

Importing and exporting Boerboels



SABBA has appointed Karlien Greeff as the Import/Export Facilitator for the World Boerboel Show and Auction to be held on 25 October in Parys in the Free State province of South Africa. We would welcome applications to participate in the World Boerboel Show from owners of Boerboels of show quality from abroad. The World Boerboel Auction, on the same day, also offers Boerboel enthusiasts the opportunity to obtain one or more of the crème de la crème of this unique South African dog breed.

Karlien is geared to provide you with a hassle-free service to get your dog into or out of South Africa. The information below is an indication of the required procedures pertaining to various countries.

EXPORTING DOGS FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO:

1. United States of America and Canada

Exporting dogs to the USA is straightforward. There is no quarantine period and no Import Permit is required. The only requirement is that the dog's inoculations must be up to date with respect to:

- **Rabies:** The inoculation must be current i.e. administered not longer than 11 months ago, and not less than 30 days prior to departure. Puppies up to 12 weeks old may travel on their mothers' Rabies certificates.
Dogs must be vaccinated for Rabies at least 30 days prior to entry into the USA, except for puppies less than 3 months of age and dogs originating from - or located for 6 months or more in - areas designated by the US Public Health Service as being Rabies free.
Dogs from areas that are not free of Rabies must have valid Rabies vaccination certificates. The certificates must be in English, or be accompanied by translations if originally issued in another language. The certificate must identify the animal, specify the date and expiry date of the vaccination, and bear the signature of a licensed veterinarian. The dog must remain in confinement for at least 30 days after the date of vaccination. If the vaccination was done less than 30 days prior to arrival, the animal may be allowed to enter the country, but it will be confined to a place of the owner's choice until at least 30 days from the date of vaccination. Young puppies must be confined to a place of the owner's choice until they are 3 months old. They must then be vaccinated and remain in confinement for a further 30 days.
- **Canine inoculations** must also be current i.e. administered and signed by a veterinarian not more than 11 months, and not less than 30 days prior to departure.
- **Domestic dogs** must be free of evidence of diseases communicable to humans when examined at the port of entry. If an animal is not in apparent good health, further examination by a licensed veterinarian may be required at the owner's expense.
- **Health clearance certificates:** A South African veterinarian must complete and issue the prescribed certificate 4-5 days before a dog is due to depart. Health certificates are valid for 10 days only, and must still be valid on arrival.

It is advisable that a dog should arrive at its destination during working hours on weekdays. This will make the customs clearance easier, and ensure that a state veterinarian is available to inspect the dog on arrival. Weekend arrivals will NOT be processed.

2. European Union countries

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

The following rules must be strictly adhered to:

- **Microchips:** All dogs entering EU countries must have microchips. **This is very important and must be done before any vaccinations or any blood tests are done.** The microchip number must appear on all documentation (e.g. tests and vaccination records). The microchip must be ISO approved (e.g. Virbac Back Home or Identipet).
- **Vaccinations and procedures:**
 1. Rabies and the annual 5 in 1 Booster – the stickers with the batch numbers must be pasted into the vaccination books and clearly dated.
 2. Rabies Vaccination and a Multi-Antigen Vaccination. (Puppies must be 12 weeks or older).
 3. Wait 30 days before doing the Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test.
 4. If the neutralising antibody titre result is high enough (>than or equal to 0.5 Intl. units/ml) the dog may travel to the EU 3 months (90 days) after the blood was drawn for the Rabies test.

The Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Institute - Old Zoutpan Road, Onderstepoort, Pretoria.
Private Bag X05, Onderstepoort, 0110. Tel/Fax +27 (0)12 529-9440 – does Rabies testing in South Africa.

NB. Several EU countries have additional regulations regarding the importing of dogs e.g. some may require an Import Permit. Contact your country's Ministry of Agriculture for further information.

3. SADC Countries (Southern African countries)

Angola Botswana Democratic Rep. of Congo	Lesotho Madagascar Malawi	Mauritius Mozambique Namibia	South Africa Swaziland Tanzania	Zambia Zimbabwe
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Exporting dogs to these countries is relatively uncomplicated. There is no quarantine, but an Import Permit is required from the country of origin's Ministry of Agriculture. This permit will also stipulate the requirements in respect of health certificates.

- **Vaccinations** must be current i.e. administered not more than 11 months ago, and not less than 30 days prior to departure.
- Puppies up to 12 weeks of age may travel on their mother's Rabies certificates. Thereafter they must be vaccinated at 3 months, and may not travel within the next 30 days (i.e. puppies can only travel to SADC countries at the age of 4 months).

IMPORTING OR TRANSPORTING DOGS TO SOUTH AFRICA

General information for dogs where no quarantine is required

- The 'importer'/recipient must have a **South African Veterinary Permit** before the dog is shipped from the exporting country. The application form is available from the SA permit office, contact them on Tel +27 (0)12 319 7414/7514/7415.
- A **Veterinary Health Certificate** complying with the conditions of the SA Permit must be obtained 4-5 days prior to shipment from the veterinary authority of the exporting country. The health certificate is valid for 10 days only, and must still be valid on the dog's arrival in South Africa.

Vaccinations must be up-to-date, i.e.

- **Rabies** inoculations administered not more than 11 months ago, and not less than 30 days prior to departure.
- **Canine/feline inoculations** administered not more than 11 months ago, and not less than 30 days prior to departure.
- **Blood tests** are required for dogs from certain countries. Please refer to your veterinarian for clarification and the health certificate requirements. Such blood tests should still be valid when the dog arrives in South Africa.
- **Dogs from Australia** must comply with prescribed testing and treatments for Heartworm.

Transport

- **Travel arrangements.** The client or the assigned pet transport company must make the dog's flight reservations to South Africa once they have the necessary documentation. All dogs entering South Africa must travel as manifest cargo, and not as excess baggage or in the cabin of the aircraft. It is recommended that they do not arrive over weekends. A surcharge will be levied on arrivals after 17:00 on weekdays.
- **Travel containers.** Clients must ensure that travel containers are comfortable and appropriately sized for their dogs. Attach water containers securely to the mesh section of the container, and make sure that it is filled with enough water for the trip.
- **Payment** for flights from the country of origin to Johannesburg is for the client's account.

Custom clearance in South Africa can take up to 2 hours, and the dog will be released for collection or delivery only after all documentation has been thoroughly checked. **Please note** that without the original prescribed documentation, the dog may be quarantined or returned to its country of origin.

SUMMARY OF SERVICE PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS

1. Contact the SABBA Facilitator to discuss your needs and obtain a cost estimate (e.g. will you be bringing a dog to participate in the World Boerboel Show, or do you intend buying a dog at the Auction?)
2. For dogs travelling to South Africa, please provide the following information:
 - i. A signed contract/company order
 - ii. Full details of dog/s
 - iii. Approximate time & date of arrival
 - iv. Your contact details in the country of origin
 - v. Your contact details on arrival in SA.

IMPORT/EXPORT FACILITATOR FOR SABBA WORLD BOERBOEL SHOW AND AUCTION

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