



Catherine Benier  
 Founder, Les Trois Marches  
 1 rue Guisarde 75006  
 Paris, France

PEOPLE FOR  
 THE ETHICAL  
 TREATMENT  
 OF ANIMALS

Dear Ms Benier:

PO Box 70315  
 London N1P 2RG  
 United Kingdom  
 +44 (0) 20 7837 6327  
 +44 (0) 20 7923 6242 (fax)

Info@peta.org.uk

Greetings from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). In anticipation of the auction of the first Hermès Birkin bag, we're writing to ask you to please turn the sale of this cruelly crafted piece into something at least a little positive for animals by donating the proceeds to wildlife sanctuaries.

Since this bag was first conceived, countless animals including cows, goats, lizards, snakes, alligators, crocodiles, ostriches, elephants, and more have suffered and died for its successors. These animals are either bred on filthy factory farms or poached from their natural homes via painful hunting methods. Still, no matter how animals come to be used by profit-hungry designers, they suffer immensely.

To give you an example, each of the three crocodiles used to make just one Birkin bag was a living, sentient individual. One [PETA exposé](#) of Hermes' supplier revealed crocodiles and alligators languished in crowded, filthy concrete pits for months before being violently slaughtered. Workers were documented cutting into still-conscious alligators' necks *and* ramming metal rods down their spines or into their brains to kill them. [An investigation](#) released by Farm Transparency Project in Australia, which supplies 60% of the world's crocodile skins, showed the same abuses.

Another [exposé](#) revealed thousands of snakes being bludgeoned with hammers and impaled with hooks while still moving, while [another still](#) revealed lizards being bound and beheaded without stunning. Birds also suffer: one [PETA US investigation](#) into the exclusive supplier of ostrich skins for Hermès Birkin bags revealed workers hitting birds in the head and mocking birds as they stumbled towards the stun boxes, before having their throats slit.

Donating profits from this bag's sale won't bring back the animals who suffered and paid the ultimate price for it, but it *can* give a little back to other animals from the cruel skins industry has taken so much. As a bonus, you'll leave a meaningful legacy instead of being seen as a collector of cruelty. We hope you will seriously consider donating the proceeds to animals in need.

Kind regards,



Mimi Bekhechi  
 Vice President, UK, Europe and Australia

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
 TREATMENT OF ANIMALS (PETA)  
 FOUNDATION – a charitable  
 company limited by guarantee,  
 with its registered office at  
 Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street,  
 London EC4N 6AF.  
 Registered in England and Wales  
 as charity number 1056453,  
 company number 3135903.

#### Affiliates

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands