

This is a service of www.banffyhaus.com to Owners of German Shepherd Puppies and or German Shepherd Breeders. *No warranties are express or implied below. This is for informational purposes only.

What to Expect When You Get an Import Pup

This is for all my clients that buy imported pups from me. Here are some things to expect and to watch out for, as well as the process for getting your pup at the airport.

First of all, Banffy Haus will do all of the work for you. We will arrange the truck to the airport in Frankfurt. We will make sure the vet check is done, the microchip is inserted, and that we get assurances that the pup is normal and healthy.

When the day approaches, you will send me all of your personal information so that we can make a plane reservation and get everything in order. Your puppy will be handled by PetAir, and experienced animal freight forwarder used by many top German kennels. They will make certain the paperwork and shot records are in order, that the pup is healthy, that the crate is large enough, and that the reservation is correct. I have never yet had the wrong dog sent or had a dog arrive very sick or injured. They seem to weather the trip very well.

I only use one colleague in Germany who is a trainer to the elite kennels in Germany, a kennel meister and trained by the famous Martin Stefan. He is a man of pride and integrity. It will be very unlikely that something obvious will be amiss with your pup. Be certain that if, in the unlikely event something is wrong with the pup, it was unintentional and both he and the German vet missed it. This is highly unlikely.

Your puppy will be trucked to Frankfurt and then put on a plane for the US destination to meet you at the airport. All paperwork to clear customs will arrive with the puppy. The shot records will be with him/her, but the pedigree will take a number of months to arrive as the litter is registered with the SV. Your puppy will be registered with the German SV (if it is a German dog) and will eventually receive German pink papers. This is the elite registry for GSDs. There is none better nor any with more status. AKC registration is not necessary unless you plan to do AKC events. We do not support breeding and do not guarantee reproductive fitness for any puppy. But if you want AKC registration, you will have to pay a fee to the SV and get an AKC Bescheinigung. I will give you the contact. But you as owner will have to contact them and give them your credit card to get this specialized document to register with the AKC.

Arrive at the airport about 30 minutes after the arrival of the plane with the pup so that they can offload your puppy. Some good things to bring with you are plastic bags to put your hands in to clean up soiled bedding, a garbage bag, some water, paper towels and shredded newspaper for new bedding. I wouldn't feed the pup until he/she is home. I would only give them a taste of water.

Your puppy could be a little lethargic, or could be a bundle of energy. Reserve making any judgments about the puppy until at least a few days after when they acclimate to the new environment, people, sounds, and animals. Each puppy bears the trip differently. For some it is a breeze and for some a bit more stress.

Watch for signs of diarrhea as the stress of a flight can lead to coccidia, a kind of puppy flu. If it is liquid stool puppies can get dehydrated quickly. If it continues for more than 48 hours, or if you see red flecks in the liquid, get the pup to a vet immediately. You can also do the pinch test to see if the pup is dehydrated. Pinch the skin around the shoulders and if it does not return to normal very quickly, puppy may be dehydrated. If treated with antibiotics and caught in time, this is not very serious. Also, get your pup wormed to make certain the larva did not hatch or propagate during the trip. Use a wide spectrum wormer as a precaution.

When you get to the airport, bring your driver's license to show as identification to get the puppy. Every airport is different on how they handle these imports. Sometimes the puppy is precleared and you just pick him/her up. Sometimes you may have to walk the papers over to customs, get a signature, and then walk them back to the airlines at which point the puppy is released.

The CDC (Center for Disease Control) will make you likely sign a CDC form on which you assure them that until 30 days after they get their rabies per their requirements (3 months of age) you will isolate them from other dogs on your property. You are in effect the quarantine area. This is not a problem. Just remember to forward proof of rabies by the date required. Also don't forget to get the next inoculation for your pup. We recommend you get you pup to the vet within 5 days of arrival.

Most of all, enjoy your world class puppy. The Germans do a wonderful job of breeding top progeny. And we only bring in puppies from highly touted studs and top notch females. But remember, we cannot predict nature with complete accuracy. We just reduce the probability of any problems by working only with top breedings. But if nature doesn't cooperate and you have a covered incident, we will be more than happy to help. Of course, we try our best to obviate this with proper breeding. We are very vigilant about making sure we do our best to insure you have a wonderful experience with you new pup and stand behind our guarantee.

Cheers! And have a wonderful life with your German shepherd puppy.