

39 Air Base Wing PRIVATELY OWNED ANIMALS GUIDE AND FAQ



This guide aims to assist you in consideration of bringing your pets to an assignment at the 39th Air Base Wing (ABW), Incirlik AB, Türkiye. The

Department of Defense (DOD) defines **pets as dogs and cats only**.

Commercial carrier restrictions and regulations may differ, therefore if you have a commercial flight at any point in your travels to, or from, a

39 ABW assignment, contact the commercial airline to identify additional requirements.

Current as of: 20 March 2024

As of 17 October, 2023, the Commander, 39th Air Base Wing, updated the Wing's Pet Policy to authorize pets for eligible members. Below are some frequently asked questions (FAQs) to assist with the decision to bring furry family members to Türkiye!

Should I bring my pet to Incirlik?

With the signed Pet Policy (see Attachment 1 - 39 ABW and AF Pet Policy) and excitement surrounding the return of pets, there are still multiple requirements and concerns regarding bringing your pet to Incirlik Airbase. Please see below for current requirements/restrictions and frequently asked questions regarding pets at Incirlik. Please be aware that Türkiye is considered a high risk, rabies endemic, country. Incirlik Airbase has many stray animals that roam throughout. Pet interaction with stray animals is prohibited; pets that come in-contact with strays and are bitten and/or scratched may be subjected to a 45-day quarantine and/or euthanasia. **Service members assume all risks and responsibilities for their personal pets at Incirlik.**

What ranks are authorized to bring pets?

Currently, only those who live in single occupancy housing are allowed to bring their pets (i.e. E-6/O-4 and above, or dual military stationed at Incirlik). Each household is allowed 2 pets maximum. Dogs and cats are the only approved animals. Please contact your sponsor to confirm if you will qualify for single occupancy housing. All other ranks are allowed a maximum 25-gallon aquarium that can only house fish.

What if my dog/cat is older or sick?

Veterinary services are extremely limited on base compared to other CONUS/OCONUS location. If your animal is on any long-term medication, prescription diets and/or has on-going health concerns, please be advised that these pets may not be able to get the adequate medical care they require. Please also be aware, there are no emergency veterinary services on base. There are 24/7 emergency veterinary clinics off base in Adana, but base restrictions may limit travel to those areas.

For further guidance regarding pet care, please review the current Incirlik Pet Policy, Incirlik ABI 44-101, PPC Code and/or contact the Incirlik Veterinary Treatment Facility for additional information.

Current as of: 20 March 2024

Is my dog breed banned in Türkiye? And/or banned by the Air Force Standardized Pet Policy?

Türkiye does not permit the import of the following breeds or their crosses:

- Pit Bull Terriers
- Japanese Tosa
- American Pit Bull Terrier
- Bull Terrier
- American Staffordshire Terrier
- Dogo Argentino
- Fila Brasileiro
- Rottweiler
- Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- Neopolitan Mastiff
- Spanish Mastiff
- Dogue de Bordeaux
- Roman Fighting Dog
- Bandog Tosa Inu
- Mastiff
- Tibetan Mastiff or similar
- Mongrel breeds

[Air Force Standardized Pet Policy](#) for all DoD Housing and Lodging states:

“Residents may not board dogs of any breed (including a mixed breed) that are deemed “aggressive or potentially aggressive,” ... aggressive or potentially aggressive breeds of dogs are defined as a Pit Bull (American Staffordshire Bull Terrier or English Staffordshire Bull Terrier), Rottweiler, Doberman Pinscher, Chow and wolf hybrids.”

What are the requirements to bring your pet to Türkiye?

1. If your pet is coming from the United States, they must have:
 - A “VETERINARY HEALTH AND ORIGIN CERTIFICATE OF CATS/DOGS/FERRETS WITH THE PASSENGER INTENDED TO MOVEMENTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKIYE” (one per pet).
 - Microchip/tattoo
 - Current on their rabies vaccine (and have valid rabies certificate; signed with blue ink)
 - Valid rabies Titer Test (FAVN)
 - Ectoparasite treatment effective against ticks administered within 30 days of travel
 - Anthelmintic treatment effective against tapeworms within 30 days of travel
 - Recommend to also have APHIS7001 (US Interstate and International Health Examination)
2. **Currently only commercial air is approved for pet travel into Türkiye, pets are NOT approved for travel to Türkiye via Rotator**; pets must initially arrive to one of the approved ports listed in the USDA Guidance (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel/by-country/pettravel-Türkiye>)

Please check with your current Veterinary Treatment Facility or current veterinarian for the most up to date requirements.

