

Travel Regulations for Dogs and Cats

EU - Cape Verde – EU

You can find the legal information about travelling with your pet from a territory or a third country into an European Union Member State at [Regulation \(EU\) No 576/2013 \(https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/eu-legislation_en\)](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/eu-legislation_en). This regulation applies to the non-commercial movement of pet animals.

If you have adopted a dog or a cat in Cape Verde and want to bring it to Europe, you will need to fulfill a few requirements. Below you can find the documents your animal will require to travel:

1. **“EU-Pet Passport” (official document) or a “health booklet”** – This document will be given to you by the veterinarian and will keep record of all the information regarding your pet’s health, namely vaccination dates and validity, microchip, deworming, blood tests, health issues, owner details, etc.
2. **Identification with Microchip** – This will be done by the veterinarian at the same time or before rabies vaccination.
3. **Rabies Vaccination** – Depending on the manufacturer rabies vaccines can be valid for 1 or 3 years and boosters should be applied on time until travel date.
4. **Rabies Antibodies Titer** – The titer determination is the verification that the dog has produced enough antibodies against the rabies virus and confirmation that the vaccine is effective. The collection of blood for the test should be done at least 30 days after rabies vaccination. In order to receive a positive certificate, the titer has to exceed a certain threshold. This document is valid for life, if the required intervals for the rabies vaccinations are strictly followed, according to manufacturers.
The blood sample must be sent to a certified laboratory. In Portugal is INIAV, in Austria is AGES, in Germany is for example IDEXX. You can check the approved rabies serology laboratories in European and Non-European Countries through the following link: https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/pet-movement/approved-labs_en
5. **Health check certificate** - issued by an authorized veterinarian one week before travel, stating that the animal complies with any preventive health measures for infectious diseases and that the animal is able to travel.
6. **Identification document** – Completed and issued by the competent authority before travel. It will contain the information of all the documents in the points above, thus verifying compliance to regulations.
7. **Additional information** – As travel is one of the fastest ways of spreading and introducing diseases from one territory to another, in addition to the legal requirements, we recommend an examination for blood parasites, which are a prevalent disease in Cape Verde.



Figure 1 – EU-Pet Passport.

The duration of the process depends on rabies vaccination status of your animal. Please see the 4 Scenarios below to see which one corresponds to your situation:

Scenario description		Time required to prepare travel
SCENARIO 1	You adopted an animal in Cape Verde and want to transport it to Europe. Preparation: You will need to start the process from the beginning (see figure below)	4 months or more
SCENARIO 2	Your animal came with you from Europe to Cape Verde. Although it is not required, before departure you already took care of the passport, rabies vaccination, microchip and rabies antibodies titer. However, while in Cape Verde, you did not keep the rabies vaccination updated as required. Preparation: You will need to start the process from the beginning or at least from the blood test for rabies serology (depending on the date of last rabies vaccination).	3 months or more
SCENARIO 3	Your animal came with you from Europe, but you had not performed the rabies antibodies titer before departure because it is not required to enter Cape Verde. Preparation: You will need to start the process from the beginning, or at least from the blood test for rabies serology (depending on the date of last rabies vaccination).	3 months or more
SCENARIO 4	Your animal came with you from Europe to Cape Verde before (even if years ago). Although it is not regulated, before departure to Cape Verde you already took care of the passport, rabies vaccination, microchip and rabies antibodies titer. Furthermore, during your stay in Cape Verde you followed strictly the intervals for rabies vaccination boosters. Preparation: You can travel with your animal at any time.	You just need to take care of the documents mentioned in the points 5 and 6, one week before the flight.

