

United States → Iceland

Dog Import Checklist & Quick Guide | TailHarbor | Updated April 2026

KEY INFORMATION

MOST COMPLEX ROUTE: Mandatory quarantine + import permit + extended prep

Preparation Time:	5-7 months (most complex European destination)
Microchip:	ISO 11784/11785 (must be implanted BEFORE rabies vaccination)
Rabies Vaccination:	Required. Minimum 21 days before travel (primary). Keep boosters current.
Titer Test (FAVN):	REQUIRED (with 90-day waiting period)
Import Permit:	MAST import permit required (apply 30+ days in advance)
Quarantine:	Mandatory 14-day quarantine at approved station (~220,000 ISK / ~\$1,600)
Additional Vaccinations:	Leptospirosis, distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, parainfluenza
Blood Tests:	Brucella canis, Leishmania, Angiostrongylus vasorum
Parasite Treatment:	Two rounds required (28-21 days + 10-5 days before arrival)
Arrival:	Keflavik Airport ONLY, predetermined dates
Documentation:	MAST import permit + veterinary certificate + all test results
USDA Endorsement:	USDA APHIS endorsement required on health certificate before departure
Breed Restrictions:	Banned: Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Bulldog, Fila Brasileiro,...
Local Currency:	ISK

USEFUL TIPS

- Start 5-7 months before your travel date. Iceland has the most complex pet import process in Europe with mandatory quarantine, import permits, additional vaccinations, and blood tests.
- Contact MAST (mast@mast.is) early to confirm quarantine intake dates. Dogs can only arrive at Keflavik Airport on predetermined dates (3-day windows, roughly 3 weeks apart).
- Budget approximately 300,000+ ISK (~\$2,200+) for the full import process including quarantine, import permit, and veterinary fees.
- Research airline pet policies early. Some airlines have limited cargo spots, especially in summer. Temperature embargoes apply above 30C / below -5C at any transit airport.
- Start crate training weeks before travel. A calm, crate-confident dog will have a much less stressful journey.

PRE-TRAVEL CHECKLIST

EARLY PREPARATION

- Confirm your dog's breed is permitted in Iceland
- Apply for MAST import permit (30+ days in advance, ~39,633 ISK)
- Reserve quarantine placement (mandatory 14 days, ~220,000 ISK)
- Confirm Keflavik Airport quarantine intake date with MAST
- Research cargo transport to Keflavik (predetermined arrival dates only)
- Purchase IATA-approved travel crate (correct size for your dog)
- Begin crate training

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Microchip implanted (ISO 11784/11785) -- BEFORE vaccination
- Rabies vaccination administered (min. 21 days before travel)
- FAVN titer test blood draw (30+ days after vaccination, 90-day wait)
- Additional vaccinations: leptospirosis, distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, parainfluenza
- Blood tests: Brucella canis, Leishmania, Angiostrongylus vasorum
- Parasite treatment round 1 (28-21 days before arrival)
- Parasite treatment round 2 (10-5 days before arrival)

DOCUMENTATION

- MAST import permit obtained and confirmed
- Veterinary certificate with all vaccination and test records
- USDA APHIS endorsement obtained on health certificate
- All vaccination records compiled
- Copies of all documents made (2 sets)
- Cargo booking confirmed for Keflavik Airport on approved intake date

TRAVEL DAY

- All original documents in carry-on bag
- Confirm arrival is on predetermined quarantine intake date
- Crate labeled with your name, phone, destination, and 'Live Animal'
- Water dish filled and attached inside crate
- Arrive at airport early (3+ hours for international with pet)

AFTER ARRIVAL IN ICELAND



- Present all documents at Keflavik Airport
- Dog transferred to approved quarantine station (14 days)
- Collect dog after quarantine clearance
- Register with local veterinarian