



Slovenia

Identification and registration

Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is nationally compulsory. Identification must be by microchip and before the age of 8 weeks. Once microchipped, the dog must be registered on a database.

Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** is compulsory, however secondary legislation setting the age by which cats must be identified has not yet been adopted.

Dogs must be registered in the central **database** set up by the Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection. Owners can voluntarily register their cat in this database, too. It is not linked to an EU database.

Microchipping of dogs and cats is regulated. Only veterinarians can perform microchip insertion and the microchip number must contain the country code.

Regulation of breeding

Dog breeders

Only **dog breeders** breeding more than five dogs are required to be registered and authorised. In order to obtain a licence, they must hold a valid certificate of training, certified by the veterinary administration.

Cat breeders

Only **cat breeders** breeding more than five cats are required to be registered and authorised. In order to obtain a licence, they must hold a valid certificate of training, certified by the veterinary administration.

There is no national **database** of registered dog and cat breeders.

Inspections of breeders are carried out by official veterinarians prior to authorisation and then at least once a year.

Legislation prohibits the breeding of dogs and cats which have **genetic conditions**, including hereditary defects that will affect the welfare of the offspring or behaviour problems.

For breeders of up to 10 dogs or cats, there is a compulsory **code of practice** covering the facilities, space, surroundings, cleaning and tethering. There are additional requirements for breeders of more than 10, which includes spaces for food storage, grooming, and sick or injured animals.

Sales and advertising

Dog and cat traders

The minimum age at which a **puppy** can be sold is 8 weeks, while for kittens this is 12 weeks.

Sales of cats and dogs in **pet shops, markets** and **on the street** are not allowed.

All dog and cat **traders** must **notify** the start of their activities and must keep detailed records of the origin and sales of animals. They must also inform customers on care, nutrition and health. Traders are inspected by official veterinarians.

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, with no exemptions.

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

Legislation: Animal Protection Act; Identification and registration of pets; Central Register of Pet Animals; Rules on the protection of pets