

Appleby Horse Fair Guidance for Importing or re-entry of horses to Northern Ireland from GB

Check you have the right equine identification

Since the UK left the EU, there are different rules and requirements for horses travelling between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

To enter or return horses to Northern Ireland you need:-

- The horse(s) valid passport
- A supplementary Travel ID Form
- An Export Health Certificate, signed by an Official Vet

Horse Passport

Your horse(s) must have a valid passport, issued by a recognised Passport Issuing Organisation.

The passport must be kept with your horse(s) and will be needed to enter, or return to, Northern Ireland.

Supplementary Travel ID Form

You can get a Supplementary Travel ID Form from:

- Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) if you're in Great Britain – this is sent to your official vet along with the EHC (see below). In case of any queries please contact Exports@apha.gov.uk
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) if you're in Northern Ireland
- Your official vet will give you the supplementary travel ID with the EHC when they check the animal before travel.

You need to keep the supplementary travel ID together with the horse passport and the EHC with the animal during travel.

Export Health Certificate

You will also need an Export Health Certificate for each horse you plan to return to or enter Northern Ireland: This can be found at [Equine animals not intended for slaughter to the European Union and Northern Ireland: certificate 8431 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equine-animals-not-intended-for-slaughter-to-the-european-union-and-northern-ireland-certificate-8431) along with information on how to apply

EHC 8431 is used to move a horse from GB to Northern Ireland, not intended for slaughter.

The EHC will need to be signed by an Official Vet (a government vet).

The EHC states the pre-export requirements in relation to:

- o Blood testing before travel
- o Pre-export residency and isolation
- o Absence of certain diseases

You must then enter Northern Ireland through a designated Border Control Post, where the following will be checked:-

- o Your documentation
- o Your horse(s) identification
- o Your horse(s) will have a physical examination.

It is important to note that you will not be able to enter Northern Ireland if the above requirements are not met

Check Gov.uk guidance [Export Health Certificates](#) and [Exporting horses and ponies - special rules](#)

Welfare in transport

Horses must be transported in a way that is not likely to cause injury or undue suffering to them.

When you transport horses:

- plan the journey properly and keep it as short as possible
- check horses during the journey to make sure you meet their needs for water, feed and rest
- make sure horses are fit to travel before and during the journey
- design, construct and maintain the vehicle and loading and unloading facilities to avoid injury and suffering
- make sure anyone handling horses is trained or competent in the task and do not use violence or any methods likely to cause unnecessary fear, injury or suffering
- give horses sufficient floor space and headroom

Check Gov.UK guidance [Animal Welfare During Transport](#)