

Import and re-import of ornamental birds (birds) by travellers Conditions applicable until 31st December 2020

The same conditions apply to the import and re-import of ornamental birds into the EU.

Pet birds of ornamental birds' species

Pet animals are defined as dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*), domestic cats (*Felis silvestris catus*), ferrets (*Mustela putorius furo*), invertebrates (except bees, bumble bees, molluscs and crustaceans), ornamental tropical fish, amphibia, reptiles, birds (except poultry) as well as rodents and domestic rabbits which are accompanying their owners or another authorised person responsible for such animals on behalf of the owner during their movement **and are not intended to be sold or transferred to another owner**. If the animals are transported separated in time from the animal keeper's travel such transport may only be effected within a maximum of 5 days of the movement of the animal keeper.

Altogether, **a maximum of five** birds may be taken along per person.

Special conditions

Birds introduced into the EU from Andorra, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, and Vatican City State by travellers are not subject to checks by border veterinarians and a certificate is not required. For these birds the conditions for the movement of pet animals within the EU are applicable.

Import conditions and certificate

With the exception of ornamental birds from those third countries which are subject to special conditions, all birds introduced by travellers are currently subject to checks by a border veterinarian.

More stringent conditions for the import of ornamental birds by travellers have been introduced by Decision 2007/25/EC due to the outbreak of Avian Influenza in many third countries. This decision currently applies until 31st December 2020.

Birds may be imported by travellers into the EU, if the third country of origin has not been banned and if the birds originate from member countries of the OIE and

- a certificate in accordance with Annex II of Commission Decision 2007/25/EC, as amended by Decision 2010/734/EU, as amended by Decision (EU) 2017/2410;

- and a declaration in accordance with Annex III of Commission Decision 2007/25/EC, as amended by Decision 2010/734/EU, as amended by Decision (EU) 2017/2410 are being presented for them.

In the certificate, it has to be confirmed, among other things, that the birds **either**

- will be subjected to a 30 days quarantine in the Member state of destination on quarantine premises approved in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 139/2013,

or the birds will be moved to a residence within the EU where they will be kept without entering in shows, fairs, exhibitions etc. for a period of 30 days,

and they comply with one of the conditions under a., b. or c.:

- a. the birds have been vaccinated within the last 6 months and not later than 60 days prior to dispatch to the EU against avian influenza using an authorised inactivated H5 and H7 vaccine,
or
- b. the birds have been quarantined for at least 10 days prior to entry into the EU and sampled and tested for H5- and H7-infection;
or
- c. the birds come from third countries listed in Regulation (EU) No 206/2010 and have undergone a 30 days quarantine in the country of origin in approved quarantine premises.

Controls

The checks by a border veterinarian will be carried out at the first border inspection post of the EU authorised for such checks.

The veterinary certificates have to be issued in the official language of the Member state where the checks by a border veterinarian are carried out, and in the official language of the Member state of destination.

The border veterinarian shall be notified at least one working day prior to the intended crossing of the border of the animals (in Austria at least 18 hours in advance) in written form.

The consignee shall inform the competent official veterinarian of the arrival of the animals at the place of destination immediately.

Please bear also in mind that there may be import bans or restrictions applicable due to other EU or national legislation, e.g. financial legislation (e.g. Customs), or legislation pertaining to the protection of endangered species (CITES).

Information on customs legislation is available from the Federal Ministry of Finance on their website at: <https://www.bmf.gv.at/> under the reference "Zoll" (customs).

Information pertaining to the protection of endangered species is available from the website of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism (BMLRT) at:

https://www.bmlrt.gv.at/umwelt/natur-artenschutz/internat_natur_artenschutz0/cites.html

Further information:

Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection,
Telephone (Mo - Fr, 9:00 to 4:00 pm): +43 1 71100 644833 or +43 (0)1 7007 33484
E-Mail: anton.bartl@sozialministerium.at or gta.wien@sozialministerium.at

Legal basis (to be applied as last amended):

[Decision 2007/25/EC](#) (ornamental birds accompanying travellers);

[Reg. \(EU\) No. 576/2013](#) (pet regulation)

Model certificate and declaration: [Decision 2010/734/EU](#)

Last amended by: [Decision 2017/2410](#)

Important Web-sites:

List of Austrian border inspection posts

CHED (Common Health Entry Document)

<https://www.sozialministerium.at/en/Topics/Health/Border-Control-Service.html>