

Travelling Pets?

Top tips to protect your pet and family at home... and away



**Do you take your pet abroad?
Are you bringing back more than you think?**

Management of parasites is an important consideration for all responsible pet owners.

If you travel with your pet outside the UK then you could be exposing your pet and yourself to some parasites that we don't currently have in the UK.

In particular, *Echinococcus multilocularis*, the Dangerous Tapeworm, is found across much of central Europe including Eastern France, Switzerland and Germany.

Ticks are a problem across many parts of the continent, especially because of the infections and diseases which they can transmit, and the same is the case for mosquitoes and sandflies, predominantly from France southwards and in the Mediterranean, respectively.

Protection involves more than the mandatory tick and tapeworm treatment so we strongly recommend that you ask your vet about how best to protect your pet whilst you are away.



Top tips to protect your pet and family at home...

- Wash your hands after stroking your pet, and after any exposure to soil (gardening), sandpits, raw meat or litter trays
- Clean out litter trays daily
- Don't allow infants to eat dirt or food that has fallen on the floor or the ground
- Dispose of animal faeces safely and considerately
- Cover sandpits and play areas
- Take your pet to the vet and discuss your pet's lifestyle to ensure adequate protection all year round, especially if travelling abroad with your pet

...and away

As well as following the general advice on keeping your pet and family safe at home, you should also consult your vet and prepare your pet's treatment and prevention plan, which should be based on the ESCCAP Guidelines.

Items to discuss include:

- Where and when you are planning to travel
- Whether your pet has to travel with you
- How long you will be away for
- How you plan to manage your pet – for example will it be kept indoors, be able to roam freely, will it be outdoors at dusk and at night?
- Ensuring that you comply with the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS)

For more information visit the Travelling Pets section on our website!



ESCCAP is a not-for-profit organisation comprising a group of veterinary experts from across Europe. The group is dedicated towards giving vets and pet owners the best possible information available to help control pet parasite infections.

ESCCAP UK is a national association which brings together some of the UK's leading experts in the field of veterinary parasitology. ESCCAP UK provides vets and pet owners with UK relevant information to help protect against pet parasites.

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