USA – India – South Africa – Argentina: IHP Health and Community: Globalization, Culture, and Care

Flight, Passport & Visa Information

Spring 2027

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 immediate action in preparation for travel.

INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL

You are logistically and financially responsible for booking your own travel to our program launch in **Washington DC, USA, so as to arrive at "Hotel Rendale" before 2PM on January 28.** You are logistically and financially responsible for your travel home at the end of the program from **Buenos Aires, Argentina.**

For your individual travel, it is your responsibility to read and understand the terms and conditions for your transit ticket(s), to reconfirm your reservations in advance of the day of travel, and to be aware of transit (i.e., flight and TSA) regulations for baggage size and contents. SIT is not responsible for additional charges you may incur as a result of schedule changes or other travel-related circumstances associated with your individual travel.

Once you have finalized your travel arrangements to the United States Launch location, 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. Please confirm submitting your travel details in writing with your Admissions Counselor. Your space on the program is not guaranteed if you neglect to enter your travel details into the application portal.

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Your return flight home at the end of the semester may be booked later but must be booked **before you arrive in Argentina,** the final country. This is because when you arrive and pass through customs and immigration, officials may request that you show proof that you have confirmed plans to depart their country at a designated time in the future.

As you book your flights, we encourage you to purchase tickets on airlines with flexible cancellation and postponement policies.

GROUP FLIGHTS

SIT will book you and all students on international group flights from the launch location to the final program country. SIT also includes **one checked bag** for all flights arranged within the program. You are responsible for costs of any additional baggage fees and for arranging your flight home from the final program location at the end of the semester: **Buenos Aires, Argentina.**

Your responsibilities: You are responsible for

- being at airports or other designated departure points for group flights on time
- any costs associated with flights missed due to student fault
- to read and understand the terms and conditions for your airline tickets,
- to reconfirm your flight reservations in advance of the day of travel, if required
- to be aware of airline and TSA regulations for baggage size and content
- any costs associated with excess baggage, a second checked bag, etc.
- obtaining any required transit visa(s) for any layover(s)

You will receive the group flight itinerary in a separate email from your admissions counselor.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON BAGGAGE

SIT strongly recommends students bring only one checked bag. SIT will not cover the cost of a second checked bag.

- A second checked bag is usually very expensive and costs vary by airline.
- Students are responsible for all costs associated with baggage beyond what is included for each flight.
- SIT often books group tickets and it is not always possible to pay in advance for a second bag. Paying at the airport during check-in is often more expensive.
- Apart from the costs, it can be very difficult to manage two checked bags throughout your travels and can slow down the group during transits to new locations.
- SIT vans have limited space and may have difficulty accommodating extra baggage.

IN-FLIGHT MEALS

If you have any food allergies or special dietary restrictions, please alert your admissions counselor as soon as possible. Please be cautious and bring your own safe food if you are concerned about the food on the airplane as airlines sometimes fail to meet our meal requests. You may want to bring disinfectant wipes and clean your seat area as a precaution. Airlines do not have any control of what foods other travelers bring onto the plane. The airlines may not serve any peanuts or shellfish products; however, other passengers may bring these products on board.

Please note that information is subject to change based on shifting conditions in the US, India, South Africa and Argentina.

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 US 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.

Students are responsible for their own passports. Please make a copy of the first two pages of your passport (one of which has your photo), and your visa (if applicable), and store it in a separate location than your passport. Throughout the term, students should always keep a copy of their passport and visa on their person.

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.

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. Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the applicable consulate or embassy and SIT assumes no responsibility for the issuance or denial of any visa.

Students with US passports:

Further information about visa application processes, if applicable, will be sent by e-mail from your admissions counselor. DO NOT apply for any visas until you receive this information. Passports must be valid for at least six months past the end of the program.

India

U.S. citizens seeking to enter India solely for tourist purposes for stays of less than 365 days may apply for an eVisa prior to their arrival. Please visit the Indian Government evisa website to submit an application https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/ .