My pet made it to Türkiye, now what?

It is required by Incirlik ABI 44-101 Control of Pets on Incirlik, that all pets must be registered at the on base Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) within 10 days of arrival.

- Pets are required to have a valid rabies vaccine/certificate and microchip prior to registration at the Incirlik VTF
- To register your pet(s) you must bring the following documents to the Incirlik VTF (See Attachment 2 - Incirlik Pet Registration and Care)
 - Your DOD ID Card
 - Pet’s Health Certificate (issued by previous veterinarian)
 - Valid Rabies Certificate and vaccine records
 - Proof of ISO compatible microchip
- All clients will need to review and sign the Incirlik VTF Client Policy Letter and fill out a Pet Registration Form
- Pets do not need to be present during initial registration.

Current as of: 20 March 2024

What veterinary services are offered at Incirlik VTF?

Privately owned animals are seen by appointment only.

Limited general practice services (depending on supplies and/or staffing)

- Physical exams
- Vaccines
- Microchips
- Health Certificate (DDForm 2209)
 - The on base veterinarian is USDA certified by unable to sign Turkish Health Certificates. If pet is traveling, it is recommend/required to acquire a Turkish Health Certificate from an off-base clinic.
- Bloodwork (Basic in-house lab work or external lab for specific testing)
 - Please note that samples are only sent to external lab once weekly
- Rabies titers (i.e. FAVNs, sent to the FADL; which is stateside; results can take 8-12 weeks or longer)
- Radiology (radiographs and ultrasound)
- Coming soon:
 - Dental cleanings/procedures.
 - Limited reproductive procedures
 - Minor soft tissue procedures

What are the hours of Incirlik VTF and how do I contact them?

VTF hours are as follows:

- Monday: 1300 to 1600
- Tuesday: 1400 to 1600
- Wednesday: 0900 to 1600
- Thursdays: Closed
- Fridays: 1100 to 1400
- *Hours may be subject to change due mission requirements and/or staffing limitations.

Contact Information:

VTF DSN is 314-676-3119

VTF Org Box: usaf.incirlik.39-mdg.mbx.vtf-vet-clinic@health.mil

(Please note, the VTF does **not** have a receptionist, and answering phone calls will be dependent on schedule availability during standard duty hours; appointments must be made over the phone and not via e-mail)

Current as of: 20 March 2024

How do I get pet food and supplies?

- The commissary has very limited animal food and supplies. Pet food and supplies can be ordered online. Owners need to be aware that arrival of packages can take up to 2 weeks (if not longer) and need to be cognizant of when pets' supplies is running low.
- There are grocery stores off base in the Alley and in Adana. Supplies may be limited.

What if my pet goes missing?

Notify the Incirlik VTF immediately

Stray animals/missing pets are picked up and held at the CES Stray/Pest Management Facility on base.

- Animals are scanned for microchip on day of pick up at CES Stray Facility
 - If microchip number is found (and owner is able to be identified), the pet will be held at the VTF until end of duty day to be claimed by owner.
 - If pet remains unclaimed, it will be returned to the CES Stray Facility and remain there until owner claims pet
- Animals are held until each Friday; unclaimed animals are taken off base to a local animal shelter
- Apple Air Tag collars are available for purchase online and are recommended to help track pets.

Can I adopt a stray?

No. Based on Host Nation and ABW policy, all pets must have previously established ownership prior to arriving at Incirlik

What do I do if I'm on leave or have to go TDY?

Currently, there are no boarding facilities on base. Pet care is the responsibility of the owner/service member. Please see Incirlik ABI 44-101 for further details and requirements

What do I need for my pet prior to PCSing from Incirlik to my next assignment?

