



FLIGHT

PASSPORT

VISA

INFORMATION

Rwanda & Uganda: Post-Genocide Restoration,
Development, and Peacebuilding

Fall 2020



SIT SCHOOL FOR
INTERNATIONAL
TRAINING
STUDY ABROAD

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 note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, information is subject to change based on constantly shifting conditions in the US, Rwanda and Uganda that are out of SIT's control.

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 two weeks prior to the program so the staff know when to expect you.

NOTE: Students are free to purchase any flight of their choosing which arrives on the program start date (September 14). **During the COVID-19 pandemic, SIT has thus far experienced quality service and affordable prices with Qatar airlines, which has a flight arriving to Kigali on the morning of September 14.** Other airlines such as Brussels and Delta/KLM provide service to Kigali as well. Please be aware that all airlines have experienced interruptions and frequent cancellations due to COVID-19.

As you book your flights, we encourage you when possible to purchase Cancel for Any Reason (CFAR) insurance plans. You should compare plans and ask questions to be sure the trip insurance policy you purchase covers your needs.



ARRIVAL INFORMATION

You are expected to arrive at the following date and location:

Program Arrival Date: Monday, September 14, 2020

Arrival Airport: Kigali International Airport (KGL)

Arrival Time: You may arrive anytime on September 14th.

Students Will Be Met By: SIT staff will not be allowed contact with students until all health protocols have been completed. Students will be picked up by hotel staff and transported directly to the hotel for quarantine. Hotel and transport details will be shared with students several weeks prior to departure.

Arrival Notes: For more information, see the special instructions Covid-19 testing in Rwanda section below.

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 accident and illness insurance, provided to you through SIT Study Abroad, is only in effect while outside of the US and while the program is in progress.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

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

Program Departure Date: Tuesday, December 22, 2020

Departure Airport: Kigali International Airport (KGL)

Earliest Departure Time: anytime

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.

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.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COVID-19 TESTING IN RWANDA

The Rwandan government is requiring all travelers to fill out a passenger locator form and upload negative COVID-19 test results within 72 hours before their first departing flight (though the test can be taken more than 72 hours before departure, the certificate of test results must be received 72 hours or less before departure). Please contact your physician or local health authority to plan and schedule a test. Failure to provide negative test results will result in denied entry.

The passenger locator form and instructions can be found here: <https://rbc.gov.rw/travel/>

The Rwandan government is also requiring that all travelers get tested for COVID-19 upon arrival, and quarantine at a government-sanctioned hotel until negative results are received. Students do not need to make reservations as SIT has completed these arrangements, including transport to the hotel. More information will be shared prior to departure, as reservation details are needed to complete the passenger locator form. Upon arrival at the airport students will undergo a temperature check and questionnaire at immigration before departing for the hotel. You will be tested for COVID at the hotel (via nasal swab) at the cost of \$50 USD (plus a \$10 USD processing fee). Results will be delivered via text/email within 24-72 hours of the test, at which point students will be picked up by program staff. SIT academic directors are preparing a brief orientation session which students should plan to attend online while they are in quarantine. The hotel will provide three meals per day and any other services needed during your stay.

SIT will share a detailed travel guide with procedures and emergency contact information several weeks before the program begins. Rwanda's entry process is new as of August 1, 2020, and SIT staff and faculty are working with Rwandan immigration authorities and Rwanda Biomedical Center to ensure students safe and easy passage into Rwanda.

SIT will reimburse students for the cost of both tests once the program begins.

All passport holders:

For this program students will not need to secure a visa for Rwanda or Uganda prior to departure. Visas are issued on arrival for citizens of all countries upon payment of 30 US dollars. This will be valid for 30 days after which you need to get student permit. With that permit you will be able to travel to Uganda for excursion and get back to Rwanda after. The in-country program staff will help facilitate the application process for the student permit.

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 directors 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. The program may hold passports for students when at the program site and when on excursion. Students should have passports on their person during ISP/internship. Throughout the term, students should keep a copy of their passport and visa on their person at all times.
- 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.