

Pre-travel checklist

Horse name(s):	
Travel destination:	
Date of travel:	
Date of return to the UK:	

This document is a helpful checklist for registered FEI horses making their first trip to Europe after 1 January 2021. Registered horses are those with a purple FEI cover on their passport. General guidance on the process is on the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website. We recommend printing out a copy of this document each time you travel, and keeping a copy in your tack room or yard office so that you can track the progress of your pre-travel preparations.

The situation is rapidly changing, so please make sure you're using the most up-to-date version of this list for planning your trip.

We recommend that you employ the services of an [approved shipping agent](#) for your first few trips to Europe after 1 January, even if you're a seasoned traveller of horses, because they will help to simplify the process a great deal for you, particularly in relation to the required paperwork.

If you choose to use your own vehicle, don't forget that the driver and vehicle authorisations are also changing, so this will need to be factored into your planning for your first trip.

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Abbreviation key

BCP – Border Control Post

EHC – Export Health Certificate

EHIC – European Health Insurance Card

EORI – Economic Operators Registration and Identification number

IPAFFS – Import of products, animals, food and feed systems

OV – Official Vet

If you're going to be travelling with a dog (or another type of pet), then there are additional steps that you'll have to carry out.

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Action	Links and notes	Completed
To be carried out now		
Secure an approved shipper	This is optional, but recommended, as we make the transition out of the EU. An approved shipper will help you to navigate your first few trips, particularly because the situation will change in the first few months and they'll be in the know.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure an Official Vet (OV)	An Official Vet Inspector is a vet who's licenced to perform statutory veterinary work, including export certification. Find one local to you and make good friends!	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION		
Check passports of all humans and horses travelling	All personal passports should have at least six months to run in order for you to travel – if you have less than a year, we'd recommend that you renew. It's also worth checking the horse's FEI registration and passport status, noting any expiry dates, and ensuring the ID page is accurate.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION		
Secure travel insurance for illness, injury and repatriation	EHIC cards will no longer be recognised for UK residents, so you'll need insurance cover for you and anyone travelling with you. An annual plan may provide the most cost-effective option if you're planning making multiple trips.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Register for the online Government Gateway	You might have already created a Government Gateway ID, but make sure you have your login details to hand.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLICK TO SET UP YOUR ID		

Action	Links and notes	Completed
To be carried out now (continued)		
Register for IPAFFS	<p>This is the system for the import of live animals into Great Britain. Although it's important to get registered now, you'll also need to notify of your move the day before you leave.</p> <p>CLICK TO REGISTER</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Apply for an EORI number	<p>This is a unique ID code for businesses, issued by HMRC, and you'll need one to move goods (including horses) between the UK and the EU from 1 January. The online application takes about eight minutes to complete and your ID number can take up to a week to come through. You'll be given a number that starts with GB and is then followed by a 12-digit number.</p> <p>CLICK TO APPLY</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Register for an EHC	<p>This is the official document that confirms your export (horse) meets the health requirements of the destination country. You can 'practice' in the system and create drafts for your movement. You'll then need to formally apply 10 days before departure.</p> <p>CLICK TO REGISTER</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consider applying for an ATA Carnet	<p>This should speed up the customs process and lasts for a year.</p> <p>CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check your horse's microchip	<p>If your vet is on the yard for a routine visit, it's worth asking them to check the microchips of any horses that you might travel to Europe in the coming months, to ensure their microchips can be easily located and read.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action	Links and notes	Completed
To be carried out up to 90 days prior to travel		
Blood tests required for travelling horse(s)	To cover equine infectious anaemia (for temporary exports). The tests can be done by your supervising vet, but it must be <u>within</u> 90 days of your departure date.	<input type="checkbox"/>
To be carried out 40 days prior to travel		
Horse(s) must stay resident in the UK	Your horse(s) must be in the UK or a country of equal health status to your destination for 40 days before your departure.	<input type="checkbox"/>
To be carried out up to 21 days prior to travel		
Blood tests required for travelling stallion(s)	To check stallions for equine viral arteritis, unless they meet the vaccination requirements. This test can be done by your supervising vet, but it must be <u>within</u> 21 days of your departure date.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research and book your Border Control Post (BCP)	<p>All goods, including horses, must pass through a BCP, where documents, ID and physical health will be checked. Entry to the EU will need to be via one of the ports listed, and only some will take registered horses.</p> <p>You can book a time just after your crossing arrives. At the time this document was prepared, the following BCPs will take registered horses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calais • Coquelles (Eurotunnel) • Caen • Cherbourg • Dieppe • St Malo <p>As it stands, it's estimated that BCPs will be able to process no more than six horses per hour, so be prepared for delays.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION		

Action	Links and notes	Completed
To be carried out 10 days prior to travel		
Apply for your EHC	You'll need to name your OV in your application because they'll be sent your EHC, or the link to download and print it, seven days before your export date. Your EHC should be in English and language of transit and destination countries. You can print it on normal white paper, but it must be a hard copy.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Book an appointment with your OV	The visit itself must occur the day before you travel. They'll certify the horse(s) as fit for travel and sign your EHC.	<input type="checkbox"/>
To be carried out 24 hours prior to travel		
Visit with your OV	Have your EHC printed and on-hand for them to compete and sign once they've inspected your horse.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Complete your IPAFFS notification	You'll need your Government Gateway login ID to hand in order to submit your notification.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CLICK TO SUBMIT YOUR NOTIFICATION		
Check all paperwork and documentation, and store it in a plastic wallet	You'll need your completed and signed EHC, passports (equine/human/canine/other) and recognition cards all packed and easily accessible.	<input type="checkbox"/>