Each country will have different requirements for different pets. It is recommended that as soon as your next assignment is determined, to do your due diligence in finding that specific countries pet import requirement. The on base veterinarian can provide assistance, but it is ultimately the service members duty to acquire all required documentation for their pet(s). **Due to Türkiye being a rabies endemic, pet restriction/requirements to other countries is high and may be prohibited. Most countries will require a valid rabies titer (FAVN). This can be facilitated by the on-base VTF, but results can take up to 8-12 weeks (if not longer) to receive. Please prepare accordingly.**

For dogs going to the United States from Türkiye, there are strict requirements due to Türkiye being a high-risk country. Please see the links below for further guidance:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dogs.html#bring-dog-into-us> (Bring a Dog into the United States)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dog-origin.html#high-risk> (What Your Dog Needs to Enter the United States)
 - Make sure to view section of “Dogs from High Risk Countries”

For pets going to Great Britain (England), review the link below

- <https://www.gov.uk/bring-pet-to-great-britain/print>

For pets going to Japan, review link below:

- <https://www.maff.go.jp/aqs/english/animal/dog/import-other.html>
- *Note:* Japan requires a minimum of 180 day (approx. 6 months) waiting period after blood sample is collected prior to arrival

For pets going to Germany, review link below:

- Dogs and cats are allowed to depart Incirlik via rotator to enter Ramstein, if Ramstein is the service member’s final destination.
- Be sure to review and follow steps for the section stating “If you are entering from a non-EU state where there is rabies or where the infection status is unknown, such as Türkiye, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Thailand, or India”
- <https://www.zoll.de/EN/Private-individuals/Travel/Entering-Germany/Restrictions/Animals-and-plants-products-containing-animal-or-vegetable-substance/Protection-against-animal-diseases/Provisions-on-the-import-of-pet-animals/provisions-on-the-import-of-pet-animals.html>

Current as of: 20 March 2024

NOTE: If pets do not meet country import requirements for your OCONUS destination, they may be subjected to quarantine and/or sent back to previous country (i.e. sent back to Türkiye)

What do I need to have my pet fly commercial out of Türkiye?

Commercial airlines and destinations will have different requirements. Please check with the airline and destination to determine pet travel requirements. A health certificate must be issued within 48 hours before flight from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MinAF) of the Republic of Türkiye. **These are Turkish Health Certificates and cannot be provided by the on base veterinarian.** Previously establishment with an off-vet clinic is highly recommend.

Currently, all dogs traveling from Türkiye to the United States must arrive to 1 of 18 CDC Port Health station airports stateside. BWI is not one of those airports, thus **dogs flying to the United States must arrive via commercial air.**

- 18 airports with a CDC port health station: Anchorage (ANC), Atlanta (ATL), Boston (BOS), Chicago O'Hare (ORD), Dallas (DFW), Detroit (DTW), Honolulu (HNL), Houston (IAH), Los Angeles (LAX), Miami (MIA), Minneapolis (MSP), New York (JFK), Newark (EWR), Philadelphia (PHL), San Francisco (SFO), San Juan (SJU), Seattle (SEA), Washington DC Dulles (IAD).
- Cats currently do not have restrictions when entering the United States (i.e., they allowed to fly via rotator, room permitting)

What if my pet needs to be euthanized or dies while I am stationed at Incirlik?

Euthanasia services can be provided at the on-base clinic. Burial/cremation services are currently unavailable through the on-base clinic. Deceased pets would need to be transferred to an off-base facility for burial/cremation services

Where off base can I take my pet for vet care and/or grooming?

A list of contact information for off-base vet clinics in the area are listed below. Please consider that most off base clinics do not speak fluent English. A translator is recommended.

Adana Veteriner Klinigi- HEYPATI (25 minutes from Incirlik)

Address: Kurtuluş Mahallesi Ziyapaşa Bulvarı Nakipoğlu Apt Altı, No: 9,
01360Seyhan/Adana, Türkiye
Phone Number (+90 533) 193 7284
Open 24 hours

Therapy Veterinary Clinic (31 minutes from Incirlik)

Address: Yurt, Uçar Apartmanı, Turgut Özal Blv. 164 D Altı, 01160 Çukurova/Adana,
Türkiye
Phone Number: (+90 322) 247 2770
Open 24 hours

Seyhan Veteriner Klinigi (26 minutes from Incirlik)

Address: Seyhan Veteriner Klinigi, Cemalpaşa, 63011. Sk. AKASYA APT NO:10/A,
01120 Seyhan/Adana, Türkiye
Phone Number (+90 322) 453 5073

Adana Deva Veteriner Tip Merkezi (28 minutes from Incirlik)

Address: Toros, Şair hasibehatun Cd, 01170 Çukurova/Adana, Türkiye
Phone Number: (+90 322) 239 2060

Denzipet Veteriner Klinigi (30 minutes from Incirlik)

Address: Yeşilyurt, 70061. Sk., 01150 Seyhan/Adana, Türkiye
Phone Number: (+90 322) 226 4304