

## Do you have any souvenirs with you?



### ...for example, ivory, furs, reptile leather?

The Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), to which Switzerland is also a signatory, protects 30 000 endangered species and products of these species.



Some highly endangered species of fauna and flora and souvenirs made from these species are not even allowed to be brought over the border.

### In particular, do not touch any of the following:

- Shatoosh wool (from endangered Tibetan antelopes)
- Wild cat skins of leopards, snow leopards, clouded leopards, tigers, lions, pumas, jaguars, ocelots or cheetahs
- Carvings of ivory or walrus bone
- Tortoise/turtle products
- 'Miracle cures' made of tiger bone
- Rhinoceros horns
- Musk or bear bile
- Guitars or luxury accessoires made of Brazilian rosewood.

If you are caught crossing the border with any such souvenirs, you have to surrender them and risk a fine of up to CHF 100 000!



For other products, a valid CITES export permit from the country of origin and a CITES import permit from the Federal Veterinary Office are needed. These include e.g. crocodile leather, caviar, feathers, incense sticks made of agarwood, sandalwood and rosewood. You must apply for the permits before your holidays or at the latest before your return home.

Further information can be found at [www.cites.ch](http://www.cites.ch) or in the flyer 'Augen auf bei Souvenirs', which you can order from WWF Switzerland or download at [www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch).

## Questions?

Lots of additional information can be found at [www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch). If you have any further queries, please contact the information desk of the Federal Veterinary Office by phoning 0041 31 323 30 33 or sending an e-mail to [info@bvet.admin.ch](mailto:info@bvet.admin.ch).

Reliable and authoritative information on rabies can be obtained from the Rabies Centre: [www.ivv.unibe.ch/Swiss\\_Rabies\\_Center/swiss\\_rabies\\_center.html](http://www.ivv.unibe.ch/Swiss_Rabies_Center/swiss_rabies_center.html)

Information on the regulations on importing travel souvenirs: [www.cites.ch](http://www.cites.ch).

Information on questions relating to customs formalities for individuals

Information on air travel with animals is provided by the International Air Travel Association (IATA): [www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live\\_animals/index.htm](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live_animals/index.htm).

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## Do You have any food, animals or souvenirs with you?

...if so, please take note of the regulations summarised here when you enter Switzerland. By following these rules, you will be helping to guard against animal diseases, to promote animal welfare and to protect endangered species of fauna and flora.



### The essentials in brief:

- It is forbidden to bring in any food of animal origin from countries outside the EU.
- If you travel with a dog or cat, you need a microchip, a pet ID card, a rabies vaccination – and possibly also a blood test and a permit.
- It is forbidden to bring in any souvenirs of endangered species of fauna and flora (ivory, furs, reptile leather etc.)

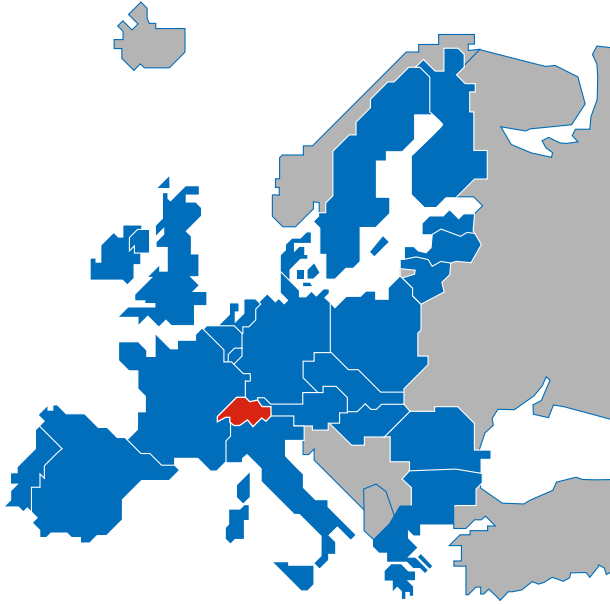


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Confederaziun svizra

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**Federal veterinary office FVO**

## Do you have any food with you?



### From the EU?

No problem if it is for your personal use. But remember you have to pay duty on larger quantities.



### From non-EU countries? Caution!

It is forbidden to bring in any meat, eggs, milk, honey or other products of animal origin – because of the risk of animal diseases.

## Do you have any dogs, cats or ferrets with you?



If you are bringing these animals into Switzerland, you must observe the following points:



### 1. Identification

With microchip or tattoo: always necessary.



### 2. Identity card

A correctly completed pet ID card is sufficient. In the case of foreign dogs, a sanitary certificate completed by an official veterinarian is needed if there is no pet ID card in the country of origin.



### 3. Effective rabies vaccination

Always necessary. It is effective 21 day after vaccination (partly longer deadlines for dogs from foreign countries) until the end of the period of validity (as indicated by the vaccine manufacturer).



### 4. Blood test

Only when entering Switzerland from a rabies risk country. NB: allow sufficient time for this.



### 5. Permit

Only when entering directly from a rabies risk country through a Swiss airport. Apply for a permit from the Federal Veterinary Office at least three weeks before travelling to Switzerland.

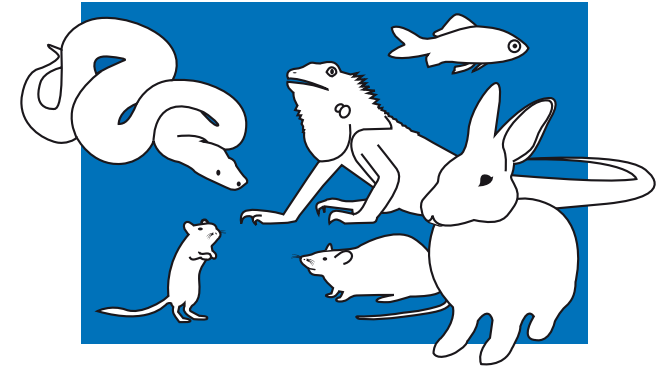


### 6. Does your dog have docked ears or tail?

It is forbidden to bring dogs with docked ears or tail into the country. The only exceptions are for holiday stays or relocation to Switzerland.

Further information can be found in the brochure 'Ich reise mit Hund oder Katze' – which can be ordered at [www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch)

## Do you have any other pets with you?



**Pets are animals that are kept for the pleasure they bring** and not for commercial purposes. Apart from dogs, cats and ferrets, this may also include, for example, rabbits, rodents, reptiles, amphibians and aquarium fish.

### These animals do not need a veterinary certificate when entering Switzerland from the EU.

In the case of direct entry from non-EU countries via Swiss airports, not more than 5 animals may be brought in, and special conditions apply if they are birds (see [www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch)).

**But take note!** If a veterinary certificate is not necessary, an import permit is still needed for most of these animals for reasons of species conservation. This applies, for example, to all amphibians, almost all reptiles and all wild mammals and birds.

### What is a rabies risk country?

In these countries, rabies is widespread – a disease that is a danger to humans and animals. For this reason, strict import regulations apply. You can find a list of countries with a low risk of rabies, which includes all EU Member States, at [www.bvet.admin.ch](http://www.bvet.admin.ch).