

## Pets

Persons with pets must observe several rules. Certain animals may not be kept in every apartment. Dog owners must pay dog taxes.

### Keeping Pets

Persons living in a rented apartment may keep small pets, such as guinea pigs, hamsters, canaries, or fish. Larger animals (even cats or small dogs) may be prohibited according to the rental contract. Animals that are noisy or dangerous may also be forbidden. In addition, pet owners must observe animal protection laws. For example, certain animals may not be kept alone (for example rabbits). There are also regulations concerning the size and equipment of cages. Many animals (exotic animals) are not allowed to be brought into the country. Others require a special authorisation issued by the veterinary department.

### Dogs

Canton Appenzell Ausserrhoden has special laws concerning dogs. This includes a description of a dog owner's duties. Additional information is provided by veterinarians.

- All dogs in Switzerland must be marked with a microchip and registered in a database. The dog is issued a dog identification (credit card format). This form of identification is not identical to the Pet Passport which is required when persons wish to enter an EU-country with an animal.
- Dogs must be registered with the community of residence. A yearly dog tax must be paid for each dog.
- All dog owners must pick up and dispose of their dog's droppings. Not doing so may result in a fine.

### Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

[www.hallo-ar.ch/en/good-to-know/pets](http://www.hallo-ar.ch/en/good-to-know/pets)