



## Slovakia

### Identification and registration

#### Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is nationally compulsory. This must be done by microchip before 8 weeks of age, or before transfer of ownership if earlier. The dog must then be **registered** on the central database by the veterinarian within 24 hours.

Dogs must be registered by the veterinarian in the **central pet database** (CRSZ) of the Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the Slovak Republic. CRSZ is a member of PETMAXX.com but not of an EU-wide database.

**Microchipping** of dogs and cats is regulated insofar as only veterinarians can perform microchip insertion.

#### Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** is not compulsory. Owners may voluntarily microchip and register their cat in the central database.

### Regulation of breeding

#### Dog breeders

All **dog breeders** must notify the State Veterinary Authority of their activities and any changes to these.

Data on dog and cat breeders is held by the State Veterinary Authority, but there is no publicly accessible national **database** of dog and cat breeders.

There is no legal requirement for **inspections**. Checks are usually carried out by the Veterinary Authority following complaints.

Legislation requires that pet animals used in breeding should not show serious **genetic disorders**, problematic behaviour such as aggressiveness or exaggerated timidity. Selective breeding methods should not cause permanent disability.

The Decree on pet animal protection sets out a compulsory **Code of Practice** for breeding establishments covering the facilities, equipment and microclimate, as well as dog- and cat-specific requirements with regards space, equipment, space and tethering. There is no training or education obligation for dog and cat breeders.

#### Cat breeders

All **cat breeders** must notify the State Veterinary Authority of their activities and any changes to these.

### Sales and advertising

#### Dog and cat traders

There is no legal minimum age at which a **puppy** or a **kitten** can be sold.

Sales of dogs and cats in **pet shops, markets** and **on the street** are allowed.

Dog and cat **traders** must notify the State Veterinary Authority of their activities and any changes to these. There are no training obligations for dog and cat traders but they must comply with the general requirements for the protection of pet animals.

**Surgical operations** to modify the appearance of dogs and cats or for other non-curative purposes (e.g. tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation, declawing) are prohibited, however there is an exemption for tail docking of dogs of certain breeds, until the age of 14 days after birth, and the removal of dew claws.

There is no specific regulation of **online advertising** of dogs and cats for sale.

**Legislation:** Veterinary Care Act; Identification & registration; Decree on pet animal protection, capture of stray animals and quarantine facilities and shelters; Animal health requirements for movement, trade and importation