The cost of the eVisa is $40.00 USD. Note that evisa applications can only be submitted 3 months prior to arrival in India. Check the specifications for the data limit and size of the photograph required and have details of previous countries visited in the last 10 years. See the example of details needed here. https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/images/SampleForm.pdf

Be especially diligent with the photograph requirements. The photograph must be a 2x2 inch (51x51 mm) color photo with a plain white or off-white background, a full frontal view, and a neutral expression. The digital image must be a JPEG file, 350x350 to 1000x1000 pixels, between 10 and 300 KB (some sources say 100 KB to 1024 KB), and taken within the last six months without digital alteration. Since you are not registered at an Indian school, you must not indicate you are there to study – **you must indicate tourism.** (you are on an educational tourism trip)

South Africa

US passport holders **do not need a visa** for visits of up to 90 days for tourism. Two Consecutive Blank Visa Pages: South Africa requires travelers to have two consecutive completely blank visa pages in their passports upon every arrival in South Africa. YOU WILL BE DENIED ENTRY if you do not have two consecutive blank visa pages in your passport. This does not include the endorsement pages.

Argentina

US passport holders **do not need a visa** for visits of up to 90 days for tourism, but you must already have the exit ticket from Argentina

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 country or countries listed above. 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. It is your responsibility to confirm and complete the visa application process particular to your situation, and to keep your admissions counselor informed.

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SPECIAL VISA AND PASSPORT NOTES FOR ALL STUDENTS

- Enrollment may be withdrawn, and participation will not be allowed if all required visas are not obtained prior to arriving at the program launch city.
- A vaccination card or immunization record may be required for you to enter the program country. Please reference the Safety, Security, and Health pre-departure document for information on how to check for vaccination requirements
- If any student has recently travelled to a country affected by the recent Ebola outbreak, please inform the admissions counselor.
- If you are planning to travel to other countries before or after the program 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.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

To the Launch site in Washington DC you may travel in any way you choose; however, please note that regardless of your transportation carrier, you are expected to be at your meeting location at the required time.

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

Program Arrival Date: Thursday, January 28, 2027

Arrival Airport: Dulles Airport or Reagan National Airport

Group Meeting Time: **2**:00pm EST.

Group Meeting Location: Hotel Rendale, 1900 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009, Phone:+1 202-332-9300 **Hotel Rendale**

Group Will Be Met By: Zed McGladdery

Notes: Arriving by Air:
For Dulles Airport arrivals, itake the Washington Metro, on the Silver Line to Metro Center Station, where you can transfer to the Red Line to DuPont Circle. **DC Metro Website**
For Reagan National Airport arrivals, the Metro lines go directly to the airport, and you can take it into downtown DC, transfer to the Red Line and arrive at DuPont Circle.
Use the Metro website to plan your trip: **DC Metro Trip Planner**
Arriving via car: Please use Google maps or another online mapping service to determine the best route to arrive at The Generator Hotel.

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. No SIT Study Abroad staff will be able to assist you with any matter should you arrive before the program's commencement date and time due to personal travel or for any other reason.

Please note that medical insurance, provided to you through SIT Study Abroad for the duration of your program, is in effect 14-days prior to your program start date and 14-days post your program end date, only outside of the United States.

A vaccination card or immunization record may be required for you to enter the program country. Please reference the Safety, Security, and Health pre-departure document for information on how to check for vaccination requirements.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

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

Program Departure Date: Wednesday, May 12, 2027.

Departure Airport: Ministro Pistarini Airport (EZE)

Earliest Departure Time: 18:00 pm (The bus will leave Lujan (2 hours away) at 2PM. Students who choose to book earlier flights will need to pay for an Uber (US$60-70) to get to the airport for international flights departing before 6PM.

Note: Transportation to Ministro Pistarini Airport (EZE) will arrive at 4PM, those departing from Aeroparque Jorge Newbery (AEP) will be transported there.

It **IS** possible to remain in-country after the program ends. Please note that the program is no longer responsible for you after the end of the scheduled program. You will be dropped off at Newbery Airport around 4PM and will need to uber from there.

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MILEAGE CREDIT

Students interested in obtaining mileage credit for their flights, should consult with each individual airline once the flight itinerary has been received. Please note that it is your responsibility to request mileage credit, and policies regarding this process are specific to the individual airlines.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

For questions about your passport, flight, visa, and arrival information, please contact your admissions counselor, available Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (US East Coast time) to help you. 888-272-7881 menu option 2.

For questions concerning insurance coverage and vaccination, please contact our Student Health, Safety, and Well-being department by writing to studentwellbeing@sit.edu