

FLIGHT

PASSPORT

VISA



INFORMATION

**Netherlands:
International Perspectives on
Sexuality and Gender**

Fall 2021

GENERAL FLIGHT INFORMATION

This document is designed to assist you in making your travel arrangements. An essential part of your preparation for studying abroad includes obtaining the proper travel documentation for your international stay. Please read this document carefully to determine if you need to take action *immediately* in preparation for travel.

You are responsible for booking your own travel to and from the program location. In addition, it is your responsibility to read and understand the terms and conditions for your airline ticket(s), to reconfirm your flight reservations in advance of the day of travel, and to be aware of airline and TSA regulations for baggage size and contents. SIT is not responsible for additional charges you may incur as a result of airline schedule changes or other travel-related reasons.

Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, information is subject to change based on shifting conditions. As you book your flights, we encourage you to purchase tickets on airlines with flexible cancellation and postponement policies.

Each country has specific entry requirements due to the COVID-19 pandemic which may include providing proof of vaccine, a negative COVID-19 test prior to your travel or testing and/or quarantining upon arrival. SIT will provide updated COVID-19 related information prior to your travel as this information is constantly shifting and we would like to provide you with relevant accurate information closer to your travel date. Please read the Health Guidelines for this program for recommendations related to preventing the contraction and spread of COVID-19.

You must arrive at Schiphol in the morning. Clearing immigration, customs, and baggage can take an hour. Staff will meet students at 1 pm and leave for the orientation location immediately. **Students who are not at the meeting point ON TIME will be required for making their own way, at their own cost, to the orientation site.**

Once you have finalized your travel arrangements, please log into your application portal and enter your itinerary information and any notes about your arrival in the *Travel Information* section of your application. This will ensure that SIT staff knows when to expect you. Please submit your travel itinerary no later than 30 days prior to your program's start date.

AIRLINE INFORMATION

Schiphol is one of the largest airports in Europe and is serviced by most of the world's airlines. Options may be more limited than usual due to COVID-19 air travel changes.

Key Travel is an airline provider that works with SIT Study Abroad. In some cases, Key Travel is able to offer humanitarian and student airfare on SIT Study Abroad programs, and may also offer more flexibility in holding airfare reservations, making changes to bookings at affordable or sometimes no cost, and access to reasonable cancellation policies.

If you would like access to Key Travel's Student Booking Portal, click [here](#). SIT does not require you to book with Key Travel, but are providing this as an option for researching flights.



ONLINE START INFORMATION

The first week of the program (Orientation) will be held online.

Online Program Start Dates:

Saturday, September 4, 2021- September 8, 2021

More information about the meeting platform and exact time for the first online session will be provided in the before the start of the program.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

You are expected to meet your group at the following date, time, and location:

Program Arrival Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021

Arrival Airport: Amsterdam-Schiphol International Airport (AMS)

Group Meeting Time: 1:00 pm

Group Meeting Location: The official airport meeting point near the train ticket windows

Group Will Be Met By: SIT Staff

Notes: Arrival prior to the start of the program is **NOT possible**. Students receive a 90-day Schengen tourist visa upon entry in the Netherlands.

NOTE: If you are unable to find suitable travel arrangements which will allow you to arrive at the specified date and time, please contact your admissions counselor as soon as possible—BEFORE you make any reservations.

Arrival prior to the start of the program is **NOT possible** due to visa regulations. No SIT Study Abroad staff will be able to assist you with any matter should you arrive before the program's commencement due to personal travel or for any other reason. Please note that accident and illness insurance, provided to you through SIT Study Abroad for the duration of your program, is not in effect either before the program start date or after the program end date.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

You are expected to plan your departure for the following date, time, and location:

Program Departure Date: December 7, 2021

Departure Airport: Amsterdam-Schiphol International Airport (AMS)

Earliest Departure Time: Any time

It is not possible to remain in-country after the program ends. Students receive a 90-day tourist visa for the Schengen zone (a group of 26 European countries—for a list, please see the link below). The program includes the full 90 days in the Netherlands. For more information, please refer to: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/g/o/schengen-fact-sheet.html>.

