



FLIGHT

PASSPORT

VISA

INFORMATION

Rwanda: Post-Genocide Restoration and Peacebuilding
Spring 2023



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.

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

Program Arrival Date: Monday, February 6, 2023

Arrival Airport: Kigali International Airport (KGL)

Group Meeting Time: You will be met according to the arrival time of your flight.

Group Will Be Met By: SIT Study Abroad staff.

Notes: Click [here](#) to learn more about current entry guidelines. Rwanda's COVID entry guidelines are constantly shifting, but currently required no additional testing or quarantine after arrival.

Arrival prior to the start of the program is NOT possible. If you happen to be in the country travelling on your own before the start of the program, call the AD the day before the official program start date to arrange where to meet the group. 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:

Program Departure Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023

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

All passport holders:

For this program students will not need to secure a visa for Rwanda prior to departure. You will request an **East African Tourist Visa** (NOT the Rwanda Tourist Visa), issued on arrival for citizens of all countries. The cost of the East African Tourist Visa is 100 US dollars. It will be valid for 90 days, after which you need to get a student permit. The in-country program staff will help facilitate the application process for the student permit.

To extend your visa in-country, you will need a police clearance letter from your local police department and a support letter from your home university. Your admissions counselor will send you specific details about what is required.

GENERAL VISA AND PASSPORT NOTES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- You are responsible for complying with all visa procedures and deadlines.
- Upon arrival, you will request an **East Africa Tourist Visa** on a fee of 100\$ and valid for 90 days. It will allow you to travel to Uganda for midterm excursion without applying for Ugandan visa.
- While in Rwanda, SIT staff will help you apply for the appropriate permit that will allow you to do internship/ISP.
- Keep in mind that procedures and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the government of Rwanda.
- Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the Rwanda Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration. 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.
- 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.