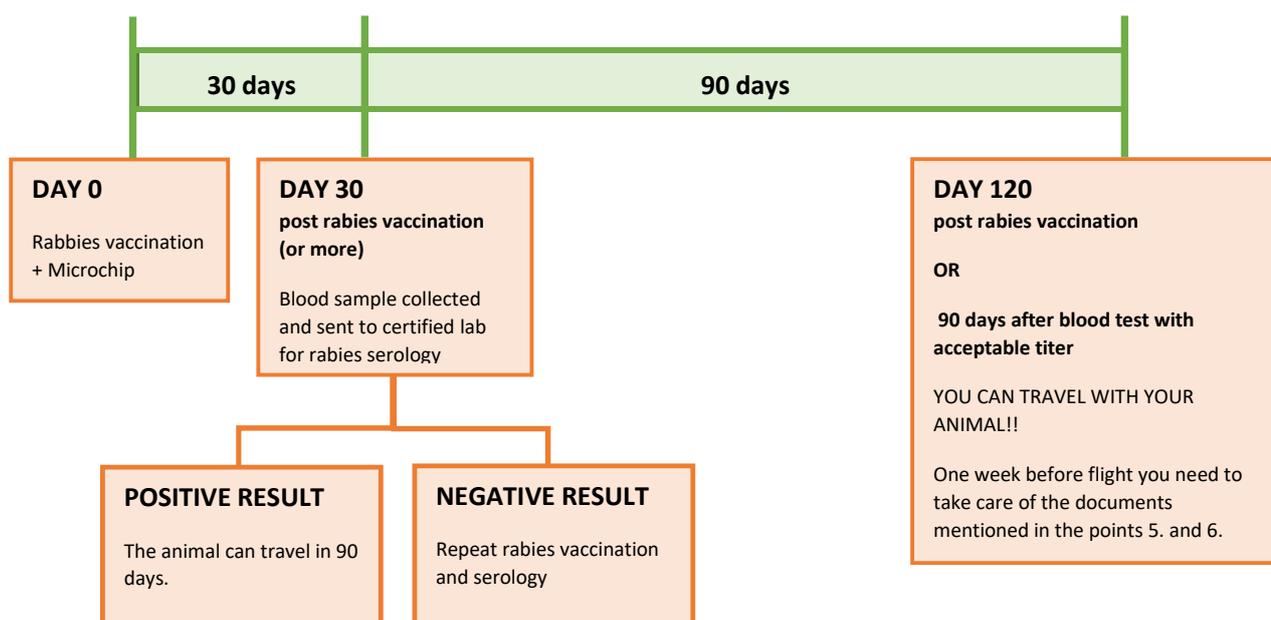


Figure 2 – Companion animal international travel requirements schedule.

Some things you should keep in mind when you decide to adopt an animal in Cape Verde:

- If you want to leave Cape Verde with your animal, start preparing in advance
- If you are a tourist, and will not be in Cape Verde during the process of preparation for travel you will need to look for a ‘Foster Family’ or for a local animal welfare organization (find contacts below), where the animal could stay for at least 4 months.
- Food and accommodation, medical care, deworming, vaccinations and tests will lead to costs of several hundred Euros for the four months of this procedure.
- The blood sample needs to be sent to a certified lab, so it is dependent on available transport to a country with such a lab (which sometimes can delay the whole process).
- Around one week before traveling the animal needs to be checked by a veterinarian who will certify that the animal is healthy and send the documents to the authorities at the airport.
- You will need to come back to Cape Verde to transport your animal, once it is ready to travel, or you need to find someone who will take it along with him during the flight and should take care of everything that is needed - a “caregiver”. This person should have a written declaration from the actual owner, saying that the transport is for non-commercial reasons. The “caregivers” are usually tourists, who are willing to accompany the animal on its trip home. Arriving at the destination the new owners will be waiting. It should be considered that the animal will have to be registered once it has arrived in the country of destination (e.g. Austria, Germany, Portugal). Further information can be obtained from the veterinarian border inspection post.

Tabela 1 - Animal Welfare Organizations in Cape Verde.

Island	Organization	Contacts
Boavista	Associazione Nerina	<p>Tel: +238 935 14 78</p> <p>e-mail: associazione.nerina@gmail.com</p> <p>Address: Sal Rei</p> <p>Website: https://www.associazionenerina.ch/</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/associazionenerina</p>
Sal	OSPA	<p>Tel: +238 957 21 62</p> <p>e-mail: info@ospacv.org</p> <p>Address: On the road between Espargos and Santa Maria, opposite Vila Verde</p> <p>Website: https://www.ospacv.org/</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ospacapeverdecatsanddogs</p>
Santiago	Associação Bons Amigos	<p>Tel: +238 264 15 78</p> <p>e-mail: bonsamigos@gmx.at</p> <p>Address: Achada Grande Trás, Rua da Adega, Cidade da Praia</p> <p>Website: https://www.bons-amigos.at/</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AssociacaoBonsAmigos</p>
S.Vicente	Simabô	<p>Tel: +238 993 73 47</p> <p>e-mail: info@simabo.org</p> <p>Address: Chã de Alecrim, Mindelo</p> <p>Website: http://www.simabo.org/</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/simaboanimal</p>