must be completed in CAPITAL LETTERS and in a colour of ink that is different to the form itself ~ so... not black ink!
   - Also, the form must be printed double-sided. In other words, however many pages you've got when the form is complete, it must be printed on both sides of the paper, through multiple pieces of paper, as required. Remember, double-sided!

2. Second, a “Veterinary Health Certificate for Live Animals” (more commonly referred to as the “UAE Health Certificate” ~ see more on this below) is required for any animal departing the UAE and is issued by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MOCCAE).

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**about United States (US) ~ dogs and cats:**

The requirements for dogs and cats entering the US are nice and straightforward (yay!). They just need to be microchipped and have up-to-date vaccinations, with the rabies vaccination having been administered at least 30 days prior to travel and having at least 30 days validity remaining at the time of arrival in the US. In addition to this, all dogs (only dogs) must have a screwworm-free certificate issued by a registered veterinarian within 5 days of travel.

The **time required** to gain the UAE Health Certificate from MOCCAE for US entry is within 10 days of travel.

**about Canada ~ dogs and cats:**

Like the US, the requirements for dogs and cats entering Canada are nice and straight-forward. Whilst Canada does not mandate that cats and dogs be microchipped (unless it’s a commercial exchange and they are under 8 months of age), for the purpose of gaining the UAE Health Certificate they must indeed be microchipped. Up-to-date vaccinations are required, with the rabies vaccination having been given at least 50 days prior to travel and having at least 30 days validity remaining at the time of arrival.

The **time required** to gain the MOCCAE UAE Health Certificate for entry into Canada is within 10 days of travel.

**about those other destinations:**

There are other common destinations we are approached about but they have more exacting requirements for various tests and treatments, including, for example, the rabies titre test. So, in the spirit of it often being better to get the real poop directly from the horse’s mouth, so to speak, we give you here the URL’s directly to the relevant authorities’ websites:


the MOCCAE’s “Veterinary Health Certificate for Live Animals”
(otherwise known as the “UAE Health Certificate”)

We made reference to this important certificate earlier in this document. It is a requirement that you take your pet to see the UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MOCCAE) Veterinarian-on-Duty in order to have the necessary UAE Health Certificate issued to you. However, prior to doing this, you need first to register with the MOCCAE and submit an online application and payment. Note that if you also have documents that require MOCCAE attestation in order for your pet to travel, the payment for this can only be made at the time you visit the ministry vet. MOCCAE charge AED 300 per document for attestations and the payment can be made only by either Visa, MasterCard or e-Dirham cards.

To register and make the application, visit https://www.moccae.gov.ae.

Once you have completed the application and made payment, including uploading the necessary documents, you’ll need to print out your application and payment receipt in preparation for your subsequent visit to the ministry veterinarian ~ you can make your application well in advance of your actual visit to see the MOCCAE. When you do go to see them, you will need to take the following with you:

- Your pet(s)… of course! Don’t forget THAT! :-)
- The original documents for your pet(s), including vaccination records and microchip details.
- The print-out of your online application and the payment receipt.

The ministry vet’s office is open 24/7, all year round. They do not take appointments. And here is where you can find them for both Emirates Airline and other airlines managed by Dnata, both in Cargo Village at Dubai International Airport (click here for Google Maps):

**EK Cargo Mega Terminal (CMT)**
1st floor, Room 1059
04-283-4970 and 056-389-4944

**Dnata Freight Gate (“FG”) 4 Building** (Inside Dubai Airport Freezone - “DAFZA”)
Floor M7
04-606-4325 and 056-389-4947