



Bringing Pets to Cyprus

Animals coming into Cyprus require a European Pet Passport and a suitable travel box which complies with IATA Regulations for the movement of live animals. The passport can be obtained from your local vet and requires that your pet is micro-chipped and has had initial rabies vaccinations at least 30 days before traveling. In addition, 24 - 48 hours prior to the flight, your pet must have been treated with an approved tick and tapeworm treatment. You should ask your UK vet to do this and ensure that the relevant pages of the passport are completed. If this is not carried out, upon arrival in Cyprus your pet will be subject to one month's quarantine and a payment of €44.42 at the airport.

On returning to the UK at the end of your tour, your pet must also have had a blood test to prove that the rabies vaccination has worked. The blood test should be carried out in Cyprus six months before your animal can return to the UK.

When entering Cyprus either through Larnaca or Paphos airport, your pet will still need to be checked over by the Cypriot Government vet and necessary paperwork will be checked. If your pet's passport details are up-to-date, there will be no need for quarantine.

The British (Forces) Animal Re-homing Centre (BARC) in Episkopi runs an Import/Export Clinic on a voluntary unpaid basis. They are available to provide you with all the information and help you require either to bring in or take home your pet. Please contact them on 00357 25 211200 or 00357 9995 2707 if you wish to use their services. Their e-mail address is: barcep1@cytanet.com.cy.

For further updates on this subject, check the Animal Health and Welfare pages of following websites:

www.barc-cyprus.org
www.defra.gov.uk

Shortage of Quarters

Families are sometimes put into hirings in Cyprus due to a shortage of quarters. You should be aware that most private landlords will **not** accept pets. Contact the Garrison/Station housing office or your UWO well before you come to Cyprus and explain that you want to bring a pet with you.

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

The Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 is observed within the SBAs. It is, therefore, an offence for Service personnel, UKBCs and their dependants, to have in their possession or custody:

- a. A Pit-bull Terrier
- b. A Japanese Toea
- c. A Dago Argentina
- d. A Fila Brasileiro or
- e. Any other type of dog which maybe designated one bred for fighting, unless the dog was born before 30th Nov 1991 and the owner is in possession of a certificate of exemption obtained before that date.
- f.

It is also an offence to breed from, sell, exchange, give or abandon such a dog or to allow it to stray.

It has been reported that Pit-bull Terriers are being bred and offered for sale in Cyprus. All personnel are warned against buying such dogs as they will be in contravention of this Act. Permission to keep them will not be granted and owners will be unable to import these dogs into the UK.

Registering Your Dog

If you bring a dog to Cyprus it must be registered. If you live on the SBA your local SBA police station will register your dog and provide you with a registration/identity tag. There is a nominal cost for registration; the precise amount varies depending upon the sex or your dog and whether or not the animal is neutered.

Cyprus Pet Culture

Cyprus is not an animal loving nation; many Cypriots are very wary of dogs, and you should be sensitive to this when out walking. Certain areas are prohibited to dogs, including all beaches and the sea. Not many bars or hotels will accept dogs.

Dangers

There are a number of snakes in Cyprus, some of which are poisonous and can be fatal to pets. There is also a danger of chemical poisoning, especially near farmland. It is recommended that you seek advice from the local vet about these matters and train your dog never to scavenge food from the roadside or open land as it may be poisoned.

Vet Care

CDASU (Cyprus Defence Animals Support Unit) based in Episkopi ((00357) 2596 3434) provides total veterinary care for pets of soldiers or UKBCs when military commitments permit. Treatment is charged at similar rates to those of a UK vet. There are also local Cypriot vets in locations convenient to the bases. You are advised to shop around and use the recommendations of other pet owners when finding a suitable vet for your animal's needs.

Kennels

Commercial kennels are located near to all the bases on Cyprus. Get recommendations from local pet owners and vets for which kennels to use.

BARC (the British Animal Rehoming Centre) in Episkopi ((00357) 25 96 3733) and BFAWS (British Forces Animal Welfare Service) in Dhekelia ((00357) 24 74 4272) also provide a kenneling service. These options often book up quickly, and you are advised to telephone to check availability, conditions and prices.