



FLIGHT

PASSPORT

VISA

INFORMATION

Madagascar: Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management
Spring 2020

SIT Study Abroad
School for International Training



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.

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.

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 INFORMATION

You will need to purchase a **roundtrip ticket from the US to Antananarivo and back**. See details below:

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

Program Arrival Date: Sunday, January 19, 2020

Arrival Airport: Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Group Meeting Time: All students will be met at the airport according to their individual itineraries on the arrival date. A member of the program staff will also be in the hotel in Antananarivo and available to help students from arrival onward.

Group Meeting Location: International arrivals building.

Group Will Be Met By: Academic Director and/or SIT Madagascar Staff

Notes: We will meet you outside of the baggage claim and customs area for international arrivals.

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 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 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:

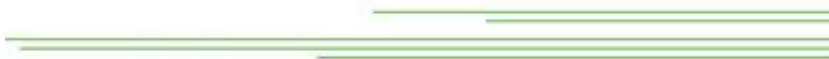


Program Departure Date: Saturday, May 2, 2020

Departure Airport: Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Earliest Departure Time: Any time that is convenient for you.

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 need to state your plan to do so at the start of the program to ensure appropriate visa extensions are secured, and there may be additional costs for longer visas.



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.

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:

Information about your visa application process is typically sent by e-mail from your admissions counselor in mid-June for fall semesters and October or November for spring semesters. **DO NOT** apply for any visas until you receive this information.

As part of the visa extension process in Madagascar you will be required to submit a formal printed criminal record check from the police department located where you are resident in the United States.

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. 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 color 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.
- You may also need to bring your yellow WHO vaccination card or a copy of your immunization record; please see the [Safety, Security, and Health](#) pre-departure document for more details.
- Students are responsible for their own passports, and they must be carried with them at all times (a sturdy waterproof case is strongly recommended). Passports will be submitted after a month in country to the Malagasy Interior Ministry for visa extensions, and for a period of several weeks while visas are processed, students will be required to carry legally certified photocopies of their passport photo and visa page with them at all times. SIT will make these photocopies once students arrive in country.



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.

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.