It is important to note that the 90-day visa applies to the *entire* Schengen zone, not just the Netherlands.

ONLINE WRAP-UP INFORMATION

The final week of the program (Final Presentations and Synthesis) will also be held online.

Online Wrap-up Dates:

Saturday, December 11, 2021-December 17, 2021

PASSPORT INFORMATION

To participate in this program, you will need a signed **passport that is valid for at least six months after the end of the program.**

- If necessary, apply for a new passport or renewal immediately.
- **US Citizens:** consult U.S. State Department information at http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html for passport processing times and application procedures.
- **Non-US Citizens:** contact your embassy or consulate.

You may need to expedite your passport application in order to meet visa application deadlines. Please check with your admissions counselor at studyabroad@sit.edu or (888) 272-7881 to discuss whether you should expedite your application.

VISA INFORMATION

A visa is an official endorsement from a foreign government permitting entry into and travel within a particular country or region for a specified period of time. A visa may be glued or stamped directly into an applicant's passport or be on a separate paper or insert.

Students with US passports:

For this program, **students with US passports** will need a **standard 90-day tourist visa** for the **Netherlands**.

For this program, students with US passports will obtain a **standard 90-day Schengen tourist visa** for the **Netherlands upon arrival in the airport**. A couple of weeks before the program begins, students will receive an Immigration Letter from their Admissions Counselor via email. This should be carried in the student's carry-on to produce for airline or immigration officials as proof of the purpose of your stay.

US citizens are only permitted to remain in the Schengen zone (a group of European countries, including the Netherlands, with a mutual immigration agreement; Schengen countries are listed here: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/schengen-fact-sheet.html>) on a tourist visa for 90 days within a 180-day period. The SIT Netherlands program will take the entire 90 days. **This means that students cannot travel in the Schengen area 180 days prior to the start of the program or 180 days after the end of the program. Please review the list of Schengen countries at the link above.**

Students with non-US passports:

Students without a US passport may be subject to additional or different requirements for obtaining a visa or meeting other conditions of entry into **The Netherlands**. Many countries require individuals to apply for visas in person at the relevant embassy or consulate located in their country of citizenship. We strongly recommend that you contact the embassy of each country the program will be traveling to very early in the process to confirm visa and/or entry requirements applicable to your country of citizenship and determine next steps while allowing plenty of time to apply. If the foreign consulate permits non-US passport holders to apply for the required visa from within the United States, applicants are encouraged to contact Travia Visa Services. As an experienced visa agent working closely with a number of SIT programs, Travia may be able to assist you in your visa application process. A service discount is available by entering "SIT" as the corporate code in your Travia online application. It is your responsibility to confirm and complete the visa application process particular to your situation, and to keep your admissions counselor informed.

GENERAL VISA AND PASSPORT NOTES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- You are responsible for complying with all visa procedures and deadlines.
- Keep in mind that procedures and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the embassy or consulate with jurisdiction over your application. Students should double-check visa procedures prior to sending materials to ensure accuracy.
- Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the applicable consulate or embassy; SIT assumes no responsibility for the issuance or denial of any visa.
- Please make a copy of the first two pages of your passport (one of which has your photo), and give these photocopies to your academic director once you arrive.
- Students are responsible for their own passports. Throughout the term, students should keep their passport and visa on their person at all times. They risk a fine if they cannot present a valid, original identification when a police person or other authorized civil servant asks for identification.
- If you are planning to travel to other countries before or after the program (outside of the Schengen Zone) or your transit route involves connections in other countries, check with the embassies of those countries before you leave the US regarding visas, documents, and/or immunizations required. Please contact your admissions counselor as soon as possible to discuss the feasibility of your plans.



ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the US office of SIT Study Abroad at 802-258-3212 or toll-free in the US at 888-272-7881 and ask to speak to your admissions counselor, who is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM–5:00 PM (US East Coast time) to